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LIVE: Biennial of Performance Art

LIVE 2005: ALTERED STATES

www.livevancouver.bc.ca

October 15 to November 25th, 2005

Various venues

"Maybe it's the mountains, maybe it's the sea or maybe it's the drugs, but for whatever reason, performance art in Vancouver is accepted and celebrated as a meaningful and historical part of that city."

The LIVE biennial ebbs and flows like the tide over the course of six weeks and features a marathon of performances, symposia and social events curated and programmed under the festival umbrella by a plethora of galleries across the city."

- Randy Gledhill from *"Spotlight: The New Exhibitionists: Performance Art in the 21st Century"*.
Canadian Art, Summer 2005 Issue.

The **LIVE: Biennial of Performance Art** is Vancouver's six-week immersion into the world of performance art. From **October 15 to November 25th**, the fourth installment of LIVE presents a stunningly innovative range and variety of diverse and exciting events. Curated and hosted by Vancouver's artist-run centres, LIVE includes concerts, performances, installations, readings, screenings, discussions and more – over 35 events featuring the work of local, national and international artists. From events on the world wide web, galleries, libraries, lobbies and the great outdoors to the stage of the Chan Centre – LIVE is one of Vancouver's most vital, adventurous and creative festivals.

The theme for LIVE 2005 is ***Altered States***, performance art incorporating the irrational, the subversive, the spiritual, the intuitive, the confrontational and the traumatic. It focuses on the artist as prophet, as shaman, as masochist, as addict, as anarchist and as provocateur. It explores altered states of consciousness and the altered political map. It looks at performance art in the context of shifting social and political borders among cities, nation states, "real" and virtual communities. It situates itself between the bacchanal and the riot, in a place where old things die and new things come into being.

Altered States LIVE 2005 honors the life and work of **Al Neil** as the seminal figure within Vancouver's New Art practices. Working in jazz, performance, writing and visual art his work celebrates the West Coast aesthetic. Neil, interdisciplinary to the core, developed and defined many of the concerns that still influence new practices here today. LIVE 2005 explores and pays tribute to his longstanding contribution with a series of events held during the festival.

In addition to artists from Vancouver and across Canada, LIVE includes innovators from the Netherlands, Germany, Great Britain, Mexico, the United States and Afghanistan. **Al Neil** will be in attendance along with Afghani-born film, video and performance artist **Lida Abdullah**.

An additional special feature of LIVE: two evenings of performance presented by International Arts Initiatives in association with the Chan Centre at UBC and LIVE. On Saturday, October 22nd, direct from Mexico City, cabaret diva-comedienne and performance artist **Astrid Hadad** and her group **Los Tarzanes** take the Chan stage. Visionary New York performance artist, singer, composer and choreographer **Meredith Monk and Vocal Ensemble** visit the Chan on Saturday, November 12th.

For details on LIVE festival performances, visit www.livevancouver.bc.ca.

❖ **For info on Chan Centre performances, go to www.mundomundo.com or www.chancentre.com**
Tickets for Oct. 22nd and Nov. 12th are available at the Chan Centre Box Office (in person only),
Ticketmaster.ca or by calling 604-280-3311