

LABAPALOOZA!

MINI FESTIVAL OF NEW PUPPET THEATER
FROM THE LAB



ST ³⁰ YRS ANN'S WAREHOUSE

St. Ann's Warehouse

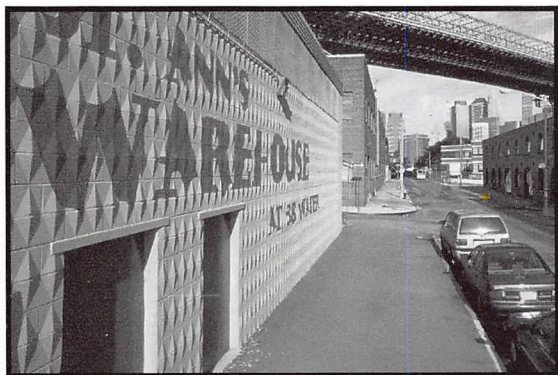


Photo: Etienne Frossard

For over three decades, St. Ann's Warehouse has commissioned, produced, and presented a unique and eclectic body of innovative theatre and concert presentations that meet at the intersection of theatre and rock and roll. Since leaving its original home in the landmark Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, in 2000, the organization has helped vitalize the Brooklyn Waterfront in DUMBO, where St. Ann's Warehouse at 38 Water Street has become one of New York City's most important and compelling live performance destinations.

Among the many acclaimed St. Ann's productions are Lou Reed and John Cale's *Songs for 'Drella*, Marianne Faithfull's *Blazing Away* and *The Seven Deadly Sins*, Artistic Director Susan Feldman's *Band in Berlin*, Carter Burwell, Charlie Kaufman and the Coen Brothers' *Theater of the New Ear*, The Royal Court Theatre's *4:48 Psychosis*, The Wooster Group's *Hamlet*, *The Emperor Jones*, *House/Lights*, *To You*, the *Birdie*, The Globe Theater's *Measure for Measure*, Gate Theatre London's *Woyzeck*, *Antony's Turning*, Mabou Mines *Dollhouse*, Lou Reed's *Berlin*, Cynthia Hopkins' *Accidental Trilogy*, Les Freres Corbusier's *Hell House*, *Druid's The Walworth Farce* and *The New Electric Ballroom*, TR Warszawa's *Macbeth*, The National Theatre of Scotland's *Black Watch*, Kneehigh Theatre's *Brief Encounter*, and the upcoming *Young@Heart/No Theater's End of the Road*.

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– *New York Magazine* (on Artistic Director, Susan Feldman)

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ST ³⁰ YRS ANN'S WAREHOUSE

PRESENTS

LABAPALOOZA!

MINI FESTIVAL OF NEW PUPPET THEATER FROM THE LAB

JUNE 23-JUNE 27, 2010

PROGRAM A

WED JUN 23 8PM | FRI JUN 25 8PM | SAT JUN 26 2PM

COYOTE PURSUES

Matt Reeck & Deborah Simon

REGARDING SHADOWS ON THE GRASS

Karen Zasloff

A CLOCKWORK GOSPEL

George Ferrandi, David McQueen & Jason Anthony

THE COLLECTOR OF LIES

Laurie O'Brien

PROGRAM B

THU JUN 24 8PM | SAT JUN 26 8PM | SUN JUN 27 4PM

THE DALI PROJECT (excerpt)

Puppet Junction (Serra Hirsch & Sophia Remolde)

THE WAYFARING ZOMBIE

Kevin White

BEFORE & STILL

Alan Calpe

HOBO GRUNT CYCLE (excerpt)

Kevin Augustine

Lab Directors **Matthew Acheson & Tom Lee**

Lab Production Manager **Deena Selenow**

Lighting Designer **Christopher Heilmann**

Stage Manager **Andrew Neisler**

Sound Technician **Jason Sebastian**

Labapalooza! Production Intern / A/V Technician **Nick Trotta**

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Directors' Note

Twelve years ago, Janie Geiser launched The Puppet Lab in the basement of St. Ann's Church in Brooklyn Heights. In The Lab, puppet artists could develop work, experiment with forms and elicit the feedback of peers. Susan Feldman, St. Ann's artistic director offered The Lab a home that continues to this day at St. Ann's Warehouse in DUMBO, Brooklyn where new experiments in puppet theater are nurtured, many finding life beyond The Lab. Since the beginning, over 200 puppet artists have gone through The Lab, seeding a diverse community of puppet artists in New York and across the U.S.

The Puppet Lab's essential mission is to provide artists of many backgrounds a forum to develop a work in an environment that exposes them to the artistic processes of a hand-picked group of participants. The Lab seeks a broad range of artists some who are new to puppetry, others who have made puppet work previously or who may have been doing puppetry without knowing it. Lab participants meet once a week to show and discuss their work. The Lab capitalizes on the group's knowledge of fabrication, manipulation, concept and materials in an open environment where each participant approaches his work on his terms. At the conclusion of The Lab, participants showcase their work in *Labapalooza!: Mini Festival of New Puppet Theater from the Lab*.

This year's *Labapalooza!* features an intriguing array of projects dealing with such topics as the consequences of war and genocide, the odd worlds created by people who isolate themselves and Zombies. We're proud of what this year's puppet artists have created and hope you will find their work as fascinating as we do.

Enjoy the Lab!

Matt Acheson and Tom Lee, co-directors

Labapalooza Program A

PROGRAM A

WED JUN 23 8PM | FRI JUN 25 8PM | SAT JUN 26 2PM

COYOTE PURSUES

By **Matt Reeck & Deborah Simon**

Video **Dan Wonderly**

Composer **Michael Whalen**

Puppeteers **Ayako Dean & Daniel Fay**

Coyote runs over beaches, through forests, along fall fields, past waterfalls. Coyote is running and this is not strange but just and full of meaning. Coyote arrives in towns like sets from Western movies: the men are missing and the women too are missing. Coyote stops and licks his paws and their lesions caused by the running he has done. Coyote looks around and what does Coyote see but not even a mirror to reflect Coyote worn from travel and time. Coyote looks up at the drawn blue sky and the clouds there, sitting on his haunches as if awaiting death. But Coyote is not patient and so rises from the deck of that set-like town to explore options along the edges: there Coyote senses something, not so much a smell or shadow but the presence of a presence beyond that frame, something leading nowhere but then Coyote knows well the feeling of running nowhere. Coyote fills himself with purpose (the purpose of being Coyote) and leans beyond. It gives and so Coyote pushes, his fur rank and mangy, his eyes glowing but empty. It is where Coyote is going. Now it is where he has gone.

Matt Reeck

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

DEBORAH SIMON's artwork is shown around the country, most recently in the *Under the Bridges Art Festival* in DUMBO and a solo show at Packer Schopf Gallery in Chicago. In *Coyote Pursues*, she pushes her sculpture further through her first foray into performance and puppetry. Simon studied at the Repin Institute of Art in Soviet Leningrad on her way to a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and an MFA from the School of Visual Arts. She is represented by Packer Schopf Gallery in Chicago and will have a solo show at LZ Project Space in New York in early 2011.

Labapalooza Program A

MATT REECK earned his MFA in poetry from Brooklyn College and has won a creative writing Fulbright to India. His poetry and translations have been published in a variety of magazines and are forthcoming in *Action Yes*, *Brooklyn Rail*, *Colorado Review*, *EOAGH*, *Fact-Simile*, *Fiction International*, *Juncture*, *LA Review*, *Pratilipi* and *Two Lines*, as well as in conjunction with Shakespeare and Company's *Storytelling and Politics Festival* in Paris. This is his first staged dramatic production.

DAN WONDERLY attended Brooks Institute of Photography from 2003-06 and since then has lived in New York working in various two-dimensional media. He has shown work as a photographer and painter in New York and California. His work as a videographer continues in *Coyote Pursues*.

MICHAEL WHALEN is a two-time Emmy® Award winning composer and music supervisor who loves animals - including coyotes.

AYAKO DEAN last performed as a puppeteer in Billy Burns' *Hobo-No-No* at the Theater for the New City.

DANIEL FAY studied object-based theater at the Pratt Institute and shadow puppetry in Bali; he performed his *The Land of Shadow* earlier this month at Camel Art Space in Williamsburg.

Labapalooza Program A

REGARDING SHADOWS ON THE GRASS

Creator & Director **Karen Zasloff**

Puppet Builder/Technician **Ilya Vett**

Puppeteers **Retta Leaphart, Rebecca Posner, James Simmons, Karen Zasloff**

Builders **Retta Leaphart, Polina Porras, Rebecca Posner, James Simmons, Karen Zasloff**

Costume Designer **Victoria Tzykun**

Sound Designer **Adam David Moore**

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

KAREN ZASLOFF has created puppet performances for theaters, museums and public spaces including PS1, Here Arts Center, the MIT Center for Advanced Visual Studies and the Ontological Theater. Her drawings appear in the documentary *Banished*, which premiered at Sundance, 2007. Karen has worked in the US and abroad with the Bread and Puppet Theater, and has taught English, art and drama for many years in New York City public high schools and community centers. She studied English at the University of Chicago, design for stage and film at Tisch and performance at NYU's Gallatin School. She has loved being part of this remarkable Puppet Lab community, and is sad to know the process is coming to a close.

ILYA VETT, known as a master of puppet mechanics, grew up building them as well as costumes and props from a very young age. In 1989, in partnership with SUNY New Paltz Theater Department, Ilya built the plants for *Little Shop of Horrors*, based on the original plans by Martin Robinson. Years later, in 2003, Ilya got a chance to work with Martin Robinson directly and build the plants once again, this time for the Broadway production. From 2002 to the present, Ilya has been working in the puppet department at *The Lion King* in New York. *Labapalooza* rocks!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The performance is made possible in part by a seed grant from the Jim Henson Foundation and a grant from the BYFI Alumni Venture Fund.

SPECIAL THANKS

to Kelly Wachowicz, Darius Manino, Alison Russo, Angela Patrinos, Erik Ehn and Emery Rutagonya.

Labapalooza Program A

A CLOCKWORK GOSPEL

Creators **David McQueen, George Ferrandi & Jason Anthony**
Puppeteers **Ella Watson, Joshua Cohen, David McQueen, George Ferrandi & Jason Anthony**
Music & Sound Designer **Mark Gentile**

Time **October, 1843**
Place **Robert-Houdin's Workshop**

What happens when you wedge open the back of a watch, and stare into the works? Two legendary clockmakers of the Early Industrial Age looked deeply and began, in their own ways, to perform miracles.

Phineas Quimby (1802-1866) was a fascinating thinker in the world of religion; perhaps one of the most important, certainly one of the least known. Born the son of a blacksmith in Lebanon, New Hampshire, he was sickly as a child, and received very little formal education. Though he was trained as a watchmaker and earned his living that way for decades, he became interested in methodically harnessing what he saw as the power of the spirit. First as a mesmerist, then a healer, and finally a self-styled prophet, he formulated a modern "Science" of how the mind could extend its influence over what we perceive as reality. Christian Science, the New Age movement, Pentecostalism, and many Christian megachurches are deeply indebted to Quimby for the language of their modern belief.

Jean-Eugene Robert-Houdin (1805-1871) did more than anyone to elevate stage magic from a diversion to an art form. In addition to a new style of sophisticated, parlor-style performances, he introduced the element of breathtaking mechanical ingenuity. Lifelike automata, complex mechanisms and electromagnetic effects became wildly popular with an audience newly caught up in the Industrial Revolution. They were also a direct result of his training in the family business: his father was a watchmaker, as was his father's wife, and Robert-Houdin himself repaired and made clocks until he opened his own theater in Paris. Years after his death, when the young Erich Weiss was looking for a stage name, he chose "Harry Houdini" in tribute to Robert-Houdin.

This is an excerpt from the full-length play.

Labapalooza Program A

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ELLA WATSON is an multidisciplinary artist residing in East Williamsburg. Often consisting of charcoal and graphite drawings, Ella's work is generally inspired by her own life events, such as her recent self-published book *Liverwurst*, a compilation of images and writings created while she waited for a liver transplant. Ella has two degrees in art from Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, and hopes to go back to school for 3D Digital Effects so she can achieve the new American dream: health insurance.

JOSHUA COHEN is a Brooklyn-based puppeteer and environmental scientist. His first role in New York City was as an aardvark in a Ralph Lee puppet procession at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in 2001. Since then, he has worked as a builder and stiltwalker with the Great Small Works Company and Circus Amok and as a puppeteer for Puppetworks Theater.

DAVID "SCOUT" MCQUEEN is a sculptor/installation artist living and working in Brooklyn, New York. His work often includes electronics and interactive elements, and he draws on the 19th century tradition of automata and performance gadgetry. He received his MFA from Virginia Commonwealth University and a BA from Oberlin College. His work has been shown at Plane Space Gallery, The Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, The Bronx Museum of Art, the DUMBO Arts Center and most recently at Parker's Box in Brooklyn, NY.

JASON ANTHONY is a journalist and playwright. In addition to many years of writing about religion and games for newspapers and magazines, and a stint as resident playwright for Seattle's Broken Theater, he spent two years on a pilgrimage across the U.S., retelling Dante's Divine Comedy through site-specific work. This involved workshops with sex workers in Las Vegas, an interactive Minneapolis confessional, and, at the top of the Rockies in Montana, producing an original translation of Medea that highlighted her unorthodox and bloody roadmap to heaven.

GEORGE FERRANDI has taught sculpture and performance at universities in Virginia, Florida, North Carolina, and Peru. Her work has been exhibited or performed throughout the country, and most recently she created *Wherever There is Water* a night parade with more than 250 illuminated objects in partnership with the Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial in Philadelphia. She was the founding member of *Cloud Seeding: Circus of the Performative Object*, a caravan which toured the U.S. three times and left Fellini-esque images in its wake. She grew up in Baltimore restoring churches with her family, and still runs *Saint's Alive* a business restoring the fading and cracked saints of New York City's churches.

Labapalooza Program A

THE COLLECTOR OF LIES

Creator **Laurie O'Brien**
Puppeteers **Amanda Villalobos & Laurie O'Brien**
Miniature Puppeteer **Cory Antiel**
Music **Michael McHam**
Special Thanks **Joy Tomasko**

The Collector of Lies tells a story of a reclusive woman who spends her days organizing and cataloging mysterious objects that arrive in the mail. Next door, a shady pilot struggles with his own deceit and tries to hide the evidence that later links him with his neighbor. The past, that now lives between the walls of their rooms, reveals itself from time to time.

LAURIE O'BRIEN began making and performing in puppet shows in her garage in San Francisco where she founded the Orange Alley Puppet Collective. Her puppet show *Three* was performed at the New York Fringe Festival in 2004. She received her MFA in Puppetry from CalArts this May where she specialized in integrating puppetry with animation. She received the 2007 Princess Grace Award for Theater. She has been a puppeteer and puppet builder in Jessica's Yu's film *The Protagonist*, Janie Geiser's performance *Stolen Archives of the Vanished Ice-World*, and Dan Hurlin's *Who's Hungry*. She is extremely grateful to be a resident of the Puppet Lab at St. Anne's Warehouse this year.

AMANDA VILLALOBOS is a puppeteer and performer living in Brooklyn. Credits include: *Porco Morto* /Dir. Lee Breuer (NYTW & Mabou Mines), *The Adventures of Charcoal Boy* /Dir. Sarah Provost and Eric Novak's (Pearson Theater, International Puppetry Festival), various works by Theodora Skipitares (La MaMa Annex), and *Pronoun, I* /Dir. Michael Levinton (Bushwick Starr). She is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College where she studied puppetry with Dan Hurlin. Thanks to Laurie for the opportunity to work with her on this piece!

CORY ANTEL has recently puppeteered for Dan Hurlin, Dan Froot, Mabou Mines, David Neumann, and Patti Bradshaw and designed puppets for shows at Dixon Place and Astoria Performing Arts Center. His first solo show *Don't Be Scared! It's Only A Play* was produced last summer at the Manhattan Theater Source. In NYC, Cory has danced, puppeteered, improvised, and played with masks at venues such as La Mama, The Ohio Theater, HERE, Gotham Comedy Club, Danspace, St. Ann's Warehouse, and the Baryshnikov Arts Center.

MICHAEL MCHAM is a musician and composer. He lives and works in Berkeley, CA.

Labapalooza Program B

PROGRAM B

THU JUN 24 8PM | SAT JUN 26 8PM | SUN JUN 27 4PM

THE DALÍ PROJECT (working title)

Creators & Directors **Serra Hirsch & Sophia Remolde**

Cast **Šime Viduka (Salvador Dalí)**

Puppeteers **Dominique Baron-Bonarjee, Mary Notari & Jon Riddleberger**

Sound Design **Daniel Neumann**

Script **Sophia Remolde**

Puppets **Serra Hirsch**

Additional Puppets & Artwork **Matt Jackson & John Patrick Wells**

Puppet Builders **Serra Hirsch, Matt Jackson, Sophia Remolde, Yorie Akiba, Šime Viduka,**

Eliza Laytner, Beth Ann Leone, Keri Lewis, Dominique Baron-Bonarjee,

Jessica Simon, Nicole Katherine Alexander, Sarah Lafferty, Jon Riddleberger, Mary Notari

& many more puppet superstars!

Please note: No animals, insects, or crustaceans were harmed in the making of this production.
For more info about Puppet Junction and the Dalí Project, please visit www.PuppetJunction.com

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SERRA HIRSCH (Co-Creator) is a graduate of Emerson College's Theater Arts Program (BFA: Acting with Movement Concentration) and NYU (Master's: Educational Theater). Serra has studied puppet building and performance at the Eugene O'Neill Puppetry Theater and the Institut International de la Marionnette in Charleville-Mézières, France. She has taken intensive puppetry workshops and classes with such puppet greats as Hoichi Okamoto (Bunraku), Hugo e Ines (mime/body puppetry), Ralph Lee (masks and puppets) and Kevin Clash (hand/rod video puppetry). Serra runs a small Brooklyn-based puppet company called Puppet Junction Productions that does custom puppet & prop building, performs new original works and leads puppetry and theater workshops all over the NYC area. As a puppet builder and performer, Serra's work has been featured in the Great Small Works' Toy Theater Festival, Manhattan Children's Theater, Off-Broadway at 59E59 Theater, HERE, Theater for the New City, PS122, One Arm Red,

Labapalooza Program B

Chashama, Dixon Place, in both national and international puppetry festivals as well as numerous film shorts, music videos, PSAs and television promos. She has performed with companies and puppet artists such as Cosmic Bicycle Theater, Drama of Works, David Michael Friend, Amanda Maddock, Jane Catherine Shaw, imnotlost and Exploding Puppet Productions, to name a few. *The Dalí Project* is Serra's latest endeavor, currently in development with collaborator Sophia Remolde and aims to be completed as a full length puppet hybrid play in early 2011. Serra is an avid annual participant in the New York City Halloween Parade, creating large body costumes which are often featured in local media and publications. She was awarded the 2007 "Best Costume" Prize at the 34th Annual Greenwich Village Halloween Parade for her giant costume, *The Claw*, which was the inspiration for a documentary film short with the same title. She followed this win with a "Best Costume" win on NBC's Today Show with another giant creation, *The Damsel in Distress*. In addition to puppet and costume pursuits, Serra records voice-overs for TV/Radio/Animation, dabbles in interior design and believes crafting is a way of life. www.puppetjunction.com

SOPHIA REMOLDE (Co-Creator) loves lobsters. She is also a theater, film, dance, and puppetry artist based in New York City. Sophia wears many hats, including writing, directing, performing, designing, and all that is needed to collaborate and create.

As a performer, Sophia has appeared in numerous productions at the HB Playwrights Foundation and collaborated with such artists as Aya Ogawa, Jane Catherine Shaw, Julie Troost, imnotlost, SHUA Group, and members of SITI Company. Sophia trains in the Suzuki Method with The South Wing and SITI Company (in addition to Viewpoints with the latter). Her work with these artists and companies is on going and she looks forward to their continued collaborations. Current projects include *ATOMIC*, created in collaboration with Jimena Duca, which is a multimedia physical theater adaptation of *Atomic Jaya* by Huzir Sulaiman and will receive a full production in 2011. Sophia has also been up to many hijinks with Davina Cohen, reprising and expanding on their roles as Lobster and Darth from their performance piece, *RING*, created for the FURY Factory in San Francisco. For a glimpse of the madness, you can visit: <http://www.youtube.com/user/lobsterhell>. Sophia also choreographs as a fight director and has worked with such combat notables as Ian Marshall and The Vampire Cowboys. Her latest fight will be featured in the film project *Grauman's Last Hero*. While mostly a lover, she loves a good fight. Sophia's obsession with Salvador Dalí was born out of the The Painters Project, which was conceived and directed by the brilliant George Bartenieff. Her solo show, *Dalí: Portrait of a Genius*, premiered as part of this program at The Cherry Lane Theatre in 2009. *The Dalí Project* has taken on a new life and, created with puppet marvel Serra Hirsch, will be performed as a full-length puppet hybrid play in 2011. She would like to thank everyone at St. Ann's and all of the wonderful artists who have collaborated and inspired thus far on this fantastical journey. www.puppetjunction.com

DOMINIQUE BARON-BONARJEE explores metamorphosis and illusion through her performances and installations. Her current work is strongly rooted in Butoh, as well as being inspired by her varied career(s) in theatre, cabaret and as a graphic designer.

Labapalooza Program B

MATT JACKSON (Designer, Gala and Lion) was especially trained in the highly specialized field of Special Effects for the cinema. Instead of pursuing the monetarily and congratulatory rewarding world of George Lucas, etc., he chose puppetry, and continues to this day to be grateful for his rewarding collaborations from London, to France, and back to New York. Matt is pleased to see this incarnation of *The Dalí Project* come to life after collaborating with Serra on *Sleep/Sommeil* for the puppetry festival in Charleville-Mézières, France.

DANIEL NEUMANN is an experimental composer and sound artist based in Brooklyn. He uses conceptual strategies to explore sound and sound material as well as its modulation through space and media on both a theoretical and a practical level. <http://danielneumann.wordpress.com/>

MARY NOTARI is an actor, singer, and puppeteer based in Brooklyn, NY. Recent NYC credits include *Reconstruction* (The Ohio Theater), *Hotel de l'Avenir* (Under St. Mark's), and International WOW Company's *Auto da Fe*.

JON RIDDLEBERGER is a New York based actor and puppeteer. He's very excited to be puppeteering again after his last puppet venture at the Little Angel Puppet Theater in London. Thanks to all involved!

ŠIME VIDUKA is a recent graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where he studied at the Meisner Extension Studio and the Experimental Theatre Wing. He is very excited to be a part of this surreal project.

JOHN PATRICK WELLS (Designer, Projection Paintings) is a visual artist/ production designer from southern California. His work has been seen at the Sundance Film Festival and the Columbia Film Festival as well as on MTV, Fuse, BET and IFC. John will be spending his summer as an Artist in Residence at the School of Visual Arts.

SPECIAL THANK YOUS

Matt Jackson, Karen Rose, Jerry Thornton, Ghetta Hirsch, George Bartenieff, John and Sumicha Remolde, Kate Brehm, Jane Catherine Shaw, Nicole Komaroff, Dave "Papa" Shih, Deena Selenow, Sarah Lafferty, Niko, Kevin White, Wasabi, eBay, St. Ann's Puppet Lab, and of course, Salvador Dalí.

Labapalooza Program B

THE WAYFARING ZOMBIE

Writer, Builder, & Puppeteer **Kevin White**

Puppeteers **Michael Lester, Anne Posluszny, Stephanie Bok, & Penny White**

Costumes **Penny White**

Carpenter **Billy Burns**

Bicycle Frame **Lambert Fernando**

Zombie Costume **Honey Goodenough**

Sound Effects **Liam Hurley**

Multimedia Designer **David Van Leesten**

Music Credits

Ain't No Grave **The Late Great Johnny Cash**

The Wayfaring Stranger **16 Horsepower**

The song *The Wayfaring Stranger* was the inspiration for this piece. *The Wayfaring Stranger* is a song with no documented author. According to Wikipedia, *The Wayfaring Stranger* (aka *Poor Wayfaring Stranger* or *I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger*), is a well-known spiritual/folk song about a plaintive soul on the journey through life. The journey the singer speaks of is the trials and tribulations of life. Home is the final reward of reuniting with loved ones in Heaven in the afterlife. It became one of Burl Ives' signature songs and has been recorded by dozens of artists over the years.

In this comical tale, our Zombie is a wayfaring vigilante anti-hero, who finds his way through a creepy forest. He comes to a cottage and inside rescues a young girl held prisoner by an evil mad-scientist. Just the beginning of the story of a zombie who yearns to return to his grave...but zombies can never rest.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

KEVIN WHITE has worked as a puppeteer/marionettist for nearly 20 years. Most recently performed (with good friend Liam Hurley) in *The Curse*, a music video with puppets for Josh Ritter. Kevin would like to thank his performers, and the great Billy Burns for his help on the set design, my wife for being awesome and my family (White & Frank) for supporting me! And, of course, big thanks to the Lab for all their feedback, Matt and Tom for giving him the opportunity to create and perform this piece.

Labapalooza Program B

MICHAEL LESTER is very happy to be a part of *The Wayfaring Zombie*, this marking his second appearance at Labapalooza. As an actor he has appeared Regionally, Off Broadway, Off Off Broadway, and Nowhere near Broadway!

ANNE POSLUSZNY Puppeteering credits include Oliver Dalzell's *Ice Cream for Diablo*, Matt Acheson & Paul Kloos' film *In the House of the Sin-Eater*, Joe McCarthy's *Part II* (St. Ann's), and Basil Twist's *La Bella Dormente Nel Bosco* (Spoleto/Lincoln Center Festival). She has stage managed Twist's *Symphonie Fantastique* and *Dogugaeshi*, Lake Simons' *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and Dan Hurlin's *Hiroshima Maiden*. Anne is currently the production manager for the Martha Graham Dance Company.

STEPHANIE BOK has been involved in performing, producing, writing, teaching, stage management and directing in Los Angeles, Atlanta and New York. Her 'day job' is managing South Oxford Space, a project of the Alliance of Resident Theatres/ New York. Artistically, her current focus is on playwriting and producing events that showcase original writing, including the *Write Night* series at Frank's Cocktail Lounge in Brooklyn.

PENNY WHITE is happily married to Kevin White.

Labapalooza Program B

BEFORE & STILL

Creator **Alan Calpe**

Performers **John Orth, Adam Shecter & Joe Winter**

Design Assistants **Jee Sim, Sarah Lookofsky, Jocelyn Jacobs, Kelie Bowman & Sto Pitt**

Sound Designers **Mindy Abovitz, David Penn, Jeremy Scott, & Peter Woods**

Before & Still animates objects in a still life composition to suggest an unexpected history (or more, a process of becoming) out of the singular still life moment. Inspired by 17th-century still life paintings of kitchen and hunted game displays, the multimedia performance shows interactions between objects occupying a dining table as they move into their final states of (de)composition... the perverse, violent, romantic and erotic exchanges capturing implicit tensions within its larger setting of the home and its unseen inhabitants.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ALAN CALPE is an artist working primarily in video and performance. His work often involves mundane rituals propelled into the fantastic, residing somewhere between a Hollywood Technicolor romance and a dark alley illicit encounter. *Before & Still*, a work-in-progress developed for St. Ann's Puppet Lab, continues his interests in exploring queer domestic spaces. He has exhibited at The Getty Museum, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, LAXART, Harvestworks, and Anthology Film Archives. He attended the University of Florida, received his MFA from UC San Diego and participated in residencies at Skowhegan and the Atlantic Center for the Arts. He splits his time between Brooklyn and Gainesville, Florida. www.alancalpe.com

MINDY ABOVITZ is a sound engineer at East Village Radio and started and runs *Tom Tom Magazine: A Magazine About Female Drummers*. She is in love with the drums, drum machines, plants, and the sun. www.tomtommag.com

SARAH LOOKOFSKY is a curator/art historian who holds her Ph.D. in Art History, Theory and Criticism from the University of California, San Diego. She is currently working as the Instructor for Curatorial Studies at the Whitney Independent Study Program.

JOHN ORTH is a visual artist and musician. He splits his time between Gainesville, Florida and Brooklyn, New York. See: johnorthisthehobbyist.blogspot.com Hear: holopawmusic.com

ADAM SHECTER is a visual artist working primarily in animation and video. He met Alan Calpe at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 2006. Visit him at theworldofadam.com

JOE WINTER is a visual artist who lives and works in Long Island City. His work is currently on view at Marian Spore, an accumulative museum of contemporary art housed in a warehouse in Industry City, Brooklyn. More information about Joe is available at www.severalprojects.com.

JEE YOUNG SIM is an artist/musician living in Brooklyn. Her musical projects include *Taigaa*, *Chica Vas*, *Boveda*, & *Jee Day*. Her visual works can be seen at fantastico.pillowlavas.com.

Labapalooza Program B

HOBO GRUNT CYCLE (excerpt)

Writer/Director, Puppet Maker, Actor **Kevin Augustine**

General Manager, Scenic Painter/Props **Gloria Sun**

Composer **Clint Davis**

Sound Designer **Miguel Weissman**

Animation **Tarik Cherkaoui**

Puppeteers **Matthew Lavin & Nathan Richard Wagner**

Artistic Associate **Richard Baiocco**

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

KEVIN AUGUSTINE's Lone Wolf Tribe has been creating original work for adults since 1997. Having toured to four continents and been funded by many arts foundations, their last show, *Bride*, played at PS122 and won an UNIMA award for Excellence in Puppet Theatre and was named a Top 10 show of 2008 by Time Out New York. Studio headquarters: A.R.T./NY's South Oxford Space in Fort Green. For more information (including our puppet workshops), go to www.lonewolftribe.com

GLORIA SUN (LWT General Manager) has been working with the Tribe since 2004. She juggles graphic and web design with props making, accounting and production management. She is also a freelance props artisan with credits from The Juilliard School, Lincoln Center, Fordham University, Manhattan School of Music, Playwrights Horizons, Big Apple Circus, Construction Display Inc. and Broadway's Shrek.

CLINT DAVIS (Composer) is a new media artist and musician based in San Diego, California. His music and sound designs have been heard internationally for stage, film, and animated shorts. Working in interactive media, Davis creates installations that seek to blur the boundaries between digital and physical worlds. <http://sweb.uky.edu/~crdavi2>

MIGUEL WEISSMAN is a sound designer, composer and musician, playing harmonica for 40 years in early Jazz and root music. He's the music supervisor for Cadre Films NYC and has lent his talents to hundreds of Off Broadway productions. www.miguelweissman.com

TARIK CHERKAOUI is a Moroccan-born independent animator living in NYC. His short films have won awards at the Chicago Int'l Film Festival as well as been featured in Human Rights Watch. He is interested in animation as a form of art and animates with traditional media such as paint on glass, markers and charcoal.

MATTHEW LAVIN has a BFA in acting from Emerson College and has studied with The Royal Shakespeare Co, Kristen Linklater, Augusto Boal and Steppenwolf Theatre. Recent credits include, AOFF award winner, *Paintball the Movie* and national commercials for Subway and Three Olives Vodka. He was a company member of *Blue Man Group*, an Associate Director of The Cosmic Bicycle Theatre and founder of Sid and Buddy Karaoke. Visit www.trymatthewlavin.com

Labapalooza Program B

NATHAN RICHARD WAGNER has worked with Lone Wolf Tribe since October 2008, touring with them to Dordrecht, Holland, Brasilia & Sao Paulo, Brazil. Other productions in New York include GORMANZEE & Other Stories, reviving at the Flea this July, and Take Me Out with the Brooklyn Heights Players. Nathan grew up in Kentucky.

RICHARD BAIOTTO is a script researcher for Lone Wolf Tribe and was a puppeteer in the tribe's tour to Sao Paolo and Brasilia, Brazil last August. He is author of the short story collection *Julie In Mittens*. More info can be found at <http://www.myspace.com/shwardo>

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I began working on *Hobo Grunt Cycle* (originally titled *Citizen Hobo*) in April/May 2008 after *BRIDE* closed at PS122. Wearing multiple hats to bring a show to life (including grant writing to make it all possible), it takes considerable time to find the soul of the story as it wants to be told. Early versions were shown at BAX (October 2008), Irondale Theatre (May 2009), theatre festivals in Europe and South America (summer 2009) and Dixon Place (March 2010). Only 10% of last summer's 50 minutes of material will ultimately make its way into the final production. The work presented in *Labapalooza!* was developed during the St. Ann's residency beginning October of 2009.

My evolving mission with Lone Wolf Tribe is to help bring attention to stories that deserve to be told. Puppets naturally draw our interest, thereby making their partnership vital in exploring under reported issues, in this case the plight of veterans from all wars and the countless and ever growing number of civilian casualties from our continued use of violence to "resolve" conflicts.

HBC's development and production has been funded by The Greenwall Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, Brooklyn Council on the Arts, The Jim Henson Foundation, The Puffin Foundation, Puppeteers of America & U.S. Artists International (Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation). HBC's full production premieres at EXIT Theatre in San Francisco, February 2011; Horse Trade's Kraine Theatre in NYC, April 2011; The Arts Bank Theatre (through the University of the Arts) in Philadelphia, May 2011.

Kevin Augustine

SPECIAL THANKS

David Banner (Construction Display Inc.), Conrad Bishop, Ora Fruchter, Tarik Cherkaoui, Isabel Crosby, Pepper Fajans, Rachel Schroeder, Ilya Vett for his technical wizardry, Nathan Richard Wagner, Rich Baiocco & Matthew Lavin; Dan Bianchi, Andrea Hendrickson, Anamarie Salamat, John Albano, Bonnie Pompili, Jeff Wood, Materials for The Arts, Lab directors Matt Acheson & Tom Lee, St. Ann's Deena Selenow & Christopher Heilman and all the puppet lab folks for their insightful feedback.

Labapalooza Biographies

MATT ACHESON (Lab Director) has had the pleasure of performing, building, and touring extensively with Basil Twist's productions of *Symphonie Fantastique*, *Petrushka*, *Master Peter's Puppet Show* and *La Bella Dormente Nel Bosco* and Dan Hurlin's productions of *Hiroshima Maiden* and *Disfarmer*. Mabou Mines production *Peter and Wendy*, Lee Breuer's *A Prelude to Death in Venice*, Paula Vogel's *A Long Christmas Ride Home* and the puppetry rehearsal director for The Metropolitan Opera's *Madama Butterfly*. Matt has also worked with choreographer Nami Yamamoto on *A Howling Flower* and *Flying with my Shooting Stars*, Tom Lee's *Ko'Olau*, Chris Green's *Lybo*, Lake Simmons' *What's Inside the Egg?*, Erin Orr's *Savage Nursery*, and Erik Sanko's *The Fortune Teller* and *Dear Mme*. Matt has also participated as a lab member and created the film *In the House of the Sin Eater*, which Matt wrote, directed, and designed with filmmaker Paul Kloss. Most recent projects include designing, building the marionettes and supervising the puppetry for Rinne Groff's *Compulsion* directed by Oscar Eustis and has been commissioned to create a new piece for The Swedish Marionette Cottage with Tom Lee.

TOM LEE (Lab Director) is a designer, director and performer originally from Mililani, Hawai'i. His puppetry performances include Dan Hurlin's *Disfarmer* (St. Ann's Warehouse & tour), Anthony Minghella's *Madama Butterfly* (Metropolitan Opera) and Doug Fitch's production of *Le Grand Macabre* (NY Philharmonic). Tom's puppet theatre work includes *Hoplite Diary*, *Osyseyus and Ajax* and *Ko'Olau* (including recent Hawai'i tour) and puppetry for Haruki Murakami's *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* directed by Stephen Earnhart. This March he was in residence in Japan with master puppeteer Koryu Nishikawa V. His work has been supported by residencies in the US and Bulgaria and by the Jim Henson Foundation, The Japan Foundation, Asian Cultural Council and TCG/ITI. Tom has designed scenery and projections for Ellen Stewart, Tom O'Horgan, Czechoslovak American Marionette Theatre, Lone Wolf Tribe, Georgia Shakespeare Festival. Mr. Lee is a guest faculty member at Sarah Lawrence College and has directed the St. Ann Warehouse Puppet Lab with Matt Acheson since 2008. www.tomleeprojects.com

ANDREW NEISLER (Stage Manager) is an Atlanta-raised, now Brooklyn-based theatre artist and director. Since graduating from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, he has worked in the development of many new plays and projects. He is the co-director and founder of *Fresh Ground Pepper*, a monthly new-work series devoted to providing theatre artists a space for experimentation, feedback, and growth. Under *Fresh Ground Pepper* he has curated and presented works-in-development from over a hundred New York City writers, directors, actors, dancers, musicians, and more. Some of his most recent directing credits include *Political Subversities* at The Peoples' Improv Theatre, *Our Farm* at The Tank and The Cherry Pit, *Black Canyon City* at breedingground's Spring Fever Festival, *Baby Anger* as part of Naked from the Vault at The Peter Jay Sharp Theatre, and *The Forgetting of Things* at The Bushwick Starr. He also works as an assistant director, lighting designer, and stage manager around New York. Other than theatre, Andrew also reads a lot, spends time with the people he loves, and eats chocolate. www.adneisler.weebly.com

SPECIAL MENTION

Playwright Joy Tomasko developed sections of her puppet script *Bombyx Mori* through the developmental process of the Lab. Attending and contributing to the life of the meetings, she produced a treatment and several scripted scenes of *Bombyx Mori*, a piece she will continue to develop. Joy is a writer living in Brooklyn. She was a recent Jerome Fellow at The Playwrights Center in Minneapolis, a MacDowell Colony Fellow and the 2009 NYSCA Playwright-in-Residence at The Women's Project and the current Playwright-in-Residence at Gateway Middle School. Her work has also been developed at Soho Think Tank, The Lark, Nautilus Music-Theater, ESPA, AROHO and SPF. She congratulates and thanks all of her fellow lab members and fearless leaders!

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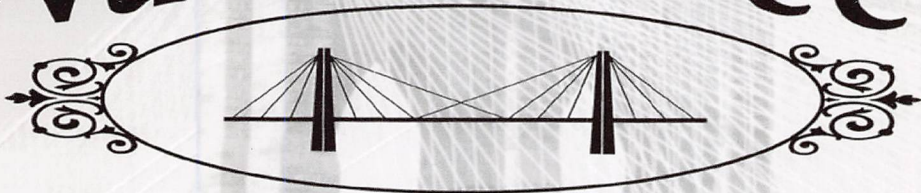
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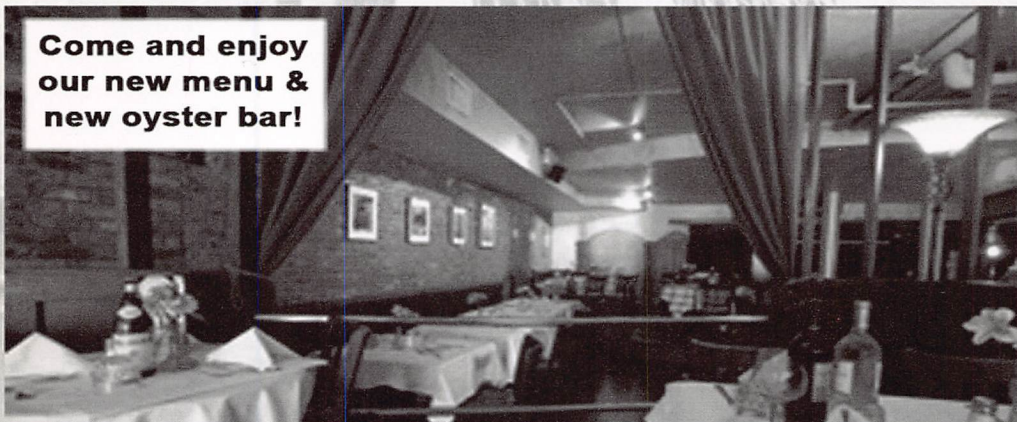
The logo features the word "RICE" in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the website "RICENY.COM" and address "81 WASHINGTON ST, BROOKLYN 11201" are listed. The phone number "718 222-9880" is prominently displayed. The operating hours "12 NOON - 11 PM DAILY" and "WEEKEND BRUNCH 12PM-4PM" are shown, along with the services "TAKEOUT-DELIVERY-RESTAURANT-CATERING". The background of the logo is light gray with a pattern of white rice grains.

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Regarding Shadows on the Grass (Excerpt)

Director's Note:

In July 2007, I traveled with a group of 25 artists to Rwanda to learn about the events of 1994, when more than 800,000 were killed over a three-month period in what has been described as the most efficient genocide in history. We heard testimony, visited memorial sites and talked with government officials, often centering on the national program of transitional justice and reconciliation called “gacaca,” which refers traditionally to a grassy area where communal problems were resolved. Though central to healing Rwanda’s scars, the reconciliation process also demands concessions from beleaguered survivors in service to their tormentors. Still, many survivors adopt a stoic perspective, resolving to sublimate their deep anger and grief for the national effort at unity. They express the view, “Forgiveness is impossible, but we must forgive.” I was left with the sense of a country under intense pressure, where crowds of people, moving mechanically through daily tasks and stilted social interactions, contain and carry horrific memories of violence, humiliation and searing pain. The sheer scale of the genocide with mass graves holding thousands of bodies, the daily proximity of survivors and former murderers, and the national pressure to adopt an attitude of reconciliation compound to foreclose the space for mourning, leaving Rwanda in a stifling silence.

This brief excerpt from *Regarding Shadows on the Grass* engages the difficulty in comprehending the memory of genocide, for those listening to testimony as well as for survivors themselves. It is hard to imagine the stable landscape of present-day Rwanda as a vision of hell, but the common sight of scars on survivors’ bodies and of prisoners in pink uniform doing communal work duty, serve as constant reminders of an irreconcilable recent past.