

acknowledgements

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Words & music for *I'll Be With You in Apple Blossom Times* by Neville Fleeson and Alvert Von Tilzer, and recorded by The Andrews Sisters.

THE OLD AMERICAN CAN FACTORY

The Old American Can Factory is an historic 130,000 sf, six-building arts and manufacturing complex at the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn, a place where things are still being made. It is home to a vital community of more than 120 people who are manufacturing a myriad of products, ideas and experiences for industry, arts and culture. The complex, built between 1865-1901 with a medievalesque courtyard and alleyways, has a quiet, vibrant artistic energy heightened throughout the year by uncommon performances, exhibitions and events presented in and around the buildings. Curated tenants include individual visual and performing artists and companies as well as manufacturing businesses.

The Old American Can Factory is a development of XØ Projects Inc, an inter-disciplinary planning, architecture and design studio engaged in the visual & performing arts. XØ Projects Inc has collaborated on, produced or provided substantive artistic and production support to numerous performance and visual arts projects at The Old American Can Factory and elsewhere.

For additional information please visit < WWW.XOPROJECTS.COM >



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XØ PROJECTS INC PRESENTS

A PROJECT BY STEPHANIE SKAFF

nice to understand you

A TANGENT IN SEVEN PARTS

concept **STEPHANIE SKAFF**

direction **JOHANNA LINSLEY**

original music & sound **PAUL DAMIAN HOGAN**

choreography **KELLY KIVLAND**

site & visuals **NATHAN F. ELBOGEN**

performance **PAUL DAMIAN HOGAN,**

KELLY KIVLAND &

STEPHANIE SKAFF

photography **TASJA KEETMAN**

SAT-SUN 10-11 DECEMBER 2005

3:33 PM + 6:33 PM

THE OLD AMERICAN CAN FACTORY

Gowanus Brooklyn

nice to understand you

A TANGENT IN SEVEN PARTS

a site-specific installation performance
10-11 DEC 2005 | THE OLD AMERICAN CAN FACTORY

background

Nice to Understand You began as a research and performance project documenting people working in and around the Gowanus manufacturing neighborhood. We developed a series of questions to gain insight into their experiences of work, attributes of their daily lives, and their individual characters. We asked these questions to our new friend, Hugo Picciani, whose unique perspective and gregarious personality changed the nature of our project. Therefore, *Nice to Understand You* is a micro study of one working man with a lot to share.

people

PAUL DAMIAN HOGAN

Paul is a composer, producer and sound designer in New York City. He writes songs for his group Frances, a miniature rock orchestra whose flexible instrumentation expands the standard rock combo to include toy piano, accordion, autoharp, Pakistani banjo, glockenspiel, strings, brass, woodwinds, electronics and field recordings. Besides creating his own sound installations for gallery and outdoor exhibitions, he has contributed music to installations by visual artists Tony Luensman at the Contemporary Art Center in Cincinnati and Jamie Isenstein at PS1 in New York City. Most recently, Paul has completed a new opera, *The First and Last Photograph*, which is slated for production in 2006. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in Composition at Columbia University, and teaches music production at the Computer Music Center. For additional information, please visit the websites,
< WWW.FRANCESTHEBAND.COM > < WWW.PAULDAMIANHOGANTHETHIRD.COM >

KELLY KIVLAND

Kelly is a performance/video artist residing in Brooklyn. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a BS in Interarts and Technology. Since moving to New York in 2002, she has participated in several contemporary dance, performance and theater projects, and has worked with Nora Stephens/norandanceco, Rebecca Davis, Mandy Morrison/mandymachine and Stephanie Skaff, among others. Kelly is an associate at the performing arts production company, Pomegranate Arts.

JOHANNA LINSLEY

Johanna Linsley is a writer, director and performing artist. She is also executive director of UnionDocs, a documentary arts collaborative based in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. UnionDocs recently returned from Berlin where they were invited by the Volksbuehne Theater to present their performance project, *The Commons*, a performance documentary using material produced by UnionDocs members to explore the relationship of the individual to the group, directed by Johanna and Christopher Allen. Johanna's work has been seen at HERE Arts Center, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, and at Humboldt University in Berlin. She has taught classes in experimental theater at the Powerhouse Series at Vassar College and is a member of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab (2003).

HUGO PICCIANI

Hugo is a machine and radio specialist. His machine shop is located a few blocks from The Old American Can Factory. A "master of stone age technology", Hugo has worked in Brooklyn for 65 years. He is also a father, grandfather and admired friend who shares his time and energy tirelessly to help others.

STEPHANIE SKAFF

Stephanie is a performing artist and writer. Her original work has been performed at The Old American Can Factory, The Construction Company and The Culture Project. She sings and plays diverse instruments in Paul Hogan's ensemble, Frances; is a member of UnionDocs, a Brooklyn-based arts collaborative and exhibition space; and, is a member of Only Make Believe, an organization that brings theater to hospitalized children. She is currently developing a chamber-opera *Rural Electrification* with composer Elizabeth Brown, and is performing with lyricist/performer Todd Almond and composer Paul Hogan in an original musical *The First and Last Photograph*. She received a BFA in Dramatic Performance from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music in 2001 and received a Theatre Apprenticeship Award from The Princess Grace Foundation-USA in 2003 for her work with Bond Street Theatre. For additional bio information please visit < WWW.XOPROJECTS.COM/SKAFFHTML >