



## BURN EDMONTON

Kathryn Williamson

I was invited to perform in Visualeyes, a performance festival that happens in Edmonton, Canada. In preparation for my performance I created a newspaper. I had the paper printed in Edmonton, I think I made 1000 copies. For the first part of the project I handed out the newspaper to people on the streets but no one was interested. I then created a few related events that were not very successful. I felt very frustrated with my project. One afternoon I was outside smoking and my newspaper accidentally caught on fire. I watched the paper burning on the ground and it was right at that moment I knew what I needed to do for my performance in this festival. That night after the group had visited a few performances around town I announced that I was going to do a spontaneous performance that same night in an empty parking lot near our hotel. I went to my hotel and got all the newspapers I had made for the event. I met up with the group and made small bon fire in the parking lot. I then threw in all the newspapers that I had made into the fire. The group began to help burn the papers. During the burn I talked about how my project was a failure and how instead of trying to continue on and struggle more with the project I had set out to do I had come to the conclusion that I needed to accept my project as a failure. The burning of the papers became my performance piece for the festival.

