

The Kitchen

Center for video, music, dance, performance, film, and literature

Winter 2014 Season

Winter/Spring 2014 Season

Gerard & Kelly: "Timelining"

March 13–April 19

FREE

Gerard & Kelly's "Timelining" features new projects installed in both the upstairs and downstairs spaces of The Kitchen. Through a series of sculptures, site-specific interventions, and a performance enacted for the duration of the exhibition whenever a viewer is present, Gerard & Kelly underscore The Kitchen as a site to work through questions of queer time and intersubjectivity. For its opening weekend, the exhibition presented two days of performances and a temporary installation in The Kitchen's black box theater alongside the work installed in the gallery. Curated by Tim Griffin.

Liz Magic Laser: *Bystander*

March 27–29, 8pm

\$15

Developed through a series of interviews with journalists and members of the public, *Bystander* stages a dialogue between television news production and its viewers. Professional newscasters deliver subjective testimony while actors, representing the public, offer factual reports as if they were voicing personal opinions. By re-contextualizing the television news scenario as theatrical dialogue, Laser lays bare the mechanisms at play in the presentation and reception of current events.

Synth Nights, curated by Nico Muhly

April 4–5, 8pm

\$15

Muhly brings together three composers across three generations—Jethro Cooke, Jordan Munson, and Joe Snape—whose music relies on three dimensions, concerned as it is with capturing a moment in both space and time.

MATA: 16th annual Festival of New Music, April 16–19 & 21, 8pm; April 20, 1pm.

\$20

Called "the city's leading showcase for vital new music by emerging composers" by *The New Yorker*, MATA presents its biggest annual festival—to date, featuring an A-list of instrumentalists performing works by an international group of 34 composers under age 40. Finland's Ensemble Uusinta has their US debut, while Germany's Neue Vocalsolisten is paired with International Contemporary Ensemble for Oscar Bianchi's evening-length *Matra* and an a capella program. Also appearing are Talea, Ekmeles, Mivos Quartet,

and Mantra Percussion, among many others. Full details at thekitchen.org.

Cecilia Bengolea and

François Chaignaud: *altered natives' Say Yes to Another Excess – TWERK*

May 3–5, 8pm

\$20

Bengolea and Chaignaud skim the line between popular dance and trained choreography, drawing on their immersion in club culture from London to New York. With dancers Alex Mugler, Ana Pi, and Elisa Yvelin—as well as London grime scene DJs Elijah and Skillman of the label Butterz—they move from Martha Graham's technique to house, challenging the expressive, communal, poetic, and discursive powers of dance.

Melinda Ring: *Forgetful Snow*

May 8–17, 7pm

\$15

A triptych composed of two durational performances and an evening-length dance, *Forgetful Snow* investigates the transcendent possibilities of body and mind. By day, performers in the installations *The Landscape* and *(Memory of) Snow Machine* labor at searching for landscapes and retrieving lost moments of time. These simple tasks involving the body, video, and language are quietly focused and profoundly mysterious. In the evening, performed naked and without accompaniment, the dance is stripped of layered-on meaning and emotion. Presented instead is pure choreography and performance—formally complex, physically raw and intimate. Ring's main collaborators for this project are performers Talya Epstein, Maggie Jones, and Molly Lieber.

Bishi: *Albion Voice*

Friday, May 16, 9pm

\$15

In the New York premiere of this acclaimed one-woman show, London-based artist Bishi performs music from her latest album against a spectacular backdrop of animated video. Singing in English, Bengali, Bulgarian, and Biblical Greek, she traces her search for personal and national identity in a changing world.

The Kitchen presents

Liz Magic Laser: *Bystander*

March 27 – 29, 2014

Liz Magic Laser's *Bystander* is produced in collaboration with Recess, and made possible with support from Joanne Leonhardt Cassullo and The Dorothea Leonhardt Fund at the Communities Foundation of Texas, Inc., Eileen & Michael Cohen, Michael I. Jacobs M.D., Joseph Varet & Esther Kim Varet, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Joseph and Joan Cullman Foundation for the Arts, the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, and with public funds from New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Curated by Lumi Tan.



Liz Magic Laser:
Bystander

Featuring television journalists and actors Lynn Berg, Roger Clark (NY1 Reporter), Audrey Crabtree, Annie Fox, Maria Trice (former WWOR-TV Reporter), Michael Wiener and Jon Wright (former KEYT-TV and WLBT-TV Weather and News Anchor)

Script written by Liz Magic Laser and Sofia Pontén based on nearly a hundred interviews conducted by the cast with members of the public at Recess in SoHo

Assistant Director: Sofia Pontén

Technical Director: Irwin Seow

Director of Photography: Laura Cooper

Costume Stylist: Felicia Garcia-Rivera

Research Assistants: Mimi Chiahemen, Lucia Hinojosa,
Brian Mcelroy and Rachel Zaretsky

Special Thanks to Allison Weisberg, Zoe Mills, Maia Murphy, Lumi Tan, Zack Tinkelman, Jamie Kelly, Théa Morton, Gesiye Souza-Okpofabri, Ken Laser, Wendy Osserman, David Guinan, Sanya Kantarovsky and The School of Visual Arts MFA Photo, Video and Related Media Department.

Special Thanks to all interview participants: David Muñoz, Ian Giles, Yedi Flaquer, Sarah Mayo, Sarah Lehat, Jade Fusco, Théa Morton, Anja Lückenkemper, Deborah Kaufmann, George Lee Moore, Sara Reisman, David Karlin, Akoma M'ba, David Maddy, David Goodman, Vicki Khuzami, Michael Sellinger, Caitlin Karolczak, George Rippon, Hong-An Truong, Brittani Arkin, Melanie Bonajo and many more.

Bios

Liz Magic Laser lives and works in Brooklyn. Her performances and videos intervene in semi-public spaces such as bank vestibules, movie theaters and newsrooms, and have involved collaborations with actors, dancers, reporters, surgeons, and motorcycle gang members. She earned a BA from Wesleyan University (2003) and an MFA from Columbia University (2008). She attended the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture (2008) and the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program (2009). Most recently, her work was the subject of solo exhibitions at Paula Cooper Gallery, New York (2013) the Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, Germany (2013); Diverse-Works, Houston, Texas (2013) and Malmö, Sweden (2012). Her work has also been exhibited at Lisson Gallery, London (2013); the Moscow Museum of Modern Art (2012); Various Small Fires, Los Angeles (2012); the Performa 11 Biennial, New York (2011); The Pace Gallery, New York (2011); the Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2011); and MoMA PS 1, New York (2010). Laser is the recipient of grants from Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation Grant (2013), the Southern Exposure Off-Site Graue Award (2013), New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship (2012) and the Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art (2010). She was the 2013 Armory Show Commissioned Artist and has been in residency at the Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation Space Program, New York (2012), Forever & Today, Inc.'s Studio On The Street artist-in-residence program, New York (2012), Smack Mellon, Brooklyn (2011) and the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York (2009).

Lynn Berg worked with Liz Magic Laser previously as the Voice of the Living Newspaper in "I Feel Your Pain." He has appeared in the films "The Clean Up," "A Day's Messing," and "The Collector" and in the web series "Plant" and "Metal Gear Office." Lynn is a co-artistic director of Ten Directions where he's collaborated on plays such as "Bouffon Glass Menajoree," "Saint Arlecchino" and the musical "Viva Evel Knievel." www.lynnberg.com

Mimi Chiahemen is a newcomer to the New York city art scene. She has a BFA in Film from the University of British Columbia (Canada) and is currently completing a Master's in Media at NYU. Mimi has a varied background in film, television, and festival programming. Her last big art project, was serving as Media Coordinator at the Vancouver Short Film Festival (2012). This is her first collaboration with Liz Magic Laser.

Roger Clark has been a reporter at NY1 News since 2001. Specializing in feature stories, Roger has explored his native New York City focusing on all of the things that make the five boroughs great. From canoeing the Gowanus Canal to surfing in the Rockaways and spotlighting organizations that work to help others around the city. Roger is also a drummer and plays locally in

a duo named Perp Walk. He wants to thank his wife Jenny and son Jack for their support and patience during the time leading up to the performances of Bystander.

Laura Cooper is a performance, video and installation artist based in London and in New York. She graduated from Glasgow School of Art in 2006 and completed her MFA at the Slade School of Art London in 2012. She has exhibited internationally and has attended residencies in South Korea, Thailand, UK, USA and Vietnam. In 2012 she presented performances at The Tate Britain and Camden Arts Centre UK. Recent exhibitions include *The Voice and The Lens* at IKON Gallery Birmingham UK, and *Soft Revolutions* (solo) at Space In Between London, 2013. She was a 2012/13 Franklin Furnace Fund Grant recipient.

Audrey Crabtree is an award-winning actor, writer, and director. Her devised work in the theater has garnered a Drama Desk Award, NY Innovative Theatre Award, and an HOLA Award. She began working with Liz in 2010 and has continued collaborating on various projects based on the Living Newspaper. She is a company member with Playing with Reality, Clowns without Borders, founder/director of the international NY Clown Theatre Festival, co-director of Ten Directions (with Lynn Berg), and has taught devising and performance in UK, India, Colombia, Mexico and in universities across the United States. www.audreycrabtree.com

Annie Fox is an actress and student at Barnard College. She has previously worked with Liz on various projects, including "I Feel Your Pain," "The Living Newspaper" and "Power," for CNN.

Felicia Garcia-Rivera is a freelance fashion stylist and costume designer based in New York City. She collaborates frequently with Liz Magic Laser.

Lucía Hinojosa (Mexico City, 1987) is an artist working with video, installation, painting and printmaking. She received a BFA in Visual & Critical Studies at The School of Visual Arts. Her practice explores ways of understanding collective self-perception through sociology and poetry. Lucía is the founder and editor of the art and literature magazine *dISONARE*.

Brian Mcelroy is a writer and filmmaker from Brooklyn. Formerly Liz Magic Laser's assistant, has been managing productions for her for two years. He produces films with Adirondack and runs the comedy showcase, The Macaulay Culkin Show, at Bushwick's Shea Stadium.

Sofia Pontén, b. 1985, is a writer and novelist based in Brooklyn, originally from Sweden. She has closely collaborated with Liz Magic Laser on Critical Writing Fellow at Recess and will present her piece in tandem with the show

at the Kitchen. Sofia Pontén also runs Sweden's biggest astrology blog, Scorpio Rising, for Sweden's largest teenage magazine *VeckoRevyn*.

Irwin Seow loves bicycles and animals.

After graduating from Wesleyan University where acting was her passion, **Maria Trice** was a reporter for WWOR-TV in New Jersey. Pausing her career to raise three beautiful children, Maria created Fitness Systems that Work (FSTWORKS.COM). As a Fitness and Wellness Coach for generations of people, Maria is thrilled to return to her acting and journalistic roots with "Bystander" the perfect entrée back to her future.

Michael Wiener is a film and theater actor, performer and writer. Films as an actor have been seen and won awards and press acclaim on the festival circuit and beyond at Sundance, Tribeca, Comic Con and internationally. Commercials include a celebrated drug awareness campaign directed by Darren Aronofsky. Michael has guest starred on the Onion News Channel, IFC. His many projects with Liz Magic Laser include iterations of the "Living Newspaper" in 2013 and "Flight" in 2012. Michael is a member of St. Fortune Collective, and will reincarnate the Jackie Curtis role in the revival of the musical *Cockstrong* at La MaMa Apr. 17-19 as part of the Tom Murrin Full Moon Festival, and join the company and noted director Elena Araoz for the site specific performance *Mill* as part of the Great Plains Theater Conference in late May. Wiener's music project "The Children"... is part rock opera, part environmental soundscape, a collaboration with Jim Coleman of the notorious *Cop Shoot Cop*, now a film composer and music producer, and Phil Puleo of the legendary *Swans*. *The Children...* composed music for director Beth B.'s burlesque documentary *Exposed* now in national release, and will have a couple of gallery performances April 12th-13th. Recently, Michael published an autobiographical essay in *Jews, A Peoples' History of New York*, anthologized by Clayton Patterson and Dr. Mareleyn Schneider.

Jon Wright is a former KEYT-TV and WLBT-TV Weather and News Anchor

Rachel Zaretsky is an artist living in New York. In addition to assisting with the production of Liz Magic Laser's performances, Rachel has previously worked for non-profit exhibition spaces engaging with new commissions such as Art in General, New York, Locust Projects, Miami and a series of independent collaborative projects, including a drywall showroom-living room-exhibition space she co-founded in the Lower East Side, New York. the School of Visual Arts.

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