

SHADOW OF THE GEODE (Sombra del Geode):
The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance
Extravaganza - 2015 Anthology

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SHADOW OF THE GEODE

Sombra del Geode

**The Alternative
New Year's Day
Spoken Word / Performance
Extravaganza
2015 Anthology**

<http://www.alternativenyd.org/>



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FOREWORD

In this modern information age, it is hard to reconcile the fact that the sheer volume of material that is being published is minuscule in comparison to what is being written. In another time, good writers and poets were in high demand due to their rarity. Now you could scarcely walk down the street without running into a poet - should you be inclined to inquire with every passing stranger the method of their creative outlet. And in a artist haven such as the Village, talent is overflowing.

Such talent is what makes events like the Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza viable. There are only a few cities in the world where this kind of event is even possible let alone probable. To be more precise, there are few cities in the world where this kind of event can take place with this much raw talent onboard. And New York City is probably at the top of the list.

The ability to keep up with the leviathan tide of word and verse that washes over us is an unknowable skill to even the most diligent editor, let alone reader. It is for this reason that we rely on the ANTHOLOGY, both large and small collections, to keep us resolute. Without them, so many wonderful voices would just be lost to the currents.

Talent must be cultivated and harvested like any plentiful crop. After all, as was stated, it is not the artist that is in short supply, but the fans, followers, witnesses, critics, commentators, and documentarians that we need to encourage into existence. That is the purpose of this volume and many like it: To record and disseminate the voices for the current and future throngs of observers. To keep the audience alive.

What's a crop without consumers? And what better way to attract the consumer than a yearly gathering of the greatest? And what better companion to the spectacle than the archive? What other than the need to create provides the need for a book to be filled? What other than a need to fill an intellectual void provides the need for a book to be read?

Provide an opportunity for the poet to find an audience, and they will produced. ANYDSWPE is one such opportunity. An occasion for the proliferation of the word. A reason to want to help fatten a rather attractive treatise that will make a very comely figure on a book shelf. Where it may dwell in perpetuity, losing a bit of its gloss year after year to the rubbing of thumbs and palms on paper, until it is rubbed dirty-gray along the cut from repeated perusals.

ANYDSWPE - 2015 Anthology

By the method of the anthology, there is given up by many a writer, capable of producing the most profoundest of universal subjects, a contribution to the cause. Seventy poets with seventy voices, with seventy reasons to want (or need) to entertain, with thousands of fans of the art form willing to listen and embrace their efforts. Or, at least, thousands is the hope. HOPE is still one of the more acceptable of the irrational pleasures, isn't it?

So, reader, I hope you find our book very satisfying. You should buy extra copies and pass them along.

Really... Do that! And thanks.

- C. D. Johnson, Editor



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to

Pete Dolack
Madeline Artenberg
Boni Joi
Thaddeus Rutkowski
Robert Roth
Su Polo
Ellen Aug Lytle
Eve Packer
and Ptr Kozlowski

and others for making the Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza happen this year, January 1st, 2015, and subsequently this book as well.

And a special thanks to

Bruce Weber
and Joanne Pagano Weber

for keeping the event alive for 21 years.

Also, a very special thank you to Guido Contino at Bonsai Publishers for supporting this project and the arts.

APPENDIX

SHADOW OF THE GEODE - Contributor Biographies

Artenberg

Madeline Artenberg's poetry has appeared in many print and online publications, such as Vernacular and Rattle. She won Lyric Recovery and Poetry Forum prizes and was semi-finalist in the 2005 contest of Margie, The American Journal of Poetry. Her work often touches on Jewish and New York City themes. The Old In-and-Out, a play based on her poetry and that of Karen Hildebrand, directed by Kat Georges, garnered raves in June, 2013.

Cancel

Billy Cancel has recently appeared in Blazevox, Unlikely Stories & Bombay Gin. His latest body of work GAUZE COAST will be published in January by Hidden House Press. Sound poems, visual shorts and other aberrations can be found at www.billicancelpoetry.com

Carragon

Patricia Carragon's publication credits include BigCityLit, Clockwise Cat, Danse Macabre, Inertia, Levure littéraire, The Long Island Quarterly, Mad Hatters' Review, and others. She is the author of Journey to the Center of My Mind (Rogue Scholars Press, 2005) and Urban Haiku and More (Fierce Grace Press, 2010). She hosts Brownstone Poets and is the editor-in-chief of its annual anthology.

Casquarelli

John Casquarelli is the author of two full-length collections, On Equilibrium of Song (Overpass Books 2011) and Lavender (Authorspress 2014). He serves as poetry editor for Otter Magazine (<http://ottermagazine.com/>). In 2015, the International Higher Education Teaching and Learning Association (HETL) will include one of his poems in their anthology, Teaching as a Human Experience (Cambridge Scholars Publishing).

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Chan

Tina Chan is a lively spoken word poet whose writing style is a poetic puzzle for readers to determine the definitive underwriting. She has an abiding passion for writing ablaze: be it poetry or be it Yelp reviews based on personal experiences for life's juicy sweetness to eschew the negativity as an outlet. Her life's struggles do not define her as a person, but uses it as a motivator for inspiration as an outlet in her writing.

Cortes

Lydia Cortes, a Brooklyn-erican, is the author of two collections of poetry, *Lust for Lust* and *Whose Place*. Her work also has been published in various anthologies and online.

Demuth

Vivian Demuth's poetry book, *Fire Watcher*, published by Guernica Editions highlights "lively eco-poems with an exquisite eye for detail and a profound concern for the larger environmental picture." Vivian is also the author of a novel, *Eyes of the Forest*, and a second novel, *Bear War-den*, is forthcoming Spring 2014 from Inanna Publications.

Dolack

Pete Dolack is an activist, essayist, poet and photographer who tries to keep juggling all these balls but, alas, keeps dropping some of them. Pete currently writes about the economic crisis and what a better world might look like on the *Systemic Disorder* blog, and works with Trade Justice New York Metro to stop the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Durica

Trae Durica is a genderqueer Poet and Artist based in Brooklyn. Trae's poems can be found in print (notably: *great weather* for MEDIA's 2014 anthology and NYSAI'S inaugural edition) and hiding in the shadows of half

SHADOW OF THE GEODE - Contributor Biographies

remembered songs. Thank you for reading these words and giving them life.

Evans

Bill Evans' book of poems, *Modern Adventures*, was published by Spuyten Duyvil press in 2014. He's lives in the East Village, almost around the corner.

Feast

Jim Feast is the author (with Ron Kolm) of the novel *Neo Phobe*. He is a member of the Unbearables writers group and co-edited four of their anthologies.

Finberg

Bonny Finberg: "Kali's Day" (Autonomedia/Unbearable Books, 2014), "How the Discovery of Sugar Produced the Romantic Era" (Sisyphus Press, 2006); "Déjà Vu" (Corrupt Press, Paris, 2011); contributions in *The Brooklyn Rail*, *Evergreen Review*, *Sensitive Skin*; *Upstairs at Duroc* (Paris); *Van Gogh's Ear* (Paris); She's included in NYU Fales' Downtown Archive and received a 2014 Kathy Acker Award for Fiction.

Fish

Cheryl J. Fish's recent poetry chapbook is *Make It Funny, Make It Last* (Belladonna); her poems have appeared in *The Bloomsbury Anthology of Contemporary Jewish American Poetry*, *Far from the Centers of Ambition: The Legacy of Black Mountain College*; *Terrain.org*; *New American Writing*, *The Tribeca Poetry Review*. Her fiction from the 80s journal *Between C&D* will be featured in an exhibit from the Fales Library at NYU. She is the author of the non-fiction book *Black and White Women's Travel Writing: Antebellum Explorations*.

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Gibbons

Robert Gibbons is a poet-performer living in New York City. His first collection of poetry, *Close to the Tree*, was published by Three Rooms Press in 2012. Other credits includes *Harlem World Magazine*, *the Hyperallergic*, *Poets and Painters*, *the Black Earth Institute*, *Turtle Island Quarterly*, *Paragram*, *Deep Water Literary*, *Suisun Valley Review*, *Fruita Pulp*, and *Killer Whale Journal*. Information regarding his collection can be found at www.threeroomspress.com

Gioseffi

Daniela Gioseffi won an American Book Award, two NYSCA grants and the John Ciardi Award for Lifetime Achievement in poetry. Her first of sixteen books: *EGGS IN THE LAKE*. Her latest: *BLOOD AUTUMN*. A documentary, *AUTHOR and ACTIVIST* is in production portraying her work in Civil Rights, Eco-Feminism, Peace and Climate Justice. She edits www.Eco-Poetry.org and helped assemble *The Peoples Climate March*, 2014.

Green

Russ Green is Co-Editor at Great Weather for Media based in New York City. He hosts, along with his fellow editors, at their weekly Spoken Word Sundays at Parkside Lounge on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Russ also hosts and curates the Green's Revolution reading series at Cornucopia's Noshery in Amityville, NY and a quarterly music and poetry series at BrickHouse Brewery in Patchogue, NY.

Hart

Stephanie Hart is the author of the book *Mirror Mirror: A Collection of Memoirs and Stories*, and a contributor to the wonderful magazine *And Then*.

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Heman

Bob Heman has edited CLWN WR (formerly Clown War) since the early 1970s.

Henry

Thomas Henry is a poet from Brooklyn. His body of work is made up of reactions to the gross inadequacies of the world around him. Sure, he's performed in some cool places and has been published here and there, but that is of little importance. What's important is what he does next, and that it engages you.

Hepp-Galván

Holly Hepp-Galván holds an M.F.A. in Playwriting from Hunter College. She's currently Resident Playwright with BrassTacks in NYC. Other recent work includes "Sprites" with Ballet Austin and Pollyanna Theatre Company, "Departure" with City Theatre Miami and "Tamed", an adaptation of "The Taming of the Shrew", at Pioneer Playhouse. Holly is also a performer and a teaching theatre artist.

Hoffman

Roxanne Hoffman worked on Wall Street, now answers a patient hotline for visiting nurses. Her work's in several anthologies including *The Bandana Republic: A Literary Anthology by Gang Members and Their Affiliates* (Soft Skull Press) and *It All Changed in an Instant: More Six-Word Memoirs by Writers Famous & Obscure* (Harper Perennial). She runs literary press Poets Wear Prada.

Huberman

David Huberman has been published in Tribes, The Best of Panic, and many other magazines, anthologies, and chap books.

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Irving

Kate Irving's poems have appeared in, among others, BigCityLit.com, qaartsiluni, Press 1, Over the Walls, What Comes Next, and Tamarind. She was included in The ANYDSWPE 2014 Anthology Estrellas en el Fuego (Stars in the Fire)., and has a chapbook, 'Raising the Arsonist's Daughter from the Dead" 2014 from Finishing Line Press. Kate is also a serious cook – a different but similarly creative outlet that nourishes.

Ivy

Evie Ivy is a NYC poet/dancer. She also is host of the long running Green Pavilion Poetry Event in Brooklyn.

Joi

Boni Joi was born in North Miami Beach, Florida, raised in New Jersey and discovered her lost lineage in Salem, Massachusetts. She has a MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University and has read and performed her poems at numerous venues in New Jersey, New York and elsewhere including Switzerland, Canada, and England. Her poems have appeared in Arabella, Long Shot, Boog City Reader, Big Hammer, Lungfull!, The Brooklyn Rail and many other journals. Her first collection of poetry, Before During or After Rainstorms, was published in 2012. She works a photograph and reference archivist and lives with musical chef Tobi Joi in Brooklyn.

Joi

Tobi Joi is one of Switzerland's premier rockers. Known for his bass guitar and trumpet playing skills in bands such as Lobster, The Flying Shrimps, Take A Virgin, Moped Lads, Steven's Nude Club & the Nude Horns, Sylvia Juncosa Band, and Switzerland's only Mod band The Reaction and many more. Audiences experience stoner-rock anthems and heavy psychedelic bass and drum symphonies that meander to a fully amplified crawl.

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Jones

Larry Jones was the co-producer with Bruce Weber of the first ANYDSWPE at Café Nico, his loft apartment and poetry/performance art project above the Pyramid Club, in 1995. He is an Associate of the Academy of American Poets, and his biography appears in Marquis Who'sWho in America. He teaches literature and creative writing within the Gifted Academy of Hofstra University.

Johnson

C. D. Johnson is an angry, bitter business analyst and IT consultant who writes, edits, and publishes on the side. In addition to serving as the resident graphics designer and webmaster for the Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza, this is his second year putting together the anthology for the New Year's event. This year, like last year, he says "I won't do that again!" He is likely to do it again next year. As a philosopher and logician, he enjoys suffering, frustration, and dissatisfaction.

Kolm

Ron Kolm is a contributing editor of Sensitive Skin and the editor of the Evergreen Review. He is the author of The Plastic Factory, Divine Comedy and Suburban Ambush. His work has been published in the Outlaw Bible of American Poetry, the Brooklyn Rail, Urban Graffiti, Tribes and Live Mag!. Ron's papers were purchased by the New York University library.

Levokove

Mindy Levokove is a local multi-media artist and performance poet. Delighted to be included, she wishes you peace and joy.

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Lockhart

Annmarie Lockhart is the founding editor of vox poetica, an online literary salon dedicated to bringing poetry into the everyday, and Unbound Content, an independent press for a boundless age. A lifelong resident of Bergen County, NJ, she lives, works, and writes two miles east of the hospital where she was born.

Lytle

Ellen Lytle is currently archiving her papers / planning book of short fiction from her novel/ being active in mucho mas animal welfare.

Maldonado

Sheila Maldonado is the author of one-bedroom solo (Fly by Night Press, 2011). She grew up in Coney Island. Her family hails from Honduras. She teaches creative writing for The City University of New York and Teachers & Writers Collaborative.

Marshell

Kyla Marshell's poems and prose have appeared in SPOOK Magazine, Blackbird, Vinyl Poetry, Sarah Lawrence magazine, on Wondaland.com, Gawker.com, and elsewhere. In 2013, Ebony.com named her one of "7 Young Black Writers You Should Know." She is a graduate of Spelman College, the MFA program at Sarah Lawrence College, and Cave Canem. She lives in Brooklyn.

Maux

Faux Maux: writer, actress, comic, dancer, muse; created or co-created hundreds of acts of mad art and proprietary plays with dozens of NYC production teams.

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Mercado

Assistant editor and board member of Eco-Poetry (dot) Org, Nancy Mercado recently presented her work at Casa de las Americas in Havana, Cuba. Featured on National Public Radio, the PBS NewsHour, and The Encyclopedia of Hispanic American Literature, her work has appeared in dozens of anthologies. She is the author of *It Concerns the Madness*. Nancy Mercado has been instrumental in publishing some of the most recognized writers of our time.

Moscovich

David Moscovich is the author of the novella, *You Are Make Very Important Bathtime*, and inventor of the CAPTCHA Poem, a form inspired by anti-spamming software. A finalist for the 2013 Eric Hoffer Award for Best New Writing, Moscovich lives in New York City and is editor of Louffa Press, a micro-press dedicated to printing innovative fiction.

Nieves

Myrna Nieves is a writer and director for twenty years of the Boricua College Winter Poetry Series. Her books include: *Libreta de sueños* (narraciones), *Breaking Ground: Anthology of Puerto Rican Women Writers in New York 1980-2012* and *Another Version of Hansel and Gretel*. Nieves received the Poetry Award of the Instituto de Puerto Rico (NY) in 2013.

Ormerod

Jane Ormerod is the author of *Welcome to the Museum of Cattle* (Three Rooms Press, 2012), *Recreational Vehicles on Fire* (Three Rooms Press, 2009), and the chapbook *11 Films*. She is a founding editor at great weather for MEDIA, an independent press focusing on edgy and experimental poetry and prose.

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Ouzoonian

Amy Ouzoonian is a poet, yogi and artist. She is a member of the band Expat, editor of the forthcoming Tribes anthology, In the Arms of Words: Poems for Disaster Relief (Sherman Asher), Skyscrapers, Taxis and Tampons (Fly By Night Press) and author of two books of poetry Your Pill (Foothills Publishing) and Found In Phoenix (Fly By Night). Ouzoonian lives in Phoenix, AZ with her cats, chickens and a dog named Bandit.

Padnos-Shea

Stella Padnos-Shea is, in part, poet, social worker, Mother, suicide survivor, Brooklynite, Scorpio. She is thrilled to get out of the house (or, apartment) for this event. She works part-time as a therapist and political organizer, as well as wild hours as Ma to three-year-old Mirabel, who is superb.

Perez

Mireya Perez's poetry searches for "that other voice" breaking through entrapment and oppression, the fragile markers to hidden voices. Her work appears in Revista del Hada, Caribbean Review, Americas Review, Diosas en Bronce: Anthology of Colombian Women Writers, IRP Voices, among others.

Perl

Puma Perl is a performer, producer, and a widely published poet/writer. She is the author of two chapbooks, Belinda and Her Friends and Ruby True, and two full-length collections, knuckle tattoos and Retrograde. As Puma Perl and Friends, she performs with some of NYC's best musicians and merges poetry with rock n roll.

Peterson

Helen Peterson, M.A., a Cuba-native, performs her poems with castanets. Awards from Mobius, The Poetry Magazine; Pen and Brush; Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation among others Publications: Mobius, The Poetry

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Magazine; U.S. 1 Worksheet; Avocet; among others REVIEW: Experience . . . magic and genius of Helen's[poetry]. . . heart and soul.--Ellen Gilmer, IPAIMPRESS.

Polo

Su Polo is a multitalented artist. A native New Yorker, she is a writer of poems and stories, singer/songwriter with guitar and dulcimer, Jazz vocalist, photographer, painter, sculptor and computer graphic artist. Her book of poems and stories, *Turning Stones*, is available at St. Marks Books. She is the founder and host of the Saturn Series poetry reading in its 21st year every Monday night in NYC. Su is also the set designer for the last 9 years of the New Years Day Poetry Extravaganza. See her website at <http://www.supolo.com>

Price

Ron Price is a Teaching Artist at Juilliard. His most recent collection is *A True Account of the Failure of Bodies to Adequately Burn*.

Restino

Janet Restino is a formally trained as a sculptor. She's immersed in visual arts as well as writing and performing. When Bob Dylan started appearing in her dreams, replacing Picasso, she moved to NYC to explore the poetry/music world Downtown. She forced herself on stage at Folk City, shaking in her boots. A man gave her flowers, and so she began.

Rosaldo

Renato Rosaldo's books of poetry are, most recently, "The Day of Shelly's Death" (Duke UP), then "Diego Luna's Insider Tips" (winner Many Mountains Moving book manuscript contest, selected by Martin Espada), and *Prayer to Spider Woman / rezo a la mujer araña* (American Book Award, 2004).

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Rutkowski

Thaddeus Rutkowski is the author of the novels Haywire, Tetched and Roughhouse. Haywire won the Members' Choice Award, given by the Asian American Writers Workshop. He teaches at Medgar Evers College and the Writer's Voice of the West Side YMCA in New York. He received a fiction writing fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts.

Sarai

Sarah Sarai's poetry and fiction have been published in many journals, one full collection, four chapbooks, five anthologies, one scroll, a few postcards, and a broadside. Several of her poems have been read aloud on the internets by a robot. She hopes to explain line breaks to the robot community, one day.

Savage

Tom Savage has written ten books of poems including Brainlifts and Political Conditions / Physical States. His latest collection is Afghanistan: From Herat To Balkh and Back Again from Steve Cannon's Fly By Night Press. He currently edits the magazine Tamarind.

Tom Savage has written ten books of poems including Brainlifts, Political Conditions / Physical States and Afghanistan: From Herat To Balkh and Back Again. He edits the magazine Tamarind.

Sherman

Susan Sherman's most recent books are America's Child: A Woman's Journey through the Radical Sixties (Curbstone 'Northwestern University Press, 2007); The Light that Puts an End to Dreams: New and Selected Poems (Wings Press, 2012, Finalist in the Publishing Triangle Audre Lorde Lesbian Poetry Award); Nirvana on Ninth Street: Short Fiction (Wings Press, 2014)

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Shot

Danny Shot was longtime publisher and editor of Long Shot arts and literary magazine, which he founded along with Eliot Katz in 1982 in New Brunswick, NJ. Mr. Shot lives in Hoboken, NJ (home of Frank Sinatra and baseball) where he happens to be the poet-in-residence of the Hoboken Museum.

Sit

Joanna Sit is the author of *My Last Century* (Spuyten Duyvil 2012) and *In Thailand with the Apostles* (Spuyten Duyvil 2014).

Theisen de González

JM Theisen de González received her first rejection letter at age 9 from Reader's Digest when her proud Gramps submitted a homework assignment about Lucky the hamster. Previous publications/venues: "The Curse", "Pink Pages", East Village Eye, "Waterfront Week" (columnist), "Estrellas..", Knitting Factory, Nuyorican Cafe, McManus Cafe, Pussycat Lounge, Right Bank, Charleston; in Spain: La Llotja, Hotel Colón, Bar Babia.

Torres

Zev Torres' poetry has appeared in numerous print and on-line publications including, Great Weather for MEDIA's most recent anthology, and the summer, 2014 editions of The Linnet's Wings, First Literary Review-East, and Typoetic.us. In 2010, Zev founded the Skewered Syntax Poetry Crawls and, since 2008, has hosted Make Music New York's annual Spoken Word Spectacular.

Weber

Bruce Weber is the founding organizer of the alternative. unemployment changed things but he continued to set up the structure and curating

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Wilson

Bakar Wilson is a fellow of Cave Canem, the prestigious organization nourishing vital new voices in African-American poetry. He has performed his work at the Bowery Poetry Club, Poetry Project, The Studio Museum of Harlem, and The Asian-American Writer's Workshop among others. His poetry has appeared in The Vanderbilt Review, Stretching Panties, The Brooklyn Rail, and Flicker and Spark: A Contemporary Queer Anthology. A native of Tennessee, Bakar received his B.A. in English from Vanderbilt University and his M.A. in Creative Writing from The City College of New York. He is an Adjunct Professor of English at Borough of Manhattan Community College at CUNY.

Yung

Susan L. Yung - Domestic-violence; misogynist-hater; anti-racist; democractic-anarchist; ghettoe-girl; Chinatown-Harlem; East Village-West Village; homesteader-gentrifier; yuppie-squatter; homeless-sheltered; American-Asian; World-Traveller; Adventress-Common-Law-Wife; Photographer-Videographer; Martial-Fine-Artist; Musician-Drummer; Artist-Scientist; Geologist-Librarian; Mathematician-Designer; Collector-Exhibitionist; Buyer-Seller; Cook-Politician; Migrant-worker; Independent-Dependent; Pacifist-Activist.

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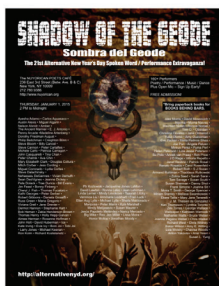
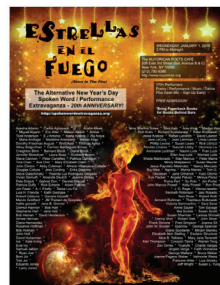
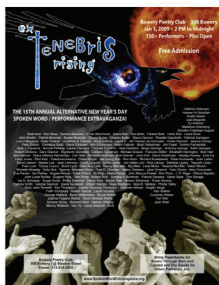
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