

WHO PARTICIPATED IN APRIL 11:

April 11 was an evening of music, visual art, poetry and readings including musician **Guillermo Brown**; singer **Maggie Brown**; **Richard Brown**, former member Black Panther Party and co-founder of the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, founded by the SF8; poet and playwright **reg e. gaines**; **Moist Paula Henderson**, baritone sax player and composer; **Maluca**; **David Murray**, jazz musician; **Outernational**; **Abiodun Oyewole** from The Last Poets; **Ted Rall**, cartoonist and author; excerpts from **Tapsplotation**; and jazz musicians **Matthew Shipp** and **William Parker**. Readings of letters from prisoners and others by **Aladdin**, **Bridgit Antoinette Evans**, **Raul Castillo**, **Brian Dykstra** and **Nitya Vidyasagar**. Directed by **Leah Bonvissuto**.

A visual arts exhibition specially curated for the night included the work of **Derrick Adams**, **Wafaa Bilal**, **Emory Douglas**, **Richard Duardo**, **Skylar Fein**, **Kyle Goen**, **Guerrilla Girls Broadband**, **Steve Lambert**, **Wangechi Mutu**, **Dread Scott**, **SenOne** and **Hank Willis Thomas**.

The April 11 Host Committee, in association with **Revolution Books**, included **Aladdin**, actor and playwright; **Rafael Agustin**, writer and actor; **Rafael Angulo**, Professor of Social Work, University of Southern California*; **Paul Von Blum**, Senior Lecturer Emeritus, African American Studies and Communication Studies, UCLA*; **Herb Boyd**, journalist and author; **Elaine Brower**, National Steering Committee of World Can't Wait* and anti-war military mom; **Dr. Robert Keith Collins**, anthropologist; **The Committee For the Defense of Human Rights**, founded by the SF8; **Carl Dix**, founding member of the Revolutionary Communist Party; **Jessica Green**, media maker and co-director, Maysles Cinema*; **Nicholas Heyward, Sr.**, father of Nicholas Heyward, Jr. (murdered by the NYPD in 1994); **Russ Jennings**, theatre producer and writer; **Erin Aubry Kaplan**, journalist and author; **Rev. Earl Kooperkamp**, St. Mary's Church*, Harlem; **Mike Ladd**, poet and music producer; **Harry Lennix**, actor and producer; **Philip Maysles**, visual artist, co-director, Maysles Cinema*; **John Santos**, musician; **Matthew Shipp**, musician; **Dr. Tolbert Small**, poet, co-founder and physician at the Harriet Tubman Medical Office* in East Oakland, CA and former physician to the founding chapter of the Black Panther Party; **Clarence Taylor**, Professor of History, Baruch College*; **Cornel West**, Professor of Religion, Princeton University*; **Robert M. Young**, film maker and **David Zeiger**, film maker. (* for identification purposes only)

SOMETHING NEW CAME INTO BEING ON APRIL 11

A Film of the Event,
On the Occasion of the
Publication of *Basics*:
A Celebration of Revolution
and the Vision of a New World

Something new came into being on April 11 at Harlem Stage. We want to make a film that captures this... and we need your help to accomplish this. And while the night was an overwhelming success, it did not fully pay for itself.

\$10,000 is needed for the initial film production costs and the remaining event costs.

On the Occasion of the Publication of **Basics**

A Celebration of Revolution and the Vision of a New World

An Evening of Music, Visual Art, Poetry and Readings

Monday April 11, 7pm


Harlem Stage at Aaron Davis Hall on the campus of the City College of New York, 135th Street & Convent Avenue #1 Ina to 137th Street & Broadway or #100 or #101 bus from 125th Street

TICKETS: \$55, \$15 students & unemployed, \$100 premium tickets. Purchase tickets at Revolution Books or Harlem Stage. Buy tickets online at revolutionbooksnyc.org

212.691.5345 revolutionbooksnyc.org basicsevent@yahoo.com

Sponsored by the Host Committee and Revolution Books

HarlemStage



\$10,000 IS NEEDED FOR THE INITIAL FILM PRODUCTION COSTS AND THE REMAINING EVENT COSTS

From *Revolution* newspaper: *"Hundreds of people of diverse ages, backgrounds, and political perspectives came together in one place for an evening of jazz, funk, soul, rock, theater, dance, poetry, visual arts, commentary, and film. All of it aching for, giving voice to, and infused with the possibility of a radically different world than the maddening planet we live on now. All of it unleashed by—and cohered around—the occasion of the publication of *BASics*, a comprehensive yet succinct new book of quotations and short essays by Bob Avakian, the Chairman of the Revolutionary Communist Party, with much of the evening's performances flowing from and a large portion of it explicitly inspired by the life and the work of Avakian."*

There was a rare electricity felt in the air on April 11, and people felt for one night – in only ways this combination of the artists' work, Avakian's words, the different perspectives from the stage and the openness of the audience – what the vision of a new world might feel like.

In this intense and important political moment, this is something that has to reverberate beyond the walls of Harlem Stage. There is a widespread, if latent, desire for another world and another way. This event spoke to this, and through a film of the night, can speak to this on a much bigger level... making an impact throughout society. The conception for the film is in development but it will include footage of the inspiring performances

interspersed with interviews of the artists who took part and members of the host committee.

People attending spoke to what was unique and powerful in the event... *from a student:* "It feels like hope. That's honestly what it feels like..." *from a white woman in her 60s:* "I hope this begins something because I think that for the first time of all my life that I've been on this earth, I've never felt the helplessness I feel..." *from a Black woman,* "my generation, unfortunately, has become quite passive, and not involved and not active... it's difficult to be part of a generation that's... lacking care and concern. But I guess it's gonna take someone like Bob Avakian to get the light under them..."

The funds raised in this initial effort will pay for beginning production costs (including equipment, the bulk of the cost for an editor) with a fuller budget for distribution and promotion costs to follow. This will be accompanied by a campaign on kickstarter as part of later fundraising efforts.

Contributions should be made out to Revolution Books New York, earmarked for April 11. You can give online at revolutionbooksnyc.org or mail to Revolution Books, 146 West 26th Street, New York, NY 10001

