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Finding Common Ground: Sustaining America’s Energy Future
Fifth Wall Presents: A special screening of Rational Middle and discussion with director and producer Gregory Kallenberg

PITTSBURGH—Join Bricolage and the World Affairs Council on February 24 for an evening of film and discussion about the importance of energy and the value of compromise.

Created as a “foundation of information,” the Rational Middle Energy Series is an initiative born out of the artistic creation of director and producer Gregory Kallenberg in order to offer a variety of perspectives. While the issue of energy and sustainability can be polarizing one that often separates equally passionate opinions and perspectives, the goal of the Rational Middle is to encourage a dialogue based on mutual respect.

With its history and resources, Western Pennsylvania is a national and international leader in energy, and should be at the forefront of dialogue concerning energy. As energy needs only continue to grow, our collective ability to understand and embrace the importance and necessity of energy will only be more pressing as we move further into the future.

The event will be held on Monday, February 24th at 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00 pm) at Bricolage, 937 Liberty Avenue. Admission is $15 and tickets can be purchased at http://www.bricolagepgh.org/events/fifth-wall-fracking.

Gregory Kallenberg is the director and a producer of the Rational Middle Energy Series. Before working on the Rational Middle, he directed and produced Haynesville: A Nation’s Hunt for an Energy Future, a documentary chronicling a large natural gas discovery in northwest Louisiana and its effect on three individuals’ lives. Mr. Kallenberg has also spoken about the future of energy at engagements around the globe, including TEDx. Mr. Kallenberg’s background includes writing and story editing for the award-winning production house Bluefield Productions. He has also written for Esquire Magazine, the New York Times, the Austin American Statesman, and other publications.

What is Fifth Wall?
Bricolage’s Fifth Wall series seeks to break down the barriers between scripted storytelling and current events in the world at large. The events are designed to spur discussion on an issue. It
provides a framework for Bricolage’s commitment to partnering with community-based organizations, hosting panel discussions and readings, and bringing world events to the local stage.

“Since the Fifth Wall series began, we have covered topics ranging from nuclear war to the education of girls in today’s society”, says Jeffrey Carpenter, artistic director at Bricolage. “This year, we also plan to tackle the topics of fracking, public transit, and sexual assault in the military.”

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Our Mission
At Bricolage, our mission is to immerse artists and audiences in adventurous theatrical experiences that foster connections and alter perceptions.

Artistic Vision
We envision theater not as a passive experience, but as a vehicle for heightened involvement for artist and audience alike. Our approach encourages artists to take the creative risks necessary to create full-blooded, high-quality theatrical experiences that challenge audiences to engage in new ways, react, and express openly their opinions about our work – to have a stake in the creative discussion.

The word Bricolage means, “making artful use of what is at hand.” What excites this company is the connection and interaction between seemingly disparate elements, and the potential for these components to resonate as one cohesive event. Bricolage uses the distinctive resources of the Pittsburgh region to create theatrical experiences that stimulate a heightened sense of involvement for the audience. "What’s at hand" is our city’s changing landscape, our plentiful human and material resources, and the salient political, cultural and ethical issues we encounter and react to each day.

By combining different artistic mediums, nourishing local talent, producing provocative work, and facilitating audience engagement, Bricolage seeks to revitalize live performance for a new era.

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