



Vol. #48 Addendum "The Fandango is art history because it was written & comes to you from the past"

2023

WWW.BILLYX.NET

MINNESOTA ARTIST BURIED ALIVE!!!



Performance for the Dead original logo – (Billy X design)

After a 4-day fast, Italian Wake and Jazz Funeral, Billy was buried alive for 3-days in the 1983 *Performance for the Dead*. His fast continued in the absolute darkness of the burial vault. Artists from over 25 countries responded to the performance, immortality and death with postal art for the parallel exhibition, *In Sympathy*.

Do the math. This year is the 40th anniversary. Billy says, "No Big Deal", but it seems a fairly good excuse for a party. Never mind precise dates. The whole month is fair game. If you were there, relive the memories. If you missed it, catch on up and become a part of historic live art. Billy reminds us, it's not about him. It's a *Performance for the Dead*. Remember loved ones. Remember the casualties of war, abuse, neglect and circumstance. Plans are underway, but we're still open for input. Dates and Times are tentative - so far it's:

Sept. 23 (1-7 pm CT) **Driftless Region Blowout Bash** - with the mandatory Midwestern Potluck right here at Art Works USA. The eXperimental Art Research Terminal (XART) studio and gravesite will be open for guests with an exhumed Billy, burial ephemera, video screenings and free jazz.

Sept. 27 (7- 8 pm Eastern Time) **Exhumed Zoom** - Art Works USA joins the Interior Beauty Salon and Franklin Furnace for a worldly wide anniversary party from New York's Franklin Furnace Loft. Reflections 40 years later open to collaborators,

artists, historians and the curious. Have a peek at burial archives, the studio & gravesite with sophisticated Q & A and an appearance by the corpse. - <https://franklinfurnace.org/> - "On a mission to make the world safe for avant-garde art". <https://www.interiorbeautysalon.com/> - "An organism living at the intersection of creativity and healing".

TBA Satellite Events: If the spirit moves you, why not host or attend a fully sanctioned satellite event? Dream up your own anniversary party or send for the Art Works USA **Official Buried Alive Party Kit** available for a modest fee. Each kit contains suggested instructions, video, odds and ends or odd ends. If Billy is available and agreeable, maybe you could zoom him to your party. Send documentation for the archives and become part of art history.

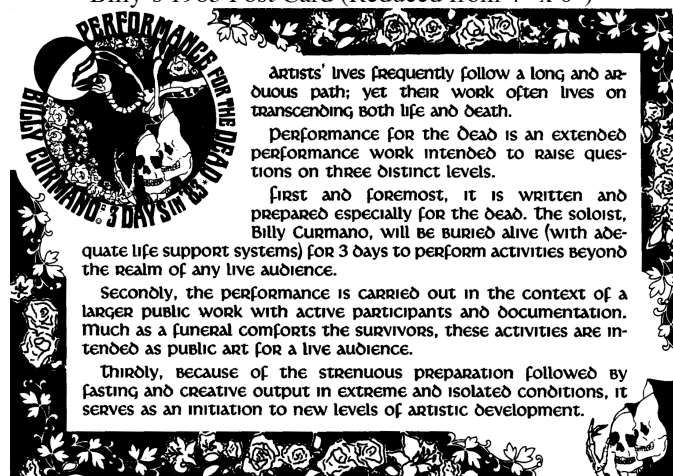
Of course, our make-a-buck division will push related Billy wares - the original design *Performance for the Dead* T-shirt, *Futurism's Bastard Son* and *The Search* (Billy book and DVD) along with historic artifacts, literature and miscellaneous, extraneous souvenirs. Most things will be available in the **Store** at www.billyx.net

Ideas or to volunteer: Email: billyx.net@gmail.com with "40-" in the subject line or post a SASE to Art Works USA.

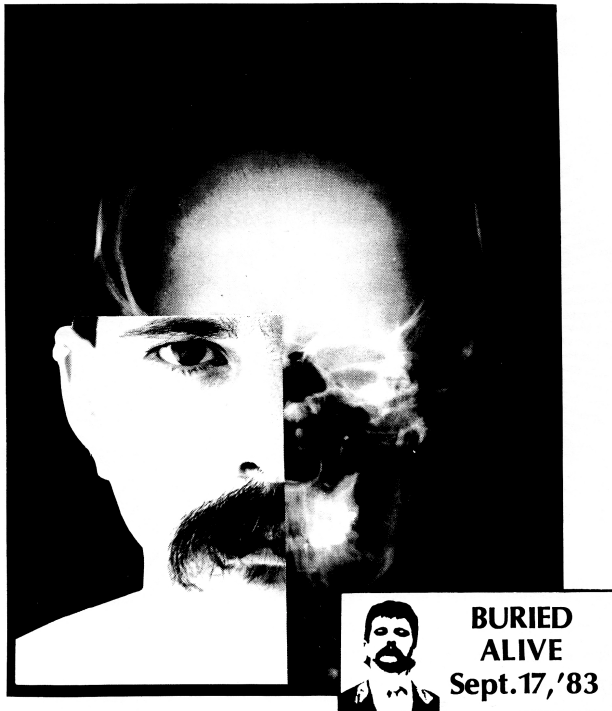
For updates follow Billy: <https://facebook.com/billycurmano> and check www.billyx.net

Billy knows *Performance for the Dead* would never have existed without the help and dedication of – oh so many – art workers, collaborators and well wishers. But, it's been forty years! We've lost touch and would love to reconnect. See the list of volunteers from the *In Sympathy* catalog on the over leaf. Where are they? If you know, spread the word.

Billy's 1983 Post Card (Reduced from 4" x 6")



IN SYMPATHY EXHIBITION



Catalog Cover: *Portrait of the Artist with Enhanced X-Ray*
X-Ray performed at Winona Clinic Ltd - Charges \$19.30
 06/01/83 - Patient: Billy X Curmano - Diagnosis ICD9CM
 Procedure X/R Less 4 V W - Physician: Dr. Christenson MD

1983 Performance for the Dead Art Workers:
In Sympathy Exhibition organized by Justa Letterhead and Billy Curmano
Exhibition Committee: Joseph Fleischman, Gabe, Terri Halweg-Gabe, Ray Kiihne & Clyde Stutesman.
Indexing: Dennis Zenk **Mailing:** Dennis Zenk & Alberta Ottman **Project Director:** Phyl Lauer **Medical Advisor:** Dr. David Christenson MD **Legal Advisor:** Stephen Delano
Architectural Advisors: Scott Halweg & James Malonophy **Art Historians:** Dr. Wallace Nils Johnson & Debora Leuchovius **Coffin Construction:** Buddy Baker assisted by Idella Burmeister & Laura Baker **Burial Vault:** Bill Roth assisted by Boo, Steve E. Pietras & Jake-A-Mado **Grave Marker:** Winona Monument Co. **Large Banner:** Rita Keller **Small Banner, Arm Bands & Auto pendants:** Laura Hall **Video:** Paul Woodworth **Photographers:** Steve Firkins, Kimberly Haedtke & Teri Halweg **Art Works USA Tour Narrator:** Patsy Tully **Gravediggers & Grounds Workers:** Billy, Carl Lacher, Paul W. Schollmeier, Tony Greensward, Steve Firkins, Clyde Stutesman, Scott Halweg, Huckleberry Gabe, Teri Halweg-Gabe, Vernon Robert Wobschell, Lesley Carlton, Alima, Kim Haedtke, Kathleen, Adam, Suzanne and Michael Paul, Carol De Lorenzo and Mitchel Rice **Editing, Mailing & General Assistance:** Buddy Baker, Steve Firkins, Kimberly Haedtke, Marci Johnson, Carl Lacher, Kathleen Paul, Kevin Pomeroy, Evelyn Roehl **Wake Hostess & Research:** Evelyn Roehl

The Jazz Funeral

Hostesses: Kathy Christenson & Connie Forest **Corpse:** Billy
Consultant: Jack Lucas **Music:** Gate City Ragtime, Dixieland, Jass & Philharmonic Society - Gary McDowell,

Norman Baron, Morrie Schuh, Chuck Bentley, Dr. Dan Barr, Duane Peterson & Jim Murray **Grand Marshall:** Scott Halweg **Grand Marshall Sash:** Jewel **Minister:** Milo Billman **1961 Cadillac Hears Owner/Operator:** Keith Tunesvik **Pall Bearers:** Kevin Pomeroy, Bill Crozier, Steve Firkins, DL Hunt **Grave Site Vigil Coordinator:** Carol DeLorenzo **Food Coordinator:** Mischa Bulger **In Sympathy Catalog:** Dr. Wallace Nils Johnson **Cover Photo & X-Ray Enhancement:** Kimberly Haedtke

Your INVITATION To FUN & ADVENTURE The Billy X. Curmano Fan Club

If you enjoy contemporary artist Billy X. Curmano, here's a great way to stay abreast of projects. Join the discriminating crowd and become a member of Billy's own Fan Club. Send the form, annual dues and any and all correspondence to:

ART WORKS USA 27979 COUNTY ROAD 17
 WINONA, MN 55987 RING: 507.452.1598
 billyx.net@gmail.com

Momma Curman, President Ex Officio Perpetuitas
 Kimberly Haedtke, Vice President Emeritus

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

\$5 **CHEAPO:** Wallet size membership card - some mailings.
 \$25 **IRREGULAR:** As above, plus well wishes from us.
 \$50 **REGULAR:** As above, plus a handsome wall certificate.
 \$100 **DELUXE:** As above, plus Great Moments Performance Art No-Stick stamp series and appropriate mailings.
 \$300 **DELUXE PLUS:** As above, plus original print.
 \$1000 **SUPER DELUXE:** As above, plus 2-day vacation at Scenic Art Works USA (travel from Winona, MN included).
 \$1500 **SAINT:** As above, plus vacation extended by a day.
 \$5000 **BUDDY:** As above, plus 1 of Billy's special pizzas and Billy will pal around with you for a little while.
Institutional rate: Indicate Same & add 20% surcharge for 1 newsletter to circulate and 1 to archive. Make checks payable **Art Works USA.** Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Premium substitutions are subject to our whims.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Okay! Kimberly, I just can't wait; I want to join Billy's Fan Club here are my first year's ANNUAL dues.

Name _____

 Address _____

 City _____

 State _____ Zip _____

 Phone _____

 Signature _____

 Membership
 Type _____ \$ _____ date _____

Add an E-mail if you like: