

# !HIGH & LOW!

MODERN ART AND POPULAR CULTURE

For Immediate Release  
October 1990

## "SIX EVENINGS OF PERFORMANCE" TO BE PRESENTED AS PART OF THE "HIGH AND LOW" EXHIBITION AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Laurie Anderson, Eric Bogosian, Bongwater (with Ann Magnuson & Kramer), David Cale, Brian Eno (A Lecture), and Spalding Gray

SIX EVENINGS OF PERFORMANCE: LAURIE ANDERSON, ERIC BOGOSIAN, BONGWATER (WITH ANN MAGNUSON & KRAMER), DAVID CALE, BRIAN ENO (A LECTURE), SPALDING GRAY will be presented at The Museum of Modern Art in conjunction with the exhibition HIGH AND LOW: MODERN ART AND POPULAR CULTURE, on view from October 7, 1990, through January 15, 1991. Both the exhibition and the performance series are sponsored by AT&T.

Organized by RoseLee Goldberg, author of *Performance Art: From Futurism to the Present* (1988), SIX EVENINGS OF PERFORMANCE features artists who have emerged in the last ten to fifteen years and whose "cross-over" careers embody the ongoing dialogue between modern art and popular culture.

"Each of the artists participating in the series has a different story to tell..." writes Ms. Goldberg in her introduction to the series. "Each has devised highly personal content and forms for his or her work; language, sound, visuals, environments, and high-tech equipment have been used in any number of combinations to create a variety of performance 'categories.' Above all, each has used the umbrella of the art world at one point or another for the development of his or her oeuvre."

The Museum of Modern Art, New York  
October 7, 1990-January 15, 1991

The Art Institute of Chicago  
February 23-May 12, 1991

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles  
June 23-September 15, 1991

AT&T  
50  
YEARS  
WITH THE  
ARTS  
1940-1990

For their appearances in conjunction with HIGH AND LOW: MODERN ART AND POPULAR CULTURE, the artists are presenting a wide range of work, from onstage interviews to monologues and "lectures." Their presentations have been created specifically for the Museum's auditorium -- a space far more intimate than those in which most of them usually appear.

Following is the schedule of performances:

October 23

**Brian Eno** emerged in the 1970s as a seminal force in avant-garde music. Trained in fine art in his native England, he cofounded the British rock group Roxy Music and contributed tape and synthesizer "treatments" to the group's first two albums. During the last decade, he has worked not only as a composer, musician, and producer, but also as a video artist, whose work has been exhibited in more than fifteen countries.

October 30

**Bongwater** (with Ann Magnuson & Kramer). Ann Magnuson cofounded the now-defunct Club 57 at St. Mark's Place in 1979, where she honed her skills as a comic performer and went on to create a series of one-woman shows, which she performed in clubs, art galleries, and theaters. A writer, actress, and performing artist with a gallery of off-beat characters, she made a splash in Hollywood as the star of *Making Mr. Right*, among other films, and is familiar to television viewers as Catherine Hughes on the series *Anything But Love*. Although known as a solo performer, Ms. Magnuson also works collaboratively, frequently with Kramer in a band called Bongwater. Kramer is owner and chief producer at Noise New York, a recording studio, and is founder of Shimmy-Disc, an independent record label.

November 6

**Spalding Gray** cofounded, in 1977, the Wooster Group, an avant-garde theater group that appeared at The Performing Garage in New York. It was there that he first developed the autobiographical trilogy, *Three Places in Rhode Island*. A writer, actor, and performer, he has presented a series of monologues throughout the United States, Europe, and Australia. One of them, *Swimming to Cambodia*, won him an Obie Award and became a critically acclaimed film. Mr. Gray recently appeared as the Stage Manager in the Broadway revival of *Our Town*, and has been seen in the films *The Killing Fields*, *True Stories* and *Beaches*, among others.

November 20

David Cale was born and raised in England and moved to New York in 1979, where he received his earliest support from performance spaces such as P.S. 122 and The Kitchen Center for Video, Music, Dance, and Performance in New York. His work, which has been presented throughout the United States, has won him a 1986 "Bessie" Award, a 1989 National Endowment for the Arts Solo Performance Fellowship, and a 1990 Sundance Institute Writing Fellowship to develop his first screenplay, *The Big Kiss*. He has been published in *The New York Times* and *Harper's* magazine, and has appeared in the films *Radio Days*, *Moon Over Parador*, *Men Don't Leave*, and the upcoming *He Said, She Said*.

December 4

Eric Bogosian's earliest performances took place at downtown venues such as The Kitchen, The Mudd Club, and P.S. 122 in New York. He is best known for his solo shows *Drinking in America* and the recent *Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll*. He starred in his play *Talk Radio*, and in the film version, directed by Oliver Stone. Bogosian's work has received numerous awards and grants, including two Obies. He has appeared on television in Robert Altman's *The Caine Mutiny Court Martial*, "AT&T PRESENTS Last Flight Out," and on specials for cable and PBS devoted to his work. He holds a BFA in theater from Oberlin College.

January 8

Laurie Anderson's combinations of inventive electronics, striking visual imagery, original music, pointed anecdotes, and distinctive stage persona have made her one of America's most recognized performance artists. She is perhaps best known for *United States*, a seven-hour multi-media event that premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1983, and which originally was performed in sections over several years at places such as the Kitchen and the Orpheum Theater in New York. She has recorded a number of best-selling albums and composed the score for Jonathan Demme's film of Spalding Gray's *Swimming to Cambodia*. Ms. Anderson holds an MFA in sculpture from Columbia University.

Performances take place on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1. Tickets are \$15 and go on sale on a first-come, first-served basis on October 7 at the Museum's Lobby Information Desk. There will be no discounts for members. For more information, call 212 708-9500.

\* \* \*

No. 81

Contact for The Museum of Modern Art: Jeanne Collins/Jessica Schwartz/Edna Goldstaub, Department of Public Information, 212 708-9750.

Contact for AT&T: Zack Manna, corporate marketing services director, AT&T, 212 605-6721, or Pamela Johnson/Alan Cohen/Lucy Kraus, 212 490-8200.