



LOS ANGELES CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS
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Manifesto! – A Collaborative Performance Project

in partnership with 826LA and MPAS Program: Art/Curatorial Practices in the Public Sphere, USC Roski School of Fine Arts.

Performance starts at LACE: Sunday 18 April 2010, 2-3 pm

**Featuring works by the students and volunteers of 826LA
Curated by Sarah Brin, Shelly Lee, and Jessica Yang**

(April 2010, Los Angeles) – **LACE** (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions), in partnership with the MPAS Program: Art/Curatorial Practices in the Public Sphere at the USC Roski School of Fine Arts, and 826LA, is pleased to announce **Manifesto! – A Collaborative Performance Project**, the culmination of a two-part writing workshop inspired by *Art Against Empire—Graphic Responses to U.S. Intervention Since World War II*.

Manifesto! – A Collaborative Performance Project is the seventh installment in a series of works, events, occurrences, and interventions at LACE, providing the opportunity for local youth to speak out about contemporary causes of personal and political importance.

On Saturday, April 18, a group of students ages 8-12 met at 826LA's Echo Park writing lab to reflect upon some of the last century's most influential manifestos, and their relationship to several of the politically charged works featured in *Art Against Empire--Graphic Responses to U.S. Intervention Since World War II*. Drawing upon artists' and activists' use of powerful visual and verbal symbolism, the workshop participants worked with a group of volunteers to craft uniquely personal manifestos concerning the challenges, expectations, and aspirations of contemporary youth.

As the follow-up to the initial workshop, the manifestos will be delivered on the sidewalk in front of LACE, on Sunday, April 18, at 2pm. Featuring performances by both workshop participants and adult volunteers, this project aims to amplify and uncover the concerns of a population that rarely is given the opportunity to speak on their own behalf. Surprising, provocative, and fun, these texts resonate as a sonorous riposte to the adage that youth are to be "seen and not heard." The public is cordially invited to join in on this celebration of art, expression, and the voices of young Los Angeles.

(over)



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ABOUT 826LA

826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students ages 6 to 18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. For more information or to find out how to get involved, visit 826LA.com.

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Sarah Brin, Shelly Lee, and Jessica Yang are currently first-year graduate students in the MPAS Program: Art/Curatorial Practices in the Public Sphere, USC Roski School of Fine Arts.

ABOUT THIS EXHIBITION

Art Against Empire--Graphic Responses to U.S. Intervention Since World War II uses the power of posters to document 60 years of opposition to U.S. interventions into the domestic affairs of sovereign nations. Political, economic and military interventions, many of them covert, have repeatedly resulted in unacceptable deaths and misery for millions. These posters show hopes and dreams, and the pain of dreams destroyed.

Art Against Empire showcases over 100 political posters in the LACE galleries documenting more than 30 interventions including Korea, Viet Nam, the Philippines, Guatemala, Haiti, Cuba, Iran, and South Africa. It attempts to inform, challenge and inspire by confronting the viewer with images of past struggles that remain powerfully relevant today. It both raises questions about past interventions and fosters debate about present ones. The exhibition also provides insight into why the amount of devastation caused by the recent earthquake in Haiti can be linked to its long history of French colonialism and U.S. imperialism. **Curated by the Center for the Study of Political Graphics.**

ABOUT CSPG

The **Center for the Study of Political Graphics** is an educational and research archive that collects, preserves and exhibits graphics of social change. With more than 70,000 political posters, CSPG has the largest collection of post World War II human rights and protest posters in the U.S. Through traveling exhibitions, workshops and publications, CSPG is reclaiming the power of art to educate. For more, visit www.politicalgraphics.org.

Center for the Study of Political Graphics

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ABOUT LACE

LACE both champions and challenges the art of our time by fostering artists who innovate, explore, and risk. We move within and beyond our four walls to provide opportunities for diverse publics to engage deeply with contemporary art. In doing so, we further dialogue and participation between and among artists and those audiences. Visit www.welcometolace.org.

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