



6522 Hollywood Boulevard Los Angeles CA 90028
tel 323 957 1777 (fax 9025) info@welcometolace.org

www.welcometolace.org

Three Weeks in January: End RAPE in Los Angeles

A Recreation of the 1977 Performance
Three Weeks in May

By Suzanne Lacy



Suzanne Lacy, *Three Weeks in May*, 1977. Courtesy of Suzanne Lacy.

“Lacy’s epic civic event *Three Weeks in May*, stood at the forefront of a movement changing the way society viewed sexual violence” (Cara Baldwin, *Art in America*, 2007).

As part of the Getty’s *Pacific Standard Time Performance and Public Art Festival (January 19-29, 2012)*, LACE (Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions) presents *Three Weeks In January*, a new work by Suzanne Lacy with scores of Los Angeles-based partners. Recreating key aspects of *Three Weeks in May (1977)*—an art project exposing the true incidence of rape in Los Angeles – the work focuses on where Los Angeles is now, thirty years into the anti-rape movement, and how we will end violence against women in the coming decades.

The initial *Three Weeks in May* project had a forceful political imperative: to bring hidden experiences of gender-based violence to public attention. The project engaged the city and its politicians and media in an examination of how rape impacted Los Angeles women. In its time, it played a radical role in public exposure.

Now, over thirty years later, we can no longer say that rape is unspoken, nor that services and policies do not exist. Yet violence against women remains, locally and globally, with implications more pronounced than ever. This project will mobilize young women, men, and an intergenerational coalition across the region to consider next steps in an ever-increasingly necessary, and prominent, agenda against violence.

Project Overview

Three Weeks in January consists of a **Los Angeles Rape Map** – a large map, installed in Downtown Los Angeles, on which young women mark, each day, the prior day’s police reports; and **Critical Conversations** -- region-wide, multi-vocal events that take place in January at the site of the maps and elsewhere by partnering organizations. As in the original artwork in 1977, we will use art as a platform to organize a series of events, consciousness-raising sessions, and presentations that collectively bring renewed focus and attention to the work to end rape.

Featured events include a mobilization of students at high schools, college campuses, and community organizations to host consciousness-raising conversations and to attend a **Candlelight Ceremony on January 27, 2012** at the site of the maps; and **Storying Violences** – a performance of policy deliberation – by experts in rape prevention and education, legislative advocacy, criminal justice, the media, and direct service delivery.



6522 Hollywood Boulevard Los Angeles CA 90028
tel 323 957 1777 (fax 9025) info@welcometolace.org

www.welcometolace.org

Three Weeks in January includes activism, education, media, city politics and art, and people from all of these areas as part of the form and structure of the work. A schedule of 30+ events organized across the LA metropolitan region will begin on January 11 and continue through February 1, 2012.

The *Three Weeks in January* advisory board includes Gail Abarbanel, Founder and Director, The Rape Treatment Center; Deputy Mayor Eileen Decker; Jodie Evans, Co-Founder, CODEPINK; Olga Garay, Executive Director, Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Angeles; Patti Giggans, Executive Director, Peace over Violence; Samuel Hoi, President Otis College of Art and Design; Cora Mirakitani, President and CEO of the Center for Cultural Innovation; Councilwoman Jan Perry; Ruth Slaughter, former Vice President of Community Outreach Prevention and Education Programs at PROTOTYPES; Amy Elaine Wakeland, Board Member, Just Detention International; Lisa Watson, Executive Director, Downtown Women's Center.

Three Weeks In January is one of the anchor performance events for the Getty's *Pacific Standard Time Performance and Public Art Festival* organized by LA><ART and the Getty Research Institute. *Three Weeks In January* is part of Pacific Standard Time, an unprecedented collaboration initiated by the Getty, which brings together more than sixty cultural institutions from across Southern California, October 2011 – March 2012, to tell the story of the birth of the L.A. art scene.

For more information about the project and events, please visit www.threeweeksinjanuary.org.