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Nov 4, 2013 STAGE

## Performa 13 Aims to Turn All of New York Into a Stage

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PERFORMA 13

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By David Matorin



A 2012 performance piece by Marthe Ramm Fortun. — Courtesy of Marthe Fortun

The fifth iteration of **Performa 13**, NYC's sprawling biennial of live-visual art, continues through November 24<sup>th</sup>, with performances and events staged at venues throughout the city—include some you might run into by accident.

If you're commuting through Grand Central next weekend, you may encounter one. Among the tour guides leading groups

through Central Hall, listing dates and historical details, you may overhear one reading an impassioned plea to save the station, written by Jacqueline Onassis in 1975. Or, you may see a certain guide directing her group's gaze to the collective backward leaning of people as they look up at the ceiling, or the children who lay on the floor to do the same. That would be Oslo-based artist, **Marthe Ramm Fortun** performing *Inverted Sky*, her free-with-rsvp performance in the guise of a walking tour.

Things not being what they seem or purport to be, is a theme running through Performa. **Bloopers** is a band made up of artists, **Michael Bell-Smith**, **Sara Magenheimer** and **Ben Vida**. "We all come from music backgrounds," Magenheimer explained by phone. "But we're also artists." For Performa, Bloopers #0 will be a multilayered dance party about language and categories. "Because you can think better with your body sometimes," she said.

Surrealism is this Performa's "historical anchor," according to the website. That movement's legacy may best be experienced at **Shana Lutker's** *The Nose*, *The Cane*,

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Speakeasy is a blog covering media, entertainment, celebrity and the arts. The publication is produced by senior editor **Christopher John Farley**, **Barbara Chai**, and Jonathan Welsh with contributions from the Wall Street Journal staff and others. Write to us at [speakeasy@wsj.com](mailto:speakeasy@wsj.com) or follow us on Twitter at [@WSJSpeakeasy](#) or individually at [@cjfarley](#) and [@barbarachai](#).



*The Left Broken Arm*, a play based on her research into the activities of Surrealists in Paris in the 1920s, a time when rivalries among competing artistic factions culminated into violence, fisticuffs, and mayhem. The play includes elements from an uncompleted night of theater in 1923, which was cut short when a perceived insult to **Pablo Picasso** incited a riot.

*Inverted Sky* is at Grand Central Terminal, is limited to 20 by RSVP & co-sponsored by MTA Arts for Transit on Friday, 11/8, Saturday, 11/9, & Sunday 11/10 at 7:00 pm.

*Bloopers #0* is at Four81, 481 Broadway, floor 4 on Thursday, 11/21 at 9:00pm.

*The Nose, The Cane, The Left Broken Arm*, is at Theatre 80, 80 St. Marks Place on Tuesday 11/19 and Wednesday, 11/20 at 8:30pm.

Also recommended: **Agnieszka Kurant's** *Cutaways* at NeueHouse Screening Room on Saturday, 11/23 at 3:00pm & 5:00pm, and **Katarzynz Krakowiak's** *The Great and Secret Show* at the South Corner of James A. Farley Post Office, Friday, 11/8 to Sunday, 11/17 open from 12-6pm.

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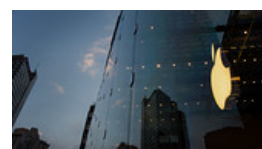
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