

A G U I R R E X

THE
PERFORMANCE
AGENCY

MASS

PRESS KIT



A M A S S

1 13 1 19 19

A mass is..

A mass of music, word, movement

A mass point of departure,

A massive experimental algorithm

Amassed in context, with no
guarantee

A mass set of rules

A performative mass

A mass

A mass of deconstructions

A mass reconstruction

A mass instructional

Tangled in it the masses of
contextual durational experience

Where nothing is guaranteed due to
orchestrated chance

A mass uniting of separate
disciplines in one moment, one
energy

Hypnotizing

Consciously unconscious

A mass activation

Massively unfolding

*I wanted something to “happen”,
but “happen”, as naturally as the
wind blows the leaves.*

Allan Kaprow

The flux *mass* was a series of events which first occurred at the art Institution of Rutgers University, between 1958-1972. *The Mass* signaled a variety of shifts in the multidisciplinary arts movement from the democratization of institutional approaches to broader cultural changes. Larry Mill, student, Fluxus artist and *Mass* participant at the time, described the events as ‘a ritual ready-made’ - as the *Mass* format was defined by the structures of a Roman Catholic Mass, which the organizers and participants systematically inverted.



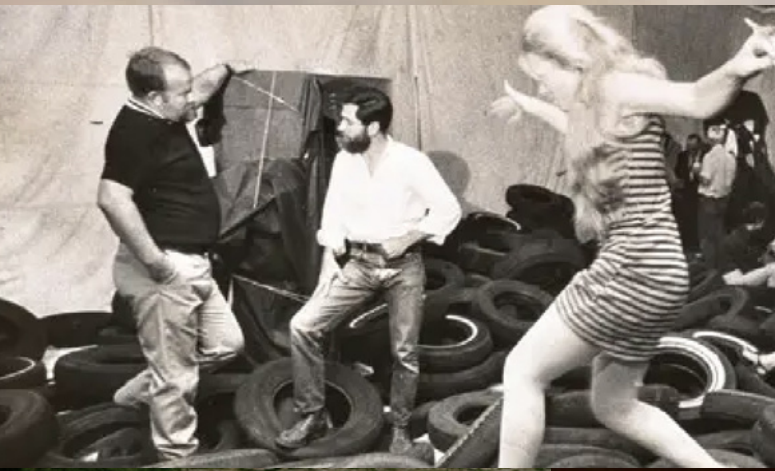
Riccardo Paratore, *Fantasma de la Libertad*, Aguirre, 2021.

Aguirre is a program founded by Carla Fernández in Mexico City in 2018. Exhibiting recent artistic perspectives that dialogue with traditions of avant-garde art, integrating through interests as diverse as writing, voice, language, sound and moving-image. The artists belong much of the times to underrepresented positions in contemporary art.

AGUIRRE

For this new iteration of the MASS, Aguirre and The Performance Agency come together to invite artists into an orchestration of performance pieces and situations that guide the audience through a world of imagination into an evening with poetry lectures, music concerts and interventions with artists Victor del Oral, Stephanie La Cava, Edgardo Aragón, Amado Cabrales, Barbara Foulkes, Tomás Nervi, Elliott Jamal Robbins, Anabel Venegas Salas, Techno Para Dos (Raúl Villamil), Alex Tibbitts, Marta Taddei and Mallika Vora.

ABOUT



MOOD

Edgardo Aragón

Oaxaca, MX

Edgardo Aragón (Oaxaca, Mexico, 1985) studied at the National School of Painting, Sculpture and Engraving of Mexico. Aragón's work revolves around the use of power to segregate a large portion of the population, often involving stories of organized crime set in Oaxaca and Mexico. His work has been exhibited in numerous institutions, including: The Istanbul Biennale, San Francisco Art Institute, Mercosur Biennial, El Museo Universitario de Arte Contemporáneo (MUAC), Mexico City, among many others. Some recent exhibitions include O Autoengaño in Aguirre Mexico City. Upcoming exhibitions include México Inside Out. Topics in Art since 1990, Museum of Modern Art of Fort Worth – Texas, USA among others. He currently lives and works in Oaxaca, Mexico. Aragón founded a corrido band, La Recia del Sur, which is presented for the first time in this edition of Mass Mexico 2024.



Amado Cabrales

Mexico, MX

Cabrales is an curator, manager and artist specialized in art education and collective dynamics as a form of artistic-pedagogical production.



Stephanie La Cava

New York City, USA

Stephanie LaCava is a novelist and critic. Her first novel, *The Superrationals*, was published by Semiotext(e) in 2020, while her second, *LaCava's, I Fear My Pain Interests You. A Novel* (Verso Books, 2022), in which characters bear some similarities to the antihero Zoë Lund. Zoë Lund spent her life between New York's downtown punk scene and the cinephile Paris of the 1990s. An echo that embodies anarchism, socially committed cinema, feminism, punk, she embodies a period of experimentation and dark romanticism. For Mass Mexico LaCava will premiere an insight into her new novel with a performative intervention. She lives in New York City.

Barbara Foulkes

Mexico, MX

Born in Buenos Aires, Foulkes is an artist, choreographer, performer, cultural manager. Working from the body as the starting point for research, her performative work is ritualistic and weightless, using drawing and writing as an extension of the ephemeral documenting action and turning it into further material.



Victor del Oral

Mexico, MX

Víctor del Oral Rivera (Mexico, 1987) He studied Visual Arts at ENPEG La Esmeralda (National School of Painting, Sculpture and Engraving La Esmeralda), and holds a degree in Philosophy from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). Del Oral has exhibited at a variety of museums such as Experimental Museum El Eco (UNAM), University Museum of El Chopo, Casa del Lago (UNAM), University Museum of Contemporary Art (MUAC); among others. He currently lives and works between Mexico and Germany.

Elliott Jamal Robbins

Tucson, AZ

Elliott Jamal Robbins (b. 1988, Oklahoma City) is an artist who works in a variety of mediums, including painting, drawing, collage/assemblage and video/animation. Robbins continues to upend conventional readings of identity, gender, and sexuality in artworks that burst open categorized ways of understanding a body and a life. He is known best for his silent, hand-painted animated films which fantastically depict seemingly mundane lived experiences. These works register a matrix of references from the personal to the history of western civilization, formulating a high-energy vernacular collage. By isolating and queering these liminal moments which traditionally go unnoticed, Robbins reveals the political and social structures which undergird life.

Robbins received a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Arizona. Previously, he attended the University of Oklahoma, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Received the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant among others. Recent solo exhibitions



include *The Affected Image*, Galerie Nagel Draxler, Munich, *Where do I put myself, if public life's destroyed?*, Weiss-Falk, Basel, Switzerland, *The Lancer*, *The Liberator*, *The Marauder*, Kai Matsumiya, New York. Recent group exhibitions include *Flesh & Flowers*, *Made in America*, curated by Lauren Taschen, No Name, Paris, France, *Capture Captures*, University Gallery Angewandte, Vienna, Austria, ...o *autoengaño*, Aguirre, Mexico City; *100 Drawings from Now*, The Drawing Center, New York, NY among others. Elliott Jamal Robbins is currently based in New Mexico.

Tomás Nervi

Berlin, DE

Tomás Nervi (*1986 Buenos Aires) is an interdisciplinary artist and musician living and working in Berlin, Germany. His practice most often takes the form of poetic and conceptual gestures that combine elements of sculpture, performance, photography, and installation. He studied at the Städelschule in Frankfurt am Main, in the class of Michael Krebber and Josef Strau from 2013-17. Recent exhibitions include Falsetto at Cucina, Denmark, 2021 and Fondazione Antonio Ratti, Como, Italy. Recent exhibitions include O Autoengaño at Aguirre, Mexico City 2021.



Anabel Venegas Salas

Mexico, MX

Salas is a Graphic Designer and Erotic Illustrator, Co-founder of La Erotica Mexico City and Contrasexual Art and Film Festival, which aims of to celebrate, exhibit and project the work of self-managed creators of art and erotic cinema around the relationship between sexuality, technology and gender.



ARTISTS



Techno Para Dos

Mexico, MX

Techno para dos is the project of Raúl Villamil. It has been presented at festivals such as Cervantino, Day Zero (experimental stage) Mod (Centro Cultural España), GIFF (Guanajuato International Film Festival) Off Sonar México, Alter-Native (Stockholm), Mutek JP, Mutek México, Mutek Argentina, Mutek AE (in its digital editions), abroad in venues such as Slakthuset (Stockholm), Miscelánea (Barcelona), Le Consulat (Paris), Moosdorfstr, Kwia (Berlin), Vernacular Institute (Mexico) among others. It was also presented in Peru at the Proyecto Amil contemporary art gallery, En el Paradero Cultural and at the Antiradio festival. He has collaborated in projects in CENART (National Center for the Arts) and at the Ex-Teresa Actual. In the cinematographic field he has worked with director Pelayo Gutierrez Nakatani with original music for his first short film and his debut film “Los dos naipes” He is a producer and co-founder of the experimental Mexican music label VAA and a teacher at the ARCO sound art school. In 2022 he was awarded the EMS (Elektronmusikon) Stockholm, Sweden.

Alex Tibbits

Tiohtià:ke / Montréal

Alex Tibbits interweaves research-innovation, composition and performance into an audacious artistic practice. As The Bionic Harpist, she augments the harp for digital mixing to create rich narratives and immersive soundscapes.

An international soloist & performing artist, Alex has presented in distinguished cultural & academic institutions (MUTEK Montréal, MUTEK Mexico, the National Arts Center of Canada, Harvard University, and McGill University). At home, she is a community member at the Center for Research Music Media and Technology (CIRMMT) where her explorations and research-collaborations have developed methods of gestural control and augmented harp performance. Her invited lectures at the University of Toronto, Montréal Conservatory, Conservatorio Nacional de Música en México, and El Centro Investigacion et Educativo en México (CIEM) support her mission to engage and empower emerging-artists





Mallika Vora

México, MX

Mallika Vora is the guitarist of Cruda Moral, a Mexican punk band, and also a documentary photographer. Her photographic work focuses on community and family dynamics as a way to understand larger topics such as gentrification, resistance, cross-cultural exchange, and healing after crisis. She has a BFA in Photography from NYU Tisch.

Marta Taddei

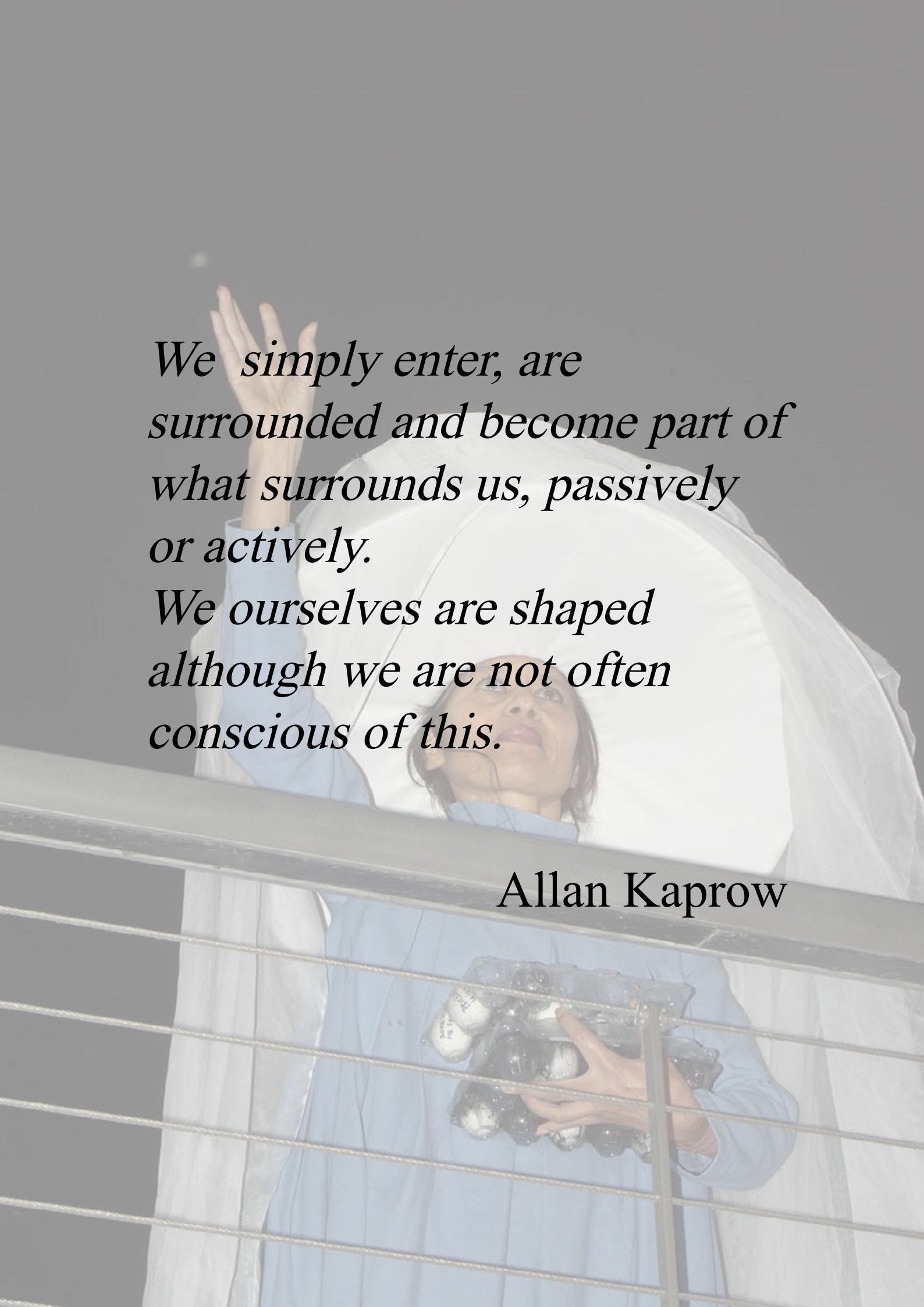
México, MX

Singer and songwriter of “Cruda Moral” a mexican punk band, previously member of another experimental electronic punk music.

Upcycled clothing & jewelry maker with a post Apocalyptic/ cyberpunk look. Diploma in literary creation from Sociedad General de Escritores Mexicanos.

Hair dresser.



A woman wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and a white protective suit is standing on a balcony. She is holding a tray of several dark glass bottles. Her right hand is raised, with fingers spread, as if gesturing. The balcony has a metal railing with several horizontal cables. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

We simply enter, are surrounded and become part of what surrounds us, passively or actively.

We ourselves are shaped although we are not often conscious of this.

Allan Kaprow



Built in 1640, Casa Seminario 12 the oldest currently inhabited house in Mexico City. This building was built on the site where the ceremonial temple of the Mexica deity of Tezcatlipoca once stood. In 1988 it was acquired in a completely abandoned state and for four years it underwent an intense conservation process that managed to restore almost all of its original structure. Teams of stonemasons, carpenters, and blacksmiths participated in the restoration, guided by a team of masters and restorers whose names endure on the main patio's stone. It is one of the few buildings from the 17th century that have recovered its constituent elements to continue resolving the function that its construction imposed, that is, its use as a family home. It is then a construction that recreates the past of this city and the society that has inhabited it, with its changes and permanence. After a renovation carried out by its current stewards, the house is now home to a cultural program open to the public that reflects on affection, restoration, and the commons.

Seminario 12, Centro Histórico, CDMX, C.P. 01070

SEMINARIO 12

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