EMPAC STAFF

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Ian Hamelin / Project Manager
Ryan Jenkins / Event Technician
Shannon Johnson / Web Director
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Janette MacDonald / Executive Assistant
Stephen McLaughlin / Event Technician
Geoff Mielke / Associate Director For Stage Technologies
Jason Steven Murphy / PR + Marketing Manager
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Avery Stempel / Front of House Manager
Jeffrey Svatek / Audio Engineer
Robin Thomas / Administrative Specialist
Stephanie Tribu-Cromme / Event Technician
Todd Vos / Lead Audio Engineer
Pete Wargo / Manager, Information Systems
David Watson / Web Developer
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brent green

GRAVITY WAS EVERYWHERE BACK THEN

september 10, 2010 :: 8pm
Based on the true tale of Kentucky hardware clerk Leonard Wood, Brent Green’s *Gravity Was Everywhere Back Then* tells the poignant and darkly humorous love story of a man who built a bizarre and sprawling home for his wife in the hope that it would cure her of terminal cancer. Accompanied by a stellar band of musicians that includes Brendan Canty (Fugazi), Howe Gelb (Giant Sand), and others, Green uses intense narration ranging from quiet, vulnerable storytelling to cathartic fumes bordering on the evangelistic.

**PERFORMERS**

Brent Green (narration/guitar)
Brendan Canty (drums/piano)
Howe Gelb (piano)
Drew Henkels (pump organ/theremin)
John Swartz (cello)
Donna K (foley/percussion)

**BIOS**

Brent Green is a self-taught animated filmmaker and artist who lives and works in Cressona, PA. His films have been shown at the Sundance Film Festival (2006-9), MoMA, the Getty Center, Warhol Museum, IFC Center, the Walker Arts Center, the Kitchen, Hammer Museum, EMPAC and a ton of other museums and festivals around the world. He’s had solo shows at the Andrew Edlin Gallery (NYC), Bellwether Gallery (NYC), the Sculpture Center (Cleveland), CAM St. Louis (St. Louis, MO), Site Santa Fe (Santa Fe, NM), The Berkeley Art Museum, Matrix program, with upcoming solo shows at the ASU Art Museum (Tempe, AZ), DiverseWorks (Houston, TX) and HallWalls (Buffalo, NY). Green’s artwork is represented by the Andrew Edlin Gallery, NYC. He is a 2005 Creative Capital grantee.

Brendan Canty is best known as the drummer in the band Fugazi. Canty joined Fugazi in 1987, before which time he played in Rites of Spring, One Last Wish, Deadline, Insurrection, and Happy Go Licky. In addition to producing records for all kinds of great band (the Thermals, Ted Leo, Garland of Hours, Benjy Ferree) Canty frequently composes soundtrack music, primarily for Discovery Channel and National Geographic Channel documentaries and independent features.

In 2004, Canty co-founded the DVD label Trixie to release an ongoing series of music-related films entitled *Burn To Shine*. The series involves independent bands from a particular city showing up to perform one song each live, without overdubs or corrections, in a condemned house. It’s beautiful. The films and performances are urgent and inspired, and the portraits of musicians and houses expose the transient nature of our world. Trixie has also produced films about Bob Mould, Wilco, Death Cab for Cutie, Eddie Vedder and the Decemberists.

Canty currently lives in Washington, DC with his wife and four children.

Donna K. lives in a rural Pennsylvanian barn where she makes a lot of stuff like art and cookies. She has made animations for the fiction journal *Electric Literature*, the band Drew & the Medicinal Pen and, more recently, for her own musical efforts. After working on artist/filmmaker Brent Green’s first feature film, *Gravity Was Everywhere Back Then*, she can also add acting, hammering and writing to her list of current accomplishments. Also, Donna K. really wants a puppy.

Howe Gelb is an American singer-songwriter, musician and record producer based in Tucson, Arizona. Probably most famous for fronting indie-rock legends Giant Sand. Howe can allegedly hear 15 seconds into the future, and I have seen nothing to dissuade my belief in that statement. It’s possible.

Drew Henkels is a day-dreamer and late-sleeper with a (mostly) healthy obsession with the supernatural. His band Drew & the Medicinal Pen provides a soundtrack to the dust-bunny world of his dream logs, films, and photographs.

Drew was recently featured in an article that ran on the front page of the New York Times about young artists struggling in Brooklyn today. He has released two albums, toured the East Coast and Mid-West, and helped to create the Homemade Music Video Festival and Philadelphia-based art collective Adaptation. His songs have found their way to the silver screen of Tribeca Cinemas, and reached as far as Japanese FM airwaves. Drew currently resides in Bed-Stuy where he survives happily on a diet of tuna and spaghetti.

Stick around after the show for some delicious sustenance from Evelyn’s Café.