More Than 100,000 Pet Lovers Ask eBay to Stop Selling Animals

ANIMAL ACTIVISTS URGE EBAY CLASSIFIEDS TO SHUT DOWN LIVE ANIMAL SALES; TAKE STAND AGAINST ANIMAL CRUELTY

More than 100,000 people have joined a campaign calling on eBay, the world’s leading e-commerce company, to shut down its live animal listings and take a stand against puppy mills.

The San Jose, California-based eBay corporation is under fire from animal advocates upset by the sale of ‘puppy mill dogs’ on eBay Classifieds. Puppy mills are commercial breeders who mass-produce animals under inhumane conditions, resulting in health and behavior problems that buyers often don’t discover until after they’ve taken their new pet home.

eBay does not allow animal listings on the company’s auction site, but such listings are still allowed and promoted on eBay Classifieds. Six months ago, Felissa Elfenbein of the Two Little Cavaliers blog urged animal lovers to contact the company, leading to a grassroots campaign on Change.org asking eBay to stop selling live animals on all of its sites. Half a year later more than 100,000 people have joined the petition drive.

“The dedication of the online community to protecting animals and pet owners is incredible,” said petition author Stephanie Feldstein. “With the widespread support of this

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Slumber of Reason’ Collaborative Performance Raises Questions About Contemporary Issues

LATINA DANCE THEATER PROJECT AT CAL STATE L.A. THURSDAY, AUG. 4

COLLABORATIVE ENSEMBLE OF MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTISTS, THE LATINA DANCE THEATER PROJECT WILL PRESENT “SLUMBER OF REASON (EL SUEÑO DE LA RAIZÓN)” — A SERIES OF TEN VIGNETTES THAT WILL DELVE INTO THE TOPICS OF CONTEMPORARY SUPERSTITIONS AND SOCIAL ABUSES — THURSDAY, AUG. 4, 8 P.M., IN CAL STATE L.A.’S STATE PLAYHOUSE.

As part of the 2011 Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social (MALCS) Summer Institute, the Latina Dance Theater Project will bring together physical, musical and visual elements to create a performance experience that reflects today’s diverse Latin culture.

The group is described as using powerful images based on Spanish painter Francisco de Goya’s artwork, Los Caprichos, to “explore contemporary demons that affect our world ranging from the darkest to the most absurdly humorous, including immigration, environmental degradation, racism and technological alienation.”

Goya’s Los Caprichos is a series of 80 prints created as “a passionate declaration of political liberalism” in a time of economic crisis and social unrest in 18th-century Spain.

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Assemblymember Steven C. Bradford represents the 51st Assembly District, comprised of the communities of Athens, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Inglewood, Lennox, South Central LA, Westchester, Gardena, Willowbrook, Playa Vista, and parts of Ladera Heights and West Compton.

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The Latina Dance Theater Project consists of five nationally recognized Latina/o dance theater artists. They are Licia Perea, Juanita Sanchez, Eva Zorrilla Tessier, Jose Garcia Davis, and Gabriela Nugent. For biographies of the Latina Dance Theater Project members: http://www.latinadanceproject.com/bio_licia_perea.html.

The performance will also feature guest collaborators — director Tim Perez, costume artist Susie Cox, composer Wes Hambright, and set designer/performer Jose Garcia Davis.

“The Latina Dance Theater Project offers an innovative vision that intersects dance traditions and performance traditions in a multidisciplinary collaboration,” said Dionne Espinoza, the MALCS conference coordinator and associate professor of Chicano Studies and Liberal Studies at CSULA. “We are pleased to co-sponsor their newest piece, ‘Slumber of Reason’ which, inspired by Goya’s artwork, Los Caprichos, raises questions about contemporary issues. It is also an opportunity to showcase Latinas as performing artists in the field of dance.”

The 2011 MALCS Summer Institute, which will be held Aug. 3-6 on the CSULA campus, will feature lectures, workshops, seminars and various social activities, focusing on the theme, “Against Fear and Terror: Una Nueva Conciencia Sin Fronteras.”