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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UBU GALLERY ANNOUNCES THE PUBLICATION OF  
A YEAR ON EARTH WITH MR. HELL  
A DÉBUT MEMOIRE AUTHORED BY YOUNG KIM**

Ubu Gallery is pleased to announce the publication of *A Year on Earth With Mr. Hell*, a début memoir authored by **Young Kim**. It explores a liberated woman's erotic experience in an affair unencumbered by the clichéd political and cultural stereotypes of modern gender roles. This book is a completely truthful and explicit account about the first ten months of a romance Kim conducted with legendary punk rocker and writer, **Richard Hell**, starting in the winter of 2016. It is unique in that while it is a diary, in its cinematic sweep, it reads like a novel. Because it was written as the unpredictable affair unfolded, there was always great uncertainty to the realization of this "daybook-cum-docudrama."

Known for his own erotic writing, Hell instigated the book inadvertently by asking Kim to write something sexually provocative about their first night together. What resulted was an erotic relationship fueled not only by carnal chemistry, but also literary synergy. Unusually, in this instance, Hell, a man, a generation older than Kim, acted as her muse; equally unusual is for a woman to write so explicitly and honestly about sex.

Set in a Warholian swirl in the worlds of art, music, and fashion and spanning continents, the narrative is as much about Kim's processing her grief for **Malcolm McLaren** (most famous for his role as the conceptualizer, organizer and manager of the Sex Pistols, as well as designing and commercializing punk style with his then-partner, Vivienne Westwood), her romantic and business partner for the last 12 years of his life until his untimely death in 2010.

*A Year on Earth with Mr. Hell* is published as a limited edition of 2000 numbered copies by Ubu Gallery, New York in collaboration with Fashionbeast. It will be launched in December internationally through private distribution at select bookstores and Ubu Gallery's website. Ubu Gallery will host a virtual exhibition inspired by the book in tandem with the book's release.

The design of the book, by Studio Marie Lusa, is an homage to Olympia Press, the notorious Parisian publisher of erotic and banned books like *Lolita*, *The Story of O*, *Naked Lunch* and Alexander Trocchi's *Helen and Desire*, which was the inspiration behind one of McLaren's iconic punk designs for his Kings Road, London boutique SEX: the "I Groaned With Pain" T-shirt.

**WHAT OTHER WRITERS HAVE TO SAY**

*The most graphically effective sex writing I've read in a long time. The same material as fiction wouldn't have such an immediate and even threatening effect: when someone is making something up, that gives the reader an out, and this doesn't.* -- **Greil Marcus**

*The spirit of Anais Nin and Georges Bataille is reborn in this wonderful book. Young Kim has written something that is much more than a memoir—a truly modern work of art.* --**Matthew D'Ancona**

*Written by an Asian American woman about her intimate relationships with two iconic white male founders of the punk movement of the 1970s, Young Kim's sexual memoir is in part a comedy of manners, in part a love story and despite itself a study of modern morality. Referring to herself in the text as "more predator than prey" Kim throws a spanner in the works of modish feminism, the authorship of porn, racial assumption, sexual politics and the threadbare myth of the rock n roll Priapus.* --**Michael Bracewell**

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### **ABOUT YOUNG KIM**

Young Kim grew up on Long Island, New York, before studying history at Yale University. After teaching English for one year in the former East Germany, she then completed the first year of law school at NYU, before abandoning it in favor of her passion for the creative world. This led her to Paris where she studied fashion at Studio Berçot. During her second year in Paris, she met Malcolm McLaren and immediately commenced a romantic relationship. After a stint in the fashion world, including as an editor of *V Magazine/Visionaire*, she started working exclusively with McLaren in 2000 as his producer and creative partner on projects in art, fashion, music, film, theater, advertising, and media, until his death in 2010. As the sole executor and heir of the Estate of Malcolm McLaren, she continues to work in the same worlds, as well as writing. She has published pieces in *Vogue US*, *Holiday*, *Drugstore Culture* and *GQ UK*. She lives between Paris and New York.

### **ABOUT UBU GALLERY**

Ubu Gallery specializes in 20<sup>th</sup> Century avant-garde art with an emphasis on the inter-war period of the 1920s-1930s. It is recognized as one of the foremost art galleries specializing in Surrealist art, a movement in which visual artists, such as Hans Bellmer, Marcel Duchamp, George Hugnet, Jindřich Štyrský, and Unica Zürn, also wrote themselves and/or collaborated regularly with writers and poets, often on projects with erotic themes.

### **ABOUT A YEAR ON EARTH WITH MR. HELL**

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