

MOBIUS NEWSLETTER

354 CONGRESS STREET, BOSTON (FORT POINT) (617) 542-7416

a new space for experimental work in the performing and media arts

VOL. 2, NO. 1

SEPT/OCT 1984

WHAT IS MOBIUS UP TO?

Well, we spent the summer putting together this next season, and shaking out our philosophy and intentions. And as you will see, the first month brings experimental theater, sound performances, solo multi-media work - and there's more to come! What all these works have in common is an effort to explore new aspects of performance -- and your presence, we hope!

As individuals we have re-expressed our commitment to making performances as well as providing a space for work by a wide variety of other artists. We are continuing work on ensemble performance techniques, and have begun creating new pieces which we'll present this year.

We have also added to our staff. This was made possible by a number of generous contributions by individuals this summer. And this month we heard that we've received a New Works grant from the Mass. Council, to commission 13 international sound artists to create new works which will be premiered at Mobius over the next two years. Richard Lerman of Sound/Image/Events (they did the sound installation at the river Styx in 'Orpheus') put together the series - artists from Italy, Yugoslavia, USA, France, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Denmark - doing sound work combining all kinds of elements: computers, video, self-built instruments, extended vocalizations, analog electronics, installations, processed sound - you name it. The best part will be the informal Sunday workshops, where the audience and other artists can meet the performers. Richard can vouch for their eagerness to talk with others about the work - and they're all involved with small performance spaces, small presses, galleries, etc. in their own countries!

Finally, if you or your group is interested in showing work at Mobius, please contact us for information and proposal guidelines. We are open to just about anything experimental! We'll also be sponsoring evenings of work-in-progress, so if you have anything that you're working on that you'd like to try out and get feedback on, call us. We also intend to expand this newsletter to include interviews with artists in Boston, viewpoints, manifestos, etc. - so send us suggestions or articles.

We look forward to seeing you here this year.

NUNCIO FLASH THEATER

DESIRE CAUGHT BY THE TAIL by Pablo Picasso

September 6 through 9.

Desire Caught by the Tail was written in 1941 in Nazi-occupied Paris. The characters are Big Foot, the Tart, the Fat and Thin Anxieties, Onion, Cousin, Round Piece and Silence. The play is informed by Picasso's characteristic sense of juxtaposition, swift changes of mood, and particular humor.

The Nuncio Flash Theater Company has tried to emphasize the theme of short-sightedness and pre-occupations with food and sex. The Characters, always attempting to satisfy these desires-- and to satisfy them instantly, are constantly frustrated.

In order to emphasize the visual nature of the script (translated by Roland Penrose) we have designed the production with the idea of flatness in mind. The stage area is 8' deep and 40' wide, and the performers move in an exaggerated and mechanical fashion. Props and set pieces are also flat and are made from recognizable objects used in unnatural contexts.

While there is a great deal of humour in this incessant and sometimes difficult montage, something rings true to us, a hinted warning, and some serious questions.

Mari Badger
Brad Wales

Nuncio Flash Theater Company-

MOBIUS THEATER, INC.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HUT
composed and directed by
Mario-Erik Paoli

Presented by Mobius Theater
September 14 and 15

The Significance of the Hut
is an environmental composition for 5 tape recorders with processed and unprocessed recordings of found sound (environmental), and real-time (live) broadcast sounds received from television, short-wave radio...text readings...action...images...subsonic noises...

The Significance of the Hut
is about universe, about the world as macrocosmic musical composition...about Nature's orchestration of sound-image-events...

M.E. Paoli

-Music is sounds, sounds around us, whether we are in or out of the concert halls...
-For living takes place each instant and that instant is always changing. The wisest thing to do - is to open one's ears immediately and hear a sound suddenly before one's thinking has a chance to turn it into something logical, abstract or symbolic.

John Cage
(1952)

-Universe is the aggregate of all humanity's consciously apprehended and communicated non-simultaneous and only partially overlapping experiences.
-Aggregate means sum-totally but non-unitarily conceptual as of any one moment.
-Consciousness means an awareness of otherness.
-Apprehension means information furnished by those wave frequencies tunable within man's limited sensorial spectrum.
-Communicated means informing 'self' or others.
-Non-simultaneous means not occurring at the same time.
-Overlapping is used because every event has duration, and their initiatings and terminatings are most often of different duration.
-Neither the set of all experiences nor the set of all the words used to describe them are instantly reviewable. Nor are they of the same length. Experiences are either involuntary (subjective) or voluntary (objective), and all experiences, both physical and metaphysical, are finite because each begins and ends.
Synergetics
Buckminster Fuller

The Significance of the Hut
is about Nature...
it is about ANARCHY....
it is about Listening...
ABOUT REALLY 'LISTENING'!!!!?

M.E. Paoli

BOSTON PERFORMANCE ARTISTS, INC:

23 and 26 and Untitled
by Gina Mullen

Presented by Boston Performance
Artists, Inc.

September 21 and 22

23 and 26 is a performance about the events in my sister Megan's life. While the work serves as her biography, the events chosen are selected for their significance to me and to our relationship.

Untitled is a work that examines the bond between geography and culture and is, in particular, a re-examination of my territorial instincts as an ethnic American three generations after my family's immigration.

-Gina Mullen

THEATERWORKS

FEMALE PARTS A Woman Alone / Tomorrow's News
by Dario Fo and Franca Rame

Presented by TheaterWorks Directed by Vincent Murphy
Performed by Kirsten Giroux and Jim Kaufman

September 27 - October 13

I originally saw "A Woman Alone", the first of the two pieces which make up Female Parts, in a student production directed by Vinny Murphy. The piece focusses on a woman who has been locked in her apartment by her husband and the harassment she experiences at the hands of the men in her life. I was at first attracted to the flighty, crazy humor in the script, but as Vinny and I began to work on it, it became clear that this approach was a dead end--playing the silliness out fully took us nowhere. So then what were we to do with it? We began to look at picture books of bag ladies--an image of existence which is probably one of the most frightening for women. In these pictures, which are of "Women Alone", there is a feeling of incredible "heaviness" which proved to be the element we needed to develop the script. This feeling of slump takes the performance one step beyond what it might have been, changes its comedy, and points up the extremity of the woman's situation in an unexpected way.

I have performed "Tomorrow's News Today", the second piece, in a number of settings for two years. The piece is concerned with the near-death in prison of a West German terrorist woman. It was originally produced in a narrow back corridor in the basement of the UMass Park Square building, to which the audience was guided one at a time and seated on mattresses. Since then, I've performed it in larger spaces and under different conditions; last winter at Suffolk University for example, we added live improvised video. At Mobius, the staging of the piece will change again. I would like to get back to the simpler, smaller version of the piece, and the Mobius space is the kind of space that could make that possible.

-Kirsten Giroux

ON THE EMERALD NECKLACE

I am currently working on a piece entitled ON THE EMERALD NECKLACE, to be performed throughout the month of October. During that month I will make appointments to walk with people from one end of the Emerald Necklace* to the other. Each walk will last five hours and will be done with only one person at a time. I will attempt to do as many walks as I can during October (probably 18). During September I will also be doing walks as a "works-in-progress". During this period I would especially be interested in walking with other artists. If you would be interested in taking a walk with me either month, or would like more information on this work, please call me at 731-1814 (evenings are best).

*The Emerald Necklace is the string of parks extending through Boston beginning with the Boston Common and ending with Franklin Park, or beginning with Franklin Park and ending with the Boston Common, depending on which way you are going. It is roughly 14.5 miles when covered by foot.

-Ron Wallace

Stretch, strengthen and tone. Classes with Lisa Lepore, at Mobius, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-7pm. Call 242-8928.

Call For Performance Art and Artists:

The Boston Visual Artists Union is seeking proposals by Performance Artists. Performance art with integrated aspects of (perhaps) music, dance, drama, poetry, narrative, film/video, etc. is encouraged.

Stationary performance area (12' x 18') is available, as well as other larger negotiated space requirements.

A modest honorarium and a percentage of the door will be discussed and awarded.

Proposal request deadline is September 30.

Contact:

Don Quatrale
Performance Chair
BOSTON VISUAL ARTISTS UNION
77 North Washington St.
Boston, MA. 02114
227-3076

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RESERVATIONS: (617) 542-7416

**** Thursday, Sept. 6 through Sunday, Sept. 9:

DESIRE CAUGHT BY THE TAIL

written by Pablo Picasso

performed and presented by the
NUNCIO FLASH THEATER COMPANY

8:00 p.m., admission: \$5.00

**** Friday, Sept. 14 and Saturday, Sept. 15:

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HUT

sound performance composed and directed by
MARIO-ERIK PAOLI

presented by MOBIUS THEATER, INC.

8:00 p.m., admission: \$5.00

**** Friday, Sept. 21 and Saturday, Sept. 22:

23 AND 26 and UNTITLED

two works conceived and performed by
GINA MULLEN

presented by Boston Performance Artists, Inc.

8:00 p.m., admission: \$5.00

**** Thursdays through Saturdays, Sept. 27 through Oct. 13:

FEMALE PARTS: A WOMAN ALONE / TOMORROW'S NEWS

two works written by Dario Fo and Franca Rame

performed and presented by THEATERWORKS

8:00 p.m., admission: \$6.00

i.e., EVENTS AT.