

Performing Arts faculty to present a show on 'paperwork'

3/26/07

On Sunday, April 1, 2007, four local artists/faculty members from Alfred University will present a large-scale, durational performance art event that explores the overwhelming nature of paperwork entitled "Paper II," starting at noon, at Davis Gym, Alfred University. Admission is free. A piece serving as a contemporary metaphor of the struggle to manage the demands of work, family life and personal desire for time and space, "Paper II" provides a highly concentrated visual and sound environment for a truly extreme task. Chase Angier, assistant professor of dance and director of the dance program at Alfred University, with the consultation of performance artist Laurel Jay Carpenter, assistant professor of fine arts, will be performing in an installation designed by Judi Strahota, assistant professor of sculpture. The interactive sound design is by Tammy Brackett, visiting assistant professor, expanded media. An entirely interdisciplinary collaboration, all four women artists contributed their expertise in choreography/performance, performance art, installation art, and sound design while also operating across disciplines, and University Divisions, to facilitate this creative work. "Paper II" is the second piece in this paper series created by Angier. The first was performed at the winter AU Dance Theater Concert, and the third installment will be created in Prague, Czech Republic in June. For more information or directions, please call the Division of Performing Arts at 607.871.2562. Angier has been directing the dance program at Alfred University since 2002. Her creative research investigates the mixture of movement with other art forms through her collaboration with dynamic creative artists in visual art, theater, and music/sound design. Her recent collaborations with Robert Bingham, visiting artist-in-residence for dance - co-choreographing/performing a series of duets - have been performed in theaters, festivals, and universities throughout the East Coast. Prior to coming to Alfred, Chase created dance theater works, performed and taught in New York City since 1988. In 1995, she founded Chase Dance Theater, a company comprised of dancers, actors, writers, musicians, and visual artists. Her dances have been performed nationally and reviewed as "intelligent entertainment," "a comic romp" and "fine storytelling" by the New York Times and The Dance Insider. While in New York City, Chase toured nationally as a performer with Senta Driver's dance company "Harry", and was a teaching artist with The Lincoln Center Institute. She received her master of fine arts degree in choreography from The Ohio State University and her bachelor of Art degree in dance from UCLA. Strahota has taught within Alfred University's School of Art & Design for the past six years. Her studio practice draws upon personal experience, healing, and gender histories, with results that graze in domestic narrative, visual poetry, and surrealism. Strahota's sculptures and installations embrace a variety of materials and spatial relationships. A four-year Union Carpentry Apprenticeship coupled with an insatiable attraction to tools of all kinds feed her strong sense of craft. She earned her bachelor of fine arts degree in sculpture from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and her master of fine arts degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Strahota co-founded Grommet Studios, a cooperative studio of 16 Chicago artists, and was also a member of the historically significant Artemisia Gallery. Strahota has lectured and exhibited her work both nationally and internationally, with her next exhibition venue in San Francisco. Brackett earned a bachelor of art in fine art, summa cum laude, and a master of fine art degree in electronic integrated art in the School of Art & Design at Alfred University in 2003 and 2006, respectively. Brackett uses new media and traditional artistic mediums to explore the factors that contribute to the invention of new identities and the overlapping fluid structures behind them. Her art demonstrates the impossibility of finding any absolute structure governing identity or pinpointing its location. Brackett raises questions concerning the manipulation of human epistemology on both an individual and collective scale. She has been awarded the 2005 College Art Association Professional Development Fellowship for Visual Artists, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. Carpenter is a performance and installation artist. An active member of the international Independent Performance Group (IPG), she has recently presented personal work at IPG events in southern Spain and Berlin, Germany. This summer, she will travel with IPG again to offer a new piece at the International Festival of Dance and Live Art as part of the 52nd Biennale of Venice. From 1990-2002, while based in New York City, Carpenter exhibited at venues including Exit Art/The First World, The Knitting Factory, Performance Space 122, Judson Church House and Brooklyn's Borough Hall. She has been a fellow and invited artist at the Cleveland Performance Art Festival, The Performance Studies International Conference, and the MacDowell Colony. "Paper II" is funded, in part, by the Division of Performing Arts at Alfred University. Davis Gym is located on Pine Street across the road from Harder Hall, situated just below Scholes Library. Traveling south on Route 21, turn left onto the University campus. Visitor parking is at the top of the hill.