

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Acme Studio and Sarah Small present “Balkan Incarnations” Friday, May 24th, 2013 – Brooklyn, NY

63 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Brooklyn, NY 11211 - 7:00pm-11:00pm

Greek and Italian hors d'oeuvres by Mackenzie and wine and beer provided by Acme.

**Suggested donation – \$5-\$25.** Proceeds will benefit the production of **Black Sea Hotel's** new album and *Tableau Vivant's* Global Tour.

**May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Brooklyn, NY.** On Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> Acme Studio and Sarah Small present “**Balkan Incarnations**,” an evening of music, film, photography and performance, an immersion into harmony and dissonance through contemporary embodiment of Balkan folk songs and ancient stories. Included in the evening is a screening of **Sarah Small's *Tableau Vivant of the Delirium Constructions***, supplemented by Small's photographic stills from *The Delirium Constructions*, a vocal performance by **Black Sea Motel** (an experimental off-shoot of *Black Sea Hotel*), as well as a sneak preview trailer of Director **Josephine Decker's** experimental psychological thriller “**Butter on the Latch.**”



The evening will kick off at 7:00pm with **Black Sea Motel** premiering the unique experimental off-shoot project of **Black Sea Hotel**. Lyrical and ethereal, dissonant and driving, *Black Sea Hotel* is an a Cappella trio creating new, contemporary spins of traditional Balkan folk songs, finding new ways to use melody, harmony, and rhythm to tell ancient stories which still resonate today. Gathering inspiration from master singers, archival field recordings, and mid-century choral arrangements, the trio creates unique repertoire, arranging and composing complex, three-voiced interplays based on original material. For the first time, **Willa Roberts** and **Sarah Small** will perform as a live duo while **Corinna Snyder** will appear projected like an apparition, on a pre-recorded track/video, interweaving the live and the virtual. **Black Sea Motel** will sing “**Ibish Aga**”, the Bulgarian song featured in the 2011 *Tableau*. Small and Roberts will also perform traditional Balkan a Cappella repertoire as a duo, including songs from their upcoming album.

Vocal performance will be followed by a 4-minute trailer of “**Butter on the Latch**,” Director **Josephine Decker’s** experimental psychological thriller, that follows its protagonist, Sarah (played by **Sarah Small**), to Balkan Camp into the Mendocino Woods, where Sarah struggles with metaphor, reality, and the internal terror brought upon by folk legends of dragons in the Bulgarian folk song, “**Zhenish Me Mamo**” (performed by **Black Sea Hotel** in the film’s score, and included on Black Sea Hotel’s upcoming album). Premiering last week at the Maryland Film Festival and since praised as an “an utter exhilaration of cinematic imagination, a pure high of invention” by **The New Yorker**, “Butter on the Latch” explores the darker side of female friendship. Decker’s films and music videos have played at MoMA, SXSW, Silverdocs, DetroitDocs, Maryland, Austin Film Festival, and about 100 other fests around the world, can be found on PBS, Netflix and Logo, and have received press in The New York Times, The Dallas Morning News, The New Yorker and Curve Magazine, among others.



The evening will conclude with a screening (25-minute filmic document) of **Small’s Tableau Vivant of The Delirium Constructions** performance, whose visual and conceptual elements have drawn inspiration from Small’s still photographic series, and whose rich soundscape is intrinsically bound to the harmonies and tonalities of Balkan vocal music. Praised by **The New York Times** and **The Washington Post**, Small’s 2011 *Tableau* performance enlisted 120 non-performers/participants and local talent alike to create a self-revealing celebration of image, sound, and unity. Part homage to the history of art, part joyous communion, part party, part radical experiment, *Tableau Vivant of The Delirium Constructions* celebrates humanity by representing a visual and sonic encyclopedia of the human condition.



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### **Sarah Small**

Sarah was born in 1979 into a family of musicians, writers, and psychoanalysts. She spent her young childhood concocting gibberish sounds and songs around the house, dancing, and playing cello. She became enraptured by photography when she was thirteen. Small spent her high school years photographing her close friends and her younger red-headed sister, Rachel, wandering the streets of her hometown, Washington DC, equipped with her Pentax K1000.

After graduating from the **Rhode Island School of Design** in 2001, Small moved to Williamsburg, Brooklyn, where she currently resides. Small's work has appeared in **Vogue, LIFE, Rolling Stone, and The New York Times**, and have been shown in galleries throughout the United States, as well as in China, Taiwan, Korea, Madrid, Hungary, Germany, France, Italy, Great Britain, Australia, and the Netherlands. In 2008, Small was named by **American Photo Magazine** as one of the top 13 emerging photographers working today.

In 2009, Small birthed the **Tableau Vivant of The Delirium Constructions**, a performative incarnation of her still photographic series. The most recent *Tableau* performance took place in Spring 2011 at the landmarked Williamsburg Savings Bank, in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. In partnership with creative and social enterprise **Contaminate**, Small and her team are currently producing a Global Tour of the *Tableau Vivant* performance project. Currently in pre-production, the team anticipates a tour launch in London in 2014. The associated documentary film is in the editing room with an expected release date in 2015.

An artist of many disciplines, Small also sings and arranges vocal scores with *Black Sea Hotel*, as well as with her new musical ensemble, *Hydra*, born from collaborations with *Tableau's* musical director Rima Fand and vocalist Yula Be'eri. *Black Sea Hotel* has been featured on **NPR, The Washington Post**, and has topped charts on **iTunes International**. Most recently, Small has furthered her creative pursuits, playing the lead actress in her first film, a psychological thriller directed by **Josephine Decker**, which has acquired critical acclaim from **Indie Wire** and **The New Yorker**.

Finally, Small is knee-deep renovating a four-car garage in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, into a photography rental facility and community center for local artists of all disciplines. Open for business late 2013.

#### **Sarah Small**

[sarahsmall.com](http://sarahsmall.com)

#### **Black Sea Hotel's new album**

[blackseahotelusa.com/albumsupport](http://blackseahotelusa.com/albumsupport)

#### **Josephine Decker's "Butter on the Latch"**

[josephinedecker.com](http://josephinedecker.com)

#### **Acme Studios**

ACME Studio is Williamsburg, Brooklyn's one-of-a-kind photo and video studio, prop rental house, and set design and fabrication shop. And the home to Brooklyn's coolest bathroom. Seriously.

[acmebrooklyn.com](http://acmebrooklyn.com)