

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Lise Haller Baggesen, *Eleanor Ross as Paloma*, 2019.  
Courtesy of the artist.

## ***HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL***

**October 12 – 13, 2019**

**Performance Created by Lise Haller Baggesen**

**September 3, 2019, San Francisco, CA** – Southern Exposure presents *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL*, a dance performance by Danish artist Lise Haller Baggesen presented in John McLaren Park in San Francisco on October 12-13, 2019.

Set in a San Francisco of 2069, *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* looks to San Francisco's countercultures of the late 60s, science fiction, and camp, to imagine resistance to a future dystopia impacted by climate change and an oppressive technocracy.

The speculative narrative performed by seven local dancers evolved in collaboration with Southern Exposure's Youth Advisory Board teen artists who shared their hopes and fears for the future with Lise Haller Baggesen, inspiring the development of a cast of characters who might inhabit stark, waterlogged landscapes, where technological advancements segregate the "innies" from the "outies". Set in the toxic outskirts of a domed city, the characters of *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* struggle to survive and understand the world they live in.

*HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* features a score by composer avery r. young that draws heavily on funk and psychedelic music of the late 1960s, and will be broadcast over "silent disco" headphone systems. Bay Area dancer Stephanie Hewett choreographed and dances this public performance, along with six other dancers, working in collaboration with local theater director Jackie Katz to stage the movement within San Francisco's McLaren Park. The cast also includes Annie Aguilar, Valerie Mendez, Hannah Oliver, Sonia Pinto-Scherstuhl, Christan Thompson, and Yao Wang.

Performances of *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* will take place at the Wilde Overlook in McLaren Park in San Francisco, a brutalist 35' high tower with a viewing platform built from an old reservoir tank. With this history, set within an idyllic grove of redwoods, with sweeping vistas of the Bay and the south-eastern parts of the city, it's an ideal location to imagine the future of San Francisco.

*HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* will be presented in Spring 2020 at Gallery 400, University of Illinois, Chicago.

With a presence in the Bay Area since 1974, Southern Exposure is one of San Francisco's oldest and most prominent non-profits, committed to advancing multimedia, cross-disciplinary, and performance-driven contemporary art practices, often in unusual public spaces.

## EVENT LISTING INFORMATION

**What:** *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL*  
A multimedia, musical dance performance created by Lise Haller Baggesen  
**When:** Saturday, October 12, 2019, 4:00-5:00PM  
**Location:** Wilde Reservoir Overlook (intersection of Mansell Street and Vistacon Avenue), John McLaren Park, San Francisco, 94134  
**Cost:** FREE with [ticket reservation](#)

**What:** *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL*  
A multimedia, musical dance performance created by Lise Haller Baggesen  
**When:** Sunday, October 13, 2019, 4:00-5:00PM  
**Location:** Wilde Reservoir Overlook (intersection of Mansell Street and Vistacon Avenue), John McLaren Park, San Francisco, 94134  
**Cost:** FREE with [ticket reservation](#)

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Danish artist **Lise Haller Baggesen** studied painting at the AKI in Enschede and the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam (1992-1997). She has lived in Chicago since 2008 and received her M.A. in Visual and Critical Studies at the School of the Art Institute in 2013. Baggesen's hybrid practice includes writing,

installation, performative, sartorial, and textile based works. She was a 2015 nominee for The Joan Mitchell Foundation's Emerging Artist Grant, and a 2017 resident at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. Her book and multi-media project *Motherism* toured extensively, staking out the mother-shaped hole in contemporary art discourse. It was reviewed in Art21, KQED, and Hyperallergic. She exhibits internationally, including A.I.R. Gallery (NY) The Contemporary Austin (TX), The Poetry Foundation, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, The Suburban (WI), Overgaden (Denmark), Württembergischem Kunstverein (Germany), MoMu Antwerpen (Belgium) Théâtre de la Ville de Paris, Villa Arson, Nice, and Le Confort Moderne, Potiers (France). *HATORADE RETROGRADE: THE MUSICAL* is the autonomous sequel to her 2016 costume drama *HATORADE RETROGRADE*, a dystopian vision of the USA in 2033. The show debuted at Threewalls in Chicago with a critic's pick in Artforum by Matt Morris, who summed up the exhibition: "As if the world had fallen apart but the party persisted, this moody boutique peddles a survivalist feminism that cuts across styles, layering glam with grunge, pop with punk."

**Stephanie Hewett** is a Bronx-born, Bay Area-based dancer and a MFA graduate in dance at Mills College. She has performed at the Soundwave and Black Choreographer's Festivals, Southern Exposure, YBCA, and Counterpulse. KQED recently named Hewett as one of the highlights of *The Bay Area's Best Visual Art of 2018*: "no one could tear their eyes away from dancer Stephanie Hewett, who moved over the cold stone floor and up the stairs with a frenetic grace that responded to and created shape from the abstracted sounds. In a program intended to address San Francisco's status as a sanctuary city, Hewett embodied the physical yearning and hope wrapped up in the concept of immigration."

Best known as a poet, songwriter, and performer, multi-disciplinary artist **avery r. young** is also an award-winning teaching artist who has been an Arts and Public Life Artist-In-Residence at the University of Chicago. In a review of his most recent book *neckbone: visual verses* (Northwestern University Press), Theaster Gates called him "one of our greatest living street poets...one of the most important thinkers on the Black experience." *Black Grooves* referred to his most recent album *tubman*. (FPE Records) as "brilliant" and "supremely funky." Young's poems and essays have been published in *The Company of Black*, *The BreakBeat Poets*, *The Golden Shovel Anthology: New Poems Honoring Gwendolyn Brooks*, *AIMPrint*, and other anthologies. His album *booker t. soltreyn: a race rekkid* combines his poetry and sound design to discuss matters of race, gender, and sexuality in America during the Obama Era. Avery's work in performance, visual text, and sound design has been featured in several exhibitions and theater festivals – notably The Hip Hop Theatre Festival, The Museum of Contemporary Art, and American Jazz Museum. He is currently one of four directors of The Floating Museum, co-mentors Rebirth Youth Poetry Ensemble and performs with his band, de deacon board.

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## ABOUT SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

Southern Exposure (SoEx) is an artist-centered non-profit 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 Stephen Sokolouski at (415) 863-2141 or [stephen@soex.org](mailto:stephen@soex.org). Southern Exposure is located at 3030 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA 94110. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM and gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 12:00 – 6:00 PM. Website: [www.soex.org](http://www.soex.org).

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### **ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO RECREATION AND PARKS**

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Mission is to provide enriching recreational activities, maintain beautiful parks and preserve the environment for the well-being of everyone in our diverse community.

