

WHO IS STEVE KURTZ?

On May 11, 2004 artist and Associate Professor of Art at the University of Buffalo, Steven Kurtz awoke to find his wife dead. After emergency workers arrived, they discovered what they considered to be suspicious items and called in the FBI. Invoking a **1989 bioterrorism law** and the **Patriot Act**, which grants the federal government unprecedented search-and-seizure powers, federal agents detained Kurtz for 22 hours; they searched his home for two days, as well as his office at SUNY-Buffalo, where he is a faculty member. The bureau confiscated his wife's body, his house, car, equipment, computer hard drive, books, writings, correspondence, art projects and other items, even his cat. His house, cat and car were returned to him after one week, once it was determined that the death of his wife was unrelated to the bacterial matter. He was then arraigned and charged in a Federal District Court not for bioterrorism but in on four counts of **mail** and **wire fraud**, which each carry a maximum sentence of **20 years in prison**. The arraignment of **Dr. Robert Ferrell**, Professor of Genetics at the University of Pittsburgh, who was indicted along with Kurtz, has been postponed for a week for health reasons.

WHAT HAPPENED TO STEVE KURTZ?

BENEFIT for KURTZ & FERRELL

Featuring: Alessandro Imperato + Jim Gladman

VJ Performance – *his-steria*

Why? To raise funds to help pay for legal fees

Entrance donation of **\$5 (ALL)** funds go to Steve Kurtz)

Where: STUDIO 222

220 West Factor's Walk, Savannah, GA 31401, USA

Drive down Bull, turn left into Bay, until you hit a carpark on the right. Studio 220 is above the Xmas shop.

When: 7:30pm, Friday 4 February 2005