

**Waiting for Godot in New Orleans:
A Field Guide**

**Edited by
Paul Chan**

5

APPEAR

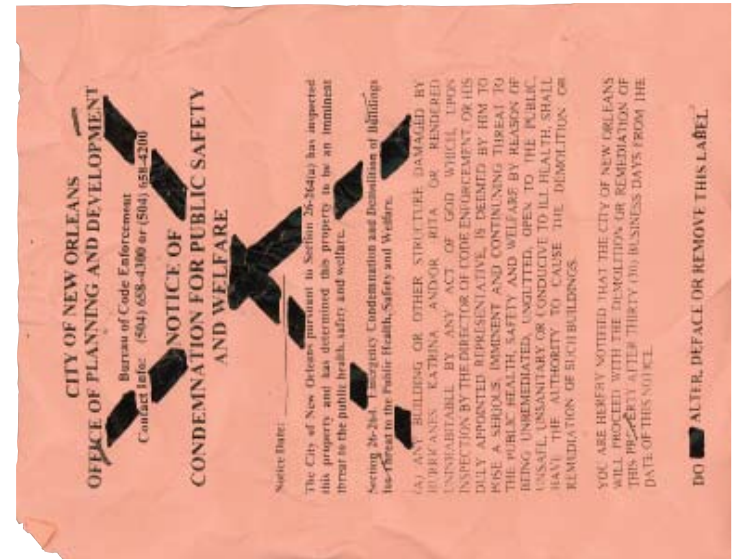
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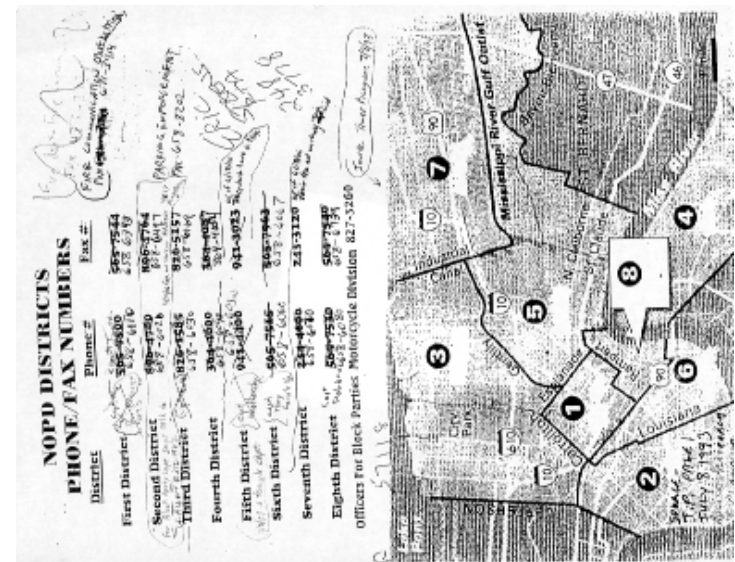
KEYWORDS:

Notice of condemnation for public safety and welfare, A country road, a tree, evening, free performance, all positions and scale approximate, city of brilliant colors, performances are free and open to the public

SIGNS



Gentilly demolition sign defaced, 2007, pen on paper



New Orleans police department list, 2007



Elysian Fields, 2007



Bienville Street, 2007



Lower Ninth Ward, 2007



Michael in Gentilly, 2007



Claiborne, 2007



St. Claude, 2007



Lower Ninth Ward 2, 2007



Robert, 2007



Construction, 2007



Bike by Bywater, 2007



Supermarket, 2007



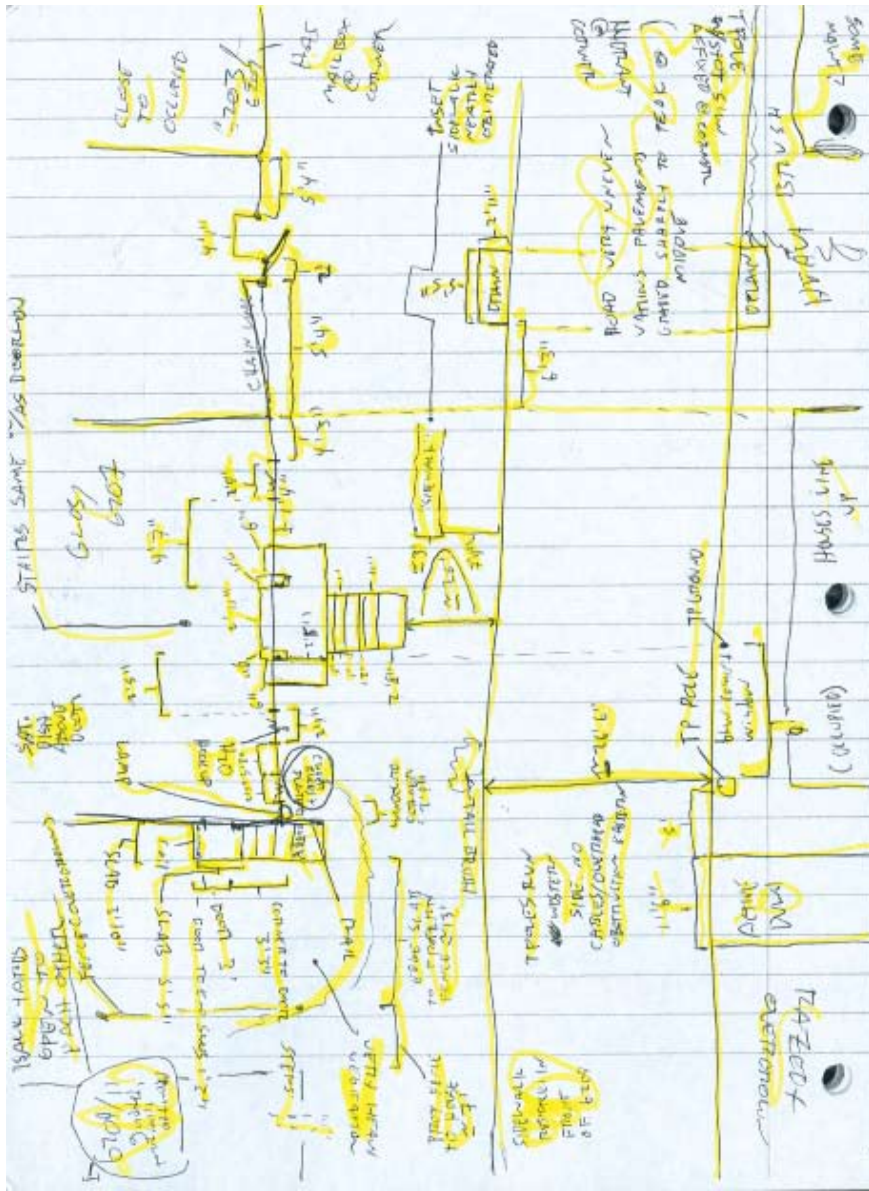
Gentilly, 2007



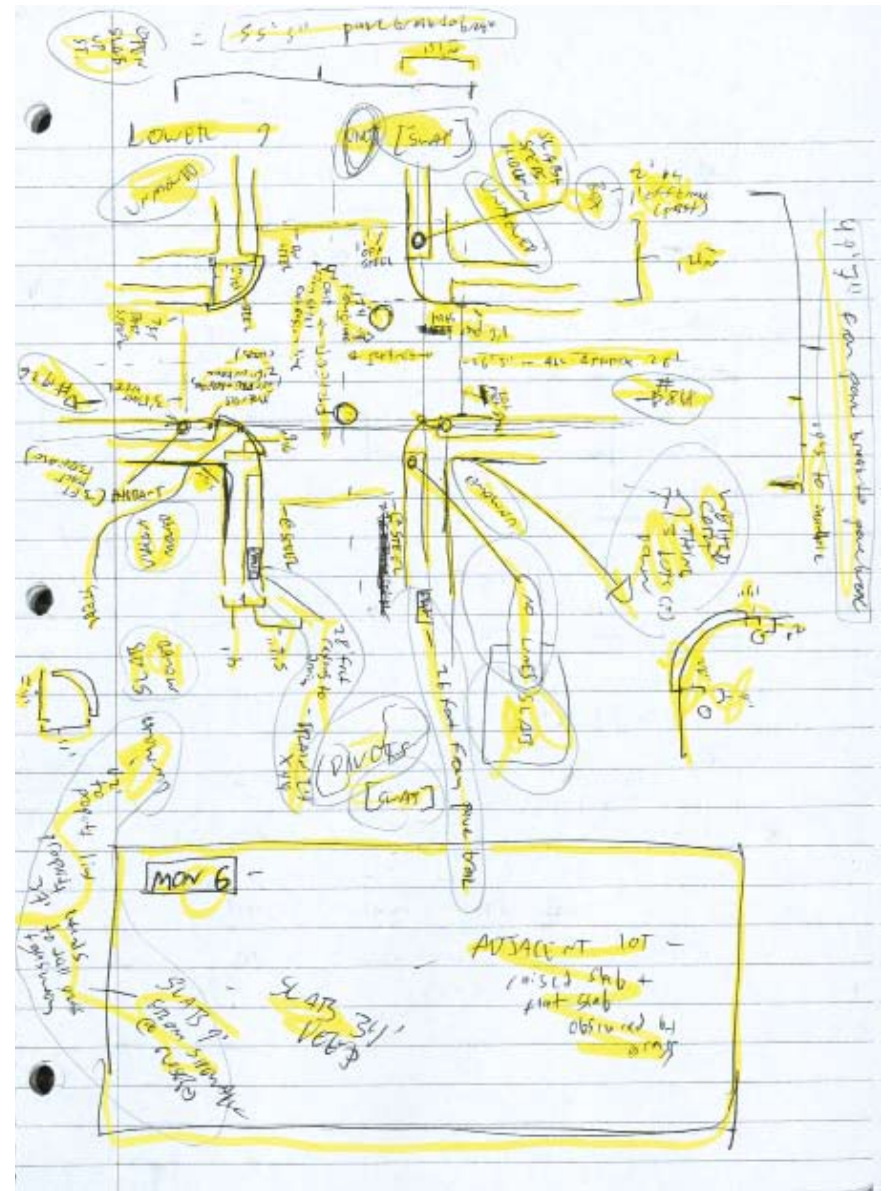
Bywater, 2007



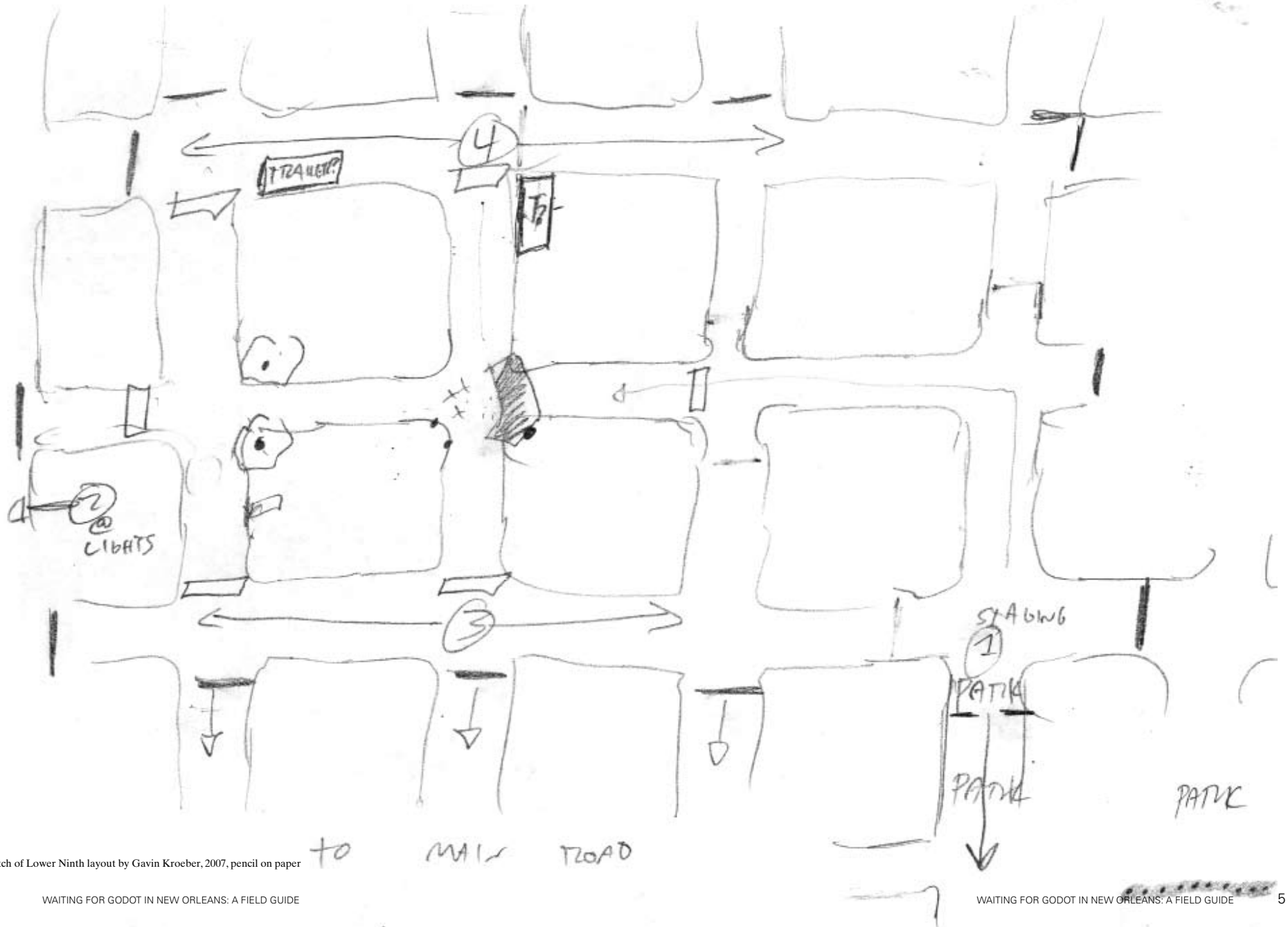
Street closure plan in the Lower Ninth by Gavin Kroeber, 2007



Drawing for staging Gentilly Godot by Gavin Kroeber, 2007, pen and pencil on paper

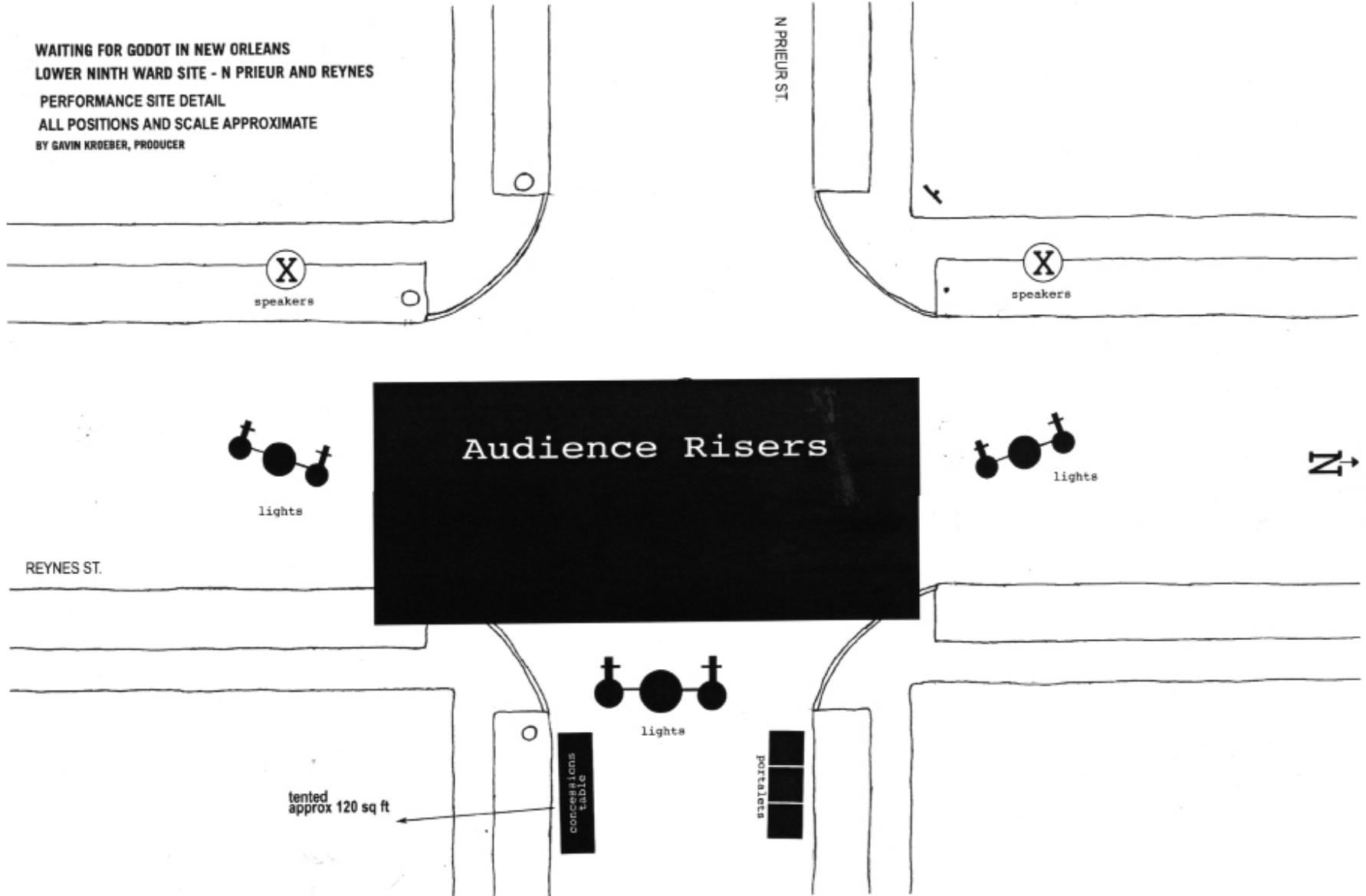


Drawing for staging Lower Ninth Godot by Gavin Kroeber, 2007, pen and pencil on paper



Sketch of Lower Ninth layout by Gavin Kroeber, 2007, pencil on paper

WAITING FOR GODOT IN NEW ORLEANS
 LOWER NINTH WARD SITE - N PRIEUR AND REYNES
 PERFORMANCE SITE DETAIL
 ALL POSITIONS AND SCALE APPROXIMATE
 BY GAVIN KROEBER, PRODUCER



Detail of final layout plans in the Lower Ninth by Gavin Kroeber, 2007, pdf



Christopher McElroen, Dan Krall, and Gavin Kroeber at the Lower Ninth Ward site, 2007

Paul Chan and Christopher McElroen and the Lower Ninth Ward site, 2007.
Photo by Tuyen Nguyen



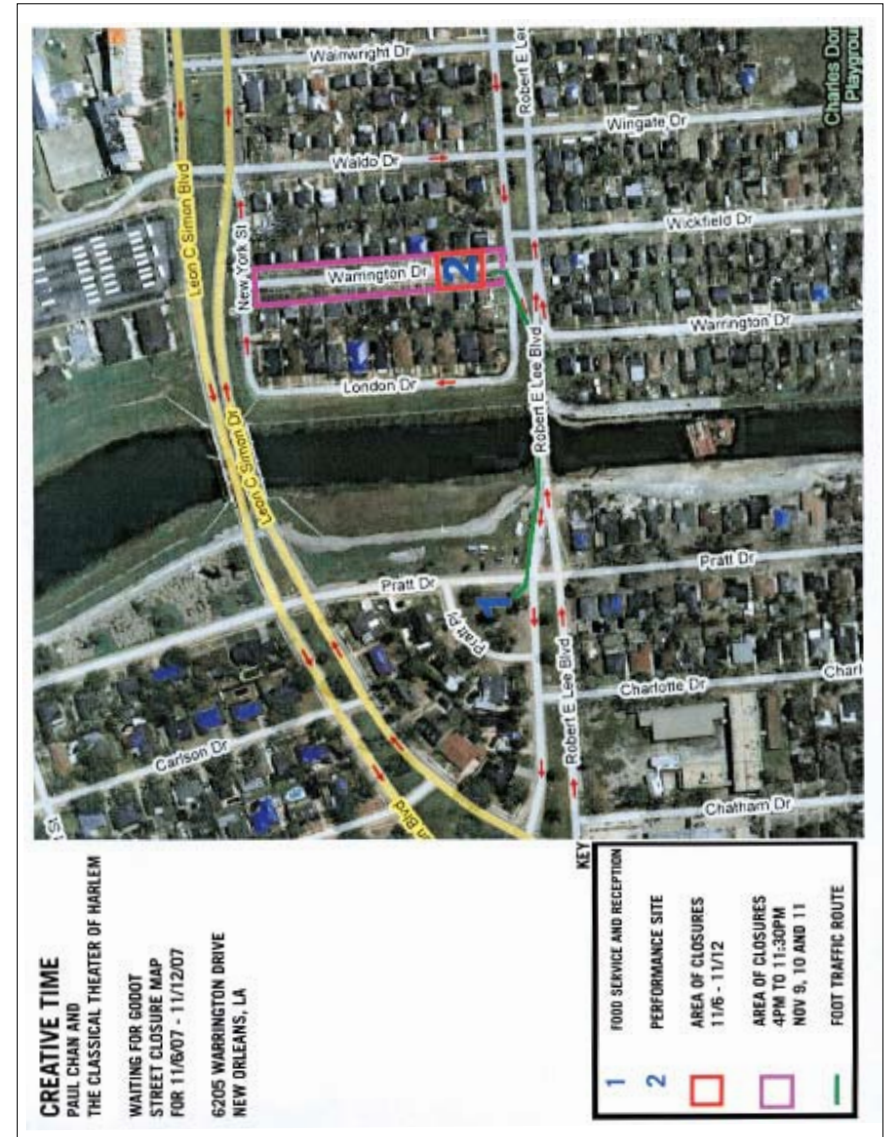
Tree and J Kyle Manzay, 2007. Photo by Tuyen Nguyen

FACE TO FACE
 CITY HALL IS GUTTED - START NOW
 CONTACT COUNCILPERSON - WILLIAM LEWIS? DIST D.
 CHRYL MARRELL? ~~WARRINGTON~~ to Gannett school for the Arts
 GENTILLY HAS 3 DIST. COMING TOGETHER @ CIRCLE

TOOD BRECKMAN @ CITY PLANNING COMMISSION 688.7000
 ED HOLLAN @ SAFETY + PERMITS 688.7100
 RAYMOND ADAMS - panel from all city departments ADA, etc. 2 times/monthly
 OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT - does have interests in everything
 COULD WE MAINT A PARADE PERMIT
 FREE SECURITY - CIVIL SHERIFF'S OFFICE (WARRINGTON)
 CRAIG MCGEE required to do volunteer work

STREET CLOSURE - ordinance from city council
 GET INFO. TO COUNCILPERSON
 - D NEIGHBORHOOD SIGN-OFF

STREETS - PUBLIC WORKS -
 RICHARD TALMAN 688.8000/8040



Yet another to-do list by Gavin Kroeber, 2007, pen on paper

Street closure plan in Gentilly by Gavin Kroeber, 2007

FREE PERFORMANCE!

**WAITING FOR
GODOT**

By Samuel Beckett, a tragicomedy in two acts

**Starring: Wendell Pierce, J Kyle Manzay,
T. Ryder Smith, Mark McLaughlin,
Michael Pepp, and Tony Felix**
Directed by Christopher McElroen, Artistic Director: Paul Chan

LOWER NINTH WARD
INTERSECTION OF
NOVEMBER 2nd & 3rd
FORSTALL AND N.ROMAN
7:00 PM

GENTILLY
INTERSECTION OF PRATT DR. AND ROBERT E LEE BLVD
NOVEMBER 9th & 10th
7:00 PM

Presented by Creative Time in collaboration with the
Classical Theatre of Harlem & New Orleans' Partners:
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS, XAVIER UNIVERSITY, DILLARD UNIVERSITY, MOCCA
RIVERFRONT, LUSHER HIGH SCHOOL, FREDERIC DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL,
JOHN MC DONOUGH HIGH SCHOOL, STUDENTS AT THE CENTER, NEIGHBORHOOD
STORY PROJECT, THE PORCH, RENAISSANCE PROJECT, ROBERT GREEN SR.
AND THE BEST OF THE GOOD PEOPLES IN THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

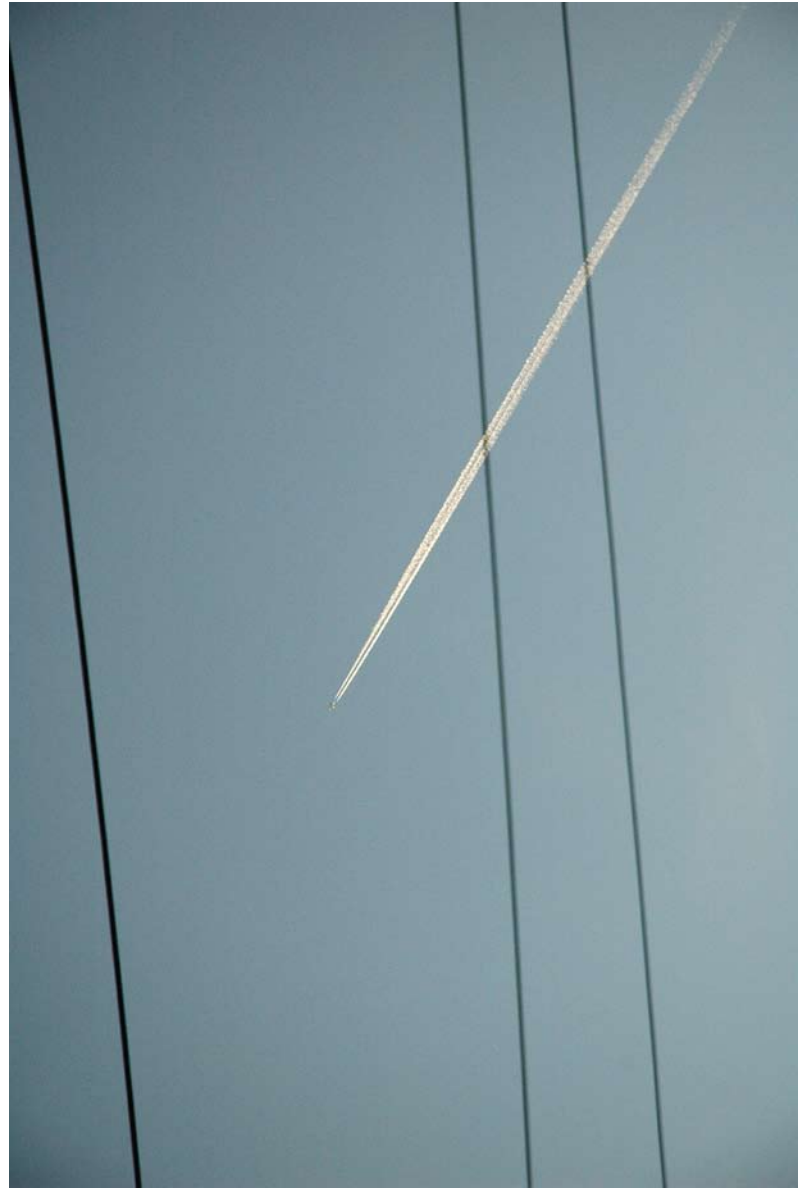
All performances
are FREE & open
to the public.
For more info,
please call ☎
504-467-1118

Poster by Hot Iron Press, 2007, letterpress print

SETTING UP AND REHEARSING



Gavin Kroeber at the Gentilly site, 2007



Gentilly sky, 2007. Photo by Tuyen Nguyen



Christopher McElroen and Wendell Pierce at the Gentilly site, 2007. Photo by Tuyen Nguyen



Lights and risers, 2007. Photo by Tuyen Nguyen



T. Ryder Smith, 2007. Photo by Tuyen Nguyen

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	TO DO	CAST	LOCATION
Sunday 10/14		Travel/Site Visits		
	6:30 pm	Community Dinner	Full Company	TBD
Week 1				
Monday 10/15	12-3 pm	Read Through	V,E,P,L	St. Mary's
	3-4 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	4-8 pm	Page 18-43	V,E,P,L	St. Mary's
Tuesday 10/16	2-5 pm	Page 79-103	V,E,P	St. Mary's
	5-6 pm	Dinner		St. Mary's
	6-10 pm	Page 18-43	V,E,P,L	St. Mary's
Wednesday 10/17	11-2 pm	Page 2-18	V,E	St. Mary's
	2-3 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3-6 pm	Page 43-52	V,E,B	St. Mary's
Thursday 10/18	11-2 pm	Page 53-79	V,E	St. Mary's
	2-3 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3-6 pm	Page 53-79	V,E	St. Mary's
	6:30-8:30 pm	Community Dinner	Full Company	Churches/Churches
Friday 10/19		DAY OFF		
Saturday 10/20	9-10:30 am	Dillard Workshop		Dillard
	3-6 pm	Anthony Bean Workshop	V,E	Anthony Bean
Sunday 10/21	11-2 pm	Page 2-18 & 43-52	V,E	St. Mary's
	2-3 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3-6 pm	Page 53-79	V,E	St. Mary's
Week 2				
Monday 10/22	11-2 pm	Review Act I	V,E,P,L	St. Mary's
	2-3 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3-6 pm	Review Act I	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
	6:30-8:30 pm	Community Dinner	Full Company	Jana Napoli
Tuesday 10/23	11-3 pm	Page 53-79	V,E	NOCCA
	3-4 pm	Lunch		
	4-6 pm	NOCCA Workshop	V,E	NOCCA
Wednesday 10/24	2-5 pm	Page 53-79	V,E	St. Mary's
	5-6 pm	Dinner		
	6-10 pm	Page 79-103	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
Thursday 10/25	2-5 pm	Review Act I	V,E,P	St. Mary's
	5-6 pm	Dinner		St. Mary's
	6-10 pm	Review Act I	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
Friday 10/26	12-2:30 pm	Review Act II	V,E	St. Mary's
	2:30-3:30 pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3:30-6 pm	Review Act II	V,E,P,B	St. Mary's
	6:30-8 pm	Porch Workshop	V,E,P,B	Porch
	8-10pm	Community Dinner	Full Company	Porch

DATE	TIME	TO DO	CAST	LOCATION
Saturday 10/27	11-2pm	Review Act I	V,E,P,L	St. Mary's
	2-3pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	3-6pm	Review Act I	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
	6:30-8pm	Crossroads Workshop	V,E,P,B	Crossroads
Sunday 10/28		DAY OFF		
Note: Page numbers correspond with Groove Street Press addition. These scripts will be available at 1st rehearsal				
Week 3				
Monday 10/29	2-5pm	Scene Work	V,E,P	St. Mary's
	5-6pm	Lunch		St. Mary's
	6-10pm	Work Through	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
Tuesday 10/30	9:20-10:45am	Xavier Workshop	V,E,P	Xavier University
	2-5pm	Scene Work	V,E,P	St. Mary's
	5-6pm	Dinner		St. Mary's
	6-10pm	Run Through	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
Wednesday 10/31	1-5pm	Work Through	V,E,P,L	Lower 9th Ward
	5-6pm	Dinner		Lower 9th Ward
	6-11pm	Tech	V,E,P,L,B	Lower 9th Ward
Thursday 11/1	1-5pm	Run Through	V,E,P,L	Lower 9th Ward
	5-6pm	Dinner		Lower 9th Ward
	6-11pm	Dress	V,E,P,L,B	Lower 9th Ward
Friday 11/2	1-5pm	Dress	V,E,P,L,B	Lower 9th Ward
	5-7pm	Dinner		Lower 9th Ward
	7pm	Opening	V,E,P,L,B	Lower 9th Ward
Saturday 11/3	7pm	Performance	V,E,P,L,B	Lower 9th Ward
Sunday 11/4		DAY OFF		
Week 4				
Monday 11/5	11-3pm	Work Through	V,E,P,L	Gentilly
	3-4pm	Lunch		
	4-6pm	UNO Workshop	V,E,P	UNO
Tuesday 11/6	6-10pm	Run Through	V,E,P,L,B	St. Mary's
Wednesday 11/7	6-11pm	Tech	Full Cast	Gentilly
Thursday 11/8	6-11pm	Dress	Full Cast	Gentilly
Friday 11/9	7pm	Performance	Full Cast	Gentilly
Saturday 11/10	7pm	Performance	Full Cast	Gentilly
Sunday 11/11		Travel Day		

(This and facing page) Rehearsal spreadsheet, 2007



Kairos, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 2, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 1, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 3, 2007



Gym, 2007



St. Mary's
rehearsal 4, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 5, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 6, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 7, 2007



St. Mary's rehearsal 8, 2007

BRINGING THE CORNER BACK TO LIFE

(*The Times-Picayune*, October 29, 2007)

What did Paul Chan see when he toured New Orleans during the summer of 2006?

“The empty corners reminded me of every production of *Waiting for Godot* I had ever seen: the silence, the trees, the empty roads.”

Samuel Beckett, the author of this modern theater classic, is an unlikely playwright to tell the tale of New Orleans. His is a stark, brooding, and somewhat cold sensibility. His aesthetic is to the modern stage what black-and-white is to modern television.

New Orleans, of course, is a city of brilliant colors.

But Chan’s eyes didn’t deceive him. The New York–based artist saw that our wounded spirit and empty neighborhoods were a perfect backdrop for Beckett’s wounded characters and empty hopes.

“I realized that I had to do more than visit for a couple of days. I had to take the opportunity to realize the hallucination I had seen on the street, and to do it in a way that would be locally sustainable.

“Within my world, contemporary art, there are many shows that go in and out of different locations. The art comes and it leaves. I realized that if I was going to do something in New Orleans, it had to be different.”

Evolution of art

Chan is an internationally renowned artist and activist. He divides his time between protesting the war in Iraq and creating video shorts, digital projections, and charcoal drawings.

For him, simply staging an outdoor performance on a desolate corner was not enough. He polled the community, asking, “If I were to stage a free, outdoor performance of Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*, what else would you like to see happen?”

“It was through all these conversations that we began to evolve this project from a free outdoor performance into a multidimensional project that is as diverse as the city itself.”

Promoting a belief

So Chan gives free, open-to-the-public lectures on contemporary art at the University of New Orleans and Xavier University. He attends potluck dinners at the homes of prominent and not-so-prominent New Orleanians.

He has joined forces with the Classical Theatre of Harlem and actor Wendell Pierce, a New Orleans native, to bring Beckett’s play to our streets this weekend.

The work of an Irish playwright who died nearly twenty years ago would seem an unlikely choice for the illumination of the conditions in contemporary New Orleans. But for Chan, understanding humanity requires the cross-cultural, the unexpected, and the complex.

“The worst thing in the world is to reduce what it means to be a human being,” Chan says. “To me it means being as complex as possible.”

Free Performance! World-Class Entertainment!

~~Respect~~ ~~Respect~~ ~~Respect~~

Waiting for ~~ferret~~ GODOT

By Samuel Beckett
A tragicomedy in two acts



NOVEMBER 2 & 3
7pm, Lower Ninth Ward
(Intersection of Forstall St. & N. Roman St.)

NOVEMBER 9 & 10
7pm, Gently
(Intersection of Pratt Dr. & Robert E Lee Blvd)

★ *Starring* ★

Wendell Pierce (star of HBO's *The Wire*)
 J Kyle Manzay ★ T. Ryder Smith ★ Mark McLaughlin
 Michael Pepp ★ Tony Felix

Director
 Christopher McElroen

Artistic Director
 Paul Chan

All performances are **OUTDOORS** and **FREE** and **OPEN** to the public
 For more information, please call (504) 467-1118

Presented by Creative Time in collaboration with the Classical Theatre of Harlem and New Orleans' Partners: University of New Orleans, Xavier University, Dillard University, NOCCA High School, Lusher High School, Frederic Douglass High School, John McDonough High School, Students at the Center, Neighborhood Story Project, The Porch, Renaissance Project, Neighborhood ambassador Robert Lynn Green Sr. and the rest of the good peoples in the city of New Orleans. ★

Street flyer, 2007, pdf

November 2007

New Orleans, Louisiana

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 ☉	2	3
				Sunrise: 7:13am Sunset: 6:14pm Moonrise: none Moonset: 1:50pm Last Qr: 3:19pm	Sunrise: 7:14am Sunset: 6:13pm Moonrise: 12:28am Moonset: 2:26pm	Sunrise: 7:15am Sunset: 6:12pm Moonrise: 1:38am Moonset: 2:56pm
4 DST Ends	5	6	7	8	9 ●	10
Sunrise: 6:16am Sunset: 5:11pm Moonrise: 1:31am Moonset: 2:24pm	Sunrise: 6:16am Sunset: 5:11pm Moonrise: 2:30am Moonset: 2:50pm	Sunrise: 6:17am Sunset: 5:10pm Moonrise: 3:23am Moonset: 3:16pm	Sunrise: 6:18am Sunset: 5:09pm Moonrise: 4:17am Moonset: 3:43pm	Sunrise: 6:19am Sunset: 5:08pm Moonrise: 5:11am Moonset: 4:12pm	Sunrise: 6:19am Sunset: 5:08pm Moonrise: 6:05am Moonset: 4:46pm New Moon: 5:04pm	Sunrise: 6:20am Sunset: 5:07pm Moonrise: 7:03am Moonset: 5:22pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 ☽
Sunrise: 6:21am Sunset: 5:07pm Moonrise: 8:00am Moonset: 6:05pm	Sunrise: 6:22am Sunset: 5:06pm Moonrise: 8:56am Moonset: 6:54pm	Sunrise: 6:23am Sunset: 5:05pm Moonrise: 9:48am Moonset: 7:46pm	Sunrise: 6:24am Sunset: 5:05pm Moonrise: 10:37am Moonset: 8:40pm	Sunrise: 6:24am Sunset: 5:04pm Moonrise: 11:20am Moonset: 9:46pm	Sunrise: 6:25am Sunset: 5:04pm Moonrise: 11:58am Moonset: 10:48pm	Sunrise: 6:26am Sunset: 5:03pm Moonrise: 12:32pm Moonset: 11:49pm First Qr: 4:33pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 ☽
Sunrise: 6:27am Sunset: 5:03pm Moonrise: 1:04pm Moonset: none	Sunrise: 6:28am Sunset: 5:03pm Moonrise: 1:35pm Moonset: 12:52am	Sunrise: 6:28am Sunset: 5:02pm Moonrise: 2:07pm Moonset: 1:55am	Sunrise: 6:29am Sunset: 5:02pm Moonrise: 2:42pm Moonset: 3:01am	Sunrise: 6:30am Sunset: 5:01pm Moonrise: 3:20pm Moonset: 4:11am	Sunrise: 6:31am Sunset: 5:01pm Moonrise: 4:05pm Moonset: 5:24am	Sunrise: 6:32am Sunset: 5:01pm Moonrise: 4:56pm Moonset: 6:39am Full Moon: 8:30am
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Sunrise: 6:33am Sunset: 5:01pm Moonrise: 6:00pm Moonset: 7:52am	Sunrise: 6:33am Sunset: 5:00pm Moonrise: 7:07pm Moonset: 8:59am	Sunrise: 6:34am Sunset: 5:00pm Moonrise: 8:17pm Moonset: 9:57am	Sunrise: 6:35am Sunset: 5:00pm Moonrise: 9:20pm Moonset: 10:44am	Sunrise: 6:36am Sunset: 5:00pm Moonrise: 10:28pm Moonset: 11:24am	Sunrise: 6:37am Sunset: 5:00pm Moonrise: 11:28pm Moonset: 11:57am	

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CONTRIBUTORS

Christopher McElroen

Christopher McElroen is the Co-founder of the Classical Theatre of Harlem (CTH), for which he produced forty productions between 2000 and 2009 that yielded thirteen AUDELCO Awards, six OBIE Awards, two Lucille Lortel Awards, and a Drama Desk Award. Selected directing credits include *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Blacks: A Clown Show*, and *Marat/Sade*. He has also directed at numerous venues, including the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Duke University, and the Walker Art Center.

Nato Thompson

Nato Thompson is Chief Curator for CreativeTime, where he has organized major projects, such as *It Is What It Is: Conversations about Iraq* (2009), a project that encouraged public discussion of the history, present circumstances, and future of Iraq. Prior to CreativeTime, he worked as a curator for MASS MoCA, where he completed numerous large-scale exhibitions, such as *The Interventionists: Art in the Social Sphere*, a survey of political art of the 1990s. His most recent book, *Seeing Power: Art and Activism in the Age of Cultural Production*, is available through Autonomedia.org.

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--

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--

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*Waiting for Godot in New Orleans:
A Field Guide*

This publication was prepared on the occasion of *Waiting for Godot in New Orleans: A play in two acts, a project in three parts*, by Paul Chan

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