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PARTICIPANT INC New address:

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Tom Cole Lovett/Codagnone

ERASE

A play featuring Jim Fletcher, Stephanie Fischette, Susan Bowen Costumes Pleasure Principle

Premiere performance for PERFORMA 07 Monday, November 19, 2007, 9pm

Performances Wednesday, November 28, 8pm Thursday and Friday, November 29 and 30, 10pm Saturday and Sunday, December 1 and 2, 10pm Admission \$10

Produced especially for **PERFORMA 07**, PARTICIPANT INC will present *ERASE*, a performance-based site-specific installation, created collaboratively by **Tom Cole** and **Lovett/Codagnone**. Taking formal cues from Germany's anti-theater of the '60s and '70s, *ERASE* will combine Cole's hyper-verbal texts with Lovett/Codagnone's austere installations and endurance performances. The gallery exhibition will become the play, and the play will be the gallery exhibition.

Based loosely on a true story of a victim whose willing involvement in a violent murder and cannibalization garnered international headlines, *ERASE* will cross the line into territory where individuals transgress social norms so completely they vanish altogether. By exploiting the physical space of the gallery and multiple yet concurrent narratives, *ERASE* will draw comparisons to other sorts of transgression: terrorism, art-making, and extreme politics.

B: What are you thinking about now, sex?

Hans: No. The revolution.

Tom Cole has been the director of new project development for True Love Productions, NY since September 2002. He was the Director of the Market Theater, Cambridge, MA, during its acclaimed inaugural seasons (2000-2002) where he produced new work by Ping Chong, David Mamet, Kate Robin, Antony and the Johnsons, and Ricky Jay. The Theater Offensive at the Boston Center for the Arts produced his play, Oklahoma City, in 2001. His performances and installations have been shown at the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Revolving Museum, Mass College of Art, and Oni Gallery in Boston; Thread Waxing Space in NY; and the Project Room in Philadelphia. He is a recent MacDowell playwriting fellow and a recipient of a LEF foundation grant.

Lovett/Codagnone have been working together, in New York, since 1995. They have exhibited in public and private spaces including: The ICA, Boston; Museo Nazionale del Cinema, Turin; The Ludwig Museum, Cologne; Galleria Emi Fontana, Milan 2006; Artists Space, New York; De Appel Centre For Contemporary Art, Amsterdam; Performa 05, Biennial of Performance, 2005; Platform Garanti Contemporary Art

Center, Istanbul 2004; Participant inc, New York; TRANS>Area, New York; Neue Gesellschaft fur Bildende Kunst, Berlin 2003; Palais de Tokyo, Paris, 2002; Centre of Contemporary Art, Riga, Latvia; Centre D'art Contemporain de Basse-Normandie, France, 2001; Galerie Praz Delavallade, Paris, 2001; Brent Sikkema, New York, 2001; Galleria Emi Fontana, Milan, 2001/1997; Thread Waxing Space, New York, 2000; Centro D'arte Contemporanea Ticino, 1999/2001; Musee des Beaux Arts, Nantes, 1998; Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas, 1998. Charta published a monograph on Lovett/Codagnone in 2006. Their solo exhibition, *Interruption of a Course of Action,* is currently on view at PS1 Contemporary Art Center.

Susan Bowen recently directed *Submersion* by Randall David Cook at The Neighborhood Playhouse, and *The Euthanasist* by Liza Lentini at Manhattan Rep. After translating *Fuente Ovejuna*, she collaborated with students at Bronx High School for Writing and Communication Arts to create *Ovejuna U*, a modern adaptation of Félix Lope de Vega's classic play. In June she made a brief appearance in Young Jean Lee's *Church* at Brooklyn Arts Exchange.

Stephanie Fischette is an actor, writer, and director who has performed in various indie flicks, commercials, and music videos over the years, and was the pill-popping Lady Greyfield in John Brattin's film *The Triumph of Night*, which was shot and exhibited at Participant Inc, NY. Her short film *Honored*, which she wrote and directed, won the Special Jury Award for fiction in the Action/Cut Competition, and was recently screened at Woodstock Film Festival.

Jim Fletcher first performed in Rafael Sanchez's *The Libation Bearers* at Thread Waxing Space, NY in 1999 and continues to collaborate with him. He has been in several shows with Richard Maxwell and the New York City Players including, currently, *Ode to the Man Who Kneels* at the Performing Garage. Fletcher has appeared in John Brattin's *The Triumph of Night* at Participant Inc; and Lovett/Codagnone's *Because My Body Can Never Be Touched* (currently on view in their exhibition, *Interruption of a Course of Action*, at PS1 Contemporary Art Center).

This program is presented for PERFORMA 07—The Second Visual Art Performance Biennial, New York City, October 27 - November 20, 2007. PERFORMA 07 is organized by PERFORMA, a nonprofit arts organization committed to the research, development, and presentation of performance by visual artists. www.performa-arts.org.

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PARTICIPANT INC is located at 253 East Houston Street, between Norfolk and Suffolk Streets on the Lower East Side. Subway: F/V to Second Avenue, Allen Street Exit.

www.participantinc.org