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Unnamed Broadway Musical: The Musical!



Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts

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Free admission (all visitors, all hours).

Dates & Hours

Mon, April 16, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Thurs, April 19, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Fri, April 20, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Sat, April 21, 2012, 12 pm – 6 pm
Mon, April 23, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Thurs, April 26, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Mon, April 30, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Sat, May 5, 2012, 12 pm – 6 pm
Thurs, May 10, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Fri, May 11, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Mon, May 14, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Thurs, May 17, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Fri, May 18, 2012, 6 pm – 10 pm
Sat, May 19, 2012, 12 pm – 8 pm

Interdisciplinary video artist Kara Hearn's defiantly optimistic, bare-bones, experimentally cast production uses an orphan-themed Broadway musical (that has not been named) as its point of departure. Denied the right to perform any of the original material in the gallery, the group, under the direction of Sarah Cameron Sunde will have the absurd task, that is, the creative challenge, of generating a production that somehow fulfills the performers' sincere desire to be in the unnamed Broadway musical without them actually being in it.



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This impractical project will take place in consultation with a lawyer over five weeks at the EFA Project Space in Manhattan. The project will exist as an ongoing live performance (rehearsals will be open to the public) and in its final form as a 30-to-45 minute video documenting the process of putting on the production, from auditions to opening night. The project will also serve as an inquiry into the murkiness of copyright law and fair-use for artists interested in working with the pervasive popular content that so intimately shapes our notions of identity and self.

All of the performers will be adults and the casting of each part will be based more on the willingness and desire of the performers than on singing, dancing ability or appearance. The group hopes to tap into a population who perhaps fantasized as children about being the orphan star of an unnamed Broadway musical but for whom it wasn't a possibility, perhaps because of gender, race, talent or other circumstantial barriers. Through interviews with the cast, each person's relationship to the idea of abandonment/being overlooked will be explored in the hopes of uncovering the allegorical appeal of the orphan tale.

While new obstacles again threaten these childhood aspirations, Hearn hopes that the show will be transformed into something completely different, original and more relevant; that the participants will still fulfill an unrequited dream and the resulting performance and video will be absurd, sad, funny and radically simple without making fun of anyone involved, except the musical itself.

- Directions: Subway: A, C, E to 34th Street-Penn Station or 42nd Street-Port Authority

About this Organization

[Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts](#)

EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. The organization is a catalyst for cultural growth, stimulating new interactions between artists, creative communities and the public.

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