



*Beautiful Radiating Energy*  
K8 Hardy and Raúl de Nieves  
Organized by Rhea Anastas  
Costume by Hardy and de Nieves

Sunday, May 21, 2017  
Doors open at 7pm

*Beautiful Radiating Energy*, a performance by K8 Hardy, is given a new life with Raúl de Nieves as the performer. Hardy first performed this live piece with video and sound in 2004 at Reena Spaulings Fine Art, 371 Grand Street, New York. The stage was built by Klara Lidén.

“K8 Hardy’s first live performance for an art venue, *Beautiful Radiating Energy* debuted at Reena Spaulings Fine Art, New York in 2004. Hardy trained in experimental voice to use her body and speech to generate a character – part-cheerleader, part-militant – who screams “Ready!” again and again. Hardy is all presence, but her figure cuts against a projected image. On a video signal stream female body builders, footage of gay rights marches, New York street scenes, and more. Hardy was one of a community of artists on New York’s Lower East Side testing how people are always being looked at, how women are always being looked at. I see *Beautiful Radiating Energy* as an un-coerced image of beauty, body work, erotic and political expression. As Gregg Bordowitz wrote in *Grey Room* in 2006, ‘She was announcing her readiness for something without attaching it to a particular object or action. Very queer.’ (Summer 2006; 119) What was held open in the performance then, by Hardy performing, is now passed on to Raúl de Nieves.”

– Rhea Anastas

**K8 Hardy** (b. 1977 Fort Worth, Texas) studied at Smith College, the Milton Avery Graduate School for the Arts at Bard College, and the Whitney Independent Study Program. Hardy is a founding member of the journal *LTTR* and has exhibited widely since 2004. Recent exhibitions include *K8 Hardy, Docudrama*, House of Gaga // Reena Spaulings Fine Art, Los Angeles (2016), *YDRAH 8K* at KM- Künstlerhaus, Halle für Kunst & Medien, Graz (2014), *New Cuts* (curated by Rhea Anastas) at the University Art Galleries, Clare Trevor School of the Arts, University of California, Irvine (2015), and *Human Interest: Portraits from the Whitney's Collection*, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY (2016). Hardy's work is included in the permanent collections of the Whitney and Guggenheim museums. Hardy's feature-length film *Outfitumentary* (Directed K8 Hardy, 2016, 82 minutes, color, sound) debuted in New York at the Museum of Modern Art.

**Raúl de Nieves** (b. 1983 Morelia, Mexico) is a Brooklyn-based multimedia artist and musician who works in performance and installation. In addition to de Nieves' inclusion in the 2017 Whitney Biennial, the artist has staged acclaimed performances at MoMA PS1, Artists Space, and the Kitchen, and has exhibited and performed at venues including Company Gallery, Mendes Wood DM (Sao Paulo), The Museum of Art and Design, Rod Bianco (Oslo), Shoot the Lobster, BOFFO, Performa 13, and Real Fine Arts.

**Rhea Anastas** is an art historian who teaches in the Department of Art, University of California, Irvine, and is one of the co-founders of Orchard, an experimental, artists-run gallery on New York's Lower East Side (2005-2008).



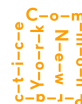
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