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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOVE ♥ ART ♥ LAB



LoveArtLab.org

Annie Sprinkle and Elizabeth Stephens's seven-year long art project "Seven Years of Love in Art" is the inspiration for this project. You can see the development of this exciting artwork on their website:

www.artlovelab.org



ANNIE SPRINKLE
ELIZABETH STEPHENS
GUTTERS SAINT

Renowned artists **Annie Sprinkle** and **Elizabeth Stephens** collaborate with artist **Guttersaint** to release one of the most visionary CD releases of the year, "**Love Art Lab**" (Provocateur Media PROV08001). For those listeners looking for a different kind of audio experience, the work provides the familiar mixed with uncharted territories, exploring the map of the heart. It is outsider art at its best.

The album deals conceptually with the subject of love, as part of Annie Sprinkle and Elizabeth Stephens's seven-year long art project, **Seven Years of Love in Art** (www.loveartlab.org). Each year focuses on a different theme, with 2008 being COMPASSION and GREEN.

Recorded in San Francisco, USA and in Norway, the album explores love in abstractions, in tableau musical pieces, poetry, soundscapes, and symbolic audio sculptures. "Breathing" opens the album with a rhythmic first breath, followed by "Hello" (featuring **Joseph Kramer**), which explores the connection between contact and distance, reaching out and intimacy, through the nerves of the body and in electronic nerve wires of telephone lines (with interference). In "My Baby's Breasts", Elizabeth Stephens recites a panegyric ode to Annie's breasts, accompanied by a Tibetan Buddhist fanfare. "Burning Lights" reveals the similarities of lust and sinking to the bottom of the ocean, where mermaids and **The Lorelei Women's Choir** reside. "Prelude / Lifting Belly" has Annie and Beth reading from **Gertrude Stein's** poem, and "Remember" pars the couple in fond nostalgia, reciting the many capital cities art has taken them to. "Labor of Love" (featuring **Anne Harless**) combines the cooking of food, gathering of the family, and familial love also represented with the distancing of the telephone. "Kisses" is a celebratory portrayal of the basic act of love making, in a jazz trio setting. "Before

the Storm” represents a cleansing, a relaxation after tension, and is a musical orgasm. “*One of the Things I Love*” converses over a danceable rhythm and shows how funky love can really be. “*The Bricks Are Bleeding*” is a set piece about longing for a departed lover. “*Love Machine*” is a tongue-in-cheek parody of TV detective themes, inspired by Annie and Beth’s attempt to wed at San Francisco’s City Hall (the two were stopped by homophobic legislators), showing how human love can be a scary thing to some people! “*Babelicious Beth*” is a summer-inspired state of love-ecstasy performed by Annie, and even the birds and the bees do their thing on this track. “*A Love Prayer*” features celebrated performance artist **Linda M. Montano** as her Italian elderly father ruminating love in the city. We end, finally, with the “*Wedding March*”, written in a style which can only be termed as “*baroque-burlesque*”.

Musicians featured on the album include **Arne Rasmussen** (Vidar Busk) on harmonicas, and the incendiary guitarists **Paul Cordero**, as well as **David “B.” Jones** on all saxes. Additionally musicians were recorded in various incarceration facilities. Due to contractual privacy the names of the inmates have been collectively termed **The Black Museum Orchestra**. The producer Guttersaint came upon the idea after leaving the mainstream music industry and wanting to find musicians “*with an edge.*” He states, “*I’d grown so tired of the established musicians and the industry, that I wanted to find musicians that didn’t care about fame or their ego, and who were coming from a completely different scene. Working in the jail environment really gave me the chance to explore other sonic possibilities and the people who joined the recording were exceptional musicians as well as a breath of fresh air after working so long in the mainstream music industry.*” The orchestra’s musicians are comprised of inmates from three separate jails in Norway and the USA. “*It gives the term ‘Outsider Art’ a whole new meaning.*”

Sprinkle and Stephens recently performed their “*Free Sidewalk Sex Clinic*” as part of the Stavanger 2008 European Cultural Capital art festival, asking Guttersaint to join them there. The performance caused uproar and notoriety in the press and incurred the wrath of self-imposed moral guardians. Love can be a very dangerous thing, it seems. Solely focusing on love and communication, the piece quickly became a statement about preconceptions, communication, and media manipulation.

ART LOVE LAB provides a rare example of post modernism in performance art captured in sound. It was made for lovers. For artists. And for you. We hope you enjoy it.

For more information on the artists:

www.anniesprinkle.org
www.elizabethstephens.org
www.guttersaint.org



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LOVE ART LAB BIOGRAPHIES



ANNIE SPRINKLE

ANNIE SPRINKLE, Ph.D. is the ex-prostitute/porn star turned performance artist/sexologist. She has passionately researched and explored sexuality in all of its glorious and inglorious forms for thirty years, and has shared her findings all along the way through producing and starring in her own unique brand of sex films, photographic work, teaching workshops, and college lectures. She is also an internationally acclaimed performance artist who tours one woman shows about her life in sex. She has exhibited and performed in the most prestigious galleries and art museums throughout the world. Annie has championed sex worker rights and health care. She was one of the pivotal players in the 1980's "sex positive feminist movement". Her autobiography, [Post Porn Modernist](#) (Cleis Press) is a cult classic and her last book, [Hardcore from the Heart: The Pleasures, Profits and Politics of Sex in Performance](#), won the Firecracker Alternative Book Award (2002). In 2002 she received her Ph.D. in Human Sexuality. Her current art project is The Love Art Laboratory. She a committed "metamorphosexual" based out of San Francisco, the clitoris of the USA. Please see www.anniesprinkle.org for more information.



ELIZABETH STEPHENS

ELIZABETH STEPHENS is an intermedia artist who works across the fields of performance, photography, video, web based media and electronic sculptural installation. Her work has been shown in museums and galleries across the United States and Europe. It has also been featured in several publications including *The Passionate Camera* and *Lesbian Art in America*. Stephens' work addresses technology, sex, desire, place and the notions of community. Currently she is an Associate Professor of Art and Digital Media at the University of California, Santa Cruz where she started the Intermedia program of study within the Art Department. Her exhaustive and comprehensive outline of works can be viewed at www.elizabethstephens.org



GUTTERSAIN T

GUTTERSAIN T is an American-Indian/Norwegian artist working in the fields of music, writing and art photography. His beginnings stem from the underground art-music scene in New York in the late 1970's. He received his education in Musicology, Composition and Poetic Drama at New York University, and studied Jazz Guitar at Loyola School of Music in New Orleans. He is currently studying art photography at the Oslo School of Art Photography. He has performed as a musician and composer for such bands as Burnt Sienna, Cosa Nostra, and the Flames of Paradise; as an actor, writer and performer in his own avant-garde performances such as the *AlterPorn Cabaret* and in Off-Broadway plays by Edward Weiss. He has produced numerous albums for Lydia Lunch, Einmal Kommt die Liebe, the Ophelia Orchestra, and as executive producer for Karin Krog, Silje Nergaard and Arve Tellefsen, as well as produced demos for Anne Grete Preus and the band Hugo. As tour manager and event producer he has worked with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Shirley Bassey, and many, many others in classical and jazz music. He has written for magazines and books, and his photographs have been published in various newspapers, magazines and books, most recently in "The Gun Is Loaded" and "No Wave", both published by Black Dog Publishing in the UK. www.guttersaint.org