

PAPER

FEEL THE HEAT: WHAT'S HOT NOW?

WELCOME TO PAPER'S HOT LIST, OUR ANNUAL GUIDE TO WHAT'S RAGING IN POP CULTURE AND ROCKING OUR PRIVATE WORLDS

LADY PYTHON

Playwright-director Young Jean Lee's recent off-Broadway show *The Appeal* whipped up a historically inaccurate romp of alcohol-fueled, co-commiserating English Romantic poets.



Staging it with a wry, Month Python-like playfulness, she led her actors through everything from facial tics and crawling under tables to grandiose dancing and balderdash speeches, leaving audiences laughed-out yet still feeling the play's poignancy. Look for her next, Pullman, WA (about the small town where she grew up), at P.S. 122 in March 2005. We love her because one night during rehearsals for *The Appeal*, she couldn't think of anything to direct, so she sent the stage manager out for bottles of wine, and she and her actors explored "character motivations" while blasted.