Melidown Programs

(Continued)

* STREET FESTIVALS & SPECIAL EVENTS: Meltdown works as community organizers in producing special events such as street festivals and health fairs. These events unite the business community with the arts, in grassroots efforts that celebrate the diversity in our lives. Multi-cultural performances and products, as well as displays by other conprofits that serve the Brooklyn community, are present. In this outreach, Meltdown has worked with a multitude of community-based organizations, representing a wide range of diverse neighborhoods throughout New York City, reaching thousands of people.

* RUCKER & RUSSO: The duo of Bronwyn Rucker and Rick Russo present a unique program of avant-garde performance which incorporates music, monologues, comedy and art songs in an autobiographical account of their life and work together. Rucker & Russo perform in cabaret as well as in the full-scale production The True Story. Recordings of their work have been released on the Meltdown Records and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone labels. Ms. Rucker is a professional actress with extensive credits in theatre and film and Mr. Russo is an experimental composer who is a disciple of John Cage. Additionally, they perform solo shows, such as Subway Named Desire (Rucker) and Just Off Atlantic Avenue (Russo).

- * JOB TRAINING: Present programs provide training for teens and homeless and formerly homeless women. The focus is anti-violence work wherein participants are trained to be peer educators and counselors. Training includes theatre skills (acting, directing, writing, experimental improvisatory techniques), job development, labor market orientation, as well as social work with groups and community organizing.
- * MEDIA PROGRAM: Meltdown engages in special audio and film/video projects. These include archival documentation of Meltdown works, record album/compact disc production, and assisting independent film makers. A major component of the media program is Meltdown Records.
- * THE RADON DAUGHTERS: An experimental popopera written by Bronwyn Rucker & Woody Regan, depicting the life of the "archetypal bohemian modern woman". This full-length work includes political satire, musical comedy, and multimedia.
- * MELTDOWNS: A performance composition by Rick Russo that utilizes a chance-determined score wherein diverse artists work together to create a 'happening'. The creative process is explored as artists interact spontaneously, and time is the only rule.



MELTDOWN OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS

Meltdown is pleased to announce that it has opened an administrative office in Park Slope. The address of the new Meltdown headquarters is 346 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11238. In addition, Meltdown has a new telephone number: (718) 857-MELT (6358). Meltdown still maintains a mailing address at Box 555/Times Plaza, Brooklyn NY 11217.

The new office is a natural outgrowth of Meltdown's expansion, and it signifies an important step for the organization. In addition to serving as Meltdown's administrative base, certain Meltdown workshops are held at the site.

Since Meltdown operates on limited staff time, we ask that visitors call before coming to ensure someone is in.



Top: The Radon Daughters, YWCA of Brooklyn, 1984.

Bottom: John Cage and Rick Russo at Melidown Benefit, 1986.

(Photo by Thomas Hunter)



Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden (right) joins officials from The East New York Savings Bank in awarding Melidown a Community Action Assistance Grant, 1993.