FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Unnamed Broadway Musical: The Musical!

April 14 – May 19, 2012
Auditions begin Saturday, April 14

EFA Project Space
323 West 39th Street, 2nd floor
New York, NY 10018
between 8th and 9th Avenues

T. 212-563-5855 x 244
projectspace@efanyc.org
www.efanyc.org

Organized by: Kara Hearn
Directed by: Sarah Cameron Sunde

This spring interdisciplinary video artist, Kara Hearn is mounting a defiantly optimistic, barebones, experimentally cast production that uses an orphan-themed Broadway musical, we have been advised not to name (hereafter referred to as “[unnamed Broadway musical]”), as its point of departure. Denied the right to perform any of the original material in the gallery, the cast, under the guidance of Hearn’s creative team (Director Sarah Cameron Sunde, Assistant Director Trent Anderson, Composer/Music Director Christopher Berg, and Choreographer Pia Monique Murray) will have the absurd task, that is, the creative challenge of generating a production that somehow fulfills the performers’ sincere desire to be in [unnamed Broadway musical] without them actually being in [unnamed Broadway musical].

This impractical project will take place in consultation with a lawyer over 5 weeks at the EFA Project Space in Manhattan. The project will exist as an ongoing live performance (rehearsals will be open to the public) and in its final form as a 30 to 45 minute video documenting the process of putting on the production, from auditions to opening night. The project will also serve as an inquiry into the murkiness of copyright law and fair use for artists interested in working with the pervasive popular content that so intimately shapes our notions of identity and self.

All of the performers will be adults and the casting of each part will be based more on the willingness and desire of the performers than on singing, dancing ability, or appearance. We hope to tap into a population who perhaps fantasized as children about being the orphan star of [unnamed Broadway musical] or being in [unnamed Broadway musical], but for whom it wasn’t a possibility perhaps because of gender, race, talent, or other circumstantial barriers. Through interviews with the cast each person’s relationship to the idea of abandonment / being overlooked will be explored in the hopes of uncovering the allegorical appeal of the orphan tale.
While new obstacles again threaten these childhood aspirations, we persevere with plucky optimism in the hope that [unnamed Broadway musical] will be transformed into something completely different, original, and more relevant; that the participants will still fulfill an unrequited dream and the resulting performance and video will be absurd, sad, funny, and radically simple without making fun of anyone involved, except [unnamed Broadway musical], but only if we are legally required to do so. Auditions will be held at EFA Project Space on Saturday, April 14. Please email karahearn@gmail.com for more information.

Unnamed Broadway Musical: The Musical! is the second project to join EFA Project Space's Artist-Organizer Series. This series provides the use of EFA Project Space in between exhibitions to highlight the activities of Artist/Organizers -- pivotal artists who, through the act of organizing, are compelled to readdress and refresh the framework through which we use artistic expression to build community.

Schedule of Events:

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<th>Auditions:</th>
<th>Rehearsals Week 4:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 14, 12-6pm</td>
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<td>Rehearsals Week 1:</td>
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<td>Monday, April 16, 6-10pm</td>
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<td>Thursday, April 19, 6-9pm</td>
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<td>Friday, April 20, 6-10pm</td>
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<td>Saturday, April 21, 12-6pm</td>
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Rehearsals Week 2:
Monday, April 23, 6-10pm
Thursday, April 26, 6-10pm

Rehearsals Week 3:
Monday, April 30, 6-10pm
Saturday, May 5, 12-6pm

Final Performance:
Saturday, May 19 at 7pm

Screening of Unnamed Broadway Musical: The Musical!
Late July (TBA)

*All rehearsals are open to the public at EFA Project Space, 323 W. 39th St., 2nd floor (btw 8th and 9th Ave.)

Artist / Project Organizer Bio:

Kara Hearn is an interdisciplinary video artist. She makes quiet and absurd work about the way tragedies reside in the head; the way heroisms play out in the mind's eye, the inside place where stories get conjured, dreamed, remembered. Dithering between melodrama and deadpan, her videos degrade mainstream cinema by being too sincere, too simple, telling too many stories with very little stuff. Hearn's work has been screened and exhibited nationally and internationally.

For press inquiries, please contact Michelle Levy at: michelle@efanyc.org

EFA Project Space, a program of the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, was launched in September 2008 with a focus on the investigation of the creative process, aiming to provide dynamic exchanges between artists, cultural workers, and the public. The Project Space presents exhibitions and programs in collaboration with a diverse range of organizations, curators and artists to provide a comprehensive and critical perspective
on creative practices. A major aspect of the program's development is ongoing outreach to the myriad individuals and institutions effectively shaping culture today.

The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts (EFA) is a 501 (c) (3) public charity. Through its three core programs, EFA Studios, EFA Project Space and the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, EFA is dedicated to providing artists across all disciplines with space, tools and a cooperative forum for the development of individual practice. www.efanyc.org

EFA Project Space is supported in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. Private funding for the program has been received from the Lily Auchincloss Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies.