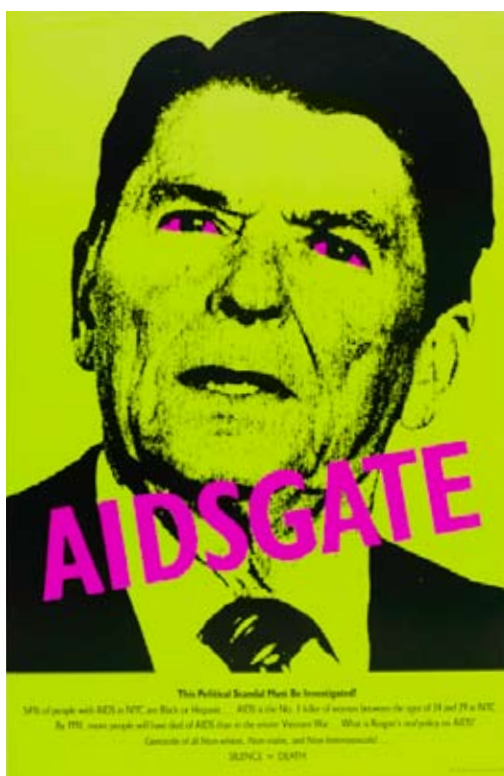
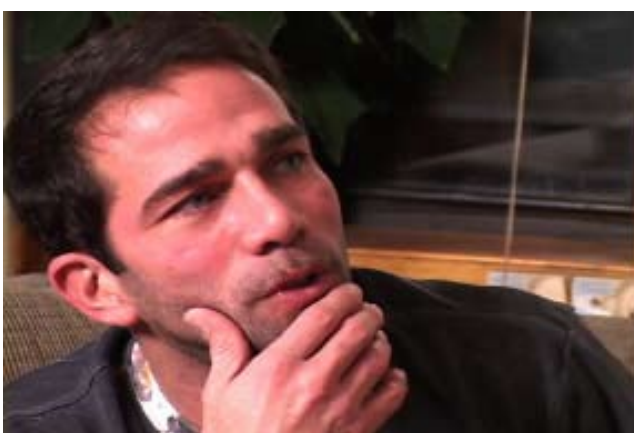
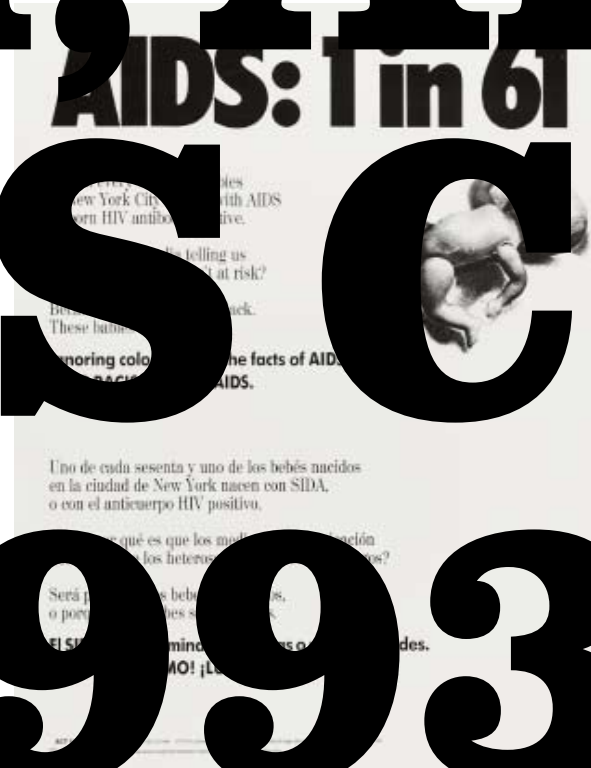
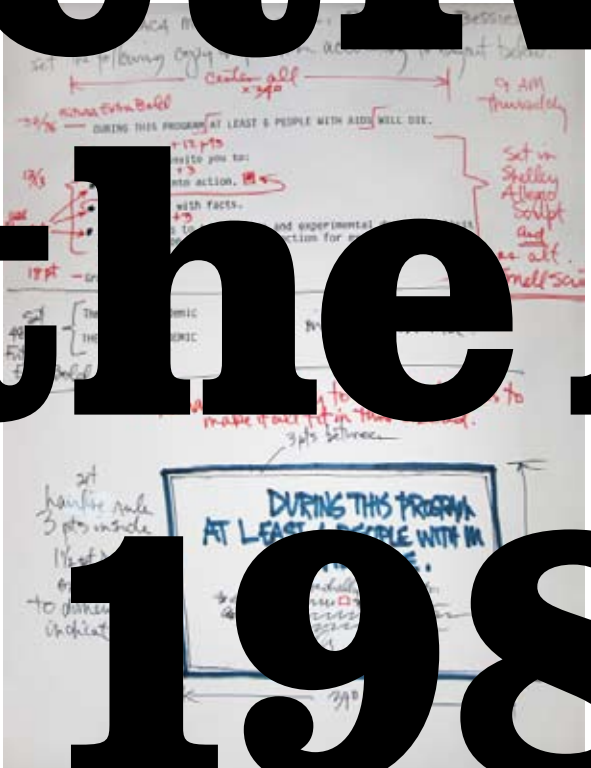


ACT UP New York: Activism, Art, and the AIDS Crisis, 1987-1993



ACT UP New York: Activism, Art, and the AIDS Crisis, 1987–1993

The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) was pivotal for AIDS activism in New York City in the late 1980s. Tracing the history of the movement, this exhibition examines the printed graphics and other visual media created by artist collectives that populated it, including Gran Fury, Silence=Death Project, Gang, DIVA TV, and Fierce Pussy. The exhibition also premieres the ACT UP Oral History Project, a suite of over 100 video interviews with surviving members of ACT UP New York that offer a portal to a decisive moment in the history of the gay-rights movement, twentieth-century visual art, our nation's discussion of universal healthcare, and the continuing HIV/AIDS epidemic.

October 15 –
December 23, 2009

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

[Main Gallery](#) (ground floor)

Monday – Friday, 10am – 11pm

Saturday – Sunday, 1 – 5pm

[Sert Gallery](#) (second floor)

Tuesday – Sunday, 1 – 5pm

Extended hours: October 15–17, 19–20, 10am–11pm

A collaboration by the **Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts** and the **Harvard Art Museum**. Organized by Helen Molesworth, *Houghton Curator of Contemporary Art, Harvard Art Museum*, and Claire Grace, *Agnes Mongan Curatorial Intern, Harvard Art Museum*, and doctoral candidate, *History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University*.

ACT UP New York: Activism, Art, and the AIDS Crisis, 1987–1993 has been made possible by support from the Office of the Provost at Harvard University and the following endowment funds at the Harvard Art Museum: The Agnes Gund Fund for Modern and Contemporary Art; the Alexander S., Robert L., and Bruce A. Beal Exhibition Fund; the M. Victor Leventritt Lecture Fund; and the Charlotte F. and Irving W. Rabb Exhibition Fund. Gifts and grants have also been provided by the Barbara Lee Family Foundation Fund at the Boston Foundation, The Open Gate: a Fund for Gay and Lesbian Life at Harvard University, Fred P. Hochberg and Tom Healy, Kevin Jennings, the Harvard College Women's Center, the Office for the Arts at Harvard, and Harvard Technology Services with special support from Apple Inc.

Thursday October 15

Exhibition Opening Lecture and Celebration

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

6pm

[Collective Action: Calling All Artists](#)

Carpenter Center Lecture

Robert Vazquez Pacheco, *artist and writer, member of Gran Fury* / Avram Finkelstein, *artist and writer, member of Gran Fury and Silence=Death Project* / Sarah Schulman, *co-director, ACT UP Oral History Project; novelist, historian, and playwright; professor of English, City University of New York* / Jim Hubbard, *co-director, ACT UP Oral History Project; filmmaker*

7pm

[Reception and Opening of the Exhibition](#)

Join curators Helen Molesworth and Claire Grace as well as exhibitors Robert Vazquez Pacheco, Avram Finkelstein, Sarah Schulman, Jim Hubbard, and members of Fierce Pussy.

Friday – Saturday
October 16 – 17

Symposium: ACT UP 20 Years Later

M. Victor Leventritt Symposium*

Lecture hall, Arthur M. Sackler Museum,
485 Broadway, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Friday 5–6:30pm

[Illegitimacy](#)

Leo Bersani, *professor emeritus of French, University of California, Berkeley*

Saturday 10am–noon

[ACT UP New York](#)

Three former members of ACT UP address how and why ACT UP started and what it achieved.

Gregg Bordowitz, *filmmaker; associate professor of film, video, and new media, School of the Art Institute of Chicago* / Joy Episalla, *artist, member of Fierce Pussy* / Kendall Thomas, *Nash Professor of Law and director, Center for the Study of Law and Culture, Columbia University*

1:30–3:30pm

[Storm the NIH](#)

Activists and a National Institutes of Health professional address one of ACT UP's most famous actions, its 1990 attempt to seize control of the NIH.

Garance Franke-Ruta, *national web politics editor, Washington Post (Harvard Class of 1997)* / Mark Harrington, *executive director, Treatment Action Group (Harvard Class of 1983)* / Jack Killen, *deputy director, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health*

4:30–6pm

[Stonewall and Other Summer Palaces:](#)

[1969/1989/2009](#)

Richard Meyer, *associate professor of art history and fine arts, University of Southern California*

*The M. Victor Leventritt Lecture Fund was established through the generosity of the wife, children, and friends of the late M. Victor Leventritt, Harvard Class of 1935. The purpose of the fund is to present outstanding scholars of the history and theory of art to the Harvard and Greater Boston communities.

October 12 – 17

Artists in Residence: Fierce Pussy

Nancy Brooks Brody, Joy Episalla, Zoe Leonard, and Carrie Yamaoka of Fierce Pussy will create site-specific wall installations at the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, and the Graduate School of Design, and conduct a workshop in activism and print media with Harvard students. For information: **Harvard College Women's Center**, 617-495-4292, hcwc@fas.harvard.edu, or hcwc.fas.harvard.edu/events.html.

Friday October 16, 8pm
Saturday October 17, 8pm

Screenings: AIDS Activist Shorts and the Emergence of Queer Cinema

Harvard Film Archive, Carpenter Center for the
Visual Arts, 24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA

The **Harvard Film Archive** presents films and videos that document the political struggles around AIDS and demonstrate through their formal experiments that the epidemic was a crisis of signification. Artists include Gregg Bordowitz, Jean Carlomusto, the Gran Fury collective, John Greyson, Barbara Hammer, Isaac Julien, Tom Kalin, Carol Leigh, Nino Rodriguez, Rosa von Praunheim, and David Wojnarowicz. For ticket prices and other information: hcl.harvard.edu/hfa.

Monday October 19, 1–7pm

Symposium: HIV Denialism, Mistrust, and Stigma

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Organized by the **Harvard University Center for AIDS Research** and the **Harvard Initiative for Global Health**. For more information: cfar.globalhealth.harvard.edu.

[HIV Conspiracy Beliefs as Barriers to HIV Prevention and Treatment](#) Laura Bogart, *associate professor of pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Division of General Pediatrics, Children's Hospital Boston*

"[HIV Does Not Cause AIDS](#)" and the Dangers of [AIDS Denialism](#) Seth Kalichman, *professor of psychology, Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention, University of Connecticut*

[HIV Denialism and HIV Conspiracies in South Africa](#) Nicoli Natras, *professor, School of Economics, and director, AIDS and Society Research Unit, University of Cape Town*

[Discrimination and Conspiracy Beliefs Are Associated with HIV Vaccines Acceptability and Access to Care: Results from LA VOICES](#) William E. Cunningham, *faculty associate, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research; professor, UCLA School of Medicine*

[HIV Denialism and Human Rights](#) Sofia Gruskin, *associate professor of health and human rights; director, Program on International Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health*

[Community Panel](#) Moderated by Rhoda Johnson Tuckett, *education and outreach manager, Infectious Disease Bureau, Boston Public Health Commission* / Iris Rivera, *community AIDS activist* / Ben Perkins, *director, Project Saving Ourselves (SOS), The Fenway Institute* / Nancy Galloway, *Boston Pediatric and Family AIDS Project, The Dimock Center* / Reverend Franklin Hobbs, *executive director, Healing Our Land, Inc.*

Tuesday October 20, 7:30pm

Reading: *The Lady Hamlet, a play by Sarah Schulman*

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

A discussion with the playwright follows a reading by members of the **American Repertory Theater**, including actress Kate Burton. Part of the A.R.T.'s *Shakespeare Exploded!* series. More information: www.amrep.org.

Lecture Series: ACT-ing UP: The Living Legacy of AIDS Protest

Sert Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Sponsored by the **Human Rights and Social Movements Program, Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, Harvard Kennedy School**. Lectures will be introduced by Timothy Patrick McCarthy, program director.

Thursday October 22, 5–6:30pm

[AIDS and Remembrance: Days of 1983](#) William Rubenstein, *professor of law, Harvard Law School*

Thursday October 29, 4–5:30pm

[Is ACT UP History?: A Movement That's Over, a Crisis That Isn't](#) Christopher Capozzola, *associate professor of history, MIT*

Thursday November 12, 4–5:30pm

[The Power of AIDS Activism: Defying the Convergence of the Forbidden and the Disenfranchised](#) Amber Hollibaugh, *queer activist and author, My Dangerous Desires*

Thursday November 19, 4–5:30pm

[HIV/AIDS Activism in African American Communities: The Limits of Self-Help](#) Evelynyn M. Hammonds, *Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science and of African and African American Studies, and Dean of Harvard College*

Thursday December 3, 4–5:30pm

[Full Equality and How We Get There](#) Jarrett T. Barrios, *president, Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)*

Friday, October 23, 5pm
Friday, November 13, 5pm
Thursday, December 3, 6pm

Workshops: Sexual Health

[The Art of Prevention: Workshops with Harvard College Peer Contraceptive Counselors](#)

Main Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Open, interactive demonstrations of contraceptive and STI-preventive methods, followed by conversation with counselors on any and all topics. For information about **Peer Contraceptive Counselors (PCC)**: www.hcs.harvard.edu/~pcc/.

Gallery Talks: ACT UP New York: Activism, Art, and the AIDS Crisis, 1987–1993

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Saturday October 31, 11am

Claire Grace, *exhibition co-curator, Agnes Mongan Curatorial Intern, Harvard Art Museum*

Thursday November 12, 1pm

Helen Molesworth, *exhibition co-curator, Houghton Curator of Contemporary Art, Harvard Art Museum*

Thursday November 12, 8pm

Student Performance: *Who Wants to Live Forever?*

Main Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Choreography and direction by Trevor Martin '10.

Tuesday November 24, 6pm

Poetry Reading: Mark Doty, Eileen Myles, and an AIDS Poetic Retrospective

Thompson Room, Barker Center, 12 Quincy Street,
Cambridge, MA. Reception to follow at the
Sert Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts,
24 Quincy Street [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Doty is the author of *My Alexandria* and winner of a 2008 National Book Award. Myles, hailed as "the rock star of modern poetry," is the author of over 20 volumes of poetry, most recently *Sorry, Tree*. They will be joined by Harvard undergraduate poets reciting works by writers—Tory Dent, Melvin Dixon, Thom Gunn, Tony Kushner, James Merrill, and others—whose words have compelled attention to the AIDS crisis.

Introduction by Christina Davis, curator of the Woodberry Poetry Room. Co-sponsored by the **Woodberry Poetry Room, Houghton Library**.

Tuesday December 1, 6pm

Lecture: [Seeing AIDS](#)

M. Victor Leventritt Lecture* WORLD AIDS DAY
Lecture hall, Arthur M. Sackler Museum,
485 Broadway, Cambridge, MA [FREE ADMISSION](#)

Philip Yenawine, co-founding director of Visual Understanding in Education. As director of education at the Museum of Modern Art from 1983 to 1993, Yenawine was engaged with activist artists. He will reflect on the impact of AIDS on the cultural sector, artists' responses to the crisis, and December 1 as "A Day without Art."

Student Exhibition: Students ACT UP

The **Harvard College Art Society (H-Art)** is collaborating with student artists and organizations inspired by ACT UP to present a student exhibition at Adams House Art Space in the spring of 2010. H-Art is accepting submissions until December 3, 2009, and will hold workshops for review. For information, contact Trevor Martin '10: tmartin@fas.harvard.edu.