

Our Classifieds Are Free! And They Work!!!

DOWNTOWN

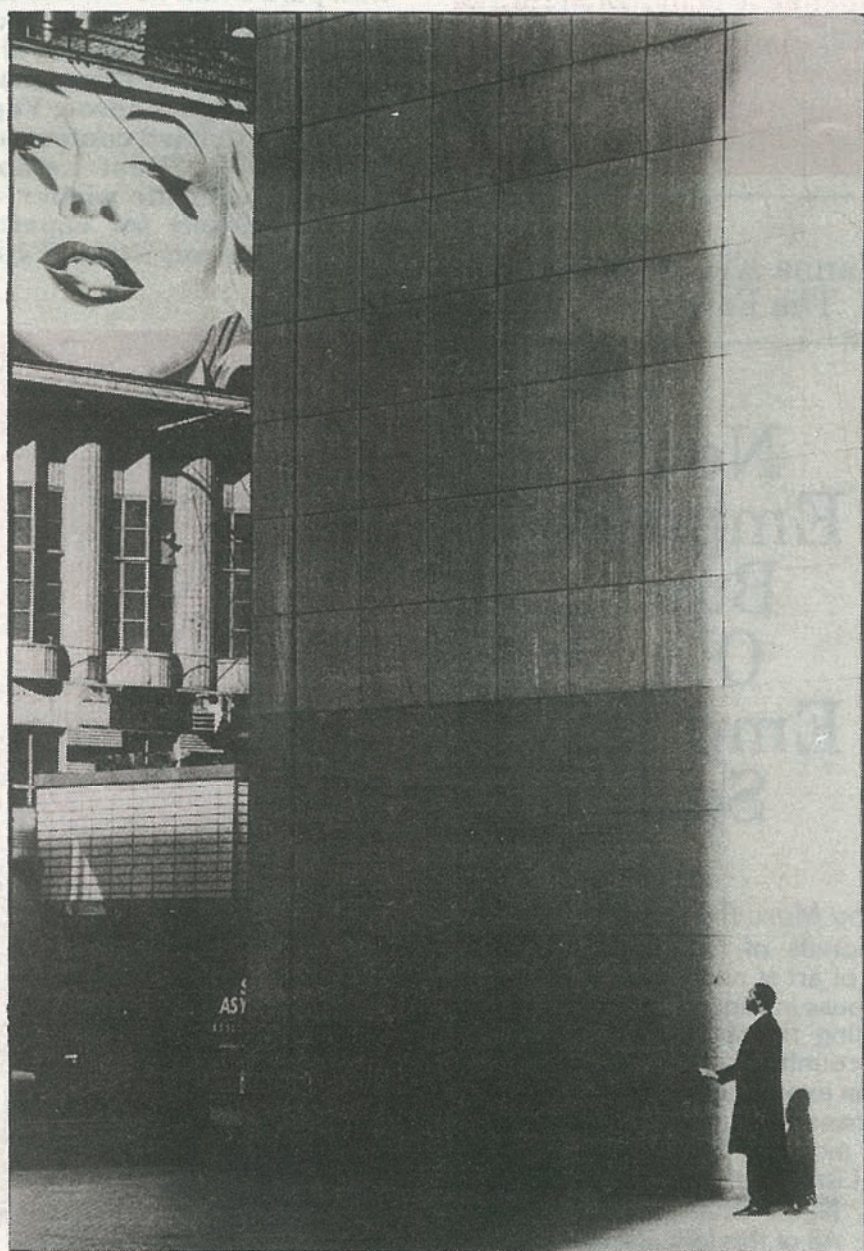
Politics, Poetry, Philosophy, Art, Theater, Film, Media, Music And Hidden Agendas

writing around town 'Appearances'

by ellen aug lytle

One of the magazines well worth talking about, from the pile received in the last week, is *Appearances*, a slick journal filled with black and white photos of visual art and poetry. Edited by Robert Witz, Ron Kolm is one of the contributing editors. Issue No. 15 shows "Fighting Cowboys," a lifesize ceramic by Bill Mutter, on the cover and can boast some wonderful looking paintings, drawings, sculptings as well as the photographs. The all black and white glossy effect is refreshing in today's garish, technicolor but the poetry doesn't do the visuals justice. Still, I found a few pieces which are especially worthy. Among these, the poetry of William James Austin, one of which is entitled "Slug in the Machine":

*sure I get it. the iron brace
of tradition one puts on,
until even the gentlest heart*

Nathaniel Burkins, *photographs*, from *Appearances*.

*explodes
in its cage...*

Also intriguing was Tom Jones' "Easter":

*From the pulpit, redundancies flutter
with the affect of Cathedral-wall
paintings,
dull with surfeit layers
of heavy yellowing...*

Certainly Shelley Himmelstein's two oils on linen canvas, "Bryant Park" and "East River," should be seen for all their splendid ease and painterly, expressionistic, sound. Sound so silent I hear it on the page! Louis Lopes' "Configuration Symbol #15," a beaming collage of acrylic with epoxy/wood, canvas, tubing and aluminum, is fun but Conrad Atkinson's "coir mat," a brushed background on canvas with the words; "The Seductiveness of the End of the World, WELCOME" ties up the whole issue, poetry and all! *Appearances* is \$5 at literary bookshops everywhere (we hope!)

On Thursday, June 14, from 8 p.m.-3 a.m. Nuyorican Poets Cafe, 236 East 3rd St. will have a Loisaida Poetry and Jazz fest with guest poets including **Gail Schilke** and **Miguel Algarin**.

The last performance of this season for "What Happens Next," will be held at Lismar Lounge, 41 First Ave., on Sunday, June 17, at 5 p.m. Poets include, **Eve Packer**, **Robert Parody**, **Jim Feast**, **Jim Brodey**, **Jennifer Blowdryer**, **Jill Rappaport**, **Les Bridges**, **Joe Lobell**, **Tsaurah Lisitsky**, **Hersch Silverman** and yes, **Ellen Aug!**

Friday Night Poetry at Art Farm, 23 Bushwick Ave., in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, presents **Tsaurah Litzky** and **David Huberman** "live and kicking" on June 15 at 8 p.m.

The Me And My Big Mouth poetry series begins its summer season on Thursday, June 14, at 7 p.m. in the garden at 6 Street and Avenue B. **Janet Restino**, the director of this series, will read and perform in combination with her visual art. **Astoria Red**, a West Coast poet and **Sandra Pianin**, a journalist, as well as poet will read with her.

The fiction and poetry readings at Mid-Manhattan Library continue this week with **Jane R. Martin** and **Stanley Nelson** reading stories and poetry on June 14 at 6 p.m., 455 Fifth Ave.

Also at Mid-Manhattan Library the continuing "Writers on Writing" series presents **Jan Clausen** and **Sarah Schulman** on June 19, at 6 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room. Clausen, an active feminist, co-founded *Conditions Magazine* in the late '70s. She is a recipient of an NEA arts fiction fellowship. Schulman is the author of *People In Trouble*, a novel about the AIDS crisis.

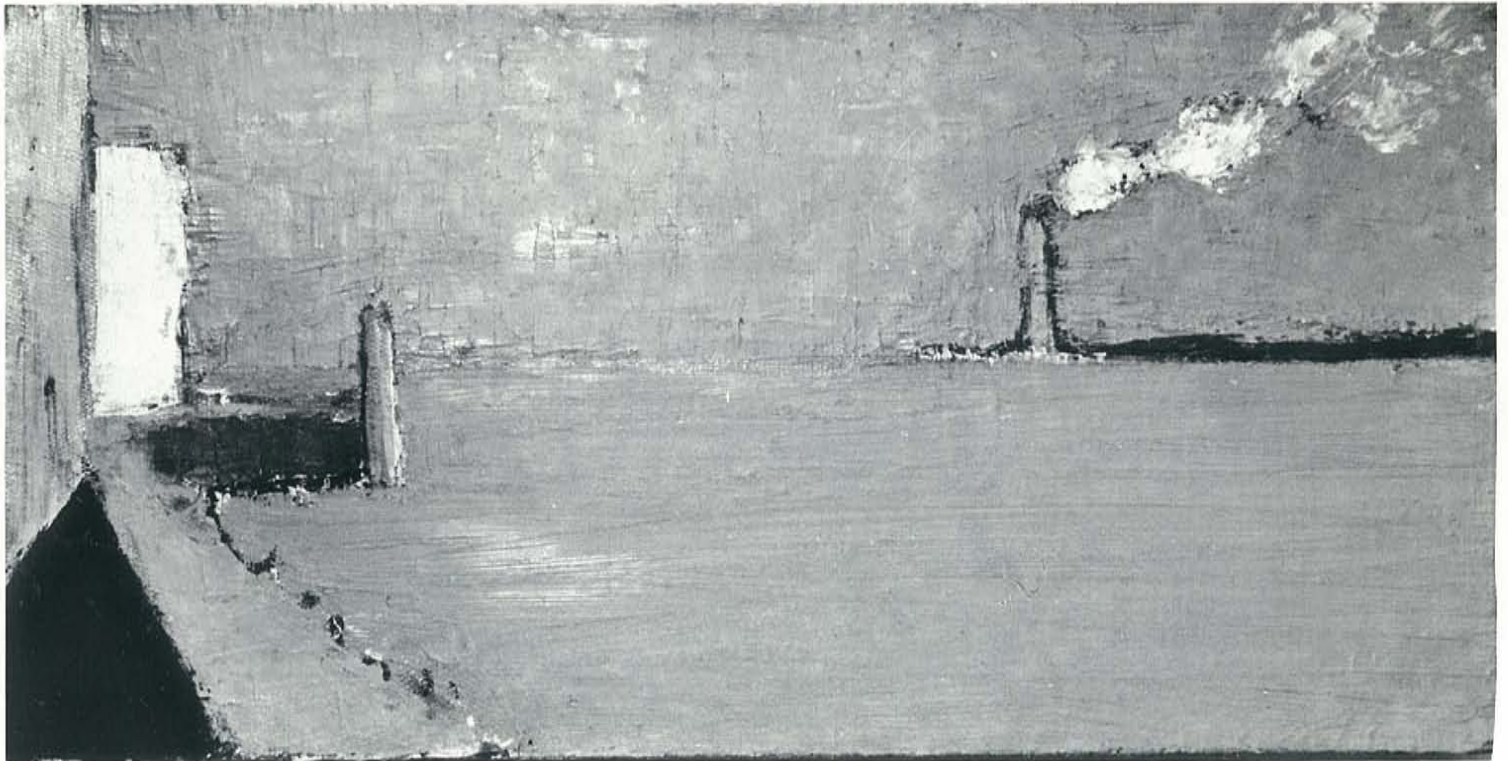
ALSO:

The Living Theatre, 272 E. 3rd St., will have a special *Downtown Newspaper* poetry reading directed by Dorothy Friedman and Gary Azon on Tuesday, June 19, at 8:30 p.m.

It's finally June...find a huge tree, sit under it and write!



Shelley Himmelstein, *Bryant Park*,
24 × 24", o/linen.



Shelley Himmelstein, *East River*,
8 × 24", o/linen.