THE DEPAUL HUMANITIES CENTER "Lend Me Your Ears: The Sound of the Humanities" Series

Presents

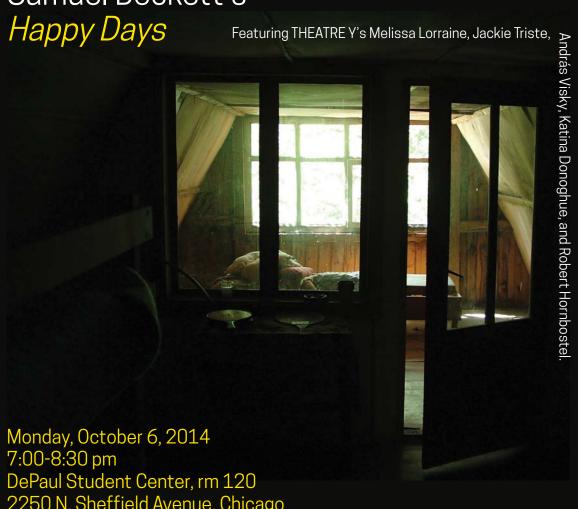
Sounds Generated with Almost Nothing from a Fully Corrupted Material

Samuel Beckett's

Happy Days

"After all, for Beckett, to find the name of what does not happen is a matter of comedy like in the amusing facility of the proper name 'Godot,' this occasional God of the theatre. On the contrary, to find the name of what happens demands an invention within the language, a poetic forcing. Like when—in Ill Seen Ill Said—a sound comes to unsettle the inspection of proximity and awaken the mind. Beckett's question is: How can this sound be said? In other words: How can the sound be said as the event is waning?

—Alain Badiou



2250 N. Sheffield Avenue, Chicago

Chicago's Theatre Y presents a "soundscape" deconstruction of a classic Beckett play to launch the Humanities Center's "Lend Me Your Ears: The Sound of the Humanities" series.

Exploring the relationships among language, sound, meaning, and the performers' and audience's real presence, this reimagining of Samuel Beckett's masterpiece begins with a question: if we read Beckett's Happy Days from the point of view of his acoustic prose pieces, Fizzles, can we find a completely new and unknown text, one that pushes language beyond its discursive boundaries? Exploring the musical values of the text, one approaches a bodily experience—an experience that will lead to something in that liminal space between a concert and a dramatic presentation. For this imaginative performance by one of Chicago's premiere and most innovative theatre companies, Beckett's text will be performed and redefined, accompanied by a noise/music concert created live in the theatre as the performers and audience discover the boundaries of silence and sound, madness and meaning.



