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Art History Reenactments

Avalon Kalin

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an hour. The actions were observed and documented with photographs and a written log.

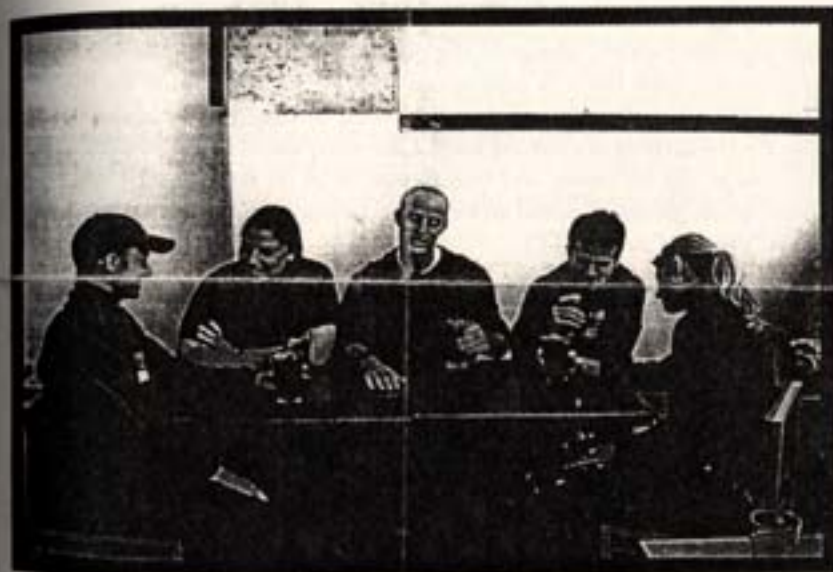
The works are meant to remain uncontextualized as art and do not seek to appear within the art world. The only form of documentation “displayed” by the artists were a series of post-event mailings that described the actions. These were mailed to local county officials and interested activists and to a group of county residents, selected randomly from the phone book, who were designated as “citizen witnesses.” (SA)

FREE ICED TEA (2000) JOSHUA GREENE

In the fall of 2000, Joshua Greene, a San Francisco-based conceptual artist, offered free iced tea on Wednesdays at the A2 cafe in San Francisco. Flyers for these free iced tea sessions were distributed at the cafe and in the surrounding areas and educational facilities. Persons who responded to the free iced tea posters were given a chip for an iced tea to be redeemed at the counter. These chips were then counted by the A2 counter staff, and Greene was charged for the corresponding number of iced teas. Although it is unclear as to what the exact content of the conversations were, it is certain that each individual took a chip from Greene, and that the chip was a stand-in for money during each individual’s economic interaction at the A2 cafe.

One viewer (who wished to remain anonymous) had this to say: “I wanted to do the thing, but they didn’t have any decaf tea that day. I haven’t had caffeine in three years. I almost did it for art, but I just listened to people talk instead.” (JM)

Come drink
FREE ICED TEA *
with me.



A2 Café
Wednesday 2–3pm

*drop by the cafe and I'll buy you an iced tea

Joshua Greene: Free Iced Tea 2000

Have Free* Iced Tea With Me



At Broadway Coffee Wed. MAY 28th 2-3pm

*avalon will give you a token for one iced tea if you sit and have it with him.

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avalonkalin.blogspot.com

Joshua Ian <joshgreene@gmail.com> wrote:

hi avalon,

well i have to say that i am not wild about that piece and that is not simply a function of years gone by.

as i recall, i was thinking that it would be cool if all of a sudden the cafe at cca, where i was a grad student at the time, could become packed with thirsty students, faculty and staff. i thought the promise of free iced-tea would be enough to lure them in. apparently my optimism was not founded in reality. about six or so people showed up. i didn't find it terribly interesting.

in terms of logistics, i made a little "chit" that was an image of a lemon in a glass of ice-tea. i handed these out to people as they entered the cafe, inviting them to enjoy a free ice tea. they then gave the chit to the cafe worker and received their beverage. once it was over the cafe worker counted the chits and i paid for the six or so glasses of ice tea.

let me know if you have any questions. my hope is that you can make this project interesting, because i sure couldn't!

best,

josh

On Wed, May 28, 2008 at 5:37 PM, Avalon Kalin <avalonkalin@yahoo.com> wrote:

hi josh,

thanks for your reply. I didn't get to meet you, but you must of met my class mates. yeah, if you had any thoughts about the Iced Tea Piece, that's all I was thinking about. i like the idea of intentionally meeting with people. I'm doing a san keller piece too that is similar called "it takes two."

thanks again,

-avalon

Joshua Ian <joshgreene@gmail.com> wrote:

hi avalon,

perhaps we met at the conference. i was only there briefly, but i met two psu students.

i like the re-enactment approach. it is similar to assignment i give in one of the classes that i teach. the assignment is called "rip-off artist."

It Takes Two

The concept of the action «It Takes Two» was developed for the performance festival «Stromereien» in Zurich, but was realised the first time in the context of the workshop «entgegen». San Keller sits on a public bench and remains seated till someone sits down next to him. If there is some kind of exchange San Keller remains on the bench. If no exchange takes place San Keller sits on the next bench, etc. In Helmstedt San Keller announced his presence in the daily newspaper, so that the inhabitants would know about the stranger sitting on their park benches. In the context of «Stromereien» San Keller announced his presence but to the festival visitors, although he placed a cushion emblazoned with the words «Please sit next to me» beside him.

> Picture page 61

Action

Action No 1: 15 - 18 June 2005, 14.30 - 07.32 (nonstop)

Event: «entgegen», workshop for practicing

site-specific interventions and artistic interventions in public environments; Helmstedt, Germany

Action material: sleeping bag

Commissioner: Hochschule der Künste Braunschweig

Action No 2: 3 - 5 August 2005, 12.00 - 12.00 (nonstop)

Event: «Stromereien», Zurich (in between

Zurich main stadion and Escher-Wyss-Platz)

Action material: cushion emblazoned with the words

«Please sit next to me!» and a sleeping bag

Commissioner: Stromereien



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To: "Avalon Kalin" <avalonkalin@yahoo.com>
From: "Stefan Keller" <sankeller@bluewin.ch> [View Contact Details](#) [Add Mobile Alert](#)
Subject: more more!
Date: Fri, 25 Apr 2008 08:39:54 +0200

a clear view happend last week! was a nice action, I cleaned 12 windows in 1 week!

HTML Attachment [[Scan and Save to Computer](#)]

what is not in english documentations that could interest you is:

IT TAKES TWO

me sitting on a bench, waiting until some is sitting beside me on the bench, then moving to another bench. do it for one day or two days or how long you want. I did it once for 2 and once for 4 days.

> I would like to do it once in a museum, on one of the large saets in the paintings collection. do it then during the opening hours of the museum.

BEDTIMESTORYS

me going to bed in front of the audience. on chair beside my bed. then the audience is invited to tell me bedtimestorys until I fall asleep. not until I sleep, the audience is allowed to leave!


hope you find something that you like!

nice greetings

san

Attachments

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Chasing a Bus, 2003

In the video called Chasing the Bus Mads repeatedly gets on and off the same bus for a distance of about 10 kilometers (7 miles) starting in the "Mission District" and all the way to "Fisherman's Wharf" in San Francisco.





SIGNAL
NEXT
STOP

KOREAN
VETERAN



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This message is not flagged. [[Flag Message](#) - [Mark as Unread](#)][Printable View](#)**Date:** Thu, 17 Apr 2008 13:39:49 -0400**From:** "Mads Lynnerup" <madslynnerup@gmail.com> [View Contact Details](#) [Add Mobile Alert](#)
Yahoo! DomainKeys has confirmed that this message was sent by gmail.com. [Learn more](#)**To:** "Avalon Kalin" <avalonkalin@yahoo.com>**Subject:** Re: Re-enactment

Hi Avalon,

Sounds cool with the music, I will check it out as soon as I can. I'm finishing my school this coming month, so things are a bit hectic and I probably wont have a chance to email until I am done.

I would love to see what comes out of the re-enactment and hope everything goes well,

Keep in touch and all the best,

Mads

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t.h.a.n.k.s.*

Short slide projection loops co-created daily by Mike Reandeau and Markuz Wernli Saitô. Presented at the window of a private residence in San Jose's historical Reed district between April 10 through May 11, 2008. *(tiny. humble. ardent. now. knock. soul)

t.h.a.n.k.s.

PROJECT ARCHIVE

- [Agreement](#)
- [Catalog](#) PDF 946KB
- [Project Photos](#)
- [Comments](#)

Art can be understood as attention to living. What we see depends mainly on what we look for. Project t.h.a.n.k.s. is inspired by the practice of gratefulness that shifts our focus towards the positive in our lives and how we relate to it.

Mike as host and Markuz as contributing artist signed an [agreement](#) which commits

them to keep project t.h.a.n.k.s. running for 31 days. Mike promised to submit every day a message to the artist describing "something to be grateful for". Markuz in turn promised to receive that message and create a "slide of gratefulness". **Walk by and enjoy the daily love at 525 South 6th Street in San Jose between 8pm and 10pm.** No matter where you live, revisit this daily updated archive and [share with us](#) what you are grateful for.

Each moment of the everyday, every action of living, poses the question: how it might be lived differently, more truthfully and respectfully. Through conscious interventions Momentarium provides a forum of inquiry on human coexistence.



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Momentarium is an ever-growing archive and with time all of the following links will be populated:

- [t.h.a.n.k.s.*](#)
- [Returning the Negatives](#)
- [Given To You: Tea Moments](#)
- [Shadow Followers](#)
- [Have a Tea – Leave a Trace](#)
- [Forbidden Art](#)
- [Urban Mining](#)
- [First Impression](#)

[The Rayphone Memorial](#)

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2008 (DAY 15)



When I arrived at the resort in [Palm Springs](#), Joe, the desk clerk greeted me. I met him last November when I stayed here. I remember when I was here last time I felt uncomfortable, as he seemed almost too friendly.

[The](#)

[Wind](#)

[Life](#)

[At Y](#)

[One](#)

[Chec](#)

[Tacti](#)

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From: "Markuz Wernli Saitô" <admin@momentarium.org> [Add to Address Book](#) [Add Mobile Alert](#)

Subject: Some Ideas for re-enacting project t.h.a.n.k.s.

Date: Wed, 16 Apr 2008 20:19:54 -0700

To: "Avalon Kallin" <avalonkalin@yahoo.com>

Hi Avalon

I really appreciate your thoughts and suggestions. Great dialog here.
 Based on your comments I already slightly revised the t.h.a.n.k.s. webpage:
<http://momentarium.org/experiments/thanks/>





mail to read ▾ be inspired by ▾ online photo be in being ▾ Authentic Enthusias... Vintage Synth Explorer log groups The spark of happine...

Yahoo! Mail - avalonkalin@yah... x

Yahoo! Mail - avalonkalin@yah... x

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TM (73)

campus ministry (64)

church (23)

drumset circle

e-flux articles (810)

family (74)

fieldtrip (22)

To: "Avalon Kalin" <avalonkalin@yahoo.com>

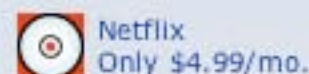
Sounds good. Since you are curating this event, we will leave it to you to choosing bands, describe the event, create promo materials, etc. and we will be happy to use this on our website/myspace. We will also put your fliers up around town, and give them out at our events. Did you want to include Castrati?

Anything after 11 (including sound check) is okay. Drinking is okay for those over 21, probably best to not mention on the flier though. The more low-key, the better.

We have a kitchen in our private home downstairs to prepare food, we don't really want it to be a hangout area, just somewhere for a couple people to make food. We have a couple tables to set up your spread upstairs, and there is a tiny sink upstairs as well.

seems like it could be a lot of fun. looking forward to hearing from you.
Adam and Stephanie

> Adam & Stephanie,
> The 25th sounds great. I was thinking of a public event that was
> advertised to the degree of the number we would want to attract. A
small
> time flier here and there to let those who would be looking know
about it.
> I imagine it would start at 11am and go till 1pm. I know of
Sleepwalkers
> RIP and The Pathogens who might be interested I will ask to play if
it
> looks like a go. I would approach this show with being responsible
for as
> much as possible, like respecting the space, cleaning up,
advertising,
> food, etc. If you know of other bands that might be interested if those



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From: "Ashley Neese" <aneese@mac.com> [View Contact Details](#) [Add Mobile Alert](#)

Subject: Re: Re-enactment

Date: Wed, 16 Apr 2008 23:34:43 -0700

To: "Avalon Kalin" <avalonkalin@yahoo.com>

avalon,

after giving this much thought i have decided that i do not feel comfortable with you reenacting either project. this work stems from my personal life and is a very intimate experience for me as well as many of the people that participate in these projects. it doesn't make sense to me to attempt to recapture or reenact something that isn't coming from your own experience.

having said that i am willing to work with you in other ways. i can come into your class to talk about the two projects you mentioned or help you work on a presentation of my projects that you could present to your class in lieu of the reenactment. i am also willing to invite your class to my home and participate in a meditation group.

if you are interested in any of this let me know and we can talk about it.

take care,
ashley

Ashley Neese
www.ineedyouso.com
www.its-all-for-you.org
tel: 415.279.0816