



## ART

A BETTER PLACE "The New Society for Universal Harmony" is an artistic reconstruction by **Lenore Malen** of an 18th-century utopian society founded by Franz Anton Mesmer. Mesmer believed that a universal magnetic fluid linked all forces in nature and that an imbalance of the fluid caused illness in human beings — he later utilized proto-hypnotic devices to treat his fellow commune members. Ms. Malen tells her reconstruction story through videos, photographs, and testimonials. Selections from the exhibit include the video "Be Not Afraid" (2007), a scene of which is shown above. Opens tonight through Saturday, October 13, Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., CUE Art Foundation, 511 W. 25th St., between Tenth and Eleventh avenues, 212-206-3583, free.