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**Trade&Row Presents *Exchange Rate: 2008*,
Organized By Elana Mann**

www.exchangerate2008.com

This election is a historic moment and artists around the world are responding to it through *Exchange Rate: 2008*.

Los Angeles, CA, September 8th, 2008 – Trade&Row presents *Exchange Rate: 2008*, an international performance exchange organized by artist Elana Mann in response to the 2008 US presidential elections. Audiences everywhere can experience the project around the world via the website: www.exchangerate2008.com. The artists of *Exchange Rate: 2008* will be presenting their election themed performances in Los Angeles and many cities around the world. Ecuadorian artist Ana Fernandez, for example, is performing an artwork created by local artist Jason Kunke on the steps of the government's palace in Plaza de la Independencia, Quito, Ecuador (www.exchangerate2008.com/blog/?page_id=12). Meanwhile, local playwright Sibyl O'Malley will be performing a two-act puppet show in Los Angeles, CA that she co-wrote in collaboration with Lithuanian playwright Aiste Ptakauske (www.exchangerate2008.com/blog/?page_id=25). All of the worldwide *Exchange Rate: 2008* activities will culminate with an elaborate election night bash in Los Angeles, CA (location TBA).

On November 4, *Exchange Rate: 2008*, in partnership with Trade&Row's *Campaign Trail: The Election in Action* series, will produce an evening that blends live performance with live coverage of election night results. The evening, free and open to the public, will include performances by ten local artists, an elaborate reception of election-themed food and drink as well as areas to watch election coverage. This series of performances will mirror the pageantry we are seeing in the political campaigns of both candidates and highlight artists who are engaging in and challenging the politics of today.

The thirty-eight artists participating in *Exchange Rate: 2008* live in sixteen different countries including: Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Israel, Lithuania, Mexico, Nicaragua, Portugal, Scotland, South Korea, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States. These artists are producing, exchanging and interpreting performance directions related to the US election campaign. Each performance made for the exchange is a public act, whether in a gallery space or in a public square. The directions for the performances and the photographic and filmic documentation of the performances are available on the project website. Visitors to the website can also participate in the project by creating or interpreting a performance and posting the results to the website blog.

Participating Artists

Danielle Adair (USA), Karen Atkinson (USA), Luchezar Boyadjiev (BULGARIA), Camlab (Jemima Wyman, AUSTRALIA and Anna Mayer USA), Audrey Chan (USA), Bruce Conkle (USA), Maile Colbert and Rui Costa (PORTUGAL), Dorit Cypis (USA), Zackary Drucker (USA), Ana Fernandez (ECUADOR), Liz Glynn (USA), Lora Ivanova (USA), Kevin Jamieson (UK), Eva Jung (USA/SOUTH KOREA), Soren Thilo Funder & Stine Marie Jacobson (DENMARK), Jason Kunke (USA), Michael Lazar and Marc Lewis (ISRAEL), Jean Pierrer Lapeyre (SCOTLAND), Julie Lequin (CANADA), Eric Lindley (USA), Elana Mann (USA), Emery Martin (USA), Sibyl O'Malley (USA), Adam Overton (USA), Aiste Ptakauske (LITHUANIA), Vincent Ramos (USA), Pablo Rasgado (MEXICO) and Kelly Kleinschrodt (USA), R.E.P. (UKRAINE), Sara Roberts (USA), Ernesto Salmeson (NICARAGUA), Marssares Selector (BRAZIL), Melissa Wyman (SOUTH KOREA).

About Elana Mann

Elana Mann, the organizer of and a participant in *Exchange Rate: 2008*, is an interdisciplinary artist based in Los Angeles, CA. Mann (MFA Calarts, '07), has exhibited both nationally and internationally including "From A to B," (Fellows of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, 2008), "The Collective Body" (Galerie Califia, Czech Republic, 2007), and "Abre-Alas" (A Gentil Carioca, Rio de Janeiro, BR, 2007). From 2004-7 Mann organized "TROCA: Brasil/US" an art exchange between artists from the United States and Brazil. In 2007 Mann co-organized "Exquisite Acts and Everyday Rebellions; 2007 CalArts Feminist Art Project." Mann's projects have been reviewed in the Los Angeles Times, NPR, Artweek, O Globo, O Jornal do Brasil and Veja magazine. For more information please visit <http://www.elanamann.com>

About Trade&Row

Trade&Row is a nonprofit organization established to raise awareness of current social issues. Our projects are designed to bring people together and facilitate dialogue, and require community participation to be successful. We are focused on developing and producing community-oriented programs and events that are accessible, inclusive and conversational.

For more information, please email: info@tradeandrow.org

About *Campaign Trail: The Election in Action*

Trade&Row presents *Campaign Trail: The Election in Action*, a series of performances and work by artists who bring their interpretation of the presidential campaign to a public forum, from July through November 2008.

The series examines many aspects of this year's election and the political process in general, and explores what will engage American voters to want to reclaim their power in the political process.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.tradeandrow.org/campaigntrail/>