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MICHAEL PORTNOY (b.1971, USA)

Michael Portnoy is an artist, musician, and Director of Behavior. His practice spans dance-theater, metafunctional sculpture, experimental stand-up, prog-operatic spectacle, abstract gambling, 3-person nightclubs, and Icelandic cockroach porn. Portnoy's art circles the rules of play and communication - language itself playing a crucial role in the works. Portnoy refers to his interaction with the audience as "Relational Stalinism," signaling towards a form of participation without "moral double standards" or populist involvement and opting toward a clarification of the artist's imperious role as a producer and a performer.

Michael Portnoy was born in Washington, D.C. in 1971. He lives and works in New York City. Portnoy has presented work in museums, art galleries, theaters and music halls internationally, including such venues as: Art Unlimited Basel, The Moscow Biennial, P.S. 1/MOMA, The Kitchen (NY), The Sculpture Center (NY), Foksal Gallery Foundation (Warsaw), Kadist Foundation (Paris), Kunsthalle Basel, Tensta Konsthall (Stockholm), Performa 09 & 07 (NY), Kaaithheater (Brussels), migros museum (Zurich), Le Confort Moderne (Poitiers, France), Ibid Projects (London), Kling & Bang Gallery (Reykjavik), The National Review of Live Art (Glasgow), Kunstverein (Amsterdam), Dexter Sinister, The Emily Harvey Foundation (NY), and The Grammy Awards at Radio City Music Hall.