# 1687, INC

# ANNUAL REPORT

2009



Andrew Bolotowsky, Musician, 1687 core ensemble

Letter from Lenore Von Stein Artistic/Executive Director

From the perspective of this writing in 2010, 2009 was a watershed year - it was the year we created *THE FACTS* video series (which include public rehearsals) and an online blog to chronicle the development of the series. 2009 was also the year we began working with Manhattan Neighborhood Network. This collaboration is seminal to the development of *THE FACTS* series.

THE FACTS is broadcast in Manhattan, NY on Manhattan Neighborhood Network (MNN), Verizon, and RCN. Web distribution of THE FACTS (through blip.tv) allows us to reach a national and international audience.

THE FACTS is a series of mixed media, multi-disciplinary compositions (each filling a half-hour long episode). The "facts" in these works are the details of the story e.g. circumstances, reasoning, and emotions as well as the psychology and motivations of the storyteller. We are exploring reality (including relationships between the performers, audience, and medium) e.g. why and when a thought occurs – the circumstances - what are the precursors - the antecedents? How/why did one idea become another?

The TV/web video series is both an art and business initiative that will allow us to tests our vision of interstices between these two activities. e.g. prioritizing outreach and marketing for the series without modifying the artwork. THE FACTS series allows us to reach international audiences on a regular basis, with complete art works that are easy to access and free of admission fees.

In 2009 our all-volunteer staff grew and their skills diversified in response to our technical and marketing needs, e.g. video production, post-production, and marketing.

In 2010 THE FACTS will expand from a monthly to a weekly prime-time series. The episodes featuring art works will alternate with episodes featuring discussions on the effects of culture. This is really exciting and daunting. Thanks to all who made it possible – on to more.

Lenore

#### Board of Directors:

**Gela Kline** MSW, Retired Counselor working with disabled people **Marc Mannheimer** Visual Artist, Professor of Art, Endicott College, MA.

Naveen Seth Economist, Professor of Economics, Management Department Chair,

Vaughn College of Aeronautics & Technology

Joan Tucker Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor

MorganStanley SmithBarney

Lenore Von Stein Composer/Performer/Director, Executive/Artistic Director, 1687

Gary Von Stein Freelance Business Consultant, Direct Marketing & Media Operations

I serve on the 1687 board because Lenore and I are old friends and because I am very impressed by the work that the 1687 artists and organization does. I think eventually the world will recognize the work. *THE FACTS*: Wonderful concept, cutting edge – I wish it were on PBS and am pleased that MNN realizes how wonderful the work is. **Marc Mannheimer**, **2010** 

#### Core Ensemble:

Andrew Bolotowsky, Flutes Beth Griffith, Soprano Bern Nix, Guitars **Lenore Von Stein**, Composition, Direction, Soprano



Bern Nix and Beth Griffith

I enjoy working with 1687, Inc. because it's the only group I work with that gives me a chance to work in the aleatoric with both improvised and in the written-out sections. It expands my musical outlook. *THE FACTS* becomes a take-off point for both private and collective imaginations and provides a sense of adventure since, until the ultimate end, we don't know exactly where it's going. **Andrew Bolotowsky, musician in 1687's core ensemble, 2010** 

#### Staff:

Theresa Ballenger, Floor Manager
Cristina Chin, Audio
Max Clark, Floor Manager, Crew Reporter,
Lighting
Clara Eusebi, Web Master, Marketing
Daniel Garriga, Video Editor, Titles
Jaimie Hildalgo, Audio, Video Editing
Daniela Muhling, Audio, Technical
Direction, Camera, Marketing, Titles
Birgit Pellenkoft, Director, Technical
Director, Audio
Jenny Zhang, Web Design, Personnel Consultant

Marilyn Ries, Audio Consultant
Jacqueline Sotomayor, Cameras
Joan Tucker, Production Manager,
Lighting
Lenore Von Stein, Artistic /Executive
Director, Producer, Video Editing
Jonathan Walker, Production & Floor
Manager, Cameras, Recording
Maria Yushina, Sets, Crew Reporter

Working on *THE* group of talented different walks of life as skills is a great experience. contribute their other and this is wheels run



FACTS with a individuals from backgrounds and well as different learning Crewmembers knowledge to each what makes the smooth. You have

individuals who are dedicated to the show and put their heart into the production. Whether it's the production meeting or in the studio, there is no difference in the work ethic from the crew. Having a B.A. in broadcasting and mass communication I'm passionate about producing this show and believe the progress we've made within the last year can be seen and heard on any medium.

My wish for this show within the next 3 or 4 years is to acquire a bigger studio and a larger audience. Important to promoting our work are the proper funding, recruiting, and a new eye-catching website linked to various social networking sites. In addition, promoting the show to music or art major college students would be good, too. **Jonathan Walker, 2010, member of the production crew for The Facts** 

#### 1687 PROJECTS

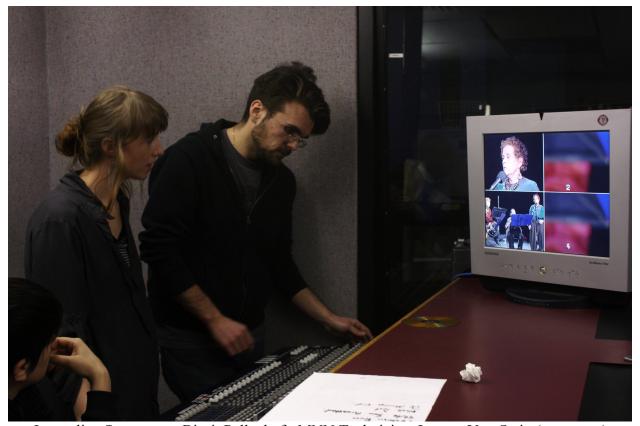
#### 1. THE FACTS

In the TV/web video series *THE FACTS* we use improvised and composed music and text to create stories about an individual's experience including some of the motives/viewpoints of the storyteller. Music and text can both describe, in distinct manners, the physical circumstances of an event - music may be more successful at communicating sensations, and text – ideas. We have developed techniques to move seamlessly from one element to another e.g. text to improvised music to composed music.

During 2009 episodes of *THE FACTS* dealt with watching TV and cultural influences (*Episodes 1&2: TV &Me: leaving the TV on and Cultural Disappointments*), working for a living and adjusting to office an unstable job marketplace (Episode 3: *The Strength Of Me: The Job*) as well as making art and love (Episode 4: *Hidden Trails*)

### • THE FACTS: Educational Component - The Rehearsal Episodes

The Facts also examines relationships between the performers – audience – material – and medium, especially in our "rehearsal episodes." These episodes focus on problems realizing the work including discussions of the theme and are broadcast on video in order to provide the audience with insight into the people, situation and mechanics that produce the work while developing our relationship to the cameras and the audience.



Jacqueline Sotomayor, Birgit Pellenkoft, MNN Technician, Lenore Von Stein (on screen)

### • THE FACTS: Marketing Objectives

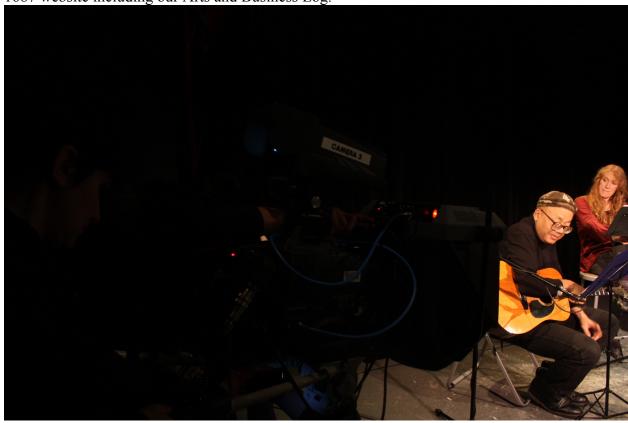
The series allows us to distribute our work more widely and more consistently, which will in turn give us information that will aide marketing, e.g. statistics describing the work's appeal – when and where to invest for market growth. The production of The Facts, broadcast on MNN' Channel 67/68, Verizon Channel 34, and RCN Channel 85 & the web via blip.tv, provides an unusual opportunity to market a complex American TV series to an international audience.

### 2. Volunteer Program

In 2009 everyone working with 1687 was volunteering: artists, web designers, and TV crew, and administration. Persons volunteering for the TV crew had a range of backgrounds - some were TV or film professionals looking to expand or hone their skills and/or to work on an art project. Some crewmembers were completely new to TV and video production. All crewmembers received the necessary training from Manhattan Neighborhood Network, for example, operation of TV and video cameras, TV control room equipment as well as video editing and blogging. The crewmembers also received on-the-job training in crew organization as they participated in many aspects of making TV shows.

### 3. Organizational Development

We are developing relationships with institutional and individual funders to support the organization's future viability and growth. Our evolving business model is chronicled on the 1687 website including our Arts and Business Log.



Bern Nix and Beth Griffith
The photos in this report are by Max Clark

### 1687'S 2009 BUDGET

| <b>Personnel Services</b>                |            |           |        |
|--|------------|-----------|--------|
| 1. Executive/Artistic Director (In-Kind) | 0          |           |        |
| 2. Composer/Director (In-Kind)           | 0          |           |        |
| 3. Musician Services (In-Kind)           | 0          |           |        |
| 4. TV Crew Services (In-kind)            | 0          |           |        |
| 5. TV Editing services (In-Kind)         | 0          |           |        |
| 6. Training (In-kind)                    | 0          |           |        |
| 7. CD Editing                            | 60         |           |        |
| 8. Total Personnel Costs                 |            |           | 60     |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                |            |           |        |
| 9. Equipment                             | 60         |           |        |
| 10. Rent: Rehearsal space                | 288        |           |        |
| 11. Rehearsal and Meetings: Supplies     | 365        |           |        |
| 12. Video Taping/Equipment (In-Kind)     | 0          |           |        |
| 13. Travel                               | 100        |           |        |
| 14. Computer Hardware & Software         | 150        |           |        |
| 15. Rent: office space, utilities        | 8588       |           |        |
| 16. Phones:                              | <b>587</b> |           |        |
| 17. Answering Service, PO Box, Website   | <b>370</b> |           |        |
| 18. Bank Fees                            | 125        |           |        |
| 19. Office Supplies                      | 512        |           |        |
| 20. Total Operating                      |            |           | 11,145 |
| 21. Total Annual Expenses                |            |           | 11,205 |
| REVENUES                                 |            |           |        |
| 22. Unearned Income                      |            |           |        |
| 23. Government Grants, NYSCA             |            | 0         |        |
| 24. Individuals                          |            | 11,205    |        |
| 25. Earned Income - Admissions           |            | 0         |        |
| 26 Total Annual Davanuas                 |            |           | 11 204 |
| 26. Total Annual Revenues                |            | 0140.670  | 11,205 |
| 27. Total In-Kind Estimated Operating    |            | \$140,670 |        |

#### 1687, Inc 2009 Expenses

