



ybca

ANNUAL  
REPORT

08\_09

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

In preparing our 2008\_09 Annual Report, I cannot help but reflect on the artistic and financial success of YBCA and the progress we continue to make on our long-term vision to place contemporary art at the heart of community life.

YBCA occupies a unique spot within San Francisco's cultural landscape and plays a key role in making the Bay Area a culturally rich, vibrant and diverse place to live. While financial statements demonstrate our incredible fiscal health, in spite of the volatile times in which we live, a few of the key artistic and organizational highlights from this year include: *Bay Area Now 5*, our signature triennial showcase of the best Bay Area visual artists, filmmakers and performing artists; the appointment of our new Director of Visual Arts Betti-Sue Hertz; and *Nick Cave: Meet Me at the Center of the Earth*, the first comprehensive survey of this remarkable artist's work, garnering worldwide media attention and breaking attendance records.

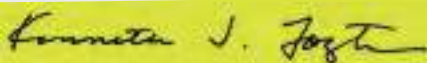
We also presented *Japan Dance Now*, a rare US showcase of three groundbreaking dance companies from Japan; the Bay Area debut of Mexican experimental theater company Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes; *Through Future Eyes: The Endurance of Humanity*, the first exhibition curated by our Young Artists at Work (YAAW) students; the Seventh Annual Human Rights Watch International Film Festival and the celebration of the 30th anniversary of San Francisco's legendary Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

YBCA adapts and responds to the ever-changing environment, both in the art it presents and in its structure. To do this takes a tremendous amount of confidence by our community and our donors, who support us as we experiment with the edges of contemporary cultural production. You recognize and believe in the importance of presenting new works, taking risks and challenging audiences.

None of this would be possible without the dedication and vision of our Board and Staff. We could not achieve the successes outlined in the pages that follow were it not for the confidence and support that they demonstrate in their commitment to YBCA. Finally, a heartfelt thanks to the many amazing artists who have worked with us this season and without whom there would be no YBCA.

We relish the opportunities for continued dialogue about the world around us through the art we present, and look forward to you joining us in this conversation.

Sincerely,



Kenneth J. Foster  
Executive Director

## MISSION STATEMENT

**YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS** presents contemporary art from the Bay Area and around the world that reflects the profound issues and ideas of our time, expands the boundaries of artistic practice, and celebrates the diversity of human experience and expression.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

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Helen Sause

Stacey Welsh

Ken Wilson

San San Wong



# ABOUT YBCA

In 1980, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA) initiated plans for a new neighborhood to be called Yerba Buena that turning a once dilapidated area of the city into an urban oasis. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA) was the project's anchor cultural complex with the mandate to feature culturally diverse, community-based national and international interdisciplinary arts, culture and entertainment. After years of community input and planning with scores of Northern California artists, as well as cultural, educational and civic leaders, YBCA opened to international acclaim on October 12, 1993.

## AT-A-GLANCE

FULL-TIME STAFF  
50

SEASONAL & PART-TIME STAFF  
493

ANNUAL ATTENDANCE  
146,101

MEMBERS  
1,900

SCREENINGS PER YEAR  
171

PERFORMANCES PER YEAR  
200

EXHIBITIONS PER YEAR  
11

GEOGRAPHIC REACH  
San Francisco Bay Area and visitors

## PROGRAMS

VISUAL ARTS  
Four sets of contemporary art exhibitions each year in our Galleries

PERFORMING ARTS  
Contemporary and classic dance, music and theater in our Theater and Forum

FILM/VIDEO  
Adventurous contemporary and classic independent film/video in our Screening Room

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
School/Youth & Family programs and adult public programs bring audiences behind the scenes and in contact with artists presented at YBCA

## FACILITIES

755 seat Theater

6,700 square feet multi-use Forum

Three Galleries

94 seat Screening Room

Outdoor Sculpture Court and East Garden

Theater Building Architect: James Stewart Polshek and Partners

Galleries and Forum Architect: Fumihiko Maki, in association with Robinson, Mills and Williams



# EDUCATION AND AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

**YBCALIVE!** are unique social gatherings, usually held in conjunction with a screening, exhibition, or performance, giving visitors an opportunity to engage with featured artists. Refreshments are served and attendees have the opportunity to spend more informal one-on-one time with artist(s) and/or curator(s).

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS** are facilitated town hall gatherings that focus on YBCA's curatorial themes and key critical issues in contemporary cultural production. These gatherings generate dialogue and deepen involvement by community members and artists alike.

**ARTISTS INSIGHTS** are talks during which our featured artists discuss in depth their art practices and thought processes and how they intersect with YBCA's Big Ideas.

**ART SAVVY** is a groundbreaking series of interactive workshops designed to deepen audience connection with contemporary art through Visual Thinking Strategies, one of the most respected art education methods in the country.

**YOUNG ARTISTS AT WORK (YAAW)** is a program that provides mentorship, professional arts and job skills training, Art as Activism seminars and a summer-long internship to high school students. Through a rigorous after-school framework, YAAW provides approximately 30 high school students with a safe outlet for creative expression and a unique opportunity to actively engage in the world of contemporary art and ideas.

**DISCOVERING YBCA** is YBCA's unique educational program for students that, based on YBCA Performances and Exhibitions,

outreaches to San Francisco Unified School District K-12 public schools, San Francisco after-school programs and adult art community-based organizations to give free access to YBCA's Galleries. **Discovering YBCA Tours** use the Visual Thinking Strategies method to engage audiences in an inquiry-based exploration of contemporary art.

**OPENING NIGHT PARTIES (ONPs)** are where YBCA's Visual Arts department officially unveils their newest exhibitions with a thematic party featuring live music, food and drinks and the fabulous YBCA crowd. Hosted by featured curators and artists, these gallery-focused events begin with special tours and receptions for our highest-end donors and members, followed by public hours with lively entertainment.

**BIG IDEA DAYS/NIGHTS** are YBCA's expanded series of "Big Idea" public soirees designed to get artists, donors, sponsors, members and the public-at-large talking about art and ideas under one glamorous roof. Centered around universal themes such as "Imagining Our Future" and "Ritual and Redemption," Big Idea Nights are free to attend and look to draw connections between contemporary art, audiences and the community around us.

**DONOR SALONS** are planned by YBCA's Development Department as exclusive opportunities for YBCA's most generous donors to gather with artists, dance companies, visiting curators and filmmakers in an intimate setting for the purpose of understanding more about their work in advance of their opening at YBCA.



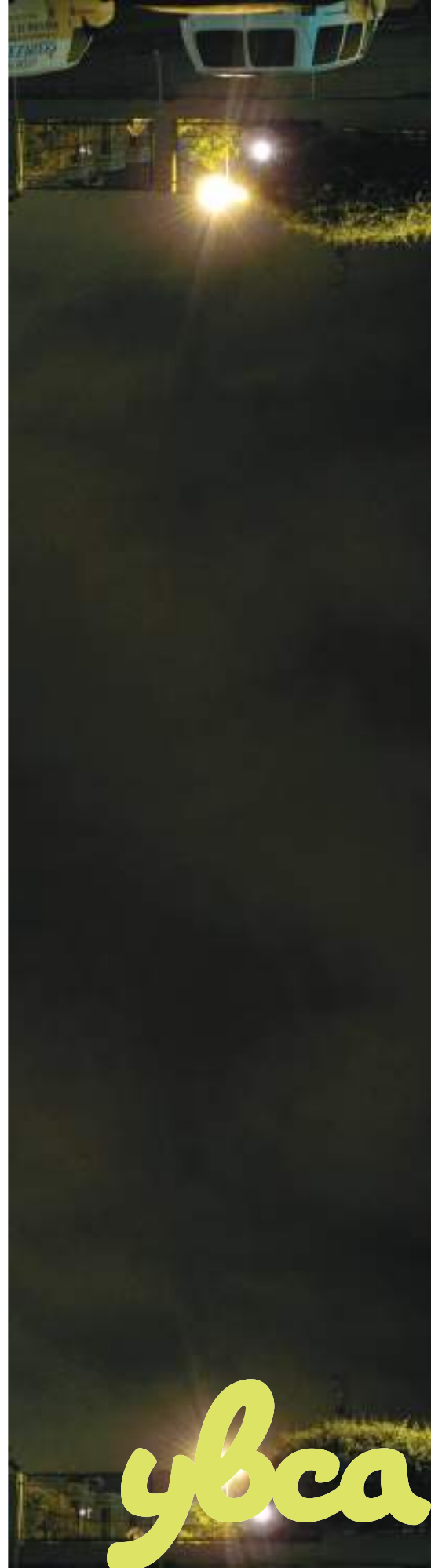
# THE BIG IDEAS

Artists today are reflecting our crazy world back to us—trying to capture our attention, make us think, force us to care. We searched the world and scoured the Bay Area for artists with something to say and then we listened to them. When we sat back and thought about all the artists and programs we were considering for the 2008\_09 season, we began to see some common themes running through the works. We talked. We thought. We debated. Out of these conversations we culled three Big Ideas that seem to be top of mind for artists today. Curating around these Big Ideas allows us to draw connections and associations between the works and the art forms. We hope it will help you do the same. An expanded series of public programs this season are designed to get us talking about art and ideas—get us thinking about the world today and about what these artists are trying to tell us.

BIG IDEA 1: Bay Area Now 5—Inside/Out P.7

BIG IDEA 2: Imagining Our Future P.16

BIG IDEA 3: Ritual and Redemption P.21





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## **BIG IDEA 1: BAY AREA NOW 5—INSIDE/OUT**

In this age of globalization, virtual everything and a population that is both wired and mobile, what defines a Bay Area artist? Is simple geographic residency enough? More importantly, what issues and ideas dominate the thinking of Bay Area artists, and how do they matter? These questions are thrown into the mix to produce Bay Area Now 5 (BAN 5), a multidisciplinary celebration emanating from Northern California, but stretching across borders and boundaries to create a more expansive recognition of this region as a hotbed of artistic production. Artists in BAN 5 explore one or more of the thematic sub-groupings titled people, place, ideas and ideals. As part of YBCA's long-term commitment to helping local artists create new work, most of the visual and performance art in Bay Area Now 5 is a YBCA-commissioned work.





# VISUAL ARTS

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## **BAY AREA NOW 5 (BAN 5) JUL 20–NOV 16, 2008**

YBCA's fifth triennial exhibition of Bay Area art reimagines a regional survey in the midst of globalization. This year's exhibition features a signature group of 21 Bay Area artists selected after extensive studio visits throughout the Bay Area. Artists include Maria Antelman, Elaine Buckholtz, Joshua Churchill, Brian Conley, Ala Ebtekar, Ana Teresa Fernández, Donald Fortescue with Lawrence Labianca, Misako Inaoka, Jonathon Keats, Edmundo de Marchena, Ian McDonald, Praba Pilar, John Roloff, Paul Schiek, Erik Scollon, Leslie Shows, Ginger Wolfe-Suarez and Primitivo Suarez-Wolfe with poet Moira Roth, Canan Tolon and Lauren Woods. Curated by Kate Eilertsen and Berin Golonu.

BAN 5 also includes four guest-curated exhibitions that diversify the triennial's curatorial vision and extend the artwork beyond our galleries and our region. Several of these guest-curated exhibitions connect Bay Area artists with artists from around the globe.

### **THEORY OF SURVIVAL JUL 19–AUG 24, 2008**

A continuation of the CrossConnections project that engages the Iranian and Iranian-American diaspora in an intergenerational dialogue about issues of cultural identity, preservation, and representation. Artists include Reza Aramesh, Gita Hashemi and Leila Pazooki. Curated by Iranian-American artist Taraneh Hemami.

### **GROUND SCORES: GUIDED TOURS OF SAN FRANCISCO PAST AND PERSONAL JUL 19–OCT 19, 2008**

An interactive project that offers cartographical and audio portraits of sites that reveal San Francisco's forgotten histories, as well as maps out invisible networks within the city's infrastructure. Includes a selection of off-site guided tours of sidewalk art installations, home libraries, the Presidio, Treasure Island, Golden Gate Park and neighborhoods along the city's eastern coastline, plus locations of public and private emotional crisis. Artists include BARGE (Bay Area Research Group in Environmental Aesthetics), Jonn Herschend, Alison Pebworth with James Goode, Jeannene Przyblyski and the Bureau of Urban Secrets, The Studio for Urban Projects, Michael Swaine, and Syndicate (organized by Jessica Tully, Kim Munson, Wendy Crittenden, Christine Wong Yap, Greg O'Toole, Tom Griscom and the Labor Archives and Research Center). Curated by Valerie Imus.

### **ESTACION ODESIA JUL 25–AUG 30, 2008**

An on-site as well as satellite project at Queens Nail Annex (QNA) exploring the work of Bay Area artists who are also musicians and who make audio-based projects. Sound works by Jerome Reyes and Dan Gonsales, Julian Myers, T.I.T.S., The OhSees, Death Sentence Panda, Houndstooth & the Wolfhounds, Kamau Amu Patton and Sean Horchy. Artwork by Jeff Kao, Renee Green, Kamau Amu Patton, Sean Horchy, Nate Boyce, Frank Ebert, Paul Allen, Paul Costeros, John Dwyer, Juan Luna-Avin, Mary Elizabeth-Yarbrough, Katrina Lamb, Aurie Ramirez and Gerome Spruill. Limited edition CD box set with artwork by Ariel and Cliss Roman, Ryan Verzaal, Pablo Guardiola and Renée Green. Curated by Julio Cesar Morales, Brian Storts and Mike Bianco of QNA.

The Au Layer/Storm Reflecting in a Pool, 2008, collage and acrylic on panel, by Leslie Shows  
From Bay Area Now 5 exhibition.



# VISUAL ARTS

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**GALLEON TRADE:  
BAY AREA NOW 5 EDITION  
SEP 4-OCT 19, 2008**

A collaborative project that focuses on building bridges between California, the Philippines and Mexico. Taking the historic Acapulco-Manila galleon route as a metaphor of origin, the Galleon Trade Arts Exchange seeks to create new routes of cultural exchange along old routes of commerce and trade. Local artists include Jaime Cortez, Megan Wilson, Johanna Poethig, Gina Osterloh and Christine Wong Yap. Artists from Manila include Poklong Ananding, Norberto Roldan, Maria Taniguchi, Yason Banal, and MM Yu. Curated by Jenifer Wofford.

*Rapture*, 2006, Lightjet print. Artist: Gina Osterloh.  
From *Galleon Trade* exhibition





**MIDNITES FOR MANIACS:  
GRRRL ROCKERS OF THE 1980S  
SEP 13, 2008**

Curator Jesse Hawthorne Ficks specializes in revivals of the cinema of the 1980s, with particular focus on underrated gems, disreputable and strange genres, and dubiously talented movie stars. This Midnites for Maniacs program at YBCA includes *Starstruck* by Claude Kerven, *Times Square* by Allan Moyle and *Breaking Glass* by Brian Gibson.

**ODDBALL FILMS: EUPHORIA!  
SEP 25, 2008**

A series celebrating the unusual and extraordinary. Curated by Stephen Parr and drawn from his archive of thousands of films and videos, this Oddball Films program features the West Coast premiere of *Euphoria!*, a surreal and effervescent insight into the high conscious states of cinematic perception and pop culture sensation.

**ELECTRIFYING ESCAPADES:  
QUEER WOMEN OF COLOR  
MEDIA ARTS PROJECT  
SEP 27, 2008**

Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project promotes the creation, exhibition, and distribution of new films and videos that increase the visibility of queer women of color, authentically reflect their life stories, and address the vital social justice issues that concern our communities. The series includes work by Thu Trinh, Rui Bing Zheng, Jennifer Lin, Monifa Porter, Letesa Bruce, Alexis McCrimmon, Trina Espinosa and Jinky de Rivera.

**DocFEST  
OCT 2, 2008**

An eclectic program of superb new short documentaries selected from the San Francisco Documentary Festival, including *Aunty Betelnut*, *Sunlight and Babies*, *So the Wind Won't Blow It All Away*, *If a Body Meet a Body* and *A Stiff Upper Lip*.

"RIMBIE FISH"

"THE WARRIORS"

"S..."

"..."

"..."

"..."

"..."

Marquis for film series curated by Jesse Hawthorne Ficks. From *Midnite for Maniacs: Grrrl Rockers of the 1980s* film series.





**FILM/  
VIDEO**

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**KINO21  
OCT 16, 2008**

*The 10,000 Mile Bike Race*, a performance based on a text adapted from *Le Surmâle (The Supermale)*, the first cyborg sex novel, by Alfred Jarry. Narrated by poet Brent Cunningham, interpreted on 16mm film by a collection of local filmmakers (Jerry Hiler, Paul Clipson, Bill Basquin and Kerry Laitala) and accompanied live by the jazz ensemble of composer Graham Connah.

**AN EVENING WITH PEACHES  
CHRIST  
OCT 18, 2008**

San Francisco's underground drag phenomenon Peaches Christ, an award-winning filmmaker, presents three films, in addition to the gore comedy short *Grindhouse* (the inspiration for her current feature film project, *All About Evil*).

Peaches Christ. Photo: Maryane Larochelle  
From *An Evening with Peaches Christ*, film series.



# PERFORMANCE

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World Premiere!

**JOAN JEANRENAUD  
ARIA  
JUL 20-26, 2008**

Cellist Joan Jeanrenaud takes a bold new direction, teaming with Italian designer/fabricator Alessandro Moruzzi to create an interactive pairing of sculpture and music about the politics and poetics of air—"aria" in Italian—in the YBCA Forum.

World Premiere!

**KRONOS QUARTET  
MUSIC WITHOUT BORDERS  
AUG 1-2, 2008**

The Bay Area's Kronos Quartet is perhaps the most celebrated string quartet in the world, known for pushing music beyond borders and for their Who's Who list of collaborators. In the spirit of Bay Area Now 5, YBCA presents a world premiere collaboration, Music Without Borders—a full weekend of international artistic explorations.

World Premiere!

**JOANNA HAIGOOD AND  
ZACCHO DANCE THEATRE  
THE SHIFTING CORNERSTONE  
AUG 16-17 & AUG 20-24, 2008**

As part of West Wave Dance Festival, *The Shifting Cornerstone* outdoor performance installation explores the character and rhythm of a bustling city corner through a series of simultaneous vignettes, continuously looped for five hours each day.

World Premiere!

**ERIKA SHUCH PERFORMANCE  
PROJECT  
AFTER ALL, PART I  
SEP 11-13, 2008**

Bay Area choreographer Erika Chong Shuch returns to YBCA with a host of Bay Area luminaries, including dancer/choreographer Joe Goode; Campo Santo co-founder Sean San Jose; playwrights Michelle Carter, Octavio Solis and Philip Kan Gotanda; and percussionist Matthias Bossi, as well as Jennifer Chien, Melanie Elms, Allen Willner, Dwayne Calizo and Daveen DiGiacomo.

Erika Chong Shuch/ESP Project.  
From *After All, Part I*. Photo: Ishan Versalis



# PERFORMANCE

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World Premiere!

**ROBERT MOSES' KIN  
TOWARD SEPTEMBER  
SEP 18-20, 2008**

One of the Bay Area's most compelling choreographers, Robert Moses creates works that are powerful combinations of athleticism and rhythmic complexity. He always pushes himself forward to resist stagnation—and in such spirit Moses returns to YBCA with a thrilling new work about the divine impulse of artistic creation.

World Premiere!

**DOHEE LEE  
FLUX  
OCT 16-18, 2008**

Inspired by the ancient Chinese text *I-Ching*, or *Book of Changes*, San Francisco-based innovator Dohee Lee maps out the book's 64 symbolic hexagrams with a stunning integration of light design, imagery and movement. Lee collaborated with filmmaker and virtuoso bassist Tatsu Aoki; saxophonist Francis Wong; Jonathan Chen on violin and electronics; Jason Lewis, multiple percussion; dancer/choreographer Sherwood Chen; and visual artist Thomas Wong.

**BUILDERS ASSOCIATION  
CONTINUOUS CITY  
NOV 6-8, 2008**

Blending text, video, sound, architecture and stage performance to convey stories about life in the 21st century, OBIE Award-winning Builders Association exploits the richness of technology and media to extend the boundaries of theater. Featuring an interactive Web site and film clips taken in and around San Francisco, *Continuous City* illuminated our ever-increasing mash-up of global and local lives, of our real and networked experiences.

World Premiere!

**KEITH HENNESSY  
DELINQUENT  
NOV 13-15, 2008**

Under the direction of Circo Zero founder Keith Hennessy, youth affected by the Bay Area juvenile criminal justice system train in trapeze work and other circus arts, and trade skills in dance, poetry, and music. Incorporating welded aerial sets by Ryon Gesnick and murals by Rigo 23, *Delinquent* is an extraordinary new theatrical experience, offering a provocative new perspective about our criminal justice system and the young people within it.

The Builders Association. From *Continuous City*. Photo: dbox





# PUBLIC PROGRAMS

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**ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS ANNEX  
IN SITU RICHMOND  
JUL 19–AUG 17, 2008**

By investigating a spectrum of particular sites, landmarks, and geographical phenomenon, InSitu Richmond exposes some of the contradictions and eccentricities of these places as a means of exploring the region's cultural, environmental, and economic terrain. Created by former graduate students of California College of the Art's curatorial practice program: Julia Hamilton, Erin Elder and Grace Kook-Anderson.

**ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS ANNEX  
RED POPPY ART HOUSE  
SEP 1–28, 2008**

The Red Poppy Art House presents a month-long program of artists spanning disciplines and musical traditions of Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas, joining the traditional to the contemporary. Visual artists include Todd Brown, Caleb Duarte and Nicole Bauguss. Featured musicians in a live concert series include Nice Guy Trio, Marcus Shelby: Harriet Tubman & Jazz, Tango Ceviche, Trio Garufa, Classical Revolution, Nefasha Ayer, Marina Lavallo and Lalo Izquierdo, Poema Del Dia with Adrian Arias, and Mo' Rockin Project: Jazz & North African Sounds.

**ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS ANNEX  
BLACK NEW WORLD  
OCT 9–NOV 16, 2008**

The Black New World, founded by West Oakland-based artist, activist and cultural historian Marcel Diallo, transforms the Room for Big Ideas into a sanctified outpost of cutting-edge and traditional Black New World art, music and dance using assemblage altars, multimedia and spiritual merchandise. Specializing in presenting exhibitions, concerts, parades, festivals, and other social and educational events, they are progressively advancing the continuum of Africa-rooted Diaspora culture into the new millennium.

From Black New World RBI Annex project. Photo courtesy of Marcel Diallo



# PUBLIC PROGRAMS

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## **COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS, WHAT'S BAY AREA NOW?!: REGIONALISM, GLOBALIZATION & THE ARTS AUG 2, 2008**

This moderated conversation brings together YBCA's multidisciplinary offering of Bay Area Now 5 artists including Todd Brown, co-director of the Red Poppy Art House; performance artist, Dohee Lee; Madeleine Lim, executive director of the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project; and visual artist Lauren Woods.

## **YBCALIVE! THE BAY AREA GUIDE TO INDEPENDENT FASHION FESTIVAL OCT 11, 2008**

A celebration of local independent designers who work with sustainable materials and adhere to green business practices. Offering a runway show, vendor fair and panel discussion on fashion and politics, this event highlights the craft and couture of some of the Bay Area's most dynamic independent designer.

## **WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? DAY AUG 10, 2008**

YBCA's free open house for Bay Area Now 5 invites the public to learn more about contemporary art with visual art, music, performances, hands-on workshops, Art Savvy, tours of the BAN 5 exhibition, film screenings and food & drink. The Red Poppy Art House Room for Big Ideas Annex project offers family art activities onsite at YBCA, featuring painting and storytelling with La Malamaña.

Models Maisha Quint and Francesca Serrano; stylist Santa Barrios. Photo: Kimara Dixon. From The Bay Area Guide to Independent Fashion Festival, part of Bay Area Now 5 festival





## **BIG IDEA 2: IMAGINING OUR FUTURE**

In the midst of an ever-changing world, many artists wonder about what the future holds and what they can create to make life more enriching. Artists imagine a future that is as complex, rich and challenging as the present, but also one that is surprising and maybe even startling. YBCA brought together a group of artists whose visions of people, the kind of world they have created, and what the future could be within it are thought-provoking and often profoundly moving. The metaphorical power of art to help imagine the unknowable is at the heart of their work. Like many around them, these artists are driven by a sense of urgency about the future.





# VISUAL ARTS

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## **THE GATHERERS: GREENING OUR URBAN SPHERES** OCT 31, 2008–JAN 11, 2009

The exhibition brings together a diverse group of practitioners who combine art with cultural activism to explore questions of how we ensure sustainability for our growing urban populations. It touches upon a broad range of interlinking matters, from environmental issues to urban spatial justice, through interactive programs, urban interventions and public dialogue. Artists and artist collectives include Fallen Fruit, Amy Franceschini with Wilson Diaz, the National Bitter Melon Council, Oda Projesi, Marjetica Potrc, Public Matters, Ted Purves and Susanne Cockrell, Rebar, roomservices and Åsa Sonjasdotter. Curated by Berin Golonu and Veronica Wiman.

## **TRANSPOP: KOREA VIETNAM REMIX** DEC 6, 2008–MAR 22, 2009

A rare opportunity to view cutting-edge contemporary art by 16 critically acclaimed artists from Vietnam, Korea and their respective diasporas in the United States, exploring representations of modernity and popular culture. In conjunction with the exhibition, a symposium event hosted at UC Berkeley brings together some of the leading scholars, artists, media producers and activists. Curated by Yong Soon Min and Viet Le.

## **THROUGH FUTURE EYES: YAAW STUDENTS SELECT** APR 24–JUL 5, 2009

A dynamic exhibition of work from 11 renowned local and international artists who explore the universal and transcendental experience of endurance—a universal truth that affects all people, regardless of age, race, gender, nationality or economic circumstances. Artists include Eric Araujo, Claudia Bernardi, Caleb Duarte, Jennifer Campbell, Chukes, Melissa Day, Shepard Fairey, Juan R. Fuentes, Michael Namkung, Diego Rivera and Katherine Sherwood. Curated by six teens from YBCA's Young Artists at Work (YAAW) program.

*Building, by Nguyen Manh Hun, from TransPOP exhibition. Image courtesy of The Francis J. Greenburger Collection, New York*



**ENIGMAS AND ETERNITY:  
THE FILMS OF ALAIN  
ROBBE-GRILLET  
DEC 4-18, 2008**

Both famous and obscure, Alain Robbe-Grillet was a profoundly unique French filmmaker and postmodern novelist. Much of his work deals with memory, eroticism, fantasy, and dreams. YBCA presents four of his directorial efforts, all of them essentially impossible to view in the United States until now.

**UNDER THE UNDERGROUND:  
THE FILMS OF ROBERT DOWNEY  
JAN 15-18, 2009**

Robert Downey's early films are reckless, rebellious and out of control. While perhaps best known for his advertising industry send-up Putney Swope, Downey actually emerged from the early '60s New American Cinema scene, America's own new wave movement. This series includes *Chafed Elbows* and *No More Excuses*.

**FEARLESS:  
STRAND RELEASING TURNS 20  
FEB 26-28, MAR 6-8, 2009**

For 26 years, Strand Releasing has been perhaps the boldest, most risk-taking film distributor in the country. Without their work, such world-class filmmakers as Tsai Ming-liang, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Gregg Araki, Fatih Akin, and André Téchiné (to name a very few) would be far less known in the United States. We celebrate their years of heroic effort with a six-night tribute, featuring eight stimulating films..

Film still from *Downloading Nancy*, part of rom *Fearless: Strand Releasing Turns 20* film series. Photo courtesy of Strand Releasing



# PERFORMANCE

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Bay Area Premiere!

## **JAPAN DANCE NOW** **JAN 29-31, 2009**

Electronica and noise, satire and ingenuity, beauty and humour—this performance gathers a new generation of Japanese choreographers. This night of raw expression and unbridled creativity is a rare US appearance of *Japan Dance Now*, presented in only three US cities.

Bay Area Premiere!

## **JOHN JASPERSE** **MISUSE LIABLE TO** **PROSECUTION** **APR 2-4, 2009**

Internationally acclaimed dancer/choreographer John Jasperse presents an exhilarating new evening-length work for five dancers, with an original score performed live on stage by multi-instrumentalist Zeena Parkins and a bagpipe player. Praised for his savvy integration of design and performance, and intrigued by such topics as money, our capitalist society, and environmental waste, Jasperse assigns himself a production budget of zero, creating a stunning set made completely of recycled materials.

Bay Area Premiere!

## **BIG ART GROUP** **S.O.S.** **APR 23-25, 2009**

Inspired by the primal themes of the symphony/ballet *Rite of Spring*, Big Art Group creates its own contemporary rite of spring, using ordinary rituals of renewal that are abstracted and refracted through video. As these common actions morph into metaphors of war and environmental breakdown, a larger discussion emerges of sustainability and its daily practices.

Sennichimae Blue Sky Dance Club.  
From *Japan Dance Now*. Photo: Tsuyoshi Koishara



# PUBLIC PROGRAMS



## **ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS ANNEX SLOW FOOD NATION DEC 5, 2008–MAR 8, 2009**

Slow Food Nation organizes events to introduce the community to issues in the food system and the need to bring more citizens good, clean, and fair food. The public joins the creators of the Slow Food Nation Annex Project, to celebrate the “Slow” life, and to experience how to build community through the promotion of sustainable and holistic food systems in which aspects of human culture such as music, art and dance are integrated with the agricultural arts of food production, the environment and human wellness and culture.

## **WHAT’S THE BIG IDEA? NIGHT JAN 31, 2009**

The Big Idea Night for Imagining Our Future features two of San Francisco’s top crews coming together for a mash down of styles—Surya Dub Live with Kush Arora & Maneesh the Twister and Non Stop Bhangra and the Dholrhythms Dancers; Bhangra dance lesson with Dholrhythms; tarot card, I-ching, and palm readings; a video booth for recording and sharing thoughts on the future; curator tours of YBCA exhibitions; continuous screenings of a Korean and Vietnamese short film series; plus free pizza and a cash bar with specialty cocktails.



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## **BIG IDEA 3: RITUAL & REDEMPTION**

In this moment of unprecedented change, artists desire for revelatory insights is stronger than ever before. Art as ritual—striving for the sublime through the creative process—can be a pathway to redemption, leading to the transformative experience so many desperately crave. The artists in this series embrace the ritualized power of performance. They invite the audience into their process and take them to a deeply imaginative place, one that is rarely accessed in overscheduled lives. The artists' desire—and the audiences'—is not simply knowledge or awareness, but experience and enlightenment.





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**IRREVERENT: CONTEMPORARY  
NORDIC CRAFT ART  
JAN 23–APR 12, 2009**

Surprising work from a new wave of craft artists from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. Challenging the aesthetics and principles of Scandinavian modernism, these artists turn away from the utilitarianism of high modernism toward camp and intricacy, triggering a fresh relationship between craft and art. Artists include Frida Fjellman, Tuva Gonsholt, Eva Hild, Per Lysgaard, Trine Mauritze Erikson, Louise Nippierd, Anders Ruhwald, Ulla West, Anni Rapinoja and Janna Syvanoja. Curated by Kate Eilertsen.

**NICK CAVE: MEET ME AT  
THE CENTER OF THE EARTH  
MAR 28–JUL 12, 2009**

The largest scale presentation of work by Chicago-based artist Nick Cave, featuring forty of his Soundsuits—multi-layered mixed-media, wearable sculptures made of scavenged and found materials. Named for the sounds made when worn, the Soundsuits are as reminiscent of African ceremonial costumes as they are of haute couture. Mad, humorous, elaborate, grotesque, glamorous, and unexpected, Cave's work explores ceremony, ritual, myth and identity. Curated by Kate Eilertsen.

Soundsuit by Nick Cave. Photo: James Prinz  
From Nick Cave: Meet Me at the Center for the Earth exhibition.





# FILM/ VIDEO

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## **CINEKINK JUL 10-12, 2008**

CineKink is a NY-based organization that encourages the positive depiction of alternative sexuality through its annual film festival. This festival in July has offerings drawn from both Hollywood and beyond, ranging from documentary to drama, camp comedy to spicy erotica, and everything in between.

## **SPIRITUAL CINEMA: A LISTENER'S TALE JUL 17-20, 2008**

A surprise discovery at the 2008 Rotterdam Film Festival, this is a meditative, non-fiction visual poem shot among the people of Sikkim in a North-Eastern state of India. The film is structured as a contemplative magic ode, with elements of pure cinema vérité, to the spirit of the Buddhist struggle to survive and maintain the ancient values

## **A CLOWN UNDERGROUND: TAYLOR MEAD IN PERSON SEP 18-21, 2008**

Performer and poet Taylor Mead has starred in over 100 films and is a central figure in the history of underground cinema. Now over 80 years old, Mead makes his first San Francisco appearance in decades for this series of three films: *The Flower Thief* by Ron Rice, *Lonesome Cowboys* by Andy Warhol and *Excavating Taylor Mead* by William A. Kirkley. As part of his residency at YBCA, Mead shares with film audiences two new live performances.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL MAR 5-26, 2009**

In collaboration with the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival, YBCA presents a selection of powerful documentaries, all of which seek to enlighten and create change in the viewer. This unique curatorial collaboration included *To See If I'm Smiling* by Tamar Yarom, *Youth Producing Change* by various artists, *The Sari Soldiers* by Julie Bridgham and *Project Kashmir* by Senain Khesghi and Geeta V. Patel.

Film still from *Project Kashmir*, part of the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival. Photo courtesy of Dishoom Pictures



# PERFORMANCE

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Bay Area Premiere!

**TEATRO DE CIERTOS HABITANTES  
MONSTERS AND PRODIGIES:  
A HISTORY OF THE CASTRATI  
FEB 5-7, 2009**

*Monsters and Prodigies* is about the fascinating 18th century cultural phenomenon of castrati: talented child singers born in poverty who were castrated to preserve their soprano voices and propelled to stardom in the frivolous courts of Europe. Directed by Claudio Valdés Kuri and written by Jorge Kuri for Mexico City's internationally acclaimed Teatro de Ciertos Habitantes.

Bay Area Premiere!

**PAPPA TARAHUMARA  
SHIP IN A VIEW  
FEB 19-21, 2009**

From esteemed Japanese director Hiroshi Koike and his dance-theater troupe Pappa Tarahumara comes an ethereal spectacle. Drawing on memories of his Japanese seaside home, Koike creates a haunting remembrance of his seaside town, where vignettes small and large create a ghostly ritual of remembering, of both connecting to and separating from the past.

Bay Area Premiere!

**DAVID ROUSSEVE/REALITY  
SAUDADE  
MAR 5-7, 2009**

An ode to those transcendental moments when joy and sorrow collide, *Saudade*—a Portuguese word close to “bittersweet”—is a compelling mix of theater, spoken dialogue, contemporary dance and the movement of Indonesia, India and West Africa. Unifying the work is Fado, often called “Portuguese blues,” which expresses the longing of saudade. Equal parts wild humor and grit, *Saudade* is a rare work of spiritual seeking.

World Premiere!

**RONALD K. BROWN  
SOUNDSUITS IN MOTION  
MAY 28, 30-31, 2009**

A truly remarkable confluence of performance and visual art, fusing the movement of renowned choreographer Ronald K. Brown and the shimmering Soundsuits of visionary sculptor Nick Cave. Brown blends African, modern, ballet and social dance styles to tell stories about the human experience. As part of his residency at YBCA, Brown and EVIDENCE dancer, Arcell Cabuag collaborate with local performers to bring Cave's Soundsuits to life.

Teatro des Ciertos Habitantes.  
From *Monsters and Prodigies*. Photo: Jose Jorge Carreron



# PUBLIC PROGRAMS

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**ROOM FOR BIG IDEAS ANNEX  
SISTERS OF PERPETUAL  
INDULGENCE  
APR 10–JUN 28, 2009**

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have been employing satire and high drama to shed light on serious issues since 1979. America's first order of 21st-century nuns formed to improve the socio-cultural, spiritual, educational and artistic experiences of the communities in which members live, work and have creative interactions. Sisters have been creating rituals, blessings, art, literature and general debauchery designed to foster universal joy and expiate stigmatic guilt for the past 30 years.

**WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? NIGHT  
JUN 6, 2009**

The Big Idea Night for Ritual and Redemption features the Soundsuits of Nick Cave, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and YAAW's *Through Future Eyes* exhibition; free ink by the Bay Area's hottest tattoo artists; entertainment by Pansy Division, Ex-Boyfriends, Exillon, Honey Soundsystem, DJ Dirty Knees, Evan Fraser and T-Bird Luv with Soma Olam and the Satya Yuga Collective and comedian David Hawkins; a drag extravaganza hosted by Monistat and Anna Conda; "Project Nunway" by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence; and outrageous short films.

Sister Marquesa of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, San Francisco  
From *Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence 30th Anniversary Room* project in the Room for Big Ideas Annex

# FACILITY RENTALS



YBCA offers its state-of-the-art facilities to nonprofit community-based organizations as well as to corporations and individuals who desire attractive settings for a variety of events. Revenues generated from these rentals help support YBCA's Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Film/Video and Community Engagement programs.

## 08\_09 COMMUNITY RENTALS FOR PERFORMING ARTS

American Orient Performance Art  
California Chinese Orchestra  
Chinese Cultural Productions  
Chitresh Das Dance Company  
Dancers Group  
Janice Garrett & Dancers  
Lamplighters Musical Theatre  
Alonzo King LINES Ballet  
Liss Fain Dance  
ODC Dance Company  
Red Bean Chinese Opera  
San Francisco Ballet  
San Francisco Contemporary Music Players  
San Francisco Lesbian & Gay Freedom Band  
San Francisco Performances  
San Francisco Theater Festival  
Self Help For the Elderly  
Smuin Ballet  
Yaelisa & Caminos Flamencos  
Zhukov Dance Theatre

## 08\_09 RENTALS BY COMMERCIAL CLIENTS AND OTHER NONPROFITS

Adobe Foundation  
Ankh Marketing  
Apple, Inc.  
Barclays Global Investors  
Bryn Mawr Communications  
Calyx Software  
Canadian Consulate  
Capiraso Bing Consulting  
Charles Schwab  
City College of San Francisco  
City and County of San Francisco  
Dan Escobar Photography  
Delphi Productions  
Episcopal Community Services  
Flowers Heritage Foundation  
Future Leaders Institute  
Genentech  
George Marks Childrens House  
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Groundspark  
Hartmann Studios  
TV of Tomorrow  
Long Now Foundation  
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National Center for Lesbian Rights  
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Tale of Tales  
Theater Bay Area  
University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health  
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# Gifts to our OPERATION FUND

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts warmly thanks the following generous contributors for making our 2008\_09 fiscal year programs possible. We also gratefully acknowledge the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency for its ongoing support.

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Terry Wright

\*Denotes gifts In-Kind

## YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2009

<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	3,743,367
Contributions and grants receivable	1,090,221
Other receivables	30,450
Prepaid expenses	90,101
Deposits	26,717
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>4,980,856</b>
Contributions and grants receivable, net of current portion and allowance for doubtful accounts of \$491,305	1,740,514
<b>LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS:</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	241,744
Marketable securities	3,090,414
<b>TOTAL LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>3,332,158</b>
Fixtures and equipment, net	317,345
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>10,370,873</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	957,072
Deposits and refundable advances	150,515
Other deferred income	1,876,869
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,784,456</b>
<b>NET ASSETS:</b>	
Unrestricted	984,470
Temporarily restricted	4,740,732
Permanently restricted	1,861,215
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>7,586,417</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>10,370,873</b>

## YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>				
Support from San Francisco Redevelopment Agency	3,391,927	163,073	-	3,555,000
Contributions	924,970	136,850	-	1,061,820
Box office ticket sales and gallery admissions	311,403	-	-	311,403
Subsidized community programs	797,264	-	-	797,264
Commercial rentals	984,243	-	-	984,243
Special events	278,800	-	-	278,800
Raffle ticket sales	2,952,631	-	-	2,952,631
Naming revenue	-	111,273	-	111,273
Investment Income	(155,404)	(3,795)	-	(159,199)
Investment income (endowment)	(191,389)	(6,421)	-	(197,810)
Box office service charges	99,869	-	-	99,869
Marketing and advertising sales	99,134	-	-	99,134
Traveling exhibition fees	58,182	-	-	58,182
Other income	19,456	-	-	19,456
Net assets released from restrictions	1,120,139	(1,120,139)	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>10,691,225</b>	<b>(719,159)</b>		<b>9,972,066</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>PROGRAM SERVICES:</b>				
Performing Arts	1,539,432	-	-	1,539,432
Visual Arts	2,046,104	-	-	2,046,104
Film/Video	425,258	-	-	425,258
Community Engagement	790,803	-	-	790,803
Subsidized community programs	1,419,186	-	-	1,419,186
Commercial rentals	930,948	-	-	930,948
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES</b>	<b>7,151,731</b>			<b>7,151,731</b>
<b>SUPPORTING SERVICES:</b>				
Facilities	504,973	-	-	504,973
General and administration	523,469	-	-	523,469
Fundraising	1,211,608	-	-	1,211,608
House raffle	1,958,329	-	-	1,958,329
<b>TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,198,379</b>			<b>4,198,379</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>11,350,110</b>			<b>11,350,110</b>
Increase in net assets	(658,885)	(719,159)	-	(1,378,044)
Net assets, beginning of year	1,643,355	5,459,891	1,861,215	8,964,461
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>984,470</b>	<b>4,740,732</b>	<b>1,861,215</b>	<b>7,586,417</b>



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**YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
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