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The NicePaper

Kirk

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I'm just gonna blow through this AS220 thing, com­prende? Friday, the Sound Happening features Your Neighborhood Sax Quartet, jazz from their neighborhood, not mine, and singer/songwriter Alvaro Peña-Rojas (1943-). Alvaro, who formed the 101ers with Joe Strummer in 1974, is known as, get this, the Chilean with the singing nose. Possible tourmate for GG Allin and Lisa Suckdog? No, but I wouldn't miss it. Cabaret of the Oddly Normal on Saturday features Alexander Kemp, Johnny Flash, Michael Hurley and Just Say Stupor, Russ Pedro's Just Say No To Epic Cinema. The Cabaret, of course, will be hosted be Sir Guy d'Guy and Hiss Panic Band.

Sunday, AS220 will feature the first of two shows entitled Art Attack. Art Attack is described as, and I quote (for no good reason), "an arts festival of ten-minute pieces ... performers respond to the NEA mess. Artists celebrate the three-year extension of the NEA! Composers, playwrights, poets, singers and actors question the all-new 'General Decency' clause." Art Attack will include monologues, poetic rants, performance art and plays about the honorable Senator Helms, his wife, his brother, cousin and pet pit bull. Sunday's performance will begin at 7 pm and will be repeated on the following Sunday.

The people started filtering into AS220 on Halloween Night and it was evident that the Fun Band Halloween Party was going to be a success, Kurt Lang dispatched Tish Adams to race over to my apartment, cut me down from the flat hanger and loosen my bonds, scrub my face with a Chore Boy Scrub brush to remove the gaffer's tape glue that was sticking to it, rub aloe lotion into my wrists from where the speaker cords had cut them, and generally get me presentable so I could ascend the stairs on Richmond Street and blow my unwarmed up horn with the rest of the gone and ghoulish beatniks. Well, let me tell you, the sacrifice was worth it, and the sensory deprivation part of it was intriguing! It was heartwarming to see all of the folks who came to AS220 for this blowout — both old friends and new — and Tish, Kurt and I would like to thank everyone who helped make the night such a blast, especially all of you who brought instruments and joined in. When John Allmark appeared with his trumpet I knew we were onto something. Here's hoping that Bert and Sue and all of their loyal assistants will continue to offer a home for jazz at AS220. It was a genuine jam session, with players stretching out and exploring the tunes and meeting one another. Congratulations to all, and a hearty thank you to everyone who contributed to the magic. Let's try for more of these nights at AS220!