THE AVANT GARDE BOOK
1900–1945
CURATED BY JAROSLAV ANDEL
FEBRUARY 24 – MAY 6, 1989

FRANKLIN FURNACE
112 FRANKLIN STREET, NYC, 10013, (212) 925-4671
TUESDAYS-FRIDAYS 11-6 PM, SATURDAYS 12-6 PM
FRANKLIN FURNACE
"The Last W-O-R-D in Museums"
FLUE Vol. 6, #2

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THE AVANT-GARDE BOOK
1900–1945
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For the first time, this exhibition shows how the idea of the book as an art form sprang from the early avant-garde artistic movements of this century. Included in the exhibition are works from the 18th and 19th centuries which foreshadow the interplay between words and images in the 20th; “The Avant-Garde Book” will map the impact of the Symbolist, Expressionist, Cubist, Futurist, Dada, Constructivist, Functionalist and Surrealist movements on the book.

Opening Friday, February 24th and closing Saturday, May 6th, the exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue/book designed by Czech artist Pavel Buchler. Following the opening, John Wilson’s performance group, DADAnewyorkDADA will reconstruct a selection of performances from this avant-garde period.

Friday night, February 24th at 8:30 pm you are invited to view historical performance works by Tristan Tzara, Hugo Ball, Marcel Duchamp, Hans Arp, Kurt Schwitters and others.

This exhibition is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; The New York State Council on the Arts; and the generous support of private individuals.

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EMERGING ARTISTS INSTALLATION WORKS

Shelagh Keeley (New York)
"Books"
Jan 13 - Feb 11
Using the form of the book as a psychological extension of the body, Shelagh Keeley produces elemental, instinctive drawings to explore "gestures of sight, the architecture of emotion."

Mark W. McGinnis (South Dakota)
"Third World Ties"
Jan 13 - Feb 11
A sculptural project ten years in the making, "Third World Ties" consists of a twenty-two unit model that communicates the "incredibly redundant folly" of U.S. foreign policy.
Henry Chotkowski (Virginia)

"Sameness"
Feb 24 - Apr 1
Coincidence -- the man-made connections between and amongst events -- are the subject of these photoassemblages and "magazine excavations." Magazines are literally excavated in strata, cut open to lay bare the hidden images beneath.

Kaoru Hirabayashi (New York)

"51 Sound-Doors"
Apr 7 - May 6
Combining Japanese script and the figures which it signifies, Kaoru Hirabayashi hopes to reconnect Japanese symbols with their original, and now lost, meanings.

"Literacy on the Table: Cultural Fluency and the Act of Reading"
(New York)
July 7 - Aug 26
In the beginning was the word -- or so it is written. Literacy, the primary technique of survival in the wilderness of culture, is explored by sixteen visual artists and videomakers. "There are implicit assumptions about literacy that are embedded in a work of art. We are interested in revealing and calling into question both the viewer's and the artist's notions of fluency."
FOOD FOR THOUGHT
ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE

Beginning in 1989, Franklin Furnace is using the oldest art - - - storytelling - - - to illuminate the newest - - - artists' publications, multiples and performance. Artists KEVIN OSBORN, DAVI DET HOMSPON, NANCY GARRUBA, and FRANC PALAIA will each be in residence for a month and available to you! Each artist-in-residence will select works from Franklin Furnace's permanent collection which reflect his or her particular concerns, and will respond to your questions and thoughts as well.

NANCY GARRUBA makes use of her experience in performance art and video to produce mail art and imaginative artists' books such as Not Altogether True/Not Altogether False, which is a book of cancelled checks, each one labeled with the truth value of the transaction. Trained as a writer, book-binder and graphics designer, Garruba's work has been shown across the United States and in Europe and Canada. For the past three years she has focused exclusively on published art, while continuing to live and work in Washington, D.C.

DAVI DET HOMSPON (David Elbridge Thompson) was born in Sharon, Pennsylvania and lives in Richmond, Virginia. His early training in graphic design and his introduction to Fluxus and concrete poetry at Indiana University where he received his M.F.A. form the basis for his life-long commitment to experimental offset and artistic expression through the book form. Homspon has held teaching posts at several colleges and exhibited at major museums and galleries in New York and elsewhere. Recently, the subject matter of his work has become less didactic and more personal.
FRANC PALAIA's specialty concerns the application of photographic and other reproductive techniques such as xerox/copy art to the art of social commentary. A native of New Rochelle, New York, Palaia teaches in New Jersey and has shown in numerous individual and group exhibitions throughout the United States and Canada including Franklin Furnace and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Among his most interesting projects in a one-of-a-kind book consisting of color xeroxes of color photographs of urban walls lined up along the bottom of each page to form a continuous sequence so that reading the book simulates walking in an urban landscape.

KEVIN OSBORN is a highly respected artist whose principal medium is offset lithography. His book, Real Lush, is exactly that: a work that was produced from sheets that passed fifteen times through offset press, producing a lush, detailed and dense page and work. Osborn lives and works in the Washington, D.C. area, in Arlington, VA. His Osbornbook press has just published a parallelogram-shaped book bound with a raw wood spine, featuring 40 colors. The artist's background as a photographer/printer informs all of his works.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT
EATING SCHEDULE
1989

FEBRUARY

KEVIN
OSBORN

MARCH

DAVI DET
HOMPSОН
EMERGING PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

Barbara T. Smith (California)
"Stoke the Furnace, Bake the Squash, and Feed the People:
Alternatives to the Culture of Rape"
Panel: January 14  4:00pm

Artists have always keenly felt the pains and ills of culture, often acting as the hypersensitive "antennae," the first to feel the vital issues facing society. In an era when popular art is expressing nihilistic emptiness and symbols devoid of meaning, it is incumbent on other artists to sense where new sources of vital energy abide. A panel discussion will raise intellectual as well as emotional/intuitive issues on the fate of the earth and our need as her residents to reintegrate our lives and intentions with her.

William Pope L. and James Calder (New York)
"George Is in the Lake"
January 13, 14, 20, 24

This feminist fairy tale takes the form of androgynous musical theater. Loosely based upon the MAN: George Washinton, and the EVENT: crossing the Delaware, the performance revises and re-interprets male myths and the symbols of history. This performance made possible through the Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art.
Torture Chorus (Stephen Holman and Laura Richmond) (London)
"Breakfast with the Moors Murderers"
January 27, 28

Skirting irreverently around definitions of performance, comedy and vaudeville, Torture Chorus takes on the story of the infamous Moors Murderers, Ian Brady and Myra Hindley. A seemingly well-adjusted couple of the sixties, they randomly murdered at least five children in a case that horrified and bewildered the England. The audience is invited to enter the twisted world of Brady and Hindley, to find answers to questions better left unasked.

Gearoid Dolan (Dublin)
"Survival... Against All Odds"
February 3, 4

A scathing look at Capitalism and New York in three parts: "Freedom," "And Then He Hit Me..." and "Aggression." Using animation, films, sounds, music and a minimum of action, this "Screamachine" production explores the idea that money is feeding off of poverty.

Ron Littke (New York)
"Ron Dog"
February 10, 11, 17, 18

Performing as "Ron Dog" in his oversized canine environment, Ron Littke unleashes his own form of animal art. Using monologues, video, music, and tail-raising props such as giant dishes, fireplug posters, and bones, Ron Dog narrates his dream diary which focuses on the similarities between artist and dog in the 80s.
DADAnewyorkDADA (New York)
February 24

John Wilson's performance group DADAnewyorkDADA will recreate the works of the original Dadaists: a collage of sounds, optophonetics in performance, movement and verbal realizations from the printed pages of these originals by Tzara, Schwitters, Hausmann, Albert-Birot, Arp, Duchamp and others. Dada and the Surreal conspire to upset LOGIC and, through humor and fantasy, communicate anew.

Dawn Egazarian (New Jersey)
A Performance Event
March 4, 2pm
Location to be announced.

Like an aesthetic ambush, Ms. Egazarian strikes without warning! Her events are staged in public places at their busiest hours. This guerrilla art combines such disparate and humorous elements as huge banners, stuffed swordfish, and parachute harnesses to address a very serious range of issues.

Lisa Kotin (New York)
"Chicken Soup"
March 10, 11

The story of three generations of women who have resided in the same New York City apartment over a fifty-year period is told by an impartial observer -- one of the walls of the apartment, the only thing that has withstood the family's past and remains standing.
The Dark Bob (Los Angeles)  
"Leisure Intensity"  
March 17, 18

The Dark Bob presents an array of his song material, performs "concert style" with a pre-recorded back-up band. His music is a blend of "Middle Eastern, country-western, new age, folk, punk, art rock" influenced by "Dean Martin, Bob Dylan, Vasily Kandinsky, Johnny Cash, The Clash and Allan Kaprow." There will also be The Dark Bob film festival, of Dark Bob super-8 shorts -- "hilarious, touching, inspired and idiotic."

Sherman Flemming aka Rodforce (Washington D.C.)  
"Western History as a Three-Story Building"  
April 7, 8

Using the "Flying Voladores" of Mexico as inspiration, Rodforce will be strapped into boots and suspended from the ceiling in "Fault", using his body to gain momentum in sweeping circles. In "AxVapor," a spinning dance is performed on shoes with bowling balls affixed to his soles. This four part performance incorporates Inuit and Afro-American story telling.

Jim Reva and Lisa Weger (Los Angeles)  
"One Room Apartment"  
April 14, 15, 21, 22

The theme of domestic disintegration is created in black and white installations, in which mundane actions are changed into unordinary activities. A husband and wife coffee time becomes a ritual as the newspaper bursts into flames and toast stacks rise in unsteady towers in this social satire.
Susan Mogul (Los Angeles)
"The Sightseer"
April 28, 29

For two years, Susan Mogul has taken us sightseeing through her mother's closet. She stopped -- and went to Budapest. Now she's back sightseeing again, this time in her apartment in Los Angeles. Mogul, the irreverent tourist, tells anecdotes and shows NO slides of Hungary.

Richard Elovich (New York)
"IF MEN COULD TALK, THE STORIES THEY COULD TELL"
May 5, 6, 12, 13

Richard Elovich presents a new play about men who talk and men who don't. "IF MEN COULD TALK" is about anxiety and evidence, about story-telling and the ambivalence of revelation.

May 11th
A special benefit, all proceeds for AIDS treatment registry, Wave 3 of Act Up presents "Morning in America." Admission is $10.
DOUBLE BILL:
May 26, 27, June 2, 3

Deborah Margolin (New York)
"Busy Signal"

Laurence Steger (Chicago)
"Rented Movies"

"Even the heart has variations." So says the jazz musician who was just tired from a job he loved because he couldn't keep the beat. In "Busy Signal," Deborah Margolin cuts deep "like a shaft of light through a tiny jungle." The two major monologues of this one-woman show are held gently apart by a busy signal.

"Rented Movies" by Lawrence Steger is a day in the life of a gay entertainer, stylistically similar to German cabarets of the 1920s. Through monologues, jokes, songs and dances, Steger weaves a web of meanings and associations alluding to the senseless pain of repressed passion.

Frank Moore (San Francisco)
"Journey to the Isle of Lila"
June 9, 10, 16, 17

Born with cerebral palsy, Frank Moore can control his neck muscles only. He considers himself not only to be a sex symbol, but to have the ideal body for a performance artist: "I am lucky I am an exhibitionist in this body." This five-hour journey through inner space and inner time takes the audience to "Lila," the island of play and illusion in the "Sea of How-Things-Should-Be." Daring to go through the uncharted waters of death, rebirth and childhood, the audience takes part in magical rituals.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
Performances start at 8:30 PM on Fridays and Saturdays (unless otherwise noted). Admission is $8 for non-members, half-price or free for members and Performance Passport holders. Call (212) 925-4671 for reservations.
GERMAN
VISUAL POETRY
TODAY
MAY 19 - JULY 1, 1989

These artists have had an essential impact on the development of the contemporary scene in Germany, expressing their experiences in script and picture. The exhibition aims at conveying a feeling of the vitality inherent in the combination of text, picture and script and language, art and poetry, and compliments “Text as Image,” on view at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

HORST HAACK Born in 1940, Horst Haack, a painter, lives in Berlin. In his “chronographie terrestre” Haack describes each day (devoting 50 sheets to each month).

ANGELIKA JANZ was born in 1952, lives in Essen and works as a scripture artist, cutting apart text and combining the fragments with handwritten or typed texts to produce something new.

ANNAJES KLOPHAUS presents very expressive calligraphic variations on and with the theme “Mensch” (human being).

JAN KOLBASA During his first visit to America he was impressed by the country and its people. To express his enthusiasm, Koblasa inscribed a computer print-out with Gertrude Stein’s “The Making of America.”

HELGE LEIBERG This young artist from East Berlin is now a resident of West Berlin. Leiberg combines available texts with his style of “neue wilde Malerei,” the new wild painting.

REINHOLD METZ Born in 1942, Metz is rewriting the book “Don Quixote” in the style of “before” Guttenberg. Since 1980, 120 linocuts have been completed.

FRANZ MON Born in 1926, Franz Mon lives in Frankfurt, and is the author of prose, lyric poetry, radio plays, and visual texts. Mon collages newspaper material.

KAREL TRINKEVITZ Previous artworks includes “hanging objects,” clothing that has been painted and transformed to become banners.
DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15 !!!!

SUBMIT!

FRANKLIN FURNACE ANNOUNCES
A CALL TO PERFORMANCE ARTISTS

THE FRANKLIN FURNACE FUND FOR PERFORMANCE ART,
SUPPORTED BY JEROME FOUNDATION
AND THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS,
AWARDS GRANTS OF BETWEEN $2000 AND $5000
TO EMERGING ARTISTS.

"Franklin Furnace, the Last Word in Museums"
112 Franklin Street, New York, NY 10013 212-925-4671

THE FRANKLIN FURNACE FUND FOR PERFORMANCE ART

Special thanks are due to Jerome Foundation and the New York State Council on the Arts for their continued support of Franklin Furnace's grants for emerging artists. In 1984, Jerome Foundation asked Franklin Furnace to initiate the Fund for Performance Art which provides grants to emerging artists in the field of performance art. The Fund gives artists vital support at an early, crucial point in their careers, enabling recipients to produce major works for the first time.

Grants range from $2000 to $5000 and may only be awarded to non-affiliated emerging artists (those who have not been produced by major venues such as the Kitchen, BAM, DTW, La Mama, or the Public Theater) who produce their work in New York State. The annual deadline is February 15, and application consists of a resume and biography; a 50 word summary of the proposed major work or collaboration; a budget which may include other funding sources; up to 10 slides; 1/2" videotape, cued for 5 minutes; reviews, additional descriptions if you wish; and LAST BUT NOT LEAST, a sufficiently stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of your material. Franklin Furnace is not responsible for materials lost without the means for return.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION TO
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APRIL FOOLS DAY DEADLINE
FOR INSTALLATION
AND PERFORMANCE
PROPOSALS TO FRANKLIN FURNACE

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THE FRANKLIN FURNACE 1988/89

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Franklin Furnace's costly responsibility for preservation and conservation services has received substantial support in 1988-89 from the Institute of Museum Services and the National Endowment for the Arts, both federal agencies; we gratefully acknowledge matching and additional support for these services and other programs from the New York State Council on the Arts; the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; and our foundation, corporate, Member and individual supporters, who together make Franklin Furnace's programs possible. Sincere thanks to the following:

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Localed at 121 Franklin Street, between West Broadway and Church.

Location: Franklin Furnace is the belly-button of Tribeca.

Hours are free and open to the public.

Unless otherwise noted, call (212) 925-4671 for reservations.

Exhibitions

Sundays and Mondays, performances, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 PM.

Tuesdays through Fridays, 11:00 a.m. Saturdays, 12:00 Noon. Closed.

New York, NY 10013

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