



"HOME, New Orleans?" photos by Rachel Steele



Jan Cohen-Cruz *The Engaged University*

Monday, February 25, 2008
12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union

Jan Cohen-Cruz, director of **Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life**, contrasts two conceptions of the mission of higher education – the ivory tower and the engaged university. Avowing that they are not mutually exclusive, she identifies obstacles to the full flowering of the latter. She provides a case study of an engaged university project, "HOME, New Orleans?," that contributed modestly to rebuilding efforts while generating scholarship, compelling pedagogy, and a reciprocally valuable version of what is traditionally called service.

In addition to serving as director of Imagining America, Cohen-Cruz is a scholar, practitioner, and teacher of grassroots, socially-grounded, and activist art. She is a University Professor at Syracuse University who has written *Local Acts: Community-Based Performance in the U.S.*, edited *Radical Street Performance*, co-edited *Playing Boal: Theatre, Therapy, Activism and A Boal Companion: Dialogues on Art and Cultural Politics* with Mady Schutzman, and is writing a book on performance and social justice.

Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life is a national consortium of colleges and universities committed to public scholarship in the arts, humanities, and design that recently moved to Syracuse University. For more information regarding other events with Jan Cohen-Cruz and Imagining America at BGSU on February 25 & 26, 2008, please contact the Office of Service-Learning at 419.372.9287 or slbgsu@bgsu.edu.

Lunch is \$7.50 (plus tax) and can be paid by cash, check (made payable to BGSU) or BG1 card. Cheddar baked potato soup, tossed salad, greek pasta salad, fresh fruit bowl, dinner roll, beverage and dessert will be served at 12:00 p.m. Please RSVP for lunch reservations by Wednesday, February 20, to Mary Hitt at 419.372.2340 or mjhitt@bgsu.edu.