



Ron Athey

Ron Athey: Artist's Biography

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UPCOMING: Nov. 25-27 Seminar at CENDEAC, Murcia, Spain
Visions of Excess at Spill Festival, 24 hr. edition, London;

PERFORMANCES

JAN09 Auto Da Fe, Self-Obliteration I: Ecstatic & II: Sustained Rapture at Politics of Ecstasy Festival, Hebbel Theater, Berlin

FEB09 Self-Obliteration I: Ecstatic, at Resonate/Obliterate IE, Sweeney Gallery, Riverside

APR09 Self-Obliteration I&II, at Visions of Excess, Spill Festival, London

OCT08 Ecstatic – solo performance, Teatr Dramatyczny, Warsaw, Poland

SEPT08 Ecstatic – Gallerie SAW, Ottawa; Centre Clarke, Montreal

SEPT08 The Judas Cradle, Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec

JULY08 Resonate/Obliterate, Remy's on Temple, Los Angeles

APR08 Ecstatic – solo performance, Donau Festival, Krems Austria

APR08 Ecstatic – solo performance, Portland OR, and Open Space, Victoria, Canada

OCT07 Ecstatic – solo performance, Souterrain Porte IV festival, Nancy, France

OCT07 Ecstatic- solo performance, La Demeure du Chaos, Lyon, France

JUN07 *Ecstatic* – solo performance – premiere, Arnolfini Gallery, Bristol, U.K.

JUN07 *Re/Visions of Excess* –co-curated w/Lee Adams, Fierce Festival, Birmingham, U.K.

MAY07 *Incorruptible Flesh: Perpetual Wound* – collaboration with Dominic Johnson, Fierce Festival, Birmingham U.K.

APR07 *Incorruptible Flesh: Perpetual Wound* – premiere - collaboration with Dominic Johnson, Chelsea Theatre (co-commission with Fierce Festival), London

NOV06 *Incorruptible Flesh* – collaboration with Dominic Johnson, Chelsea Theatre, London
JUNE06 *Solar Anus* – Hayward Gallery, London
MAY06 *Incorruptible Flesh [Dissociative Sparkle]* – durational performance, Artists Space, NYC
FEB06 *Incorruptible Flesh [Il Luminous]* – durational performance, National Review of Live Art, The Arches, Glasgow
FEB06 *The Judas Cradle* – excerpts of operatic duodrama with Juliana Snapper, Sex Matters: Sexualities Across the Disciplines Conference, UC Riverside

NOV05 *The Judas Cradle* – operatic duodrama with Juliana Snapper, PERFORMA 05 at Participant Inc., New York City
JULY05 *The Judas Cradle* – REDCAT/Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles
APR-MAY05 *The Judas Cradle* – (Granary Theatre) Cork, Ireland; (Chapter Arts Center) Cardiff, Wales; (Colchester Arts Center); (291 Gallery) London; (Contact Theatre) Manchester; (Fierce Festival/Warwick Arts Centre) Warwick; (CCA) Glasgow.

DEC04 *The Judas Cradle* excerpt – Aksioma Festival (Castle Codelli) Ljubljana, Slovenia
JULY04 *The Judas Cradle* excerpt – Cetrone Studio, Los Angeles

JULY2002 *Joyce* – 3 screen large format video with 4 actors, 50 mins., UK tour produced by Fierce Festival: Birmingham, Glasgow (CCA) and London (Stratford Theater)
JAN-FEB02 *Joyce* Production residency and world premiere. (Kampnagel) Hamburg, Germany

OCT01 *Pleading In The Blood*: Video/Lecture w/performance excerpt. Leipzig, Germany
MAY01 *Pleading In The Blood*, (Festival Musica 90) Turin, Italy
JAN01 *The Solar Anus* + excerpt from *JOYCE* (Kanonhallen), Copenhagen, Denmark

DEC00 *The Solar Anus* – performance, video + *Sebastian Suspended* (Body Probe) London
APR00 *3 Solos: Solar Anus, St. Sebastian, Suicide* (teatropolivalenteoccupato) Bologna, Italy
FEB00 *The Solar Anus* (NGBK) Berlin, Germany
FEB00 *The Solar Anus* (RISD) Providence, Rhode Island
JAN00 *3 Solos: Solar Anus, St. Sebastian, Suicide* (Highways) Santa Monica, CA

AUG99 *3 Solos: Solar Anus, St. Sebastian, Suicide* (Forum des Images) Paris, France
APR99 *The Solar Anus* (HT Gallery) Chicago
APR99 *The Solar Anus*, (Mobius) Boston
FEB99 *The Solar Anus* (Hothouse) Chicago
FEB99 *The Solar Anus* (FIST), London
FEB99 *The Solar Anus* (The Victoria Room) San Francisco
JAN99 *The Solar Anus* (Centre des Arts Saidye Bronfman) Montreal, Canada

DEC98 *The Solar Anus* (Action=Space), downtown L.A.
NOV98 *The Solar Anus* (Matthew Marks Gallery), New York City
NOV98 *The Solar Anus* (Luciano Inga-Pin) Milan, Italy
OCT98 *The Solar Anus* (Galerija Kapelica), Ljubljana, Slovenia
SEPT98: *Trojan Whore* – memorial piece for Leigh Bowery (La Videotheque) Paris
JAN98: *Trojan Whore* + excerpts *Deliverance* (Rexane) Rotterdam Intl Film Fest

NOV97: *Pleading In The Blood*, Performance, video, (Chapter Arts Centre) Cardiff, Wales
OCT97 *Pleading In The Blood*. Lecture, video, performance, (Fotofeis) Glasgow
JULY97: *Deliverance* (Inteatro XX; festival of new theatre) Poverigi, Italy
JUNE97: *Deliverance* and *Incorruptible Flesh* (Cankarjev Dom); Ljubljana, Slovenia
JUNE97 *Deliverance* and *Incorruptible Flesh* (Eurokaz Festival); Zagreb, Croatia
MAY97: *4 Scenes In A Harsh Life* (L'Aeronef) Lille; (Pez Ner) Lyon; (Bite Generation) Nantes, France

NOV96: *Deliverance* (Sigma Festival), Bordeaux, France
OCT96 *Deliverance* (Schmidt Theater), Hamburg, Germany
OCT96 *Deliverance* (Kaaitheater) Brussels, Belgium

JULY96: *Deliverance* (Triple X Festival at Westergasfabriek) Amsterdam
FEB96: *Incorruptible Flesh* and research residency (CCA) Glasgow

DEC95: *Deliverance*, world premiere (Rapture season, ICA commission) London
NOV95 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life*, *Martyrs&Saints*, and *Deliverance* excerpts, (Kanonhallen) Copenhagen
OCT95 *Martyrs&Saints*, *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Ex-Teresa) Mexico City
JULY95 *The Trojan Whore*, tribute to Leigh Bowery. (Matthew Marks Gallery); NYC
MAY95 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Festival Atlantico) Lisbon, Portugal
MARCH95 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (The Green Room) Manchester
APRIL95 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Center on Contemporary Arts) Glasgow

DEC94: *Deliverance* Work-in-progress (Highways) Santa Monica
OCT94: *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Performance Space 122) New York City
JULY94 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Institute of Contemporary Arts) London, England
MARCH94 *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Walker Art Center) Minneapolis MN

OCT93: *Four Scenes In A Harsh Life* (Los Angeles Theater Center) LA; and (Highways Performance Space), Santa Monica, CA
JUNE93 *Martyrs & Saints* (Performance Space 122) New York City
MAY93 *Martyrs & Saints* (Randolph Street Gallery) Chicago

NOV92: *Martyrs & Saints* premiere (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions) Los Angeles
APR92 *Surgical Stigmata* (Highways Performance Space) Santa Monica CA

MAR 82 *Premature Ejaculation* (Arts Building), Los Angeles
OCT 81 *Premature Ejaculation* (Arts Building), Los Angeles

VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS/VIDEO INSTALLATIONS

- 2008: selected videos, solo show, Centre Clarke, Montreal
- 2008 Ecstatic, video screening, Endurance Festival, VIVID, Birminham, UK
- 2007: Ecstatic, video screening, MIX fest, New York
- 2006: Video Stills and Set Pieces from an Opera, solo show, Western-Project, L.A.
- 2006: In This House That I Call Home, group show, Western-Project, L.A.
- 2004: St. Sebastian: A Splendid Readiness for Death, group show, Kunsthalle, Wien
- 2004: Large Format Polaroid (Crown) and installation "Crown and Pedestal", group show, Western-Project, L.A.
- 2001: Ronnie Lee, video installation, Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp
- 2000: Large Format Polaroids, w/Catherine Opie, Thread Waxing Space, NYC
- 1999: The Bathroom Show, painting, group show at New Image Art, Los Angeles
- 1999: Rosso Vivo, photographs, group show, Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea, Milano
- 1998: Hollywood Satan, crown and Pedestal installation, group show at Mark Moore Gallery, Santa Monica
- 1998: Fuck You, We Paint, group show at New Image Art, Los Angeles
- 1996: Incorruptible Flesh, solo exhibition of relics, artifacts, costumes, and fountain with fictitious identities. ACME gallery, Santa Monica
- 1997: Human Printing Press, video installation, Philadelphia Museum of Art
- 1996: Homosexual Overkill, photos and video installation, group show, Rita Dean Gallery, San Diego

- 1995: The Human Printing Press, video installation of documentation with and scarification imprints. Persistent Dispositions/Technotronic Identities, group show. Cal Arts
- 1994: The Human Printing Press scarification imprints. Flesh and Ciphers, group show. HERE Foundation; NYC
- 1994: The Human Printing Press, video installation of documentation with and scarification imprints. Sanctuary (moth to the flame), group show. TZ'Art & Co.; NYC
- 1994: Four Scenes: Storyboards, collage and photographic documentation. An Inquisition, group show; Radix Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
- 1993: Four Scenes: Storyboards, collage and photo documentation. Co-Conspirators, group show. James Corcoran Gallery Santa Monica

VISITING ARTIST LECTURES, PANELS and WORKSHOPS

Universite de Quebec a Montreal, Lyon University, Dartington University, Devon; Queen Mary University, London; University of Manchester; Courtauld Institute, London; National Review of Live Art, Glasgow; Australian Museum, Sydney; The School of Chicago Art Institute; Tate Modern, London; Art Center, Pasadena; San Francisco Art Institute; Otis Parsons, L.A.; National Performance Network, New Orleans; Foundation Art Resources (FAR), Center for Drama Studies, Zagreb. Athey has taught performance classes at Cal Arts, UCLA, Winter School at New Moves in Glasgow; CENDEAC, Murcia Spain; and Ex-Teresa, Mexico City.

In August 2008, Ron Athey and Julie Tolentino launched Praxis Mojave, an annual 10 day bootcamp for performance artists. Incorporating immersion, physical training, research theory, practical solo work and critique sessions, they used California desert locations from Joshua Tree to Death Valley.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

- 2007 Ecstatic, performance for camera, Cyril Kuhn
- 2006 The Judas Cradle, interactive DVD, filmmaker Lisa Cazzato-Vierya
- 2001 Ron's Story, documentary; filmmaker Davide Grassi
- 2001 Solar Anus, documentary; filmmaker Cyril Kuhn
- 2000 No One Sleeps, actor; filmmaker Jochen Hick
- 2000 Shadow Hours, art direction and actor; producer Balthazar Getty
- 1999 Hot Men/Kool Boyz, actor/narrator; Zentropa Films
- 1998 Hallelujah! Ron Athey: A Story of Deliverance, documentary; Catherine Gund
- 1997 Ron Athey: It's Scripted: 20 minute documentary; filmmaker Ian Kerkhof
- 1997 Sex Lives In L.A.: documentary; filmmaker Jochen Hick
- 1997 Martyrs & Saints, 29 min. documentary; filmmaker Simeon Hutner
- 1996 Hustler White: actor; directed by Bruce la Bruce and Rick Castro
- 1995 I Go Wild: art direction and actor; Rolling Stones/music video
- 1994 A Little Sadness: director and actor; Porno for Pyros/music video
- 1993 The Blind Owl: actor; directed by Reza Abdoh
- 1993 Single White Female: actor; directed by Barbet Schroeder

PROGRAMMING/CURATION

Athey and Vaginal Davis have co-curated Platinum Oasis, an installation/actionist event as part of OUTFEST Los Angeles. The durational site-specific work took place in July of 2001 and 2002. In

2003 and 2007, The Fierce Festival presented "Visions of Excess" in Birmingham, U.K. The events featured an international lineup of artists, filmmakers, actors, and musicians including Kembra Pfahler (US), Bruce La Bruce (Canada), Udo Kier (Germany), Franko B. (UK), Kira O'Reilly (UK), Osseus Labyrinth (US), Davide Grassi (Slovenia), Ann Magnuson (US), Velvet Hammer Burlesque (US), Lydia Lunch (US), Slava Mogutin (Russia). In 2004, Visions of Excess with same lineup plus Slovenian artists was presented in Ljubljana as a coproduction with Aksioma. The event continued as Re/Visions of Excess, co-curated with Lee Adams June 07 in Birmingham, will be produced in London as part of the Spill Festival, Easter weekend 2009.

GRANTS/AWARDS/COMMISSIONS

- 2006 Chelsea Theatre/Fierce Festival – commission, *Incorruptible Flesh*
- 2005 Arts Councils of Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales – commission *The Judas Cradle*
- 2002 Production residency grant for *Joyce* – Kampnagel - Hamburg
- 2000 Alliance for the Arts/Estate Project for Artists w/AIDS – collaboration with Catherine Opie to create Large Format Polaroids
- 1998 & 99: Agnes B. - sponsorship grant for Forum des Images performances in Paris
- 1996 Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department grant for *Deliverance* development
- 1996 Center on Contemporary Arts - Glasgow - research residency
- 1995 Live Arts Dept. ICA - London, commission for *Deliverance*
- 1994 PEN Center West Award for HIV/AIDS writers
- 1994 Peter Norton Family Foundation for *Four Scenes* performance at PS122 in NYC
- 1994 Art Matters Inc., performance grant

WRITING AND JOURNALISM

Ron Athey has written for various publications including the LA Weekly, Paper (NYC), Village Voice, Virus Mutations (Milan), Honcho, Details and The Advocate.

Athey is currently writing *Gifts of the Spirit*, a collection of short stories and recollections based on his training to be a Pentecostal minister, and the accompanying perversions. Athey has been anthologized in *Strategic Sex*, editor D. Travers Scott, Haworth Press; *Unnatural Disasters: Recent Writings from the Golden State*, editor Nicole Panter, published by Incommunicado Press; *Out of Character*, editor Mark Russell; *Acting on AIDS*, editors Oppenheimer and Reckitt, Serpent's Tail; LIVE Culture, "Reading Sister Aimee," Tate Modern publications.

Recent writings included in artist monographs include Franko B.'s *Still Life*, Manuel Vason's *Encounters*, and Matthias Herrmann's *Hotel series IV*.