

LACMA Presents *The Least Important Things*, a New Performance-Art Project by Artist Emily Mast



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WHO & WHAT: The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents a new performance-art project envisioned by Los Angeles-based artist Emily Mast, whose works often celebrate intersections between art, dance, and theater.

From March 27 to 29, 2014, Mast presents *The Least Important Things*, a procession of free standing theatrical vignettes that unfold in different sites across LACMA's campus. Audience members will be offered hints and clues to direct their experience of the work. The performances start on the Los Angeles Times Central Court and take visitors through different locations of the museum campus.

For *The Least Important Things*, Mast selected a diverse range of works by Joan Brossa (1919–1998) which were written with the intention of being staged. Brossa was a Catalan poet, playwright, graphic designer, and visual artist who made work about the limitations of language and its material nature. His "stage poetry" embraced incoherence, the everyday, and popular forms of entertainment such as magic, cabaret, and comedy routines. Brossa's works are an integral part of the performances and were specially translated for the presentation at LACMA. The performances are staged throughout the LACMA campus in intermediate spaces that reflect Brossa and Mast's interest in the undefined.

Emily Mast is a visual artist who works primarily with people, movement, and sound to advocate uncertainty as live sculptural material. Her work consists of collaborative practices that celebrate their ambiguous position between art, theater, therapy, choreography, sociology, and education. Mast's work has been seen at Performa and Simone Subal Gallery in New York; Mains d'Oeuvres in Paris; MUHKA in Antwerp; Samson Projects in Boston; and Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE), Roy and Edna Disney/CalArts Theater (REDCAT), the Velaslavasay Panorama, The Onion, Human Resources, Steve Turner Contemporary, the Blackbox, and 533 in Los Angeles. She has been an artist-in-residence at the Headlands, Yaddo, and Skowhegan. She was awarded a California Community Foundation (CCF) Fellowship, a Rema Hort Mann Foundation Award, and a Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) Investing in Artists Grant.

WHEN: March 27 to 29, 2014 | 8 pm

WHERE: LACMA

Performance will begin at the Los Angeles Times Central Court 5905 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90036

TICKETS: Free | tickets required

For more information, please contact the LACMA Communications Department at <u>press@lacma.org</u> or 323 857-6522.

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Image captions: Emily Mast after Joan Brossa 1976 by Emily Mast & Emma Sheffer