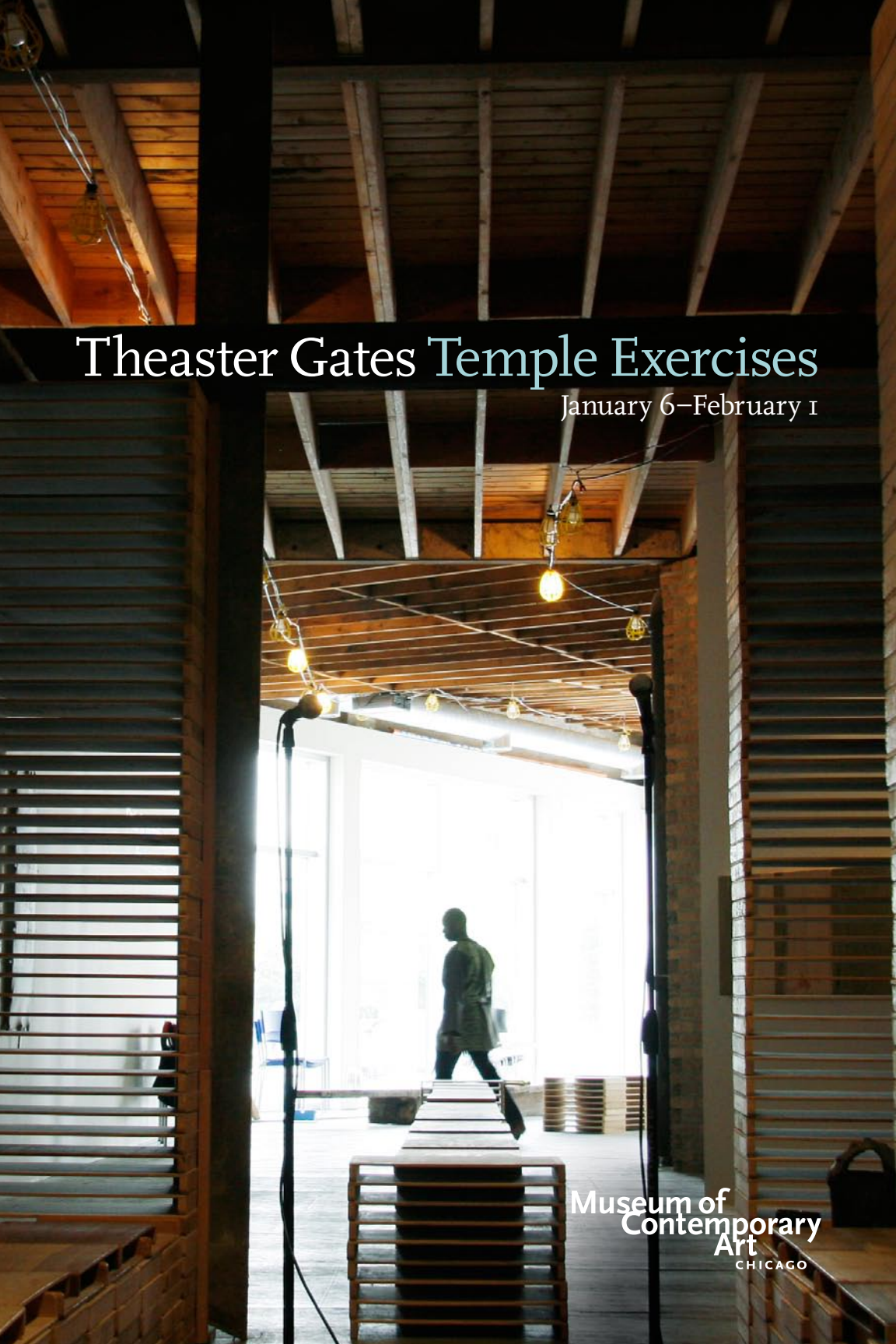




Theaster Gates Temple Exercises

January 6–February 1

Museum of
Contemporary
Art
CHICAGO

Theater Gates Temple Exercises

Talks, performances, events—and a journey across Chicago

SHINE KING

338 N. Central Avenue
Saturday, January 24
10 am–noon
EVENT

Have your shoes shined for \$5 at this bona fide Chicago institution.
For more information, call 773.378.9734.

CHICAGO



LAKE MICHIGAN

MCA

220 E. Chicago Avenue
Tuesday, January 6

6–7 pm, Temple performance
Main floor
PERFORMANCE

Tuesday, January 13

5–5:30 pm, Temple performance
Main floor
PERFORMANCE

6–8 pm, Global Neighborhoods
Kanter Meeting Center, ground floor
TALK

Architect and activist **Kyong Park** and artist and community organizer **Rick Lowe** discuss issues related to urban transformation and contemporary art in this talk moderated by Gates.
Members and students with valid ID \$5, nonmembers \$7

For tickets, call 312.397.4010.

Tuesday, January 20

6–7 pm, Temple performance
Main floor
PERFORMANCE

LITTLE BLACK PEARL

1060 E. 47th Street
Saturday, January 10

3:30–4 pm, Gathering

4–6 pm, Artist talk and performance
EVENT

Joined by the Black Monks of Mississippi and Little Black Pearl's *Temple Exercises* fabrication team, Gates meditates on the African American church and its changing role in urban centers as well as the intersection of his role as visual artist, with his musical interests and community engagement.
This event is free, but reservations are required—call 312.397.4010.

EXHIBITION, January 6–February 1

Chicago artist and urban planner Theater Gates Jr. mixes visual art and performance to stimulate and build community. He creates sculptures and installations, performs musically, and develops events and spaces that bring together members of various communities. Gates is interested in fostering conversation among people of various backgrounds about the complex issues of race, spirituality, and beauty to encourage a shared awareness and sense of togetherness.

Temple Exercises transforms an MCA gallery into a templelike environment that refers to the African American church as well as Japanese Buddhist temples. Gates envisions this environment as a contemplative space within the museum and invites visitors to reflect on and participate in spiritual expression, nourishment, and service. While sculptural forms within this space manifest these ideas, Gates will also enact various exercises in the community, such as shoe shining and performances with the Black Monks of Mississippi, a group of musicians who fuse African American spirituals with Asian chants.

Gates believes rituals of devotion and service are inherent to both Asian and African American spiritual traditions, and his exercises focus on how members of the African American church often carry what the artist calls “churchness” into their daily activities. Seeing this as a cultural condition of blackness, Gates extends the project beyond the MCA, encouraging viewers to engage in secular urban rituals at three different locations in Chicago: South Side art center **Little Black Pearl**, where Gates has involved a workforce development team in fabricating another temple structure; **Shine King**, where Gates regularly has his shoes shined; and **Sonothèque**, a music club where Gates has organized a listening and dance party that will focus on the spiritual roots that have shaped house, soul, and early black secular music.

SONOTHEQUE

1444 W. Chicago Avenue
Tuesday, January 27
8 pm–2 am
PERFORMANCE

Chicago's own DJ Madrid, Eric Williams, Sadre Woods, and Sean Alvarez fuse global sounds with music inspired by the African American church at this listening and dance party organized by Gates.
You must be age 21 or over with a valid ID to attend this event
For more information, call 312.226.7600 or visit sonothèque.net.

Museum of Contemporary Art
CHICAGO

220 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611
mcacheicago.org
312.280.2660



Generous support for this exhibition is provided
by the Eisen Family Foundation.



Official Airline of
the Museum of
Contemporary Art

Museum of Contemporary Art

220 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611
mcachicago.org

CHICAGO