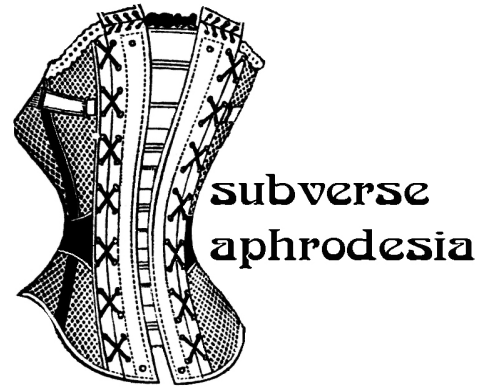


PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Arts Journalist to Share Free Multimedia Presentation on 'NeoVaudeville'

When the symbols of rebellion are marketed in shopping malls across America, where is a self-respecting nonconformist to turn?

Tired of the flavorless grit of grunge and disenchanted with the corporate cookie cutter pop machine, thousands of entertainers around the world simultaneously came to the same conclusions in this first decade of the 21st century. They can be found in alternative circuses and cabaret acts, gypsy fusion and steampunk bands and their fresh artistry has been gobbled up by audiences hungry for a sense-stimulating experience they can't get at home, no matter how high-def their home electronics.

Celebrating the live theatrical magic of a pre-electronic era before mass media broadcasting, these artists are best captured under the umbrella of NeoVaudeville—despite some objections to the term—proposes Alicia Grega. Current Events Editor at the *electric city/diamond city* weekly newspapers and *The570.com*, Grega will share her enthusiasm for their performance aesthetic in a multi-media presentation this month and next in Scranton.

“NeoVaudeville in the 21st Century: Exploring the Revival of Burlesque, Sideshow & Cabaret,” will debut at The Vintage Theater at 119 Penn Avenue in Scranton on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. A second opportunity to see the presentation will be offered Saturday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Anthology New and Used Books at 515 Center Street in Scranton. The program incorporates audio and video with still photography and narration in an intimate one-woman-show-meets-lecture that's required Grega to stretch beyond her *electric city* comfort zone. While at first glance it may seem the NeoVaudeville movement has passed by Northeastern Pennsylvania, despite the region's rich vaudeville history, she has found numerous examples of artists in our own backyard that invoke the NeoVaudeville aesthetic.

Grega's presentation is sponsored by a 2008-2009 Arts Commentary Award from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council (www.pahumanities.org.) Part of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Creative Artists Fellowship program, the award is one of the few initiatives in the U.S. dedicated to arts criticism. It is intended to foster nonfiction work which educates the broad general public about the contemporary arts, while also promoting arts commentators' endeavors to reach new or larger audiences. A summary

of her research can be found at www.SubverseAphrodesia.com under the heading "NeoVaudeville."

Both presentations will be offered free of charge, although guests are encouraged to support the host venues with merchandise and café purchases or donations. Venues with an available laptop projector and screen/blank wall interested in hosting this presentation for their audiences should inquire at info@subverseaphrodesia.com.

About Alicia:

Trained as theatrical director and playwright at Drew University ('94), Alicia Grega has worked full-time as a features writer and theatre critic since January 2001 at the *electric city/diamond city* arts & entertainment weekly newspapers published by *The Times-Tribune* for Northeast Pennsylvania. Alicia was appointed to the Lackawanna County Council for Arts, Culture and Education in 2008 and is on the board of directors of First Friday Scranton. She has volunteered as the coordinator of the Jason Miller Playwrights' Project at Scranton Public Theatre since April 2008. Alicia has directed several local productions and saw her radio play *Operation Wanderlust* produced by The Northeast Theatre/Electric Theatre Company and WVIA-FM in March 2005. In September, she presented *Insomniac Salad: A Kitchen Table Collaboration* with three other writer/actors at the Olde Brick Theatre in Scranton. Her original script *Avenging Arachne* is scheduled for completion in winter 2010. In April 2009, she was one of 23 writers from across the country selected to attend the fifth NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Theater and Musical Theater at USC Annenberg in Los Angeles. She resides in Scranton, Pa. with her 11-year-old and 14-year-old daughters.