

The Kitchen Center for Video and Music

press release

Spalding Gray

February 3 & 4, 1981 8:30pm
\$4.00/\$2.50 members
The Kitchen, 484 Broome Street
Reservations: 925-3615

On February 3 & 4, 1981 The Kitchen will present two new works by SPALDING GRAY, God Is Dead My Radio and What Happened On The Way Here.

God Is Dead My Radio, a solo piece in which Mr. Gray performs with his 12-year old KLH table model radio, is based on a personal ritual he has been practicing for years. He has found it impossible to leave his loft and begins his day without hearing a 'positive' word on the radio: e.g. 'A doctor from Boston says dancing to punk music can be dangerous to your looks. Doing the pogo and jumping up...' 'The stock market is rising.' Mr. Gray will perform this ritual at The Kitchen and will free-associate from the words selected.

In What Happened On The Way Here, performed with the assistance of Ron Wawter, Mr. Gray and Mr. Wawter begin by discussing what happened to them on the way to the Kitchen. Through chance selection, audience members will be called upon and interviewed on the same topic. The audience is free to abstain, fabricate, tell the truth or sit in silence. In the spirit of the "Tonight Show" and New England town meetings, Gray attempts to open up the form of exploration of personal memories, get in touch with his community and dispel his growing paranoia in 1981.

SPALDING GRAY began as a traditional Off-Broadway actor. After he joined the Performance Group (now Wooster Group) in 1970, he became interested in exploring autobiographic themes through theater. He developed the trilogy, "Three Places in Rhode Island" and its epilogue, "Point Judith" in collaboration with the Wooster Group under the direction of Elizabeth LeCompte. This led to five oral autobiographic solo works: "Sex and Death to the Age 14", "Booze Cars and College Girls", "India and After(America)", "Nobody Wanted to Sit Behind a Desk" and "A Personal History of the American Theater".

484 Broome Street between West Broadway and Wooster, New York City