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# The Kitchen

Center for Video, Music, Dance,  
Performance, Film & Literature

SPRING 2009

# The Kitchen

SPRING 2009 PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE

## Jamal Cyrus: *Winners Have Yet To Be Announced*

March 19-May 2

Houston-based Cyrus presents a new series of drawings, sculptures, and videos using Palmer Hayden's seminal social realist painting *The Janitor Who Paints* (1937) as a point of departure to explore slippages between the ordinary and the metaphysical.

## Elodie Pong: *After The Empire*

March 19-May 2

Zurich-based Pong presents the US premiere of two new videos. *After The Empire* (2008) orchestrates face-to-face conversations between various late icons of popular culture. In *Even A Stopped Clock Is Right Twice A Day* (2008) taxidermized birds offer commentaries on consumerist culture and the uncertain state of the world.

## *Notes on Conceptualisms:* An Evening with *Ugly Duckling Presse*

Tuesday, March 31, 7pm

On the occasion of the release of their new book, *Notes on Conceptualisms*, the nonprofit art and publishing collective *Ugly Duckling Presse* presents a series of readings by **Jen Bervin**, **Nada Gordon**, **Kim Rosenfield**, **Lytle Shaw**, and **Steve Zultanski**, hosted by the book's authors **Robert Fitterman** and **Vanessa Place**.

## John King and Jessica Pavone

Friday and Saturday, April 3 and 4, 8pm

Tackling the most venerable of the musical genres, this evening showcases two generations of downtown composers' approaches to the string quartet. **John King** presents *Rivers of Fire*, *Winds of Blood*, and *10 Mysteries*, performed by the **Crucible Quartet** with a live interactive electronic system of King's design. Known for her sparse, melodic music, **Jessica Pavone** premieres a new commissioned work for performed by the **Toomai Quintet** which draws inspiration from the simplicity of folk music and songwriting of Leonard Cohen.

## *More Talks About Buildings:* An Evening with *Triple Canopy*

Tuesday, April 7, 7pm

Expanding on an issue devoted to new and old forms of urbanism, for this event, *Triple Canopy* excavates real, unrealized, and potential spaces. Participants include the **Center for Land Use Interpretation**, **Joseph Clarke**, **Lucy Raven**, **Emily Richardson**, **Melanie Smith**, the **VPL Authority** (Thomas Moran & Rustam Mehta), and **Zs**.

## So Percussion and Matmos with special guest PLOrk

Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11, 8pm

Brooklyn-based, four-player ensemble **So Percussion** join sound art duo **Matmos** (M.C. Schmidt and Drew Daniel) and the **Princeton Laptop Orchestra (PLOrk)** to preview new songs from an upcoming collaborative album with new arrangements from Matmos's *Supreme Balloon* and So Percussion's *Amid the Noise*.

## Sanford Biggers

featuring **Imani Uzuri**, **Mark Hines**,  
**Martin Luther**, and other special guests  
Thursday and Friday, April 16 and 17, 8pm

Visual artist and musician **Sanford Biggers** presents a unique mash-up of improvised music, live video mixing, and text, with a small ensemble of dancers whose choreographed movements cast geometric light patterns throughout the space.

## Justine Lynch: *Middle of Man* Melinda Ring: *Hmmm...*

Thursday-Saturday, April 23-25, 8pm

In this shared evening of dance, choreographer **Justine Lynch's** *Middle of Man* challenges the links between performance and healing, by employing a kaleidoscopic merging of alchemy and movement. **Melinda Ring's** *Hmmm...* starts with some generic dance movement, two nice-looking young women, some found stuff and then proceeds to move further and further from common experiences into a disorienting atmosphere of questioning and uncertainty.

The Kitchen presents

## *Notes on Conceptualisms:* An Evening with *Ugly Duckling Presse*

March 31, 2009 7pm

Hosted by  
**Robert Fitterman** and **Vanessa Place**,  
authors of *Notes on Conceptualisms*

Readings by  
**Jen Bervin**  
**Nada Gordon**  
**Kim Rosenfield**  
**Lytle Shaw**  
**Steve Zultanski**

Literature programs at The Kitchen are made possible with generous support from the Axe-Houghton and with public funds from The National Endowment for the Arts, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



### About the artists

**Jen Bervin** is a poet and visual artist whose books include *The Desert* (Granary Books, 2008), *A Non-Breaking Space* (Ugly Duckling 2005), *Nets* (UDP, 2004), and *Under What Is Not Under* (Potes & Poets, 2001). Her interdisciplinary work has been featured most recently in *Esopus* and *Double Change*. She is a contributing editor for *jubilat* and lives in New York.

**Robert Fitterman** is the author of ten books of poetry, including four installments of his long poem *Metropolis*. Forthcoming is *rob the plagiarist* (Roof Books), a collection of essays, conceptual writing, and other writings generated by plagiarism and appropriation. He teaches writing at New York University and Bard College's Milton Avery School of Graduate Studies.

**Nada Gordon** is a founding member of the Flarf Collective and the author of *Folly; V. Imp.; Are Not Our Lowing Heifers Sleeker than Night-Swollen Mushrooms?*; and (with Gary Sullivan), a techno-romantic nonfiction novel, *Swoon*.

**Vanessa Place** is a writer, lawyer, and co-director of Les Figues Press. She is the author of *Dies: A Sentence* (Les Figues Press), a 50,000-word, one-sentence prose poem, and the post-conceptual epic *La Medusa* (Fiction Collective 2). Her nonfiction book *The Guilt Project: Rape and Morality* will be published by Other Press in 2010. Place is also a regular contributor to *X-TRA Contemporary Art Quarterly* and is collaborating with Los Angeles conceptual artist Stephanie Taylor on the film *Murderous Squaredance at the Spiral Jetty*.

**Kim Rosenfield** is a poet and psychotherapist living and working in New York. She is the author of *Good Morning-Midnight* (Roof Books, 2001), *Tràma* (Krupskaya, 2004), and *re: evolution* (Les Figues Press, 2009). She has collaborated with visual artists Jean Foes, Cheryl Donegan, Yedda Morrison, and with choreographer Sally Silvers.

**Lytle Shaw's** books include *Low Level Bureaucratic Structures: A Novel* (Shark, 1998); *Cable Factory 20* (Atelos, 1999); *The Lobe* (Roof, 2002); the critical study *Frank O'Hara: The Poetics of Coterie* (Iowa UP, 2006); and *19 Lines: A Drawing Center Writing Anthology*. Since 2004, Shaw has co-edited the *Chadwick Family Papers* with the artist J. Blachly. Shaw teaches literature at NYU.

**Steven Zultanski** is the author of the chapbooks *Homoem* (Radical Readout), *USA = NAZI* (with Brad Flis, Nocturnal Editions), and *This and That Lenin* (BookThug), plus the forthcoming volumes *Generic Human Stuff* (Patrick Lovelace Editions) and *Pad* (Make Now). He edits *President's Choice* magazine, a Lil' Norton publication.

**Ugly Duckling Presse** produces small to mid-size editions of new poetry, translations, lost works, and artists' books. In January 2007, the organization relocated its small workshop and letterpress studio to the Old American Can Factory, a restored warehouse building in Gowanus, Brooklyn, that is home to a community of artists, artisans, and creative enterprises. For more information, visit [www.uglyducklingpresse.org](http://www.uglyducklingpresse.org).

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**The Kitchen**

SPRING 2009 PROGRAMS-AT-A-GLANCE (CONTINUED)

**Elliott Sharp: Binibon**  
**Wednesday-Saturday, May 6-9, 8pm**

Award-winning composer and multi-instrumen-  
 talist **Elliott Sharp** teams up with noted sci-fi  
 writer **Jack Womack** to present a work of music-  
 theatre and alternative history that tells a dis-  
 tinctly New York City story recalling the nexus of  
 artists, musicians, and bohemian characters that  
 peopled a grittier moment in New York's history.

**Mendi + Keith Obadike:**  
**Four Electric Ghosts**  
**Thursday-Saturday, May 14-16, 8pm**

Performance duo **Mendi + Keith Obadike** pre-  
 miere *Four Electric Ghosts*, a new multimedia  
 opera drawn from Amos Tutuola's novel *My Life*  
*in the Bush of Ghosts* and the arcade game Pac-  
 Man®. Featuring **Angela's Pulse Performance**  
**Projects** and new music created with **Melvin**  
**Gibbs** and **Guillermo E. Brown**.

**An Evening with Fence Books**  
**Monday, May 18, 7pm**

This event launches *Fence Books'* two newest  
 poetry titles: **Elizabeth Marie Young's** *Aim*  
*Straight at the Fountain* and *Press Vaporize*  
 (winner of the 2009 Motherwell Prize) and  
**Laura Sims'** collection *Stranger* with readings by  
 the poets.

**Time Out of Joint: Recall and**  
**Evocation in Recent Art**  
**May 22-June 13**  
**Opening Reception: Friday, May 22, 5-8pm**  
**Film Screenings: Monday, June 1, 7pm**

Curated by **Luigi Fassi**, **Lucy Gallun**, **Roya**  
**Rastegar**, and **Jakob Schillinger**, Helena  
 Rubinstein Curatorial Fellows, The Whitney  
 Museum Independent Study Program, *Time Out*  
*of Joint* brings together artistic practices that  
 employ evocation as a mode of connecting past  
 and present. The exhibition features artists  
**Ronnie Bass**, **Kajsa Dahlberg**, **Tellervo Kalleinen &**  
**Oliver Kochta-Kalleinen**, **Fikret Atay**, **Katerina**  
**Seda**, **Maryam Jafri**, and **Johanna Billing**, as well  
 as films by **Keren Cytter**, **Kevin Willmott**, and  
**Jennifer Phang**.

**robbinschilds:**  
**Sonya and Layla Go Camping**  
**Thursday-Saturday, May 28-30, 8pm**

In this new commissioned work, incorporating  
 live performance and video, the performance  
 duo robbinschilds (**Sonya Robbins** and **Layla**  
**Childs**) uses prosaic repetition as a springboard  
 into a playful exploration of craft in relation to  
 choreography and (intelligent?) design. Taking  
 inspiration from Jacques Rivette's 1974 film  
*Celine and Julie Go Boating*, the performance  
 investigates natural versus staged states of  
 being, the fluid nature of perception, and the  
 interplay between viewing and participating.

**Sarah Michelson: Dover Beach**  
**Tuesday-Saturday, June 9-13, 8pm**

Collaborators for this project are **Parker Lutz**,  
**Laura Weston**, **Alice Downing**, **Non Griffiths**,  
**Latishya Antonio**, **Gwenllian Davies**, **Rebecca**  
**Warner**, **Jmy Leary**, **Mike Iveson**, **Carrie Woods**,  
 and **Greg Zuccolo**. Live music composed and  
 performed by **Pete Drungle**.

**Mike Taylor: not knowing**  
**Thursday-Saturday, June 18-20, 8pm**

**Mike Taylor's** new collaborative theater work  
 presents the act of being onstage as an  
 unknown quantity. With loops of dialogue,  
 movement, projected images and texts, redacted  
 Ibsen, problematic pop-culture, an endless  
 therapy session, and a bewildered guest artist  
 inserted into every performance.

**Shim Sham**  
**Hosted by Harold Cromer**  
**featuring special guest musicians**  
**Monday, June 22, 8pm**

Join legendary tap dancer **Harold Cromer** for a  
 free open jam session where some of the finest  
 of New York City's rhythm tap community come  
 together to share and showcase their moves. The  
 session concludes with Leonard Reed's famous  
**Shim Sham Shimmy**: the hoofers' anthem.