

A REPRESSED REPERTOIRE (SEQUENCES)

Runtime: 50 minutes
No intermission

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18, 8PM
THURSDAY, DEC. 19, 8PM

Thank you: New Theater Hollywood,
Max Pitegoff, Calla Henkel, Blaine
O'Neill, Saskia Wilson Brown and the
Institute for Art and Olfaction (IAO)

NEW THEATER HOLLYWOOD is run
by Calla Henkel and Max Pitegoff

With
PRICE
Marcel Alcalá
Cecile Believe
Sophia Cleary

Sound Production: Cecile Believe

Viola di Gamba: Renato Grieco

Scented Talcum Powder: in collaboration with
Julianne Lee and AirSolutions

Production: Blaine O'Neill

Tech: Connor Moody

Supported by New Theater Hollywood (Los
Angeles), Blue Velvet Gallery (Zurich, CH),
AirSolutions (Marseille, FR), Arsenic – Centre
d'art scénique contemporain (Lausanne, CH)

PRICE showcases works in various
settings, including museums, theatres,
site-specific venues, and clubs. He
lives and works mainly between
Europe and Brazil. The medium of
scent is playing an increasingly
pivotal role in his artistic practice,
sparking an exploration of the politics
inherent in both social and private
spaces. PRICE delves deep into the
conflicting dynamics that exist within
these socially normative categories,
presenting trans-disciplinary concepts
through time-based works, such as
performances, sonic interventions,
installations, and sculptures where
scent acts like an extension of what is
exhibited or performed.



In *A Repressed Repertoire (sequences)*, performance and visual artist PRICE continues his interest in stage design and the affectability of the voice. The work consists of a series of performances in which the artist calls on friendship and local artists' communities across music, performance and the visual arts. Staged as a dinner, the invited performers, including PRICE, draw from found dialogues derived from Hollywood film scripts. Suspended by musical interludes, guttural noises, facial expressions and blunt silences, the scripted gatherings (ab)use interruption and discontinuity to reveal the force of the unsaid in and through speech. An inflated reenactment of forced sociability, the work equally points to the beauty of togetherness. Where the scenography presents an elegantly dressed dining table with delicate glass sculptures reminiscent of tableware both chic and cute, the performers present their best selves, incessantly digesting the text, looks and sounds thrown at them. The glass dishes host rose-scented talcum powder brought into play by the performers on their own terms. The dissemination of the powder produces miniature clouds exuding an air of hide-and-seek, like a veneer of composure masquerading what's "really" going on. Creating frameworks for staging, it reinvents the smoke machine. Pregnant with unconsciously stored desires and hardship, the I's convening at the table can never be fully in control. Nonsovereign at best, they may be loving and open, but problematically noncommittal or explicitly shady, too. When the performers leave, an ambivalent, somewhat familiar odor of sugar-sweet flower hangs in the air, an olfactory transfiguration of what remains repressed. Yoking the subdued, bourgeois sophistication of tasteful/tasty get-togethers to the nostalgia of muted emotionality, *A Repressed Repertoire (sequences)* is presented in the North-American context for the first time. It rests on the availability and eagerness of cross-disciplinary trade-offs, asking each artist to test out their seat and persona at a dinner table not quite of their own choosing. Leaving ample room for pause and zoom-in, the performers' subtle arrangements bring into play the unspoken drama and necessity of conviviality, food, and love. During moments of anxiety, the performers may stage their unease by freely employing song, instruments and voice. Whether outcry or whisper, their voices become vectors gauging the emotional limits of what can be digested.

– Stefa Govaart

MARCEL ALCALÁ is an artist and performer based in Los Angeles.

CECILE BELIEVE is a pop star.

SOPHIA CLEARY is an interdisciplinary artist making work about performance and liveness. She has presented her shows internationally at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, in NYC at Center for Performance Research, Danspace Project, The Chocolate Factory Theater, and The Kitchen, and in LA at the Hammer Museum, MoCA, REDCAT, and Human Resources Gallery. She is the founder and coordinator of works-in-progress performance series REHEARSAL, where she has advised over 75 artists in the development of their work. You can see her perform in The Idiot Workshop's clown ensemble, Cruel Babes, on a monthly basis here in LA. sophiacleary.com