

ANNOUNCING A FREE PERFORMANCE/INSTALLATION
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LAUNCH OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF

NEW ACQUISITION

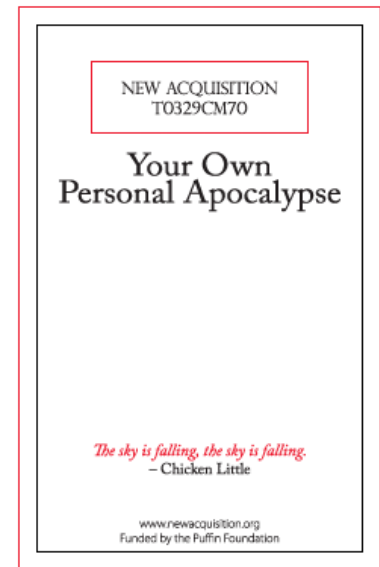
A FREE LITERARY PAMPHLET

WHAT: FREE performance and installation in conjunction with the launch of the first issue of NEW ACQUISITION

WHEN: 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Thursday-Saturday, September 6-8, 2007

WHERE: Chashama, 217 E. 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017 – shop window and interior installation/performance

WHO: ALEXIS CLEMENTS, writer and playwright;
DYANA KIMBALL, director; BETH ROYER, poet;
JULIA VALLERA, artist and illustrator



That even an apocalypse can be made to seem part of the ordinary horizon of expectation constitutes an unparalleled violence that is being done to our sense of reality, to our humanity. –Susan Sontag

NEW ACQUISITION is a series of free literary pamphlets—brief pamphlets filled with writing and art focused on a variety of themes. Design inspiration and themes for each issue are drawn from early and contemporary American religious and political pamphlets. The primary goal of NEW ACQUISITION is to expose the public to contemporary creative work by emerging female artists and writers via mass distribution of pamphlets. In addition, our online forum (WWW.NEWACQUISITION.ORG) will provide another venue to explore the work of featured artists and writers.

The theme for the first issue of NEW ACQUISITION is *Your Own Personal Apocalypse*. Inspired by perhaps the most enduring subject of American pamphlets, *Your Own Personal Apocalypse* considers the peculiar American pastime of worrying that the world as we know it is coming to an end.

In conjunction with the launch of the first issue of NEW ACQUISITION the group is mounting a performance and installation at the 217 East 42nd Street space of Chashama. Inside the space, audience members and passers-by will encounter the world of a pamphleteer and amateur chicken-farmer who hopes to prepare each person she meets for the coming of their own personal apocalypse. The performance will feature chickens, video, art, people, and propaganda galore. There will be plenty of opportunities for the audience to be entertained, perplexed and forewarned.

IN ADDITION: Excerpts of the performance of *Your Own Personal Apocalypse* will be featured in the One Million Forgotten Moments project, running twice every evening from September 11-16 at 38 Park Row. For more information about this event visit WWW.OMFM.ORG.

Funding for this project has been made possible by the Puffin Foundation.

EVENT INFORMATION

FREE. NO TICKETS OR RESERVATIONS NECESSARY.

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Sept. 6-8 (Thurs.-Sat.), 2007

217 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017

1.5 blocks east of Grand Central, between 2nd and 3rd Ave

4, 5, 6, 7 and shuttle trains from Times Square

Buses to 3rd Ave and/or 42nd Street

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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WWW.NEWACQUISITION.ORG

The performance and installation are supported by Collective PAST at Chashama, who have provided residency support for the creation of *Your Own Personal Apocalypse*. Chashama is a NYC arts organization whose mission is to support artists of all genres. Chashama “adopts” vacant properties that are donated by their owners and converts them into theaters, galleries, studios, and window performance sites; Chashama then regrants this space for free or at heavily subsidized rates. Since 1995, Chashama has transformed more than 20 vacant properties and has given more than 5,000 artists access to space.

CONTRIBUTOR BIOS

ALEXIS CLEMENTS, EDITOR/WRITER

A 2006/2007 fellow of the Dramatists Guild of America and recipient of a Puffin Foundation Artist's Grant for prose work, Clements has written numerous works for both the stage and print. Winner of the Oglebay Institute's 2006 National Playwriting Contest as well as the Source Theatre's 2004 Washington Theatre Festival Literary Prize for her play CAUSALITY, Clements' recent theatrical productions include: CONVERSATION (New York, NY); THE INTERVIEW (Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Scotland, UK); CAUSALITY (Wheeling, WV); PIECES (Washington, DC, & Iowa City, IA); CLASS and THE GREAT AMERICAN NOVEL (Washington, DC); THREE CHOICES (Chesterfield, UK); FINDING WORDS and UNFETTERED (Kansas City, MO). Her short stories have been published in two UK journals and on the *Guardian's* website after winning a short story competition that they co-sponsored with SciTalk. Clements is a regular contributor to *Scene4 Magazine* and has published articles in such magazines as *Nature*, *Aesthetica*, and *Travel New England*. She had a M.Sc. from the London School of Economics in Philosophy and History of Science and a B.A. from Emerson College in Theatre Studies.

Read more about her work here: www.alexisclements.com.

“Cleverly constructed and exceedingly well performed, this smashing little play by Alexis Clements teases out a near-future world where everything is controlled by an unseen, all-beneficent company.” – The Stage on Clements' play The Interview

DYANA KIMBALL, THEATRE DIRECTOR

Kimball is a founding member of Ontik and the founder and former Artistic Director of Boston Directors' Lab in Boston, MA. NYC productions include: Georg Buchner's WOYZECK (Central Park); Elmer Rice's THE ADDING MACHINE (Theatre at Riverside Church); Bertolt Brecht's BAAL, ISLAND OF SLAVES by Marivaux, and Bixby Elliot's LOVE AND LITERATURE (Schapiro Theatre at Columbia); LIBRARY PLAY by Paul Cohen (J. Houseman Theatre), STILL LIFE by Emily Mann (Belt Theatre), RUBBER by Tom Sleigh (RAW Space) and CHOPPING by Magdalena Gomez (HERE Arts Center). Regional: ORESTES 2.0, by Charles Mee Jr.-Brookville, NY (LIU, CW Post guest director); DON GIOVANNI, by Mozart-Juneau, AK (Opera-to-Go); WHAT WILL I DO WHEN YOU'RE GONE, by Neil Bell-Cambridge, MA (The Market Theatre/BTM); TRAVELING NAKED, by Debra Lake Fortson-Boston, MA (Boston Playwrights Theatre); THROUGH THE LEAVES, by Franz Xaver Kroetz-Boston, MA (BDL); TRANSFIGURATION OF BENNO BLIMPIE, by Albert Innurato-Boston, MA (BDL). Dyana received her MFA in directing from Columbia University and currently teaches directing at Marymount Manhattan College. She is also a teaching artist in NY public schools and is the head of Columbia University's Theatrical Collaboration Program for High School Students.

“There is nothing so refreshing as seeing a play that surprises you...Perhaps this is because the members of the cast are funny and endearing, without exhibiting any of the saccharine gimmickness of a Kate Hudson or Ashton Kutcher. Or perhaps it is because Dyana Kimball directs with such a light, perceptive touch.” – Offoffonline.com on Kimball's direction of Library Play

BETH ROYER, POET

Beth Royer achieved an admirable level of success as a poet in high school and college. Among her awards were an Honorable Mention from NFAA/ARTS and Princeton University back in 1997, and a fellowship to study poetry at Bucknell University in the summer of 2000. She briefly attended graduate school for poetry in the South, but fled the lizards and sunshine for an office job, steady paychecks, and the love of a good dog named Lola Bandita Conine. Her poetry has appeared in *Slipstream*, *Gulf Stream*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *Backwards City Review*. Her short fiction has appeared in *Quick Fiction*, and in the anthology *Brevity & Echo*. A chapbook of her poems was published in 2004 by Slipstream Press entitled *Radio Dreams*. In truth, she needs to work on new poems, but in the meantime, she is crunching numbers, working part-time toward her degree in librarianship, and selling crafty stuff at www.threedogparty.com. When not engaged in any of these activities, she is hanging out with her dog, who looks totally excellent in pearls.

“Beth Royer writes like a master model-maker assembling snowstorm paperweights full of quirky domestic detail... Radio Dreams is an arch and artful chapbook that ought to be read by everyone.” – Slipstream Press on Royer's book Radio Dreams

JULIA VALLERA, ARTIST/ILLUSTRATOR

Vallera is currently a part-time faculty member and student advisor at Parsons School of Design, NYC. She is also a designer/technical artist for Snoozer Loser Art Collective, NYC. Her animations have been featured in the International Children's Festival (New York), the Siggraph Animation Festival (California), and the Krok Film Festival (Ukraine). Her work has been exhibited at Glasshouse Gallery, NYC; NGC 224 Gallery, Queens, NY; Supreme Trading, Brooklyn, NY; and the Culture Factory, Norwalk, CT. And she has been featured in articles in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Textually.org*. She received her B.F.A. in Illustration and Animation from Parsons School of Design, New York.

Read more about her work here: www.juliavallera.com.

“What appears to be merely a cool design is actually a diary entry, locked within a special barcode that can be read by a cellphone. The code presents “my private thoughts and writing, kind of exposed in a really public way, but contradictorily, being still private because its encoded,” Ms. Vallera said in an interview.” – The Chronicle for Higher Education on Vallera's recent Dear Diary project