

No. 10  
January 16, 2004  
Immediate Release

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**THE WALKER PRESENTS A MINI FESTIVAL OF NEW WORKS BY THE U.K.'S  
PROVOCATIVE PERFORMANCE COMPANY, FORCED ENTERTAINMENT,  
IN THREE VENUES JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 14**

The Walker Art Center presents three distinct new works by the U.K.'s lauded and challenging performance company, **Forced Entertainment**, January 29–February 14, at the Southern Theater (as part of Out There 16); the McKnight Theatre, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts; and the Walker. Cited as “one of the most influential new British theatre companies of the last 20 years” (*The Guardian*), Forced Entertainment closes out the Walker and Southern Theater’s Out There 16 series with *Instructions for Forgetting* (January 29–February 1), an intimate performance documentary by the company’s artistic director Tim Etchells; stages *First Night*, a “viciously dead-on showbiz mockery,” at the McKnight Theatre (February 11–13); and performs *And on the Thousandth Night*, a one-of-a-kind, six-hour overnight performance at the Walker’s Closing Party (February 14). A complete listing of festival performances follows.

**Tim Etchells: *Instructions for Forgetting***

Thursday, January 29, 8 pm, \$18 (\$9)

Friday–Saturday, January 30–31, 8 pm; Sunday, February 1, 2 pm, \$18 (\$14)

Southern Theater, 1420 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis

“Funny, sad, oblique, and moving . . . one of those rare theatre experiences where artist and audience find a kind of communication which makes you forget all about time and space.”

—*Wiener Zeitung*

Part intimate essay, part fragmented narrative, *Instructions for Forgetting* is a comical, surprising, and ultimately moving work that maps the links between personal history and the broader histories called culture and politics. Combining home movies, interviews, letters, and tapes from friends alongside recordings of world events, Forced Entertainment’s artistic director creates an intimate performance documentary exploring video as a container of image and memory and an

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occasion for speculation, interpretation, and storytelling. Copresented with the Southern Theater as part of the Out There 16 festival. Contains adult subject matter.

### **Inside Out There**

Tim Etchells/Forced Entertainment

Saturday, January 31, 2 pm. Free with a paid performance ticket

Reimagine approaches to performance with Forced Entertainment's Artistic Director. This informal two-hour workshop touches on the construction/destruction of stories and explores structures in which narratives collide. Practitioners, students, and all interested parties welcomed. Limited to 15 participants.

### **First Night**

Wednesday–Friday, February 11–13, 8 pm, \$22 (\$18)

McKnight Theatre, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Fifth and Washington Streets, St. Paul  
“*First Night* imparts darker truths beneath its viciously dead-on showbiz mockery. It points toward the real nature of crowds and massed spectators, the need to be distracted from suffering outside, and the voracious, impossible desires we project onto our entertainers and icons.”

—*Live Art Magazine*

Ladies and Gentlemen. It's a crazy business, show business. We couldn't do it without you. You make us feel very warm and very special. You make our skin crawl and our eyes wet with rage. Eight performers in a line of dazzling smiles, dead eyes, sequined heels, and loud check suits. Somewhere, somehow, the night has come comically, horribly, and totally unstuck. “Spectacular deconstruction of entertainment itself...slowly but surely, *First Night* exposes the myths of the theatre” (*Globe and Mail*, Toronto).

Copresented with Ordway Center for the Performing Arts.

### **And on the Thousandth Night, Part of the Walker Close-Down Spectacular!**

Saturday, February 14, 11 pm–5 am

Performance only: \$14 (\$7); Closing Party/performance/films \$30 (\$15)

Walker Auditorium

Cheap red cloaks and cardboard crowns. Eight kings and queens? Perhaps. A story is told, made up live, dragged from memory. It's a long, mutating, and endlessly self-canceling tale that somehow seems to include many, if not all, of the stories in the world. The interwoven tales move between absurd vulgarity and surpassing tenderness as the hosts teeter between exhaustion and comic hysteria. “Seldom [do] performers on the stage give off such a sense of spirit with such lightness and evident pleasure” (*Gazette*, London). In *And on the Thousandth Night*, all topics are fair game: religion, modern myths, sex, film plots, traditional tales, jokes, personal insight, ghosts, love, well, you get the idea.

Help us close down the Walker and open up our year of Walker without Walls in a memorable fashion with this one-of-a-kind, six-hour performance. Come and go as you please, bring a pillow or blanket, and join us for a free continental breakfast at the end of this adventure in modern storytelling. Contains adult subject matter. Due to the unique nature of Forced

Entertainment's performance at the closing party, seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Forced Entertainment's residency and performances are made possible in part by generous support from The British Council, The Bush Foundation, and Target. Out There 16 is supported in part with funds from the Walker's Doris Duke Fund for Jazz and Dance. Walker without Walls is made possible by generous support from Target.

Tickets for A Festival of Forced Entertainment events are available at the Walker box office or by calling 612.375.7622; or visit [www.walkerart.org/tickets/](http://www.walkerart.org/tickets/). Patrons with special needs are asked to call two weeks in advance.

The Walker Art Center's Performing Arts Program is generously supported by funds from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation through the Doris Duke Fund for Jazz and Dance and the Doris Duke Performing Arts Endowment Fund.

**The Walker Art Center is located at 725 Vineland Place,  
at Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, one block off Highway I-94.  
For public information, call 612.375.7622.  
Gallery hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 10 am–5 pm;  
Thursday, 10 am–9 pm; Sunday, 11 am–5 pm; closed Monday.  
<http://www.walkerart.org>**