



PROGRAMME

5–8pm  
Doors open,  
view at your own leisure

Works will be played  
intermittently each hour

Mind fr K  
2025, 6:40min

Talk in to a boy  
2024, 3:51min

Love Rocky  
2022, 15:00min

Netherworld  
2019, 7:16min

7.30pm  
Toast and digital launch of  
Annual Report 2023–2024

For ACT XII, playbill will veer slightly away from our usual format. Rather than a time-based event, Torpedo Theater will instead act as the backdrop for a collection of audio pieces by artist and performer Sue Tompkins, which will play intermittently throughout the evening.

Perhaps most known for fronting the acclaimed Glasgow-based art-rock band Life Without Buildings (1999–2002), Sue Tompkins has worked with text—its translation to speech and the representation of language in a visual manner—for the past three decades through live performances, typewritten works, sound, installation and painting. In all of these instances, snippets from conversation or everyday phrases are deconstructed and reassembled, a process that opens them up to a broader and non-linear reading, not unlike concrete poetry or verbal jazz.

Tompkins is currently taking a break from live performance, a biographical note that informs her presentation here at playbill. With her text works acting as scores—often literally being organised in clumps of speech for her live performances—a series of audio works will stand in for her embodied voice, ambushing the audience at unexpected moments. In this way, ACT XII plays with the suspension of the performer, the one acting from the sidelines, deliberately refraining from taking the stage.

This first act of the new year also brings with it the digital launch of our second Annual Report publication, this time featuring an essay by Katy Deepwell, an artist commission by Rechonski and audience reports by Szymon Adamczak, Clara Amaral, Megan Hoetger and Robert Milne. Come and celebrate the beginning of the new playbill year with a publication reporting on the previous season. This act is unticketed (free of charge) and visitors are welcome to come by the theatre at any time between 5–8pm on April 13. The bar will be open throughout the event and a toast will take place at 7.30pm.

IMAGE  
Sue Tompkins, *Ambush*, 2022, typewritten text on coloured paper, 29.7 × 21 cm

COLOPHON Torpedo Theater is a long-running, thirty-seat theatre in the heart of Amsterdam’s city centre. Originally founded by *Het Parool*, a Dutch national newspaper, the theatre has been committed to the spoken, written and performed word from the beginning. playbill is an event-based project invested in the presentation of experimental language and text-based artistic works on the (small) stage. It is curated by Martha Jager and Isabelle Sully, designed by Maud Vervenne and documented by Silvia Ulloa. playbill: ACT XII has been made possible thanks to The Modern Institute, Glasgow; Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst and Mondriaan Fonds. This playbill has been printed by Terry Bleu, Amsterdam.