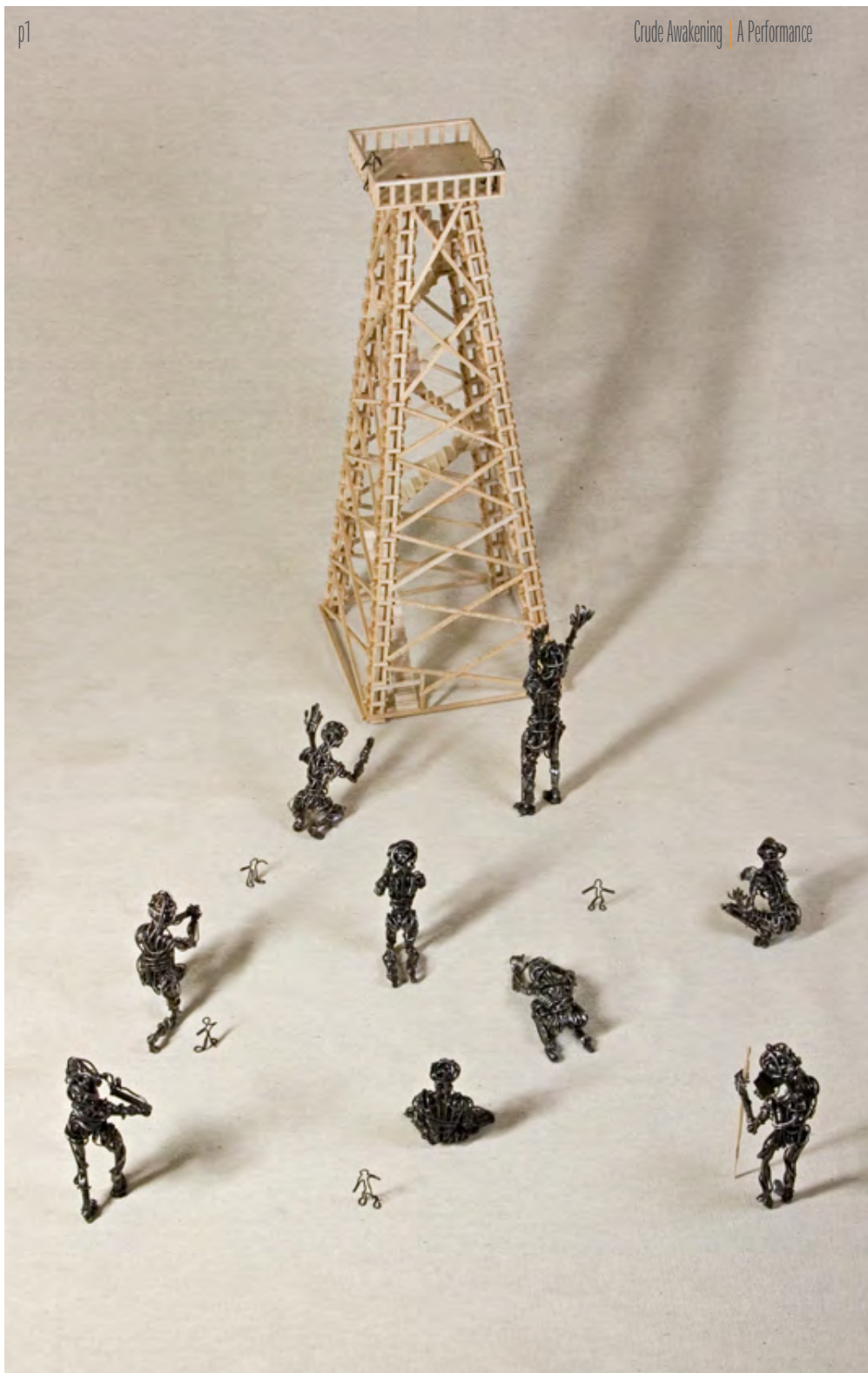


# PLAYABILL®

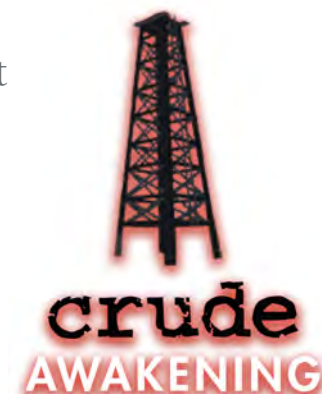
Burning art since 1986

A woman with curly hair, wearing a black, patterned, long-sleeved dress, is captured in a dynamic dance pose. She is positioned in the foreground, her body angled towards the right. Behind her, a massive, intense fire consumes a large, complex metal structure, likely an industrial tower or refinery. The fire is bright yellow and orange, with thick smoke rising. The scene is set against a dark background, making the fire and the dancer stand out. The overall mood is one of intense energy and dramatic contrast.

**crude**  
**AWAKENING**



In asking the question, “What happens next?”



he play begs us to answer, “How in the world did we get here?”

A play in two parts, *Crude Awakening* illustrates our so-called modern society replete with our dependence on oil to support our lust for cars, power, products and convenience. What happens when the oil is gone? Will the Earth still be healthy enough to further sustain us? Have we finally gone too far?

*Crude Awakening* explores the idea using green technologies such as sustainable lumber for construction of the tower, 100% reused – not recycled – steel, and the implementation of carbon offsets. In addition to the actual materials used for this project, we will further educate our crew during the course of this project through films, lectures and shop practices. Our goal as artists is to let our art be a vessel to express our environmental awareness and to invite others to consider the environment, and their place in it, as a big part of the big picture.

### act one: Monday through Friday evening

The nine faithful are portrayed in monumental scale, at the conclusion of their pilgrimage to pay homage to the highest and holiest deity - the revered Oil Derrick. Some have arrived and assumed their respective postures of worship, others are still approaching from the direction of the horizon.

The revered Oil Derrick is surrounded by a mote, which burns with red flames at night.

#### interactivity

Visitors to this holy site can wander among and interact with the faithful, each of whom will have a unique flame effect which accentuates each of their postures. These effects are participant-activated.

Visitors can also climb to the deck at the top of the derrick where they can create a plume of fire by interacting with a control panel.

### act two: Friday, 10pm

Late in the evening, a piercing air raid siren sounds, alerting the faithful that it is time to gather and pay homage to the revered Oil Derrick. A smoke machine belches and fills the site with (non-toxic) smoke, as the melee heightens and the faithful arrive in droves from across the playa.

The siren wanes and the crystalline sound of an orchestra envelopes the site. The sky suddenly explodes with the vivid colors of a spectacular fireworks display representing a celebration of oil and a homage to the revered Oil Derrick.

The fireworks reach a great crescendo, just as the top of the derrick is engulfed by a giant fireball. Seconds later a gusher of pure fire shoots a thousand feet into the air from the top of the tower. Finally, the revered Oil Derrick is engulfed in fire, and burns to the ground.

## the actors

Nine worshippers weighing six tons each take up alms at the revered Oil Derrick. Each has a unique participant-activated flame effect. The postures were chosen to represent religions from around the world, as each continent has in some way been impacted by the oil economy; some through great luxury and excess, others

through bloodshed and profound loss. While recent developments in alternative energy may at last give our planet a reprieve, what can compensate for the hundreds of thousands of lives which have been torn asunder by our insatiable need for oil? Our world is evolving at record speed and devolving just as quickly.

The faithful followers pay homage to the tower. Each assumes a different posture of worship as they represent the Oil Religion in all it's manifestations worldwide.

### achmed

Achmed represents the essence of the Muslim posture of worship – touching one's forehead to the ground. In the evening, Achmed can be seen crying tears of joy as he lays prone before the figure of the revered Oil Derrick.



### mumbatu

Mumbatu demonstrates one of the myriad religions practiced in Africa. This form incorporates writing prayers in the sand. Under the dark sky, the mysterious characters he's written glow with fire, which also pours from his hand.



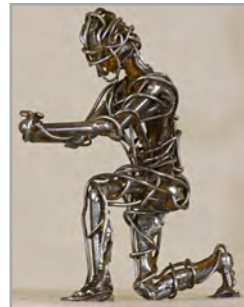
### manu

Manu exemplifies the peace, serenity and centered focus one can achieve when meditating in this perfectly balanced, perfectly symmetrical posture. His meditation is directed toward the revered Oil Derrick. In his hands, a metallic orb hovers magically on a flame above his palm. From his ears hang decorative jewels with interactive buttons participants can control to make them "poof" and swing.



### humble george

George strikes a pose of humility and surrender as he pays homage to the revered Oil Derrick. From his clasped hands, a propane-fired flame embodies his intense devotion to the scene before him.



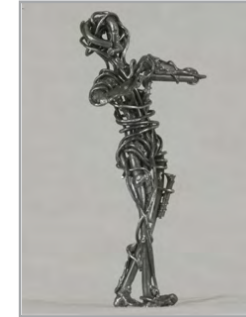
### neela

Neela achieves the quintessential posture most often seen in the Christian faith, though understood universally. While praying to the tree (phase three), Neela almost seems to be asking for forgiveness. In her hands, Neela holds a flaming rosary. The rosary is mechanized, and controlled by participants spinning prayer wheels. A reservoir of fuel in Neela's hands keep the beads burning.



### ecstasy

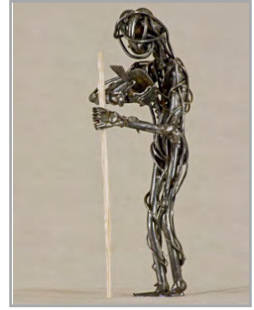
Ecstasy captures the heart-swell which accompanies divine enlightenment, which she experiences mid-stride en route to pay homage. Her joy manifests in the music of organ whistles, and fire effects at each of



her chakras. The whistles are powered by high-pressure gas and both effects are participant-activated.

### schlomo

Worship takes the form of the classic pilgrimage in Schlomo's pose; head bent on the sacred written word, feet intent on reaching the deity. Schlomo's copper book is flame-actuated to allow participants to turn pages forward and back with jets of fire.



### epiphany

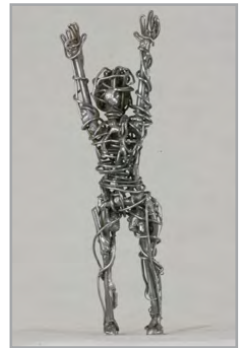
Epiphany is overwhelmed at the sight of the revered Oil Derrick and falls into a pose of rapture. Her heart beats with joy, seen as a gas-fed pulsing chamber. Sequenced solenoids pump



propane through a network of veins and arteries throughout her body.

### eileen

Eileen takes the pose of the free spirited modern day woman. Her joy is illustrated in her hands which stretch toward the heavens, and "poof" with participant-activated fire.



Each of the faithful have fire in their eyes, seemingly reflected from the flames atop and around the revered Oil Derrick.

## Collaboration, Collaboration, Collaboration...

It took all of humanity to create our current reality, it will take a colorful cast of characters to change it.



### black rock FX

Jeremy "Germ" Travis, Jack Schroll and the all-star crew

Black Rock FX is a group that does fireworks shows and special effects. Some members do this for a living and others do it because they love it. Each person brings with him or her unique skills and talents. All of the members have a deep passion for this genre of entertainment. Our previous contributions on the Playa include the fireworks for "The Angel of the Apocalypse" '05' and the "Serpent Mother" '06'. The materials we work with other than pyrotechnics include, propane, pressurized liquid fuels, hydrogen, JP8 and methanol. Safety is always our first concern. We are always testing new ideas and methods to amaze and entertain the viewing public. 2007 at the Burning Man Festival will be no exception.

### tom "monkey boy" mingle and mark perez

built to last, or built to burn?

MonkeyBoy has decades of experience in creating masterful wooden works of art. His vision is vast and his ability is enviable. He has worked on behalf of Burning Man for several years as the head builder of the Center Camp Cafe.

Mark Perez has spent over fifteen years working as a professional artist and has many successful and ambitious projects to his credit. From Hellco to the Giant Mousetrap, the Haunted Barn to the Bike Rodeo, Mark has been involved in creating large scale art installations from the early years.

These two dynamic creative forces will combng to bring the ninety foot oil derrick to life and then safely through it's ultimate demise.

### pyrokinetics

danya parkinson and joe bard

Danya and Joe bring together years of mechanical, electrical, metal working experience to create dynamic art involving movement, light, sound, and most importantly fire.

In 2002 their collaboration began with the Balaena Delubrum, the largest animated EL-wire

### nate smith

Nate Smith started working with fire as an art medium in 1997. He used large format cameras to photograph fireball/explosions often with addition of light painting in the landscape.

After a series of this photographic work Nate started investigating new flame shapes to photograph. While watching a burning field from his home in Utah, he saw a huge dust devil form

art installation on the playa to date. In 2003 they began their exploration of fire with their mobile art "The Mighty Josh and Kerry" featuring two solenoid triggered flame throwers mounted on the grill. The next year Danya and Joe brought the Pendulum of Fire to the playa.

In 2005 they built a second generation of fire pendulum dubbed the Pendulup™. Both pieces have since performed at many events in the default world.

Pyrokinetics has pioneered countless techniques that have become popular with propane flame effect artists. The team has a flawless safety record for every performance to date.

Danya and Joe are always excited about new challenges and believe that cooperation is the best way to keep their creativity fresh. They see Crude Awakening as the perfect opportunity to expand their artistic community and create art that has depth and meaning far beyond the sum of its parts. Pyrokinetics will bring the dynamic elements of fire and motion to the project.

from the heat. It was then that he made the association of vortexes filled with fire. Nate's first vortex work was done in the summer of 1999.

In the fall of that year the machine was debuted at a collaborative show with photographer Chris Dunker at Utah State University's Tippets Gallery. nate approached the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Committee shortly after this to possibly have his fire vortex technology included in the design of the 2002 Olympic Torch.

Nate's first performed at Burning Man in 2002. He used a handheld fire wand, two giant five foot fans and curved walls to create large flaming vortexes. In 2003, Nate and his crew created a new machine designed to manipulate the vortex form and possibly catch dust devils.

Nate is interested in the idea that flame can be formed or sculpted into a variety of shapes. He continues to be intrigued by the beauty and power of fire as an art medium.

