

# WAYS IN BEING GAY



STYAM7Y how November 2000



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MUSIC:  
Jemeel Moondoc  
/William Parker Duo  
8:00 P.M.  
@ Big Orbit

VIDEO:

3 *Queer As Folk*  
episodes 1-4  
8:00 P.M. - Midnight  
@ Hamlin House

PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
8:00 P.M.

4

VIDEO:  
*Could Be Worse!*  
8:00 P.M.

PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
8:00 P.M.

PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
4:00 P.M.

5

VIDEO:  
*Queer As Folk*  
episodes 5-8  
4:00 P.M.

6

VIDEO:  
SPECIAL ELECTION  
NIGHT SCREENING

7

*Democracy—  
The Last  
Campaign:  
Alternative Video  
from Campaign  
2000*  
7:30 P.M.

8

VIDEO:  
*Queer As Folk*  
2nd season  
8:00 P.M.

9

WORKSHOP:  
*Uncommon Families*  
6:30 P.M.

MUSIC:  
Rob Reddy's  
Quttah  
8:00 P.M.

10

PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
8:00 P.M.

FILM:  
*Paragraph 175*  
w/a spoken word  
performance by  
David Butler  
8:00 P.M.

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PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
8:00 P.M.

FILM:  
*Paragraph 175*  
w/a spoken word  
performance by  
David Butler  
8:00 P.M.

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PERFORMANCE:  
*Evidence of Letters*  
4:00 P.M.

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Visual Art  
Committee Meeting  
6:00 P.M.  
  
Open Slide Forum  
7:30 P.M.

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FILM:  
*Living With Pride:  
Ruth Ellis @ 100*  
A film by Yvonne  
Welbon  
8:00 P.M.

18

VISUAL ART

Opening Reception:  
9-11 P.M.

Ann Torke:  
*The Outlot*

Leslie Bostrom:  
*Mixed Messages &  
Other Confusions*

19

POETRY:  
*Just buffalo*  
Presents:  
David Trinidad  
7:00 P.M.

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VIDEO:  
*Live Nude Girls  
UNITE!*  
By Julia Query  
and Vicki Funari

screening also  
includes: a spo-  
ken word per-  
formance by  
Stephanie Gray &  
a musical  
performance by  
Alison Pipitone  
8:00 P.M.  
@ Squeaky Wheel

23

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FILM/VIDEO  
*In the Life*  
8:00 P.M.

PURE PROTEIN!  
8mm Gay male  
porn films present-  
ed by Stephen  
Kent Jusick  
10:00 P.M.

25

FILM:  
*Benjamin Smoke*  
by Jem Cohen &  
Peter Sillen  
8:00 P.M.  
@ Squeaky Wheel

26

FILM:  
*Benjamin Smoke*  
by Jem Cohen &  
Peter Sillen  
4:00 P.M.  
@ Hallwalls

27

VIDEO:  
*Queer As Folk*  
episodes 1-4  
7:00 P.M.

28

VIDEO:  
*QUEER AS FOLK*  
episodes 5-8  
7:00 P.M.

29

VIDEO:  
*Queer As Folk*  
2nd Season  
7:00 P.M.

30

FILM: *De Profundis*  
by Lawrence Brose  
@ 8:00 P.M.





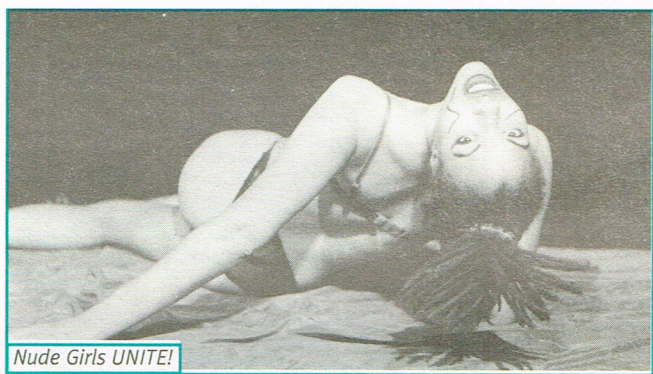
Queer As Folk



Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100



Could Be Worse!



Nude Girls UNITE!

## WAYS IN BEING GAY

as part of the gallery's *Words and Music* program. He has performed his original work at the Burchfield Penny Art Center, the New Phoenix Theatre (*Naked Stories-Fully Clothed, Ways in Being Gay 1998*), The Cabaret Theater, Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, and The Screening Room. In the summer of 1998, Butler produced and starred in productions of two of his original short plays *Coming Out of the Car*, and *The Last Knight of Fondle Park* as part of Toronto's 10th Annual Fringe Festival.

Friday November 17 • 8:00 P.M.

### Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100

A film by Yvonne Welbon  
(1999, USA, 60 minutes, video)

The first time Yvonne Welbon set eyes on her, Ruth Ellis was tearing up a dance floor. "There was this woman dancing, and I was trying to figure out how old she was," Welbon recalls. "And it turned out I never got a chance to ask her that night because she never stopped dancing." That was in 1997 at the National Women's Music Festival in Indiana. The next day Welbon, already an accomplished filmmaker at the age of 34, learned that Ellis was 97. She knew she wanted to tell this extraordinary woman's story. Three years and 50 hours of footage later, Welbon completed this award-winning documentary.

The film is not only the tale of one ordinary woman's extraordinary life but also the story of an entire century of change. "What I realized, listening to her tell the stories, is that we were witnessing American history through Ruth Ellis' eyes." *Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100* has taken Ellis' life story to film festivals around the world and was selected for the Whitney Museum of American Art's prestigious 2000 Biennial in New York.

Wednesday November 22 • 8:00 P.M.

Hallwalls and Squeaky Wheel is pleased to present *Live Nude Girls UNITE!*, followed by a spoken word performance by Stephanie Gray and music by Alison Pipitone.

### Live Nude Girls UNITE!

By Julia Query and Vicki Funari  
(2000, USA, 70 minutes, 16mm)

Squeaky Wheel, 175 Elmwood Ave contact: 884-7172  
\$6 members/ \$7 students/\$8 general

This first person documentary follows Julia Query, lesbian/stand-up comedian/peepshow-stripper, and daughter of a feminist activist, on her raucous journey to help organize the only union of strippers in the United States. Shot on a variety of formats, *Live Nude Girls UNITE!* weaves backstage and dancing footage with labor organizing, street protests, stand-up comedy and comic book style "animation" making it an intelligent and dramatic cutting-edge film.

Needing a job to support her comedy habit, Julia finds that the most lucrative work available to her

is as an exotic dancer at San Francisco's notorious Lusty Lady Theater. Never shy about her body, she decides to give it a go. She finds a world full of tough, iconoclastic, independent and joyful women whom she quickly comes to love. But Julia learns that these powerful women are outraged at being exploited by club owners. The women complain of newly instituted stage fees which make dancers pay to work; of being asked to "date" the owners' friends, and about work that is becoming less like performing and more like prostitution every year.

When dancers discover that they are being covertly videotaped for amateur porn, they decide that enough is enough. Julia and her colleagues head for the Service Employees International Union.

Music by Allison Pipitone will follow the film. Pipitone's blend of American roots/blues/rock and tremendous songwriting ability defies categorical definition. She has four CD releases, airplay on over 400 radio stations, and has played opening slots for major acts including Lilith Fair and Bare Naked Ladies. Her recent release *Shake It Around* is currently on rotation on several radio stations.

### WORKSHOP

Thursday November 9 • 6:30-8:30 P.M.

#### Uncommon Families: A Workshop for Gay & Bisexual Fathers

Conducted by Lee Faver, Ph.D.

Registration fee \$10 through Oct. 31—\$15 after Nov. 1 or at the door.

For further information or to register call 862-0057

A portion of proceeds will benefit Hallwalls.

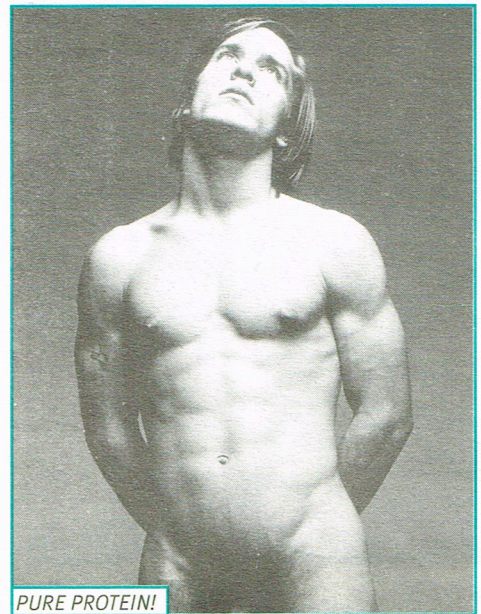
Balancing parental responsibilities and relationships with both children and romantic partners poses many challenges. This workshop will offer a safe space to talk about these aspects of life. It is designed to help gay and bisexual fathers reduce their commonly experienced isolation and feelings of frustration, and to develop or expand their affirming support system. The overall objective is an enhanced ability to move between relationships with children, wives or ex-wives, and other men. The program will be interactive and all gay/bisexual fathers are welcome.

Lee M. Faver, Ph.D. is a licensed psychologist who is in independent practice as a psychotherapist, trainer, and consultant with individuals, groups and couples. He has extensive experience working within the lesbian, gay, and bisexual community, and he is also known for his therapy with non-gay adults, including heterosexual family and spouses of gay people. Dr. Faver has been running an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men since 1993. He is an HIV-prevention-program development consultant and has been recognized by the American Psychological Association for his expertise. He is also recognized for his work in the area of human sexuality and health risk, and for training other professionals to be more concerned and effective with gay people.





De Profundis



PURE PROTEIN!



Benjamin Smoke



Alison Pipitone

## WAYS IN BEING GAY

Friday November 24 • 8:00 P.M.

### In the Life

This program features a collection of shorts made by and about gay men, lesbians, and intersex people. Among the highlights are: the aptly named *Chicks with Guns!*, *Closer*, an experimental documentary about a 17 year old lesbian from Newcastle, England, *Sheila & Rosi Get Paid*, a revenge fantasy, *Jake "Today I Became a Man"*, about a budding young cross-dresser, and *XXXV*, a stirring portrait of two intersex individuals born with ambiguous genitalia and their struggle against the medical establishment.

Friday, November 24 • 10:00 P.M.

### PURE PROTEIN!

8mm Gay male porn films presented by Stephen Kent Jusick

NYC small-gauge guru **Stephen Kent Jusick** descends on Buffalo with an assortment of (mostly) 8mm oddities of gay male porn films from the golden years of the genre. Back in the day, porn producers thought they were making sexually explicit art, and contributing to gay culture. So in addition to tracking down willing hunks, they would sometimes spend time on things like plot and set design or location, even camerawork! See **Joe Dallesandro** giving his all, **Gordon Grant**, **Kip Noll**, **Al Parker** and bodies like you would never see now (some kinda scrawny, some covered with hair), doing things censored from today's sanitized video porn! And check out those fashions! Special multiple projection presentation, with live sound by NYC 's DJ **Econ**.

Bring your own 8mm porn (commercial or home made!) and add to the fun!  
*Pure Protein* is a presentation of Hallwalls' *Cinematic Cesspool* Film Series

Saturday November 25 • 8:00 P.M. @ Squeaky Wheel, 175 Elmwood Ave.

Sunday November 26 • 4:00 P.M. @ Hallwalls

### Benjamin Smoke

A film by **Jem Cohen** and **Peter Sillen**  
(2000, USA, 80 minutes, 16mm)

A superb document of Benjamin Smoke, a drag queen and singer for the Atlanta cult band Smoke. This gritty film travels through a series of seedy locales, physical and psychic, from the impoverished "Cabbage Town" where he was raised to the mood-drenched queer punk music that made better-known talents like Patti Smith into huge fans. Benjamin's husky drawl and colorful patois — "It knocked my dick in the dirt!" — make him irresistible even as he drifts toward death.

"I met Benjamin in 1989 when I was in Athens, Georgia, doing some film work for R.E.M. I saw posters for an Atlanta group called the Opal Foxx Quartet that was coming to town, and a number of people, including R.E.M.'s singer, Michael Stipe, told me that this was a show I must not miss. I recall being surprised that so many of the rock and roll people I knew were

interested in classical music, or was it jazz? It turned out to be neither, and they were no quartet. We went to a tiny venue called the Downstairs, and in came a band that seemed bigger than the audience, playing such things as a violin, cello, organ, electric guitars, and a cap pistol, for percussion. The band was led by Benjamin, in the guise of "Miss Opal Foxx," a scrawny little powerhouse in a sun dress, carrying a battered purse and belting out an amazing set of songs: ballads of Southern wear and tear, punk rock rave-ups, strange blues, and everything in between. He was a bit of a deep South, dirt-poor Oscar Wilde." — **Jem Cohen**

For more information about Benjamin and the band Smoke, visit  
[www.benjaminremembered.com](http://www.benjaminremembered.com)

Monday November 27 • 7:00 P.M.

Tuesday November 28 • 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday November 29 • 7:00 P.M.

### Queer As Folk (Episodes 1-10)

A repeat of the British television sensation! (See November 3rd.)

Thursday November 30 • 8:00 P.M.

In commemoration of the centennial of Oscar Wilde's death, Hallwalls is pleased to present an encore screening of

### De Profundis

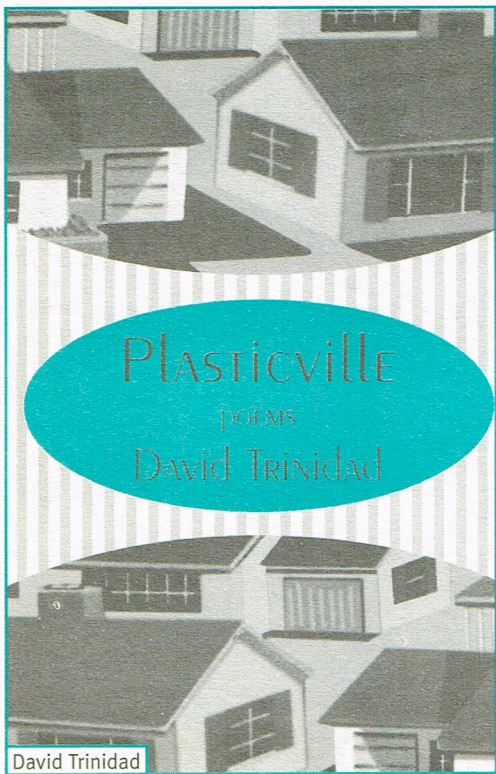
A film by **Lawrence Brose**  
(1997, USA, 65 minutes, 16mm)

*De Profundis* is a mesmerizing and seductive investigation of Oscar Wilde's transgressive aesthetics. Incorporating 1920s home movies and early gay male erotica along with images from Radical Faerie gatherings and queer pagan rituals, radical drag performances and images of confinement, the film gets up a haunting investigation of queerness, masculinity, history and sexuality.

Using experimental chemical processing techniques to alter the original images, the film addresses the fixed framing of masculinity while questioning concepts of redemption, contamination and transgression set against critical readings of Wilde and of contemporary gay culture. These images are buttressed against a soundtrack composed of Wilde aphorisms, a score by **Frederic Rzewski** (written for the film), and multi-tracked interviews with diverse contemporary gay men.

**Brose** is an experimental film artist who has created over 30 works and lectured on experimental cinema throughout the world since he began filmmaking in 1980. Many of his works, produced in collaboration with composers and performers, explore history, gender, and queer politics and aesthetics. Since its release in 1997, *De Profundis* has been greeted with critical acclaim and has been screened at over 60 festivals and venues internationally.

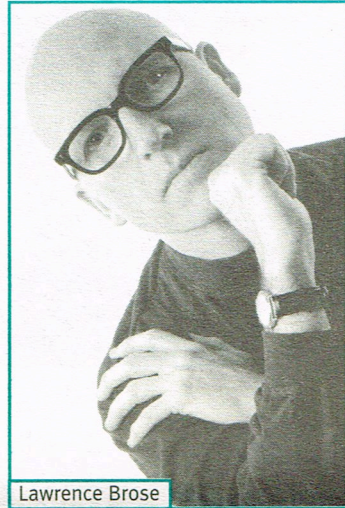




Evidence of Letters



Queer As Folk



Lawrence Brose

## WAYS IN BEING GAY

### PERFORMANCE

November 3–12 (six performances)  
Fridays & Saturdays • 8:00 P.M.  
Sundays • 4:00 P.M.

Alexis De Veaux & Renée Armstrong in

#### An Evidence of Letters

Co-sponsored by HAG Theatre, SHADES, UB Department of Women's Studies, & UB Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender.

\$15 general/\$12 students, seniors, & Hallwalls members  
For reservations call 879-0935

Originally presented as a staged reading to a sold-out house during *Ways In Being Gay* 1998, its development supported in part by a Theater Commission grant from the Individual Artists program of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and a SOS grant from the Arts Council in Buffalo & Erie County, *An Evidence of Letters* returns as a fully realized production created and performed by noted author and performer Alexis De Veaux and theater artist Renée Armstrong. It is based on the real life letter correspondence between two Black women who lived in Hartford, Connecticut in the nineteenth century, and follows their relationship as it is affected by the slavery question, the Abolitionist Movement, and the Civil War. Combining historical and contemporary perspectives, it moves back and forth between the 19th and 20th centuries as it explores the homoerotic aspect of Black women's friendships. The collaboration of De Veaux and Armstrong brings to this new work more than twenty years each of artistic experience, as well as a shared commitment to creative exploration that brings to the stage Black women's lives.

### POETRY

Sunday November 19 • 7:00 P.M.

Just Buffalo literary center presents:

#### David Trinidad: Plasticville

\$6 General/\$5 Students & Seniors/\$4 just buffalo and Hallwalls members  
Presented by just buffalo literary center in conjunction with Ways In Being Gay

"Masterfully renders the obsessive aspects of popular culture—collectibility, relentless camp, larger-than-life power dynamics—and the odd way they reflect the poignant complexities of making choices...Utterly deadpan and astonishingly fine" (Publishers Weekly).

Poet David Trinidad makes a rare Buffalo appearance to read from his newest book *Plasticville* and from his other wise, observant work. Conversational, funny, and smart, his poetry—filtered through '60s movies, top-40 radio, the cult of Barbie, and suburban and urban angst—"performs a sleight of hand so deft we may not even notice it. That is, he rejects nostalgia at the same moment he seems to be wallowing in it" (Lambda Book Report) to explore the thousand forgotten longings anchored in the objects of childhood and what they mean to us as adults. The twenty-one poems in *Plasticville* feature a witty range of voices perhaps climaxing with "Cento," a 116-line tour-de-force in which each line is borrowed from a different poet and all lines are arranged alphabetically by author, beginning with Matthew Arnold and ending with James Wright. Come hear a distinctive voice in contemporary poetry, one whose "acute formal control vies exquisitely with the writing's messier causes, so that even poems with deliciously cheesy subjects tease and glide expertly from line to line" (Bomb).

David Trinidad is the author of 10 books of poetry, including *Hand Over Heart* (nominated for the Lambda Literary Award), *Essay with Moveable Parts*, and *Answer Song*. His work has been anthologized in the Best American Poetry series and numerous other collections. He is currently a lecturer in the Creative Writing Program at Princeton University.





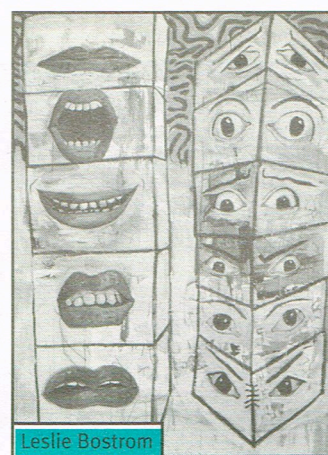
Leslie Bostrom



Ann Torke



Ann Torke



Leslie Bostrom

## VISUAL ARTS

### In the Main Gallery

November 18 – January 5

### Mixed Messages & Other Confusions

A solo exhibition by Leslie Bostrom

Opening Reception: Saturday November 18 • 9 – 11 P.M.

Rhode Island artist **Leslie Bostrom** considers herself an opportunist and a pragmatist as a painter and printmaker. She borrows liberally from art history, contemporary theory, mass media, and cartoons. **Bostrom** has taken the idea of a socially constructed body out of context in order to literally construct bodies.

Employing the cartoon-like “bighead” look and often conflating the body in the head, **Bostrom** mixes up features of anatomy, codes of gender, and other identity markers to literally “construct” absurd characters. She intends these pieces to be anti-nudes – a repudiation of ideal form. Into these head/ bodies **Bostrom** draws and paints personalities, gender politics, and sexualities.

**Leslie Bostrom** will present an exhibition of large-scale paintings, and a tableau of related drawings all having to do with the politics and foibles of “the gendered life.” Recent solo exhibitions include *New Work* at Brenda Taylor Gallery in NY, and *Paintings* at CSPA in Cedar Rapids, IA. Group exhibitions include *Tackling Meaning: The Curator's Playbook* at Red Chair Gallery in Kansas City, MO, *Big Impressions* at Main Gallery in University of Rhode Island, South Kingston, RI, and *Cleavage: an exhibition on the breast*, at Johnson Gallery, University of New Mexico Museums in Albuquerque, NM.

Support for the 2000-2001 exhibitions season has been provided by the **New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)**, a state agency, **County of Erie Cultural Funding**, Members of **Hallwalls**, **City of Buffalo Cultural Funding**, **Chase Manhattan Bank**, and generous donations from individuals and local businesses.

### In the Project Rooms

November 18 – January 5

### The Outlot

An installation by Ann Torke

Opening Reception: Saturday November 18 • 9 – 11 P.M.

**Ann Torke's** work in the Project Rooms is a hybrid form combining performance and sculpture to explore power, agency and the way women are “played” in our culture. All the pieces

are process-oriented; she has been engaged in a range of performances that focus on “accumulation” by framing the detritus from particular actions or events. In *Inside/Out*, she collects maps of her route as bike courier, while simultaneously collecting the debris from a daily ritual sweeping of her domestic space. Each activity becomes an act of orientation that attempts to chart how physical labor gets “played” within gendered and economic space. In the three part *Daytime TV*, **Torke** collected all the commercials programmed to women on network television during a typical day from 6 A.M. to 5 P.M. While differing in form and focus, both pieces present physical evidence of how gender is constructed in contemporary culture.

In the most recent series, *The Outlot*, **Torke** discovered a neglected cemetery for teenage girls and infants who died at a wayward girls' home in Illinois. The cemetery is the last remaining link to the reform school that operated from 1898-1977. The buildings have since been torn down to make way for a luxury residential development; in the developer's brochure, the cemetery is labeled as an “outlot.” This serves as a metaphor describing the expendability of these young women and their children. Rubbings from the 22 gravestones, as well as old bottles and enamelware used by work crews of these girls are a striking memorial to women who would not or could not fit into the societal norm.

**Torke's** work challenges the way women have been marginalized by the customs and conventions they inherit. The work in the exhibition becomes an act of rebellion. The accumulation of gestures informs modes of empowerment, effectively refusing to disappear, be quiet or go away.

**Ann Torke** is an interdisciplinary artist working in video, sculpture, installation and performance. She is currently Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. She has also taught at Oberlin College and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She received her MFA from the University of California, San Diego and also participated in the Whitney Independent Study Program.

Wednesday November 15 • 6:00 P.M.

### Visual Art Committee Meeting

If you are interested in becoming a member of the VAC, and have questions, contact **Kara Olidge** at Hallwalls, or just come to our next schedule meeting.

Wednesday November 15 • 7:30 P.M.

### Open Slide Forum

Hallwalls' Visual Art Committee member **Alfonso Volo** has invited local painter **A.J. Fries** and **Buffalo Arts Studio** director and painter **Joanna Angie** to present slides of their work. Artists interested in participating in future **Open Slide Forums** should contact **Kara Olidge** at 835-7362.



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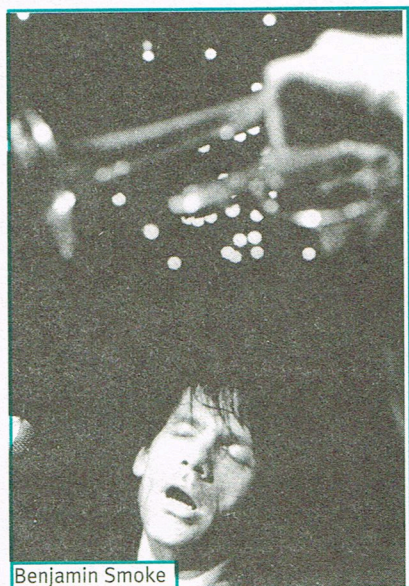
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Benjamin Smoke

Coming in December...

an Ida Lupino mini-fest!

*'I can make you a Champion!'*



THE FILMAKERS present  
**HARD, FAST!  
 and  
 BEAUTIFUL!**

AN IDA LUPINO PRODUCTION STARRING  
**CLAIRE TREVOR · SALLY FORREST**  
 Directed by IDA LUPINO Produced by COLLIER YOUNG Screenplay by MARTHA WILKERSON

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Membership to Hallwalls gives you the lowest ticket prices for all events, opportunities to meet artists, invitations to gallery openings, and advance notice of special events. Your membership represents an investment in Buffalo's cultural well being by realizing the work of many artists, and is a vote for artistic freedom.

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Make checks payable to: Hallwalls, 2495 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14214

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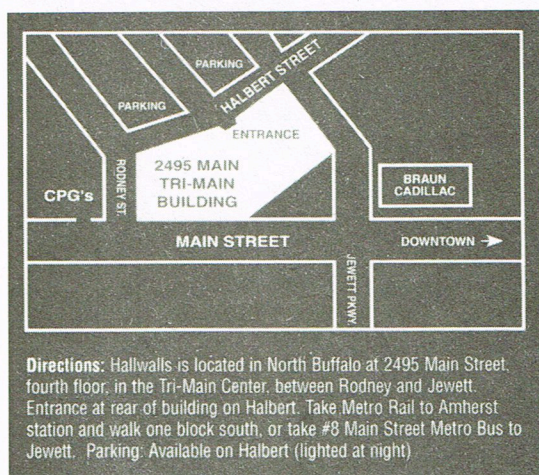


# HALLWALLS

contemporary arts center  
2495 Main St. Suite 425 Buffalo NY 14214

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**Directions:** Hallwalls is located in North Buffalo at 2495 Main Street, fourth floor, in the Tri-Main Center, between Rodney and Jewett. Entrance at rear of building on Halbert. Take Metro Rail to Amherst station and walk one block south, or take #8 Main Street Metro Bus to Jewett. Parking: Available on Halbert (lighted at night)



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ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS



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FOR GREATER BUFFALO

The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts

Major support for Hallwalls 2000-2001 season has been provided by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), a public agency, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Erie County Cultural Funding, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a federal agency, City of Buffalo Cultural Funding, the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA), the National Arts Administration Mentorship Program (NAAMP), Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, M&T Bank, Chase Manhattan Bank, the Arts Council in Buffalo & Erie County, the members of Hallwalls, and generous donations from individuals and local businesses.

**Hallwalls**  
2495 Main St., Suite 425  
Buffalo, New York 14214  
Phone: (716) 835-7362  
Fax: (716) 835-7364

**Gallery Hours:**  
Tuesday through Friday  
from 11 A.M. to 6 P.M., during  
events and by appointment.  
Admission to the gallery is free

[www.hallwalls.org](http://www.hallwalls.org)

