

another language

performing arts company

Season XVIII

Volume 1 Issue 2

April 2004-June 2004

Events

Interplay:

Hallucinations

April 23, 24 7:30pm

April 25 4:00pm

INSCC Building Rm 110

University of Utah

7.00 General 5.00 Students

Music for

Bubble Biters:

The Documentary

A work in progress

for 2004.

Website - Ongoing

www.anotherlanguage.org

Ticket Reservations and Information

(801) 531-9419

Spotlight

Add another name to the list of people attracted to Utah by the lure of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. As Salt Lake City waited to hear if whether we would be hosting the 2002 games or not, Jan Abramson was holding off offers of employment from the University of Utah and the University of Virginia. She is not shy about admitting, "If Salt Lake was awarded the games, I figured I could find a way to be involved." So, upon hearing the announcement, she made the call and accepted the U's offer. Transitioning from a career in student leadership and programming to immersing herself in the world of nonprofits and the arts allowed her to realize her goal of being involved in the opening and closing ceremonies. But it was the draw of the arts, and the impact nonprofits make that really altered her course.

For the last seven years, she has been involved with a number of arts and cultural organizations in Salt Lake. Jan is the Special Projects Manager for Art Access, a program designed to provide arts experiences for adults and children with disabilities. She also does freelance grantwriting and organizational development, and works with Another Language Performing Arts Company to seek out and acquire funding for the exciting and groundbreaking work that is created. She has been the Company Manager for the University of Utah Children's Dance Theatre, the development specialist for the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, and a grantwriting consultant for the Utah Arts Council's Community State Partnership Program. She currently serves on the boards of the Utah Cultural Alliance, and the Performing Arts Coalition.



Jan Abramson and Echo

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Jan lived and worked in St. Louis, Rhode Island, Florida, Georgia, Arizona, Missouri (two or three times), Idaho and England, following a life path that was never dull. She can't name a "favorite place," but has plenty of favorite stories about each place she lived. It didn't take her long upon landing in Utah to realize this would be a great place to put down roots, and at this point, she has been in Utah longer than she has been anywhere else. So, calling this home, she is busy restoring a 1920's bungalow and xeriscaping a garden retreat. Learning to camp, long road trips with Socrates, her favorite 4-legged canine traveling companion, and being actively involved in her community are some of her current favorite things.

Jan is delighted to be assisting Another Language, "the merging of art and technology, the use of the Internet as a forum for artistic expression... what an exciting way to introduce new audiences to the power and beauty of art."

-from the amazingly creative, loves to write, superb mind of Jan Abramson

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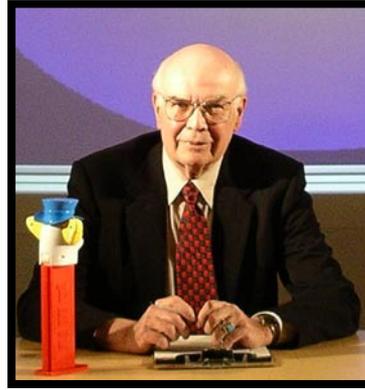
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Featured Artist

Tony Larimer is making his debut performance with Another Language this April in *INTERPLAY: Hallucinations*. However, this is not his first appearance on the World Wide Web. He made his first appearance as Brainiac, The Talking Brain for Novell. His voice can also be heard calling scores for one of Microsoft's tennis games and as the voice of at least two cartoon characters for video games, neither of which he has ever played. In addition, he has appeared in the real world in numerous plays for local theatre companies. The most recent, Paul Osborn's *Mornings at Seven* at the Grand Theatre. His voice can be heard on



local and national radio and TV commercials and he has had featured roles in numerous films, both feature and made-for-TV. In 2000, he received the Roene B. Difore Arts in Education Lifetime Achievement Award and in 2002, the Utah Governor's Artist Award. He retired from teaching English and theatre at Rowland Hall – St. Mark's School in 1994, where he was honored to have the performing arts center named in his honor. He serves on the Advisory Board to the County Arts Center, the board of the Performing Arts Coalition and sits on the ZAP Tier II Panel. He is married to the actress Marie C. Larimer.

The Directors Corner:

The Surface of Things

Created by Beth Miklavcic

Debuting this April, as a part of the distributed tapestry of artistic pieces that will become the assembled puzzle of *INTERPLAY: Hallucinations*. *The Surface of Things* focuses on the stereotypes we encounter when first impressions, based on the way we look, are in direct conflict with the sum total of our experiences that define our real selves. The old adage, "Don't judge a book by its cover," comes into play as a strong motivation for the creation of this work.

As a society, it is my feeling that we suffer from a collective brain washing influenced by the images we are fed from the mass media. Since the *INTERPLAYS* deal with media in such a pronounced way I felt it was appropriate to address the issue in this forum.

The work consists of a younger man, played

by Aaron Henry, and an older woman, played by myself and in between the two, a judge, played by Tony Larimer (described in the featured artist section above). The man and woman make assumptions about each other based on outward appearances and as the exchange continues, the judge, as an outside observer, sees the stupidity of what is happening. The judge becomes the glue that allows the two to drop their assumptions and see each other for the first time.

The work is complicated by the fact that the man and woman each hold video cameras and use the images projected by the cameras as ammunition for their assumptions. The images are projected on hanging frosted plexiglass, on the scrim, as well as, streamed directly over the Internet. Mirrors are incorporated into the work as a way for the man and woman to check their own *surface* about what is being said. Three different Flash MX animations are

played during certain moments when the exchange has paused. The animations serve as an abstract apparition of the inner voice. Those images will be mixed by Jimmy Miklavcic as the director of the whole event, with other works from Nadja Masura and Brian Buck from the University of Maryland, and Scott Deal and Miho Aoki from the University of Alaska.

Being judged by outward appearances is a universal experience that most of us have had in one form or another, creating missed opportunities of many kinds. It is my hope that *The Surface of Things* will serve as an artistic statement that gives pause to our human tendency to make assumptions, before getting to know the real person underneath the surface.



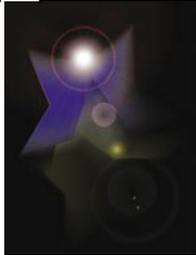
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Circle



Sundance 1



Sundance 4



Sundance 5



Mesh Dream



Yellow

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip/PostalCode: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Pledge amount: _____ Thank you for your support!

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