

The Closing of Sandro's House in Rome



Glauco Benigni



Piazza della Malva 4, Trastevere-Rome 1993



Angelo Forte

In early March 1993, before to close his house in Trastevere from where he had be evicted, Sandro Dernini organized an auction party, with Glauco Benigni and Angelo Forte playing the auctioners, to give out in sale all his historical memorabilia, before that he was moving to New York with his wife Maria Pia Marsala and their son Rodolfo Maria Dernini. As symbolical continuation of the *1992 Christopher Columbus Voyage in the Planet of Art*, the money earned from the auction he left to Metateatro for a multimedia implementation of the Polaroid group shot made that night with some many historical from since LIACA and Plexus time.



Anna Paola Bonanni



Pippo Di Marca



Micaela Serino



Enzo Ciarravano, Carla Forte, Maria Marsala, Stelio Fiorenza, Trastevere-Rome 1993

In April, in Sardinia, at the University of Cagliari, on the occasion of the Scientific Culture Week at the Cittadella dei Musei, as follow up the 1992 Well Being Columbus Reconciliation Forum, Franco meloni presented the project of *Well Being and Reconciliation Network, 1992-1996*, in which the *Plexus Black Box* was pointed out as the database framework.

In New York, in early May, at the office of the commissioner on Human Rights of the City of New York, Dennis de Leon, it was established the International Reconciliation and Well Being Committee by the USA participants at the 1992 Columbus Forum in Sardinia, with the purpose to organize in New York a second international well being conference on “Conflict, Reconciliation and Well Being at the Closing of the XXth Century”. Sandro Dernini was appointed conference scientific director and Mico Licastro was the conference director, with Dennis de Leon acting as chairman.

Around the same period, David Ecker invited Sandro Dernini to join him as NYU graduate assistant in the development of the NYU Lower East Side Graduate Summer Institute of Living Traditions in Art, a community-based urban art education project. It was articulated in two three week advanced courses. “*Living Traditions in Art*” course conducted by David Echer and “*Projects in Photography*” conducted by Mali Olatunji, photographer of the Museum of Modern Art and co-director of the Institute.



Lower East Side, New York 1993



Josè Rodriguez, Patrica Parker, David Ecker, Rolando Politti, Luis Vergara, Alfa Diallo, Perry Walker and other students, at NYU Art and Art Professions Department, Barney Bdg, East Village, New York 1993

The focus of the Institute was on community-based collaborative efforts to devise urban art education strategies for the advancement of artistic and cultural traditions of the Lower East Side. It had also the purpose to bridge NYU with the Lower East Side community, on the issues of art, reconciliation and well being. It was presented as an international travelling community-based art education project, starting from the Lower East Side program and to be further developed internationally through “*The Voyage of the Elisabeth*”, as a continuing multimedia travelling art event made to raise up the visibility of the Institute’s activities addressed to the advancement of the living traditions in arts around the world. *The phenomenology in the Arts*” course was focused to engage students in current issues in multicultural and cross-cultural inquiry in the arts with an emphasis on developing qualitative research skills. It was followed by Sandro Dernini for his Ph.D. study. At the end of the course, it was held by the students in the art studio of the Barney Building a collective presentation of their field researches in the Lower East Side.

“Phenomenology in the Arts” 1993 NYU Course Final Presentation



David Ecker



Eva Hsueh, and an other students NYU Barney Bldg. East Village, New York 1993

"Phenomenology in the Arts" 1993 NYU Course Final Presentation



Perry Walker

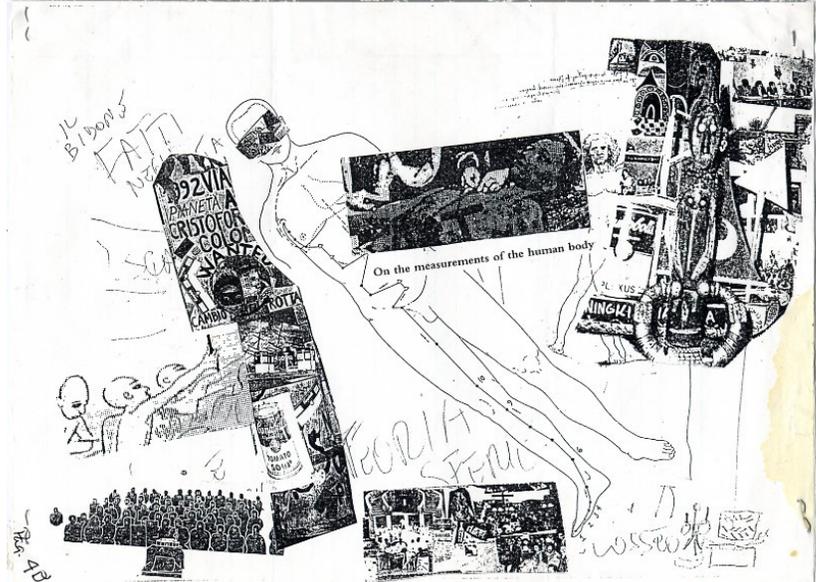
Luis Vergara



Sandro Dernini's display, Barney Bldg, East Village, New York\1993

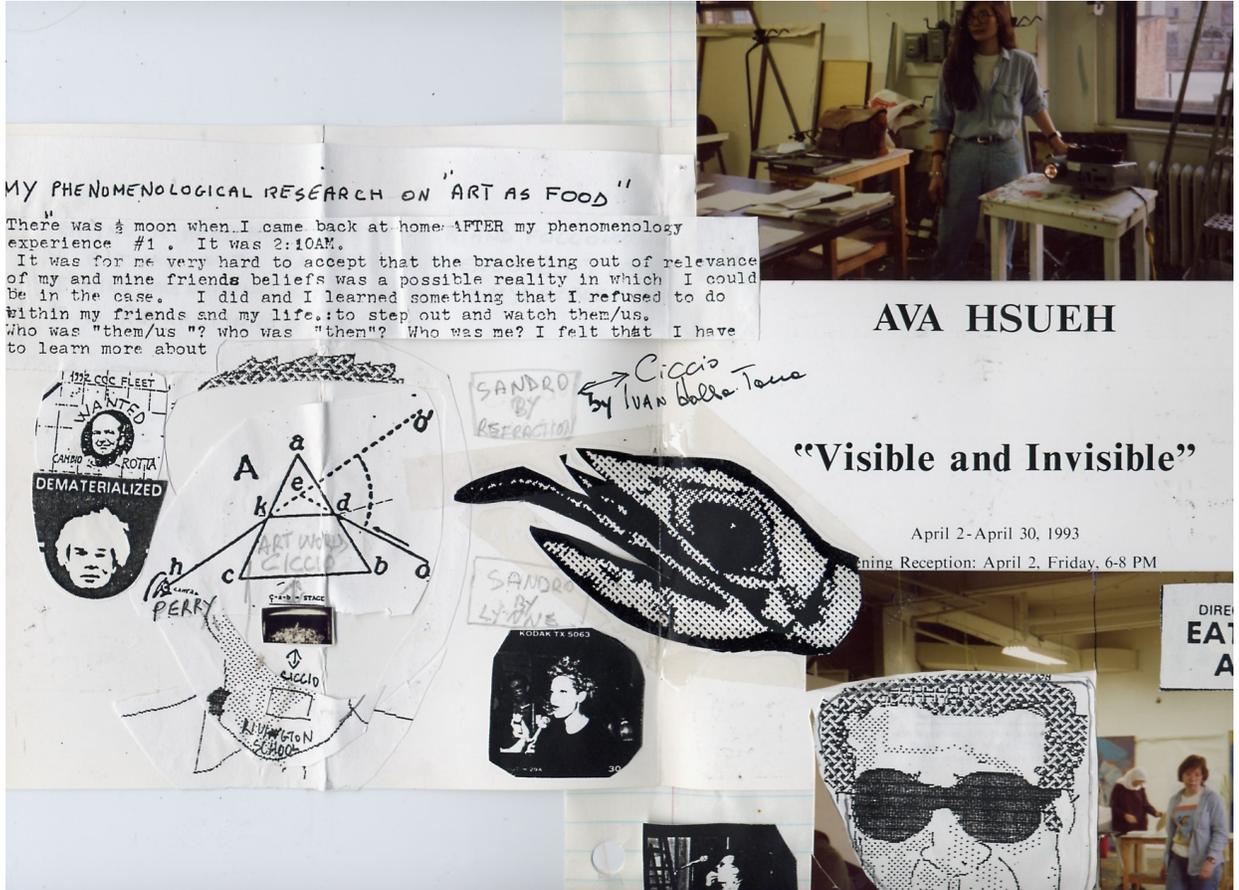
"ART"

A Living Positivistic Tradition from Science,
A Phenomenological Report from "The Voyage of the Elisabeth"
by the Artist as Researcher



Sandro Dernini's final paper for David Ecker's NYU Course "Phenomenology in the Arts", New York 1993

“Art as Food”



Dernini's final paper for David Ecker's NYU Course "Phenomenology in the Arts", New York 1993

Between June and July, Sandro Dernini organized at the Barney Building a series of community-based round tables and events for the NYU Graduate Summer Institute.

THE WELL BEING AND RECONCILIATION NETWORK
PLEXUS INTERNATIONAL ART EVENTS CALENDAR

Department of Art and Art Professions, New York University
 Graduate Summer Institute
Living Traditions in Art: The Lower East Side
 A Community-Based Urban Art Education Project

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1993; 4:30-6:30PM
 FIRST ROUNDTABLE
**“Cultural Navigation and Community:
 Art, Reconciliation, and Well-Being”**

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1993; 6:30PM
 SECOND ROUNDTABLE
“The Artist as Researcher”

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1993; 5:00PM
 THIRD ROUNDTABLE
“Urban Art Education”

THURSDAY, JULY 1-JULY 30th, 1993
 ART EXHIBITION
“The Lower East Side”

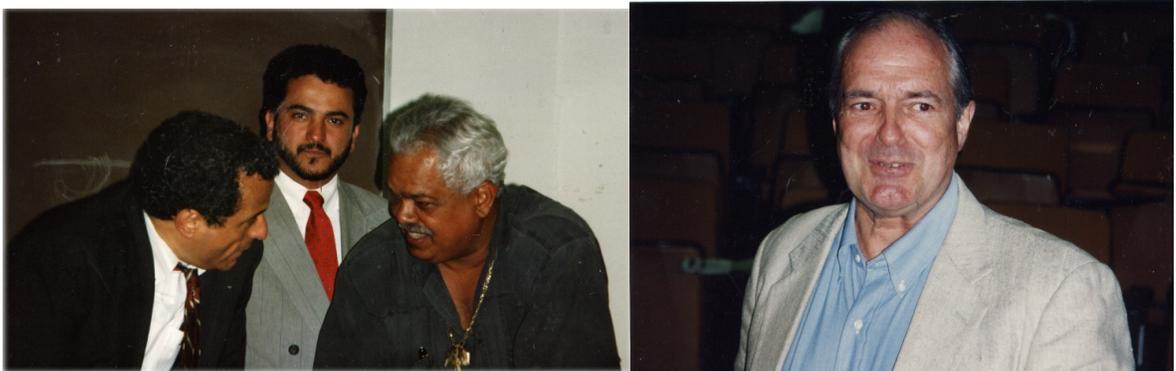
Thursday, July 1, 1993, 7-9 PM
 Nuyorican Poets Cafe, New York
**The Re-Patriation of “Art”
 into the Community**

As part of the celebration sponsored by MOMA at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe for the exhibition “The Latin-American Artists of the XXth Century” at the Museum of Modern Art, New York

NYU Graduate Summer Institute Living Traditions in Arts, Barney Bldg., East Village, New York 1993

The first round table, hosted by David Ecker, was “*Cultural Navigation and Community: Art Reconciliation and Well Being*”, chaired by Dennis de Leon with the participation of Antonio Pagano local Lower East Side political representative, Miguel Algarin, founder of the Nuyorican Poets Café, Jose Rodriguez and Tony Feliciano, chairman of the Board of Director of C.U.A.N.D.O. Community Cultural Civic Centre, Sandro Dernini, coordinator of Plexus International and of the Reconciliation and Well Being Network, and Mali Olatunji, co-director of the NYU Graduate Summer Institute and fine arts photographer of the Museum of Modern Art of New York.

First Round Table
 “*Cultural Navigation and Community: Art Reconciliation and Well Being*”



Dennis di Leon, Antonio Pagano, Miguel Algarin, David Ecker, NYU Barney Blg., New York 1993



Tony Feliciano and Jose Rodriguez, NYU Barney Blg., East Village, New York 1993

“*The Artist as Researcher*” was the second round table, with the participation of Alfa Diallo, Arturo Lindsay, John Torreano, Rolando Politi

Second Round Table “*The Artist as Researcher*”



Alfa Diallo, David Ecker, John Torreano, Arturo Lindsay, NYU Barney Blg., East Village, New York 1993



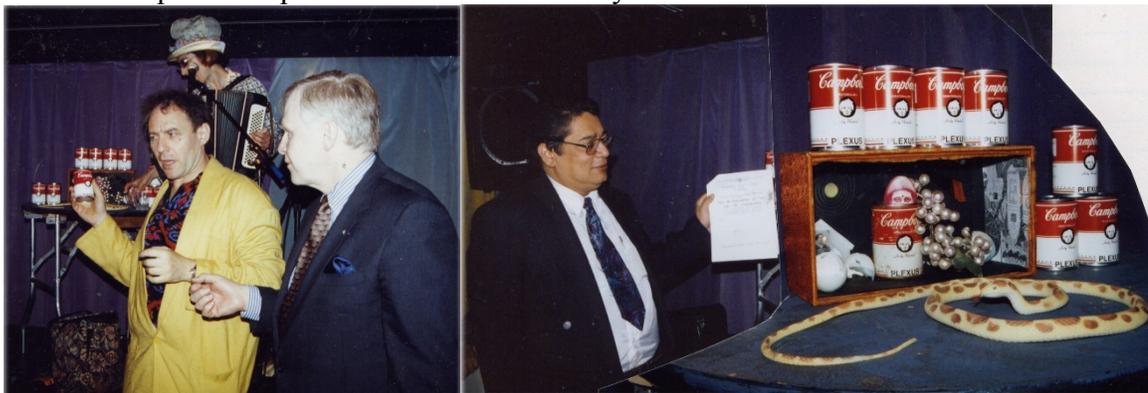
NYU Barney Bldg., East Village, New York 1993

Your 15 Seconds



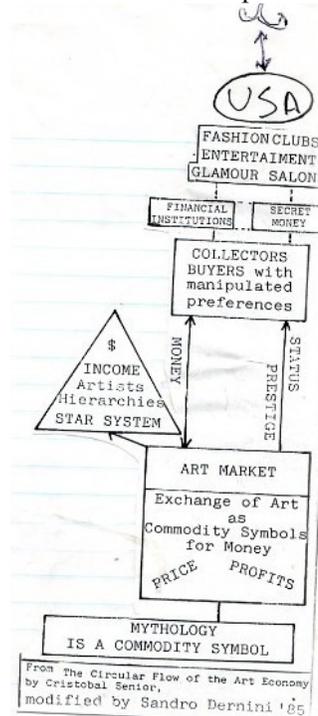
Richard Heisler, USA Club, New York 1993

On May 29, Sandro Dernini at the Richard Heisler's cabaret "Your 15 Seconds", in the Big Bottom Lounge of the USA Club, performed with Jose Rodriguez the repatriation of a Plexus Campbell Soup Can into the Community.



Richard Heisler with an art collector, Jose Rodriguez, USA Club, New York 1993

Introduction to the Repatriation of a Plexus Campbell Soup Can into the Community



From Sandro Dernini's performance, USA Club, New York 1993

On July 1, "Cultural Navigation: The Lower East Side" the final exhibition of the Summer Institute was held in the NYU Rosenberg Gallery in the Barney Bldg, with also the participation of Lower East Side artists that interacted with students activities.

Cultural Navigation: The Lower East Side Show

Cultural Navigation;



Opening Reception To a Multi-Media Gathering on Community-Based Art / Art Education Projects.

Place: Rosenberg Gallery, Barney Building
Department of Art and Art Professions
New York University

Date: Thursday, July 1st 1993

Time: 6pm - 9pm

Address: 34 Stuyvesant Street, (betwn 9/10 St.
and 2/3 Ave).

The Lower East Side

NYU Rosenberg Gallery, Barney Bldg., East Village New York 1993

Cultural Navigation: The Lower East Side Show

<p>THE SOUND OF LOISAIDA</p> <p>The sound of people Moving together in Loisaida Where you meet all nationalities It is the sound of All these different languages You hear as you walk down The streets and avenues in Loisaida</p> <p>So don't leave anyone out Because everyone is able and No one is here to stay The sound of Loisaida is I, You, Them and Us All walking down The streets and avenues of Loisaida</p> <p>© Alfa Diallo</p>	 <p>On top: photo by Fred Floyt, On left: Plexus CUANDO Passport by Jose Rodriguez, At the center poster with Bimbo Rivas image, On left: Moon of Venus by Valery Oisteanu</p>
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Alfa Diallo's Poem Loisada, New York 1993
Entrance show, NYU Barney Blg. East Village, 1993

The Lower East Side Gardens



Student research on Lower East Side gardens, Rosenberg Gallery NYU Barney Blg. East Village, 1993
Cultural Navigation: The Lower East Side Show



Ship by Linus Coraggio, Rosenberg Gallery NYU Barney Blg. East Village, 1993

Cultural Navigation: The Lower East Side Show



Ivan dalla Tana (Ciccio)

Rolando Politi Linus Coraggio

Plexus Voyage into the Lower East Side Community



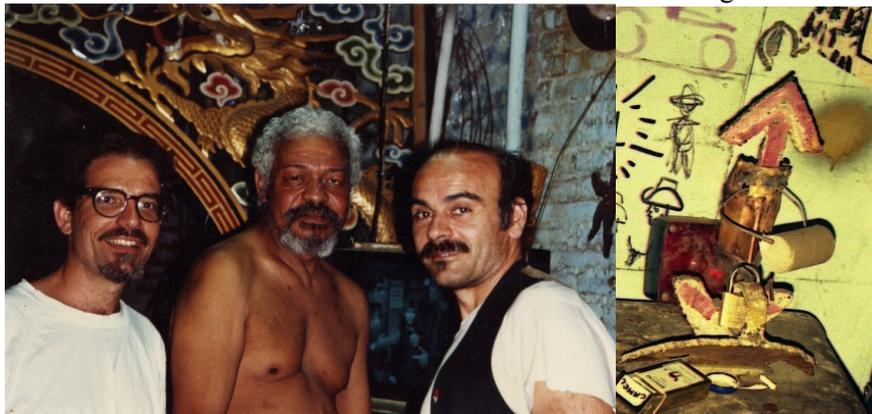
Art Altar by Sandro Dernini, NYU Barney Bdg. East Village, New York 1993

Lower East Side: "Once There Was A Village"



Rolando Politti and Yuri Kapralov, Lower East Side, New York 1993

NYU Graduate Summer Institute's Field Research on Rivington School



Luis Vergara, Frank Pio and Felix of Rivington School, Lower East Side, New York, 1993

Sandro Dernini, as closing act of his action, on July 1, went ritually from the NYU Barney Bldg to the Nuyorican Poets Café, on East 3rd Street, between Avenue B and C, where it

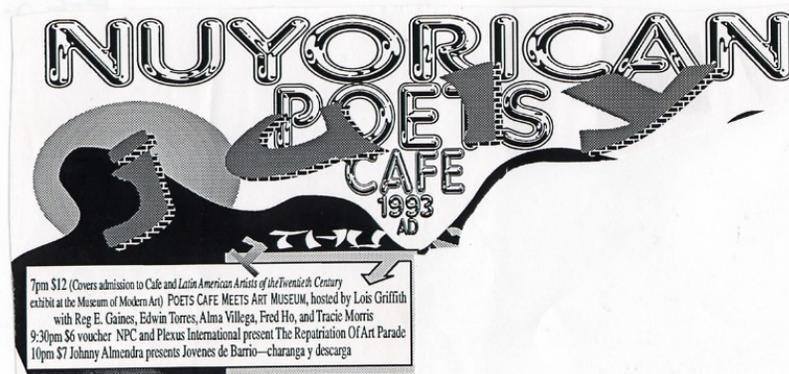
was staged a special event in collaboration with the Museum of Modern Art for the exhibition at the MOMA of “Latin American Artists of the Twentieth Century”. There, Sandro performed his *Re-Patriation of “Art” into the Community* with Micaela Serino’s Plexus Art Money bills used as entrance tickets and by paying homage to the Mickey Pinero’s indio statuette, at the bar of the Cafè.

The Re-Patriation of “Art” into the Community



Miguel Algarin, Mickey Pinero’s Indio and Julio, Nuyorican Poets Café, Lower East Side, New York 1993

Nuyorican Poets Café Ticket for the Repatriation of Art into the Community



Plexus Art Money by Micaela Serino, Nuyorican Poets Café, Lower East Side, New York 1993

In October, from Cagliari, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the 1992 Columbus Reconciliation Forum, Franco Meloni, Anna Saba, Antonello Dessi, Guido Pegna, Alessandra Menesini, Andrea Portas, Annamaria Janin, Giovanna Caltagirone and Luisa Amat di Salfilippo arrived in New York for “*The Nuraghic Voyage of the Elisabeth*”. They were also accompanied by prof. Francesco Corongiu, dean of the School of Sciences of the University of Cagliari.

The Nuraghic Voyage of the Elisabeth

for
The Repatration
of ART
into the
Community

PLEXUS
INTERNATIONAL

with
Lower East Side
Art Community

New York
University
Art Department
and
Institute
Afro-American
Affairs

Università degli
Studi
di Cagliari
Physics Department

School of
Architecture
Cooper Union

Nuyorican
Poets Café

PRESENTS

PLEXUS
INTERNATIONAL

IN ORDER TO SURVIVE FROM
SARDINIA PLEXUS COMMUNITY

Stefano Asili
Gaetano Brundu
Antonio Caboni
Giovanna Caltagirone
Sandro Dernini
Antonello Dessi
Franco Girina
Randi Hansen
Annamaria Janin
Gabriella Locci
Maria Grazia Medda
Franco Meloni
Valeria Meloni
Guido Pegna
Andrea Portas
Anna Saba
Massimo Sanna
Francesca Zaru

&
TIME-ART

New York, 10 - 13 October 1993

CALENDAR
New York, 10 - 13 October 1993

10
Sunday, 5:00 pm
Plexus Passport Welcome:
organized by José Rodriguez

11
Monday, 5:00 pm
Plexus Black Box Show: Art & Science
coordinated by George Chaikin
and Franco Meloni
School of Architecture, Cooper Union

12
Tuesday, 12:30 pm
Eat Art: Sardinia Export
Art Installation by Anna Saba
Institute Afro-American Affairs (N.Y.U.)
Planning Meeting
II° Well-Being Reconciliation Forum

13
Wednesday, 5:00 pm
The Nuraghic Voyage of the Elisabeth
Art Installations and Round-Table
coordinated by David Ecker
Art Department, New York University

8:30 pm
The Repatration of Art, Show
coordinated by Sandro Dernini
Nuyorican Poets Café

The Nuraghic Voyage of the Elisabeth

**PLEXUS
INTERNATIONAL**

N.Y.C. CALLS
PLEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
STORAGE

special thanks to:
- CELT -
Centro Editoriale Litografico
CAGLIARI - ITALIA

Graphics by Andrea Portas, New York 10-13 October 1993



Stephen Di Lauro, New York 1993



George Chaikin, Guido pegna, Sandro Dernini, Cooper Union, New York 1993



At Stephen Di Lauro House, New York 1993

On October 12, on the Columbus Day, at St. John Divine Cathedral in New York, it was staged by Plexus International *The 1993 Columbus-Marconi Open Call for the Well Being in the XXI Century*, as an art event calling support for the organization in 1995 of the 2° Well Being Reconciliation Forum, on the occasion of the Marconi's 100 Years Radio Celebrations.

1993 Columbus-Marconi Call for Well Being in Xxi Century

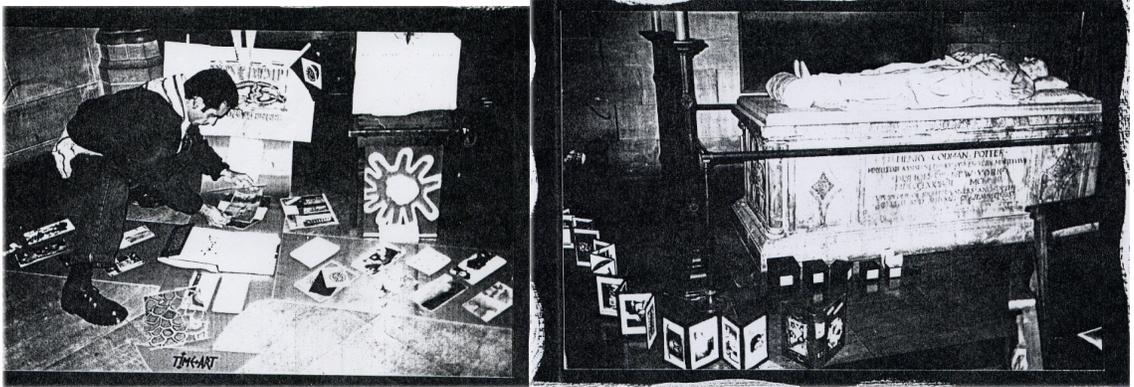


Patricia Parker



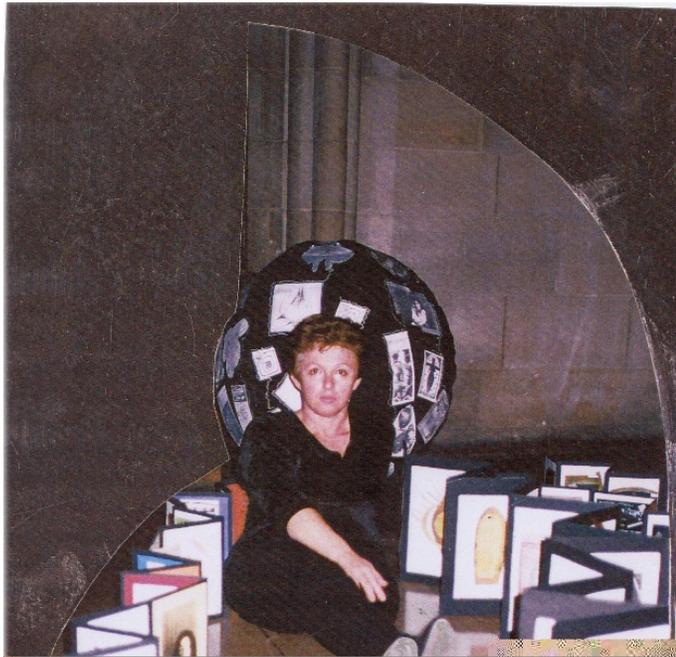
Stonesfish

Photos on chairs by Georgette



Andrea Portas, St John Divine Cathedral, New York 1993

It was performed by Anna Saba, Antonello Dessi, Guido Pegna, Alessandra Menesini, Andrea Portas, Annamaria Janin, Giovanna Caltagirone Miguel Algarin, Lorenzo Pace, Patricia Parker, Joanee Freedom, David Boyle, Alfa Diallo, Jose Rodriguez, Andrea Grassi, Franco Meloni, Maria Pia Marsala and Sandro Dernini and others.



Anna Saba

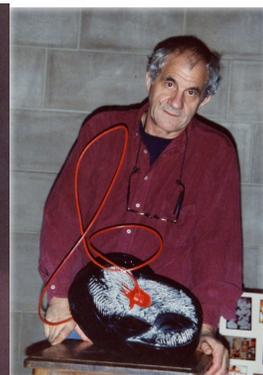


Lorenzo Pace

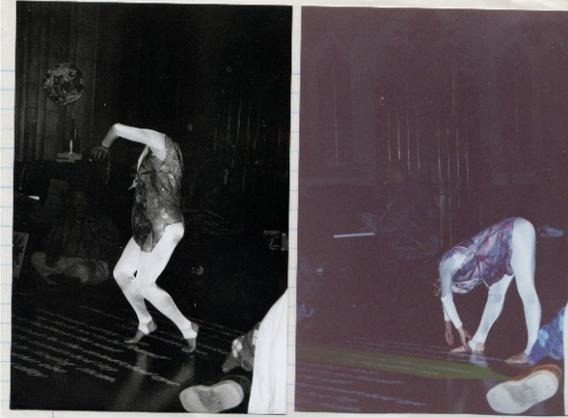
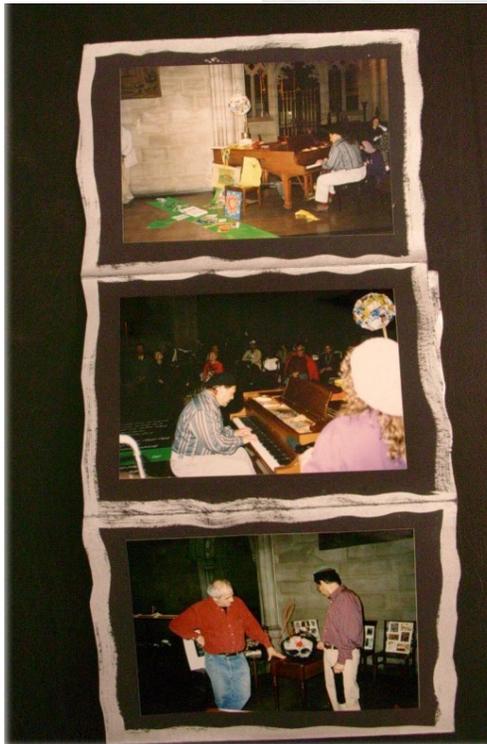
St John Divine Cathedral, New York 1993

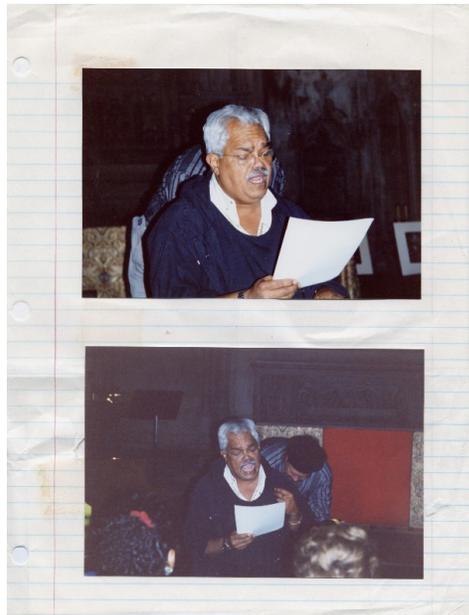
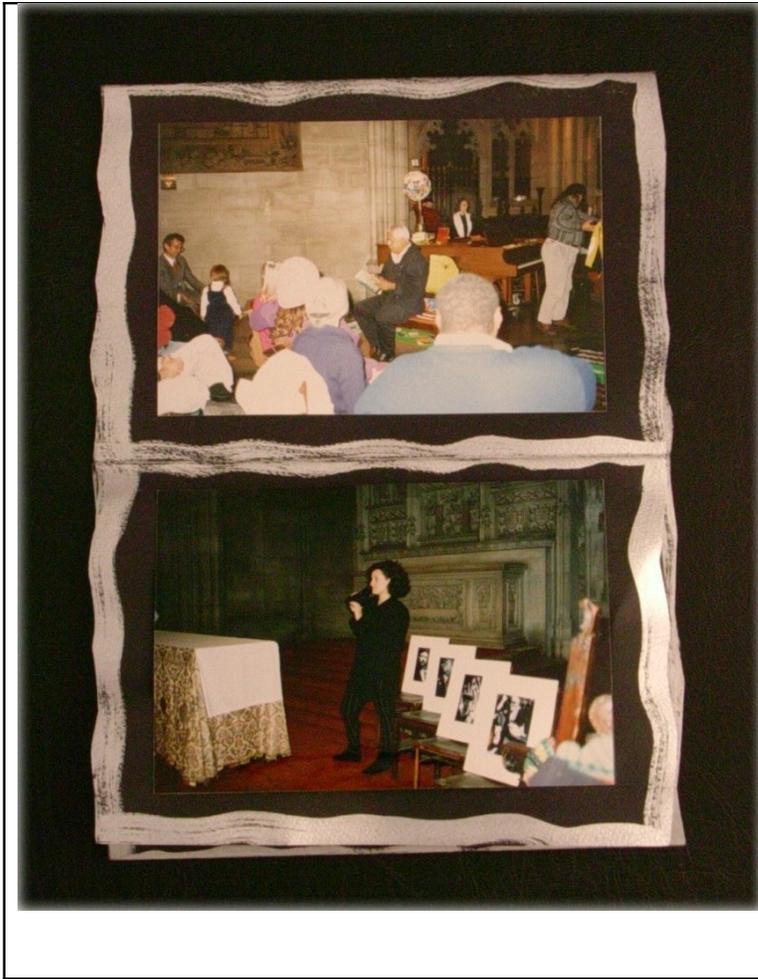


David Boyle, Alessandra Menesini, Joanee Freedom, St John Divine, New York 1993



Andrea Grassi,





Miguel Algarin

The Repatriation of Art into the Community



Lois Griffith, Nuyorican Poets Café, New York 1993

On October 13, at the Nuyorican Poets Café, in the Lower East Side, Sandro Dernini, Franco Meloni, Rolando Politi, Anna Saba, Antonello Dessi, Patricia Nicholson Parker, Annamaria Janin, Giovanna Caltagirone, Andrea Portas, David Boyle, following in a ritual procession Jose Rodriguez, carrying a second copy of Mickey Pinero's American Indian chief statuette, performed *The Repatriation of Art into the Community*. On the stage Lois Griffith was waiting with the first copy of Mickey 's Pinero statuette to celebrate the wedding party between the two American Indian statuettes.

The Repatriation of "Art" into the Community





Nuyorican Poets Café, New York 1993

On October 13, at the Barney Bldg, to reinforce international collaboration between NYU and the University of Cagliari, in direction of the organization of the 2° Well Being Reconciliationm Forum it was organized the fourth NYU Summer Institute Lower East Side Round Table, under the title “*The Voyage of the Elisabeth*”

It was presented by Leonard Lehrer, Chairman of the NYU Art and Art Professions Department It was hosted by David Ecker and chaired by Earl S. Davis, Director of the NYu Institute of Afro-American Affairs. Participants were the dean Francesco Corongiu of the School of Science of the University of Cagliari, Franco Meloni as coordinator of the new Interdepartmental Well Being Center under establishment at the University of Cagliari, Sandro Dernini as general secretary of the International Well Being and Reconciliation Committee and Jose Rodriguez as community program director of Plexus in New York.

Fourth NYU Rounde Table: “The Voyage of The Elisabeth”





After it, From November 3 to November 15, at the Rosenberg Gallery of New York University, it was held the last Plexus art event within the time limitation of 1993 indicated for Sandro Dernini's Ph.D. inquiry. It was named *The Living Plexus Black Box of "The Voyage of the Elisabeth."*



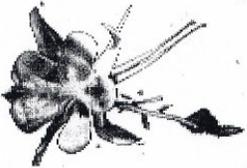
***The Living Black Box of
THE VOYAGE OF THE
ELIZABETH***

A Cultural Navigation
and Community Program:
*Art, Reconciliation
and Well-Being*

Curated by Frank Pio
and Sandro Dernini

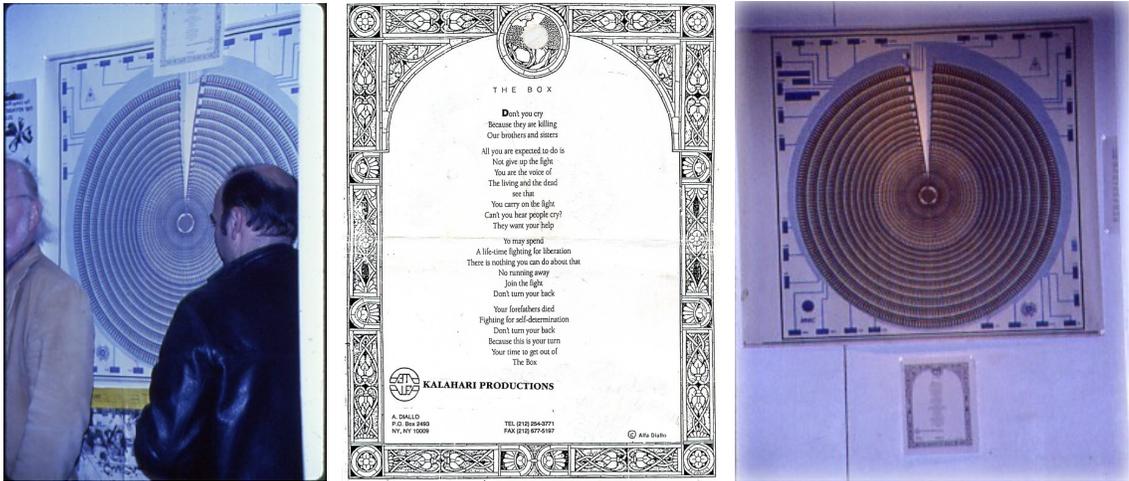
November 3 - 15
Opening Wednesday,
November 3
with a Special Program Featuring
Isalta Reports
5:30 - 8:00

Just before the Visiting Artist Lecture:
Andrea Zittel

ROSENBERG GALLERY
24 STUYVESANT STREET
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART PROFESSIONS
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION / NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

This event took the form of a two weeks Atelier des Arts performance, curated by Frank Pio and Sandro Dernini. At the entrance of the Rosenberg Gallery, as a mandala, there was George Chaikin's optical blueprint.



Under the George's blueprint, there was a photo made in Rome in Sandro's house in June of 1991, showing George and Giancarlo Schiaffini in front to the same retina's blueprint.

A Deconstruction of the Entrance to "The Voyage of the Elisabeth"



Particular of the Entrance with poem of Alfa Diallo and a photo made in 1991 of George Chaikin and Giancarlo Schiaffini, in front of George's Retina and holding two 1990 photos of David Ecker, Giancarlo Schiaffini, Lynne Kanter and Sandro Dernini, NYU Barney Bldg. New York 1993

A copy of the poem *The Box* by Alfa Diallo was placed on top the retina. On the right wall, near the entrance it was placed the Metateatro boxing ring image, performed in many past Plexus events since 1988, with at its center the photo made in 1990, at the Teatro in Trastevere in Rome, in occasion of the symbolic delivery of "Plexus Black Box" to Mons. Dante Balboni. All around there were many other Plexus records and relics.



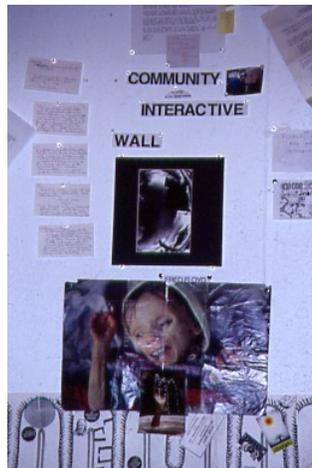
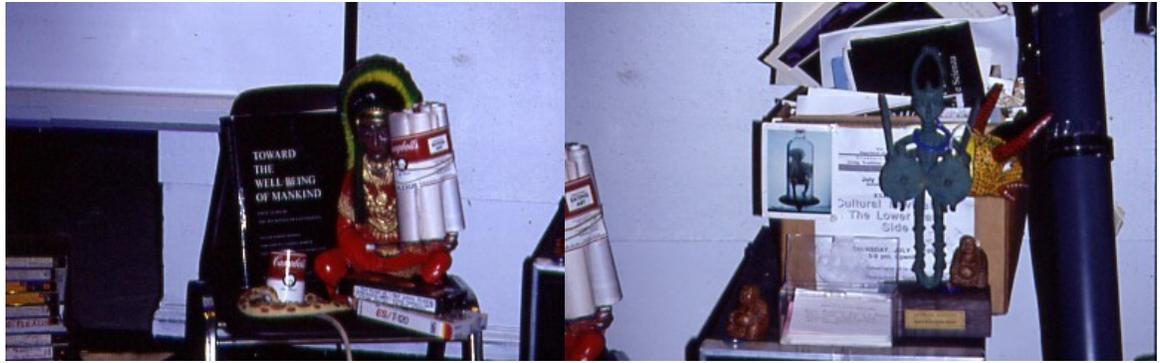
At the bottom of boxing ring, there was the dossier “prehistory”, the first of the 14 “Plexus Black Box” dossiers, that Sandro as student, following the model of David Ecker of the artist-researcher, made to document Plexus activities, one per each year, from 1982 to 1993, plus one for a Plexus pre-historia.

Art Archeology from 1989 Rivington School TV-De/Reconstruction Plexus Event

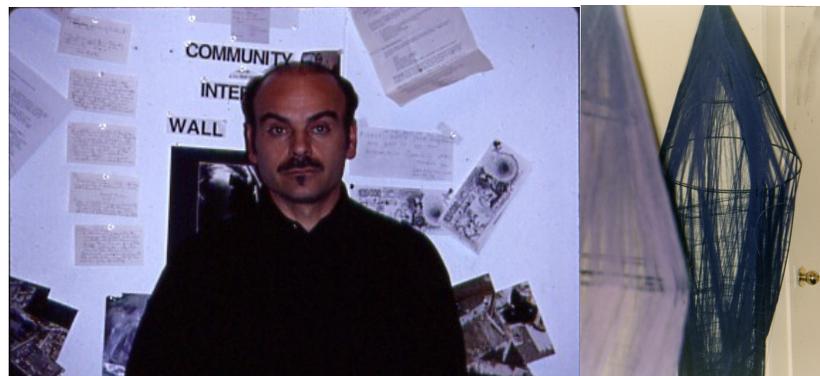


Ray Kelly and Rolando Politi

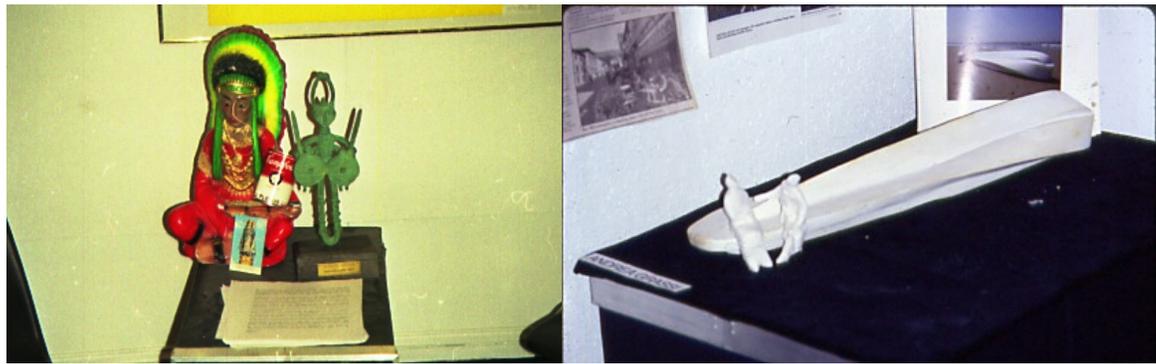
Next to it was made an art altar, with an earth mound on the floor, made by an icosaedron sculpture by Ray Kelly, inspired by Bucky Fuller, with inside a picture of the Rivington School before being shut down by the City of New York in early 1993, next to the Nuragic Warrior sculpture which was buried in 1989 in the ground of Rivington School, and then recovered in June 1993, as part of Sandro’s field research for the Summer Institute.



This small installation served to display some Consent Forms for Research Activities Involving Human Subjects. The audience, to pass in the main room, had to pass through two cocoons sculptures reflecting life and death by Frank Pio.



The small copy of the black box floating sculpture by Ciro Ciriaco was suspended from the ceiling, above the American Indian statuette, placed next to a large amount of records and relics of Plexus activities.



Andrea

Grassi's artwork

Off center of this set there were two wood Buddha statuette, placed facing opposite sides, above the *Magic Box*, a sculpture by Aaron Barr.

At the right side of this second art altar, there was Eve Vaterlaus' *Homunculus* sculpture, showing a little man closed in a large bottle full of water.

A Cultural Navigation: The Human Use of the Human Being



Homunculus artwork by Eve Vaterlaus

On the south wall near to the east corner there was a gem sculpture by John Torreano, with next displaced a copy of Sandro's NYU Ph.D. dissertation proposal.



On the west side wall there was a photo documentation by Georgetta Stonefish from the 1992 Carloforte Well Being Columbus event.



Hanne H7L Lauridsen

From the opening day to the closing day, every day there was a full calendar of activities involving artists, community people and art students from the course "Current Issues in Art Education" in which both Frank Pio and Sandro were following as students.

The two weeks of Plexus events at the Rosenberg Art Gallery was a tentative to test the possibility to develop collaboration between NYU and Lower East Side community cultural and artists organizations, through the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, CUANDO Community Cultural Center, Rivington School, and Plexus International. It was very hard because of

the diversity of positions, from one side a close homogeneous institutional academic system and, to the other side, an heterogeneous community complex.

Nyu Course Current Issues in Art Education
Playing together the Curriculum Game



David Ecker NYU Barney Bdg., East Village, New York 1993 Sandro Dernini



David Boyle bringing Box A to NYU Barney Bdg., East Village, New York 1993

At the end of the two weeks a conclusion, Plexus records and relics were packaged into two boxes, overflowing inside and outside of them.

Closing “Plexus Black Box” into Two Boxes



Box A

NYU Barney Bdg., East Village, New York 1993



Box B

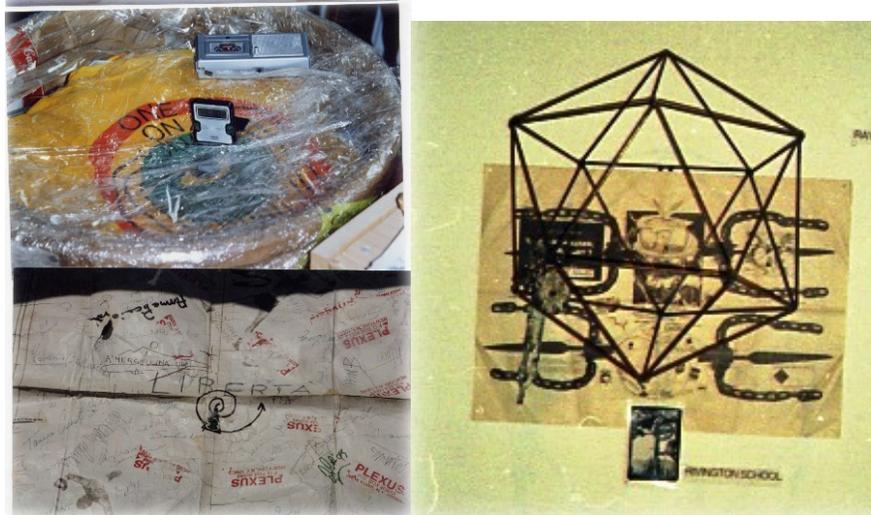
Before the boxes were sealed, it was signed by participants and audience the original Plexus "*Plexus Ring for Freedom in Art Manifesto*," performed in Rome at the Metateatro in 1989, on the occasion of the art opera "*1992 Cristhopher Columbus: Voyage in the Planet of Art*".

Plexus Manifesto for Freedom in Art



NYU Barney Bdg., East Village, New York 1993





Particulars from “*The Living Plexus Black Box of “The Voyage of the Elisabeth,”*”
Barney Blg. East Village, New York 1993

These two sealed boxes were then carried out from the Rosenberg Gallery by a group of community participants, among which were Jose Rodriguez, John...., David Boyle, Alfa Diallo, Rolando Politi, and Carol Blank as a symbolic returning or “repatriation of art” as well as of the "Plexus Black Box" into the community.



This was the last event that Sandro Dernini had to inquiry for his Ph.D. Dissertation

93 Avenue B



93 Avenue B

Joanee

Freedom



Garick Beck

The Rainbow Family



A Gathering in Central Park New York 1993
Plexus Lower East Side Street Life



Fred Floyd, Ivan Dalla Tana, David Ecker, Butch Morris, Arturo Lindsay, photo by Sandro Derrini, 1993