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PRESS INQUIRIES:

Emma Rosenbaum, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
(415) 863-2141 x102, emma@soex.org
Valerie Imus, Artistic & Co-Director
(415) 863-2141 x105, programs@soex.org



Artwork by Maya Pen and Simone Bailey.

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT: 2023 Exhibitions at Southern Exposure

We've Been Among You

Featuring Juicebox Burton and Maya Pen

Curated by Ricki Dwyer and Aay Preston-Myint

May 20 - July 1, 2023

Hometraining

Solo Exhibition by Simone Bailey

September 23 - November 11, 2023

San Francisco, CA, March 2023—Southern Exposure is excited to announce upcoming projects in 2023. These two exciting exhibitions explore new perspectives on identity, history, and speculative narrative through newly commissioned work by the New Orleans-based collaborative duo Juicebox Burton and Maya Pen and a solo project by Bay Area artist Simone Bailey.

“We are thrilled to be able to present these newly commissioned projects at SoEx this year. Each considers the nature of hybrid identities and looks to our collective future while demanding accountability for practices rooted in white supremacy.” - Valerie Imus, Artistic & Co-Director, Southern Exposure

We've Been Among You

Beginning May 20 through July 1, 2023, Southern Exposure is thrilled to present *We've Been Among You*, an exhibition of newly commissioned work by New Orleans-based artists Juicebox Burton and Maya Pen, curated by Ricki Dwyer and Aay Preston-Myint. Centering around the narrative of an extra-terrestrial species living on earth and publicly revealing their true nature for the first time, this multi-sensory immersive installation turns the lens back on the human condition.

Juicebox Burton and Maya Pen's collaborative exhibition is a love letter to the aliens among us. *We've Been Among You* draws on stories of creature encounters to celebrate those whose cultural practices, ways of loving, and systems of care have always been here holding all of us up. Photographic, video, sculptural, and installation works of these creatures tell the story of a species living in tandem with their planet, reclaiming what was once lost to ecological devastation. Burton and Pen's otherworldly visitors point to practices coming from a long legacy of Black and Indigenous cooperation to demonstrate what a culture of true cooperativism could look like.

ARTISTS

Juicebox P. Burton is a Black, trans-femme multi-disciplinary artist living in New Orleans. She is a world-builder who frames narratives of trauma in the context of horror and sci-fi in order to heal the collective spirit of the Black community. Her work gains its power from its self-taught nature, fostering the collaboration of other creators of color/Black creators whose collective story combats the aristocratic gatekeeping of the mainstream art industry.

In 2017 Juicebox became co-owner of Studio Lalala, a Black and trans mixed media production company that actively redistributes resources to marginalized folks through the sourcing of shared equipment, warehouse space, job opportunities, and skill sharing, comprised of storytellers, cinematographers, set builders, and special effects artists and gives jobs to BIPOC queer people. Studio Lalala utilizes a DIY philosophy to collectively produce the visions and voices of their community. <https://www.juiceboxpburton.com/>

Maya Pen Raquel is a self-taught artist from the Philadelphia area, based currently in New Orleans, LA. She works across various mediums, including performance art, special effects, mask-making and puppetry, theater creation, installation arts, music, creative writing, and film.

She believes in art as a cheap and accessible expression that can be used to celebrate, house, and protect communities in need. Her work is concerned with myth-making in relation to tangible and

ethereal borders, a dying earth, and collective storytelling. She has a strong foundation in collaborative practices grounded in shared vision, equipment, educational resources, space, opportunities, and worker ownership.

<https://www.mayapen.com/>

Hometraining

Opening September 23 and running through November 11, 2023, *Hometraining* is a solo exhibition of new work by Simone Bailey. The exhibition title is a term that refers to the social training received from one's family. This new body of work examines cultural hybridity as a byproduct of the transatlantic slave trade to reflect upon the ways in which the Univted States' training for Black Americans helped shape a unique, hybrid culture. *Hometraining* leverages historical and contemporary symbols of oppression and injustice to reflect upon those symbols' impact while simultaneously residing in the discomfort raised by addressing transcultural genetic linkages rooted in the legacy of forced migration. The exhibition will include sculptural work, new paintings, and a two-channel video installation.

This work was made possible in part with the support of Headlands Center for the Arts' Bay Area Fellowship: Svane Family Foundation Inaugural Artists.

ARTIST

Simone Bailey utilizes sculpture, performance, site-specific installation, and video in her practice, which focuses on ephemerality, desire, surrogate bodies, violence, Blackness, and the impossible. Bailey's work has been exhibited at Museum of the African Diaspora (San Francisco, CA), The Lab (San Francisco, CA), Southern Exposure (San Francisco, CA), Galería Luis Adelantado (Valencia, Spain), Anthology Film Archives (New York, NY), Armory Center for the Arts (Pasadena, CA), the Studio Museum in Harlem (New York, NY), and CDA Projects (Istanbul), among other venues. She has been awarded fellowships and residencies at Art Omi (Ghent, NY), Real Time & Space (Oakland, CA), Guild Hall (East Hampton, NY), and Vermont Studio Center (Johnson, VT). She received both an MFA and an MA in Visual and Critical Studies from California College of the Arts. She also earned a BFA in Filmmaking from San Francisco Art Institute. Bailey lives and works in San Francisco.

PROJECT + EVENT INFORMATION

What: *We've Been Among You*
When: May 20–July 1, 2023
Wednesday–Saturday, 12:00–6:00 PM
Location: Southern Exposure
3030 20th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

What: *We've Been Among You* Opening Reception
When: Saturday, May 20th, 2023, 5:00–7:00 PM
Location: Southern Exposure
3030 20th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

What: *Hometraining*
When: September 23–November 11, 2023
Wednesday–Saturday, 12:00–6:00 PM
Location: Southern Exposure
3030 20th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

What: *Hometraining* Opening Reception
When: Saturday, September 23, 2023, 5:00–7:00 PM
Location: Southern Exposure
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What: In the Artist's Studio (Co-Presentation with Museum of the African Diaspora)
Zoom Conversation between Simone Bailey and Demetri Broxton, Senior Director of
Education, MoAD
When: Tuesday, September 19, 2022, 4:00–5:00 PM
Location: Zoom

Download images [here](#).

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Southern Exposure respectfully acknowledges that we reside upon the ancestral, unceded, occupied lands of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples. As an organization that has been based in the Mission district of San Francisco since 1974, we honor and recognize the Native people who have stewarded this land for thousands upon thousands of years and who continue to do so. We further acknowledge that we, as an organization, have benefited from the use and occupation of this stolen land. Given the ongoing, damaging injustices of colonization, Southern Exposure is committed to supporting our Bay Area community of diverse artists and Indigenous-led partnerships that extend Indigenous self-determination in San Francisco. We aspire to be good stewards of arts, culture, and generative conversations while always mindful of greater equity and justice.

This living statement represents an ongoing dialogue with the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone.

—end—

ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Southern Exposure (SoEx) is an artist-centered nonprofit organization committed to supporting visual artists. Through our extensive and innovative programming, SoEx strives to experiment, collaborate, and further educate while providing an extraordinary resource center and forum for Bay Area and national artists in our Mission District space and off site, in the public realm.

An active presence in the Bay Area since 1974, SoEx is continually evolving in response to the needs of artists and the community while engaging the public in artists' work. Central to our mission is to remain the most accessible space for visual artists to produce and present new work, learn, and connect. SoEx provides visual artists with the tools and resources they need to experiment in an open and supportive environment. We also work to advocate to new, diverse audiences and build an ever-growing community of enthusiasts and supporters of the visual arts.

For more information and images, contact Emma Rosenbaum at (415) 863-2141 x102 or emma@soex.org. Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 10:00AM to 6:00PM.

Website: <https://soex.org/>

Instagram: @southernexposuresf

Southern Exposure is generously supported by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the California Arts Council, the Creative Work Fund, The Fleishhacker Foundation, The Gelfand Family Foundation, The Nicholson Family Foundation, The pH Foundation, The Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, San Francisco Grants for the Arts, San Francisco Arts Commission Cultural Equity Initiatives, The Violet World Foundation, and The Zellerbach Family Foundation.