

Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa
Fondazione Bonotto
The Emily Harvey Foundation

present

Dr. Ben's Medicine Show in Venice

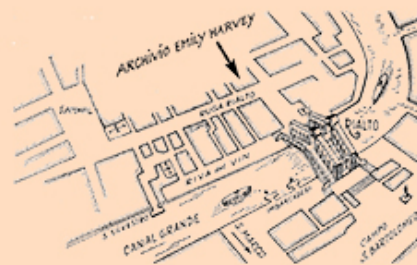


DR. BEN'S FLUXUS FOUNTAINHEAD ELIXIRS
A PERFORMANCE BY BEN PATTERSON

SABATO, 17 MAGGIO, 2014, ORE 19
SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014, 7:00 PM

ARCHIVIO EMILY HARVEY
SAN POLO 387
I-30125 VENEZIA

IN FONDO AI PORTICI DI RIALTO
AT THE END OF THE RIALTO BRIDGE ARCADE



IN COLLABORATION WITH FONDAZIONE BONOTTO

Dr. Ben's Medicine Show is a European tour organized in celebration of Ben Patterson's eightieth birthday.

After its initial presentation in Genoa in February 2014, under the aegis of Unimedia Modern, and subsequent venues in Zagreb, Hannover, Berlin, Schwerin, Cologne, Blois, Amsterdam, Krakow, Bruno and Heidelberg, **Dr. Ben's Medicine Show** now reaches Venice, in the form of two major events:

Dr. Ben's Keynote Lecture at Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa

Dr. Ben's Fluxus Fountainhead Elixirs at Archivio Emily Harvey

For his "Medicine Show", Dr. Ben (aka. Ben Patterson) has created a modern parody of an old-fashioned Medicine Show. What is a "Medicine Show"? Do you remember, in the "good old days" fake doctors travelling around the countryside with a horse and wagon, stopping in villages here and there, to present some entertainment (often singing with a banjo) to gather a crowd to which the good doctor then tried to sell a "cure-all, miracle medicine." The recipes for these bottles of "Snake-oil Elixir" usually included a high percentage of alcohol and opium, guaranteeing much "feel good."

With his "Medicine Show," Dr. Ben offers a miracle cure for people having problems understanding and appreciating contemporary art. After a Powerpoint presentation, explaining the new science of "neuroaesthetics" and how various regions of the brain interact to make artistic judgments, Dr. Ben will offer members of the audience the opportunity to have a diagnostic "brain scan," to detect blockages and faulty connections. Based on the results of this scan, Dr. Ben will prescribe appropriate treatment.

The special "medicines" required for such treatments have been prepared by Dr. Ben using spring waters from the fountain in the Wandelhalle of Museum Wiesbaden, which have been irradiated by Dr. Ben with specific sonic frequencies to cure specific blockages and faulty connections. As Museum Wiesbaden is recognized as the birthplace of Fluxus, these medicines are appropriately named "Dr. Ben's Fluxus Fountainhead Elixirs" and can be purchased as a six-pack directly from Dr. Ben himself.

Dr. Ben's Keynote Lecture

Venice, May 15, 2014 – 6:00 pm

Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa

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Dr. Ben's Fluxus Fountainhead Elixirs

A performance by Ben Patterson

Venice, May 17, 2014 – 7.00 pm

Archivio Emily Harvey

San Polo 387

1-30125 Venezia

(at the end of the Rialto Bridge Arcade)

This project is the fruit of a collaboration between Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Fondazione Bonotto and the Emily Harvey Foundation, a synergy that hopes to discover new possibilities of relationship between the historical archives of Fluxus and Experimental poetry in the holdings of Fondazione Bonotto and the Emily Harvey Foundation, and the study and atelier program provided to younger artists by Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa. The project will include a number of events, and will culminate in a major exhibition in the spring of 2015.