



## Acting Like It Matters: John Malpede and the Los Angeles Poverty Department (Paperback)

By James McEnteer

Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.For thirty years John Malpede and the Los Angeles Poverty Department (LAPD), have created electrifying political theater by confounding audience expectations. Made up largely of homeless and formerly homeless men and women from L.A.'s Skid Row, LAPD has evolved from staging happenings on street corners and in shelters to taking complex ensemble pieces to cities across the United States, Europe and Latin America. Instead of creating illusions, the LAPD strips them away. LAPD actors know first-hand about poverty, addiction, crime, homelessness, class prejudice and the political hypocrisy that sustains them. Life on the street leaves no room for irony. LAPD members, voiceless most of their lives, now given a voice and an audience, cut straight to the heart of the American social and economic dilemmas. No time for bull, just the real deal. LAPD performers are no longer merely messengers from Skid Row, adding a dose of street-level reality to the national perception of homelessness. They have become advocates for a larger understanding of how poverty, addiction and social deprivation are intimately connected to international violence and globalized greed. Pieces to this...



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