



# PERFORMERS & ARTISTS NEEDED

for

## "Locating the Borderlands"

*A Site-Specific Participatory Art Experience*

When: Sunday May 22nd - Noon to Night

Where: San Francisco - SOMA & Mission Districts

## BACKGROUND

Since the fall of 2000, Abraham Burickson and Matthew Purdon have been collaborating on various art projects whose seed and fuel is the search for ways of using traditional art forms to create wholly new experiences. In that time, their love of conceptual art has manifested in a series of experimental site-specific participatory performances customized for a single individual that span an entire day. These pieces explore the line between reality and fantasy, audience and spectator, control and chaos. Each experience has been a singularity, irreproducible and transformative for everyone involved. Now, Mr. Burickson and Mr. Purdon are expanding their conceptual ideas to create an experience for multiple participants.

View photos and read about our previous project: "The Heart of the Labrynth" at <http://www.matthewpurdon.com/performance/labrynth.asp>



## THE PROJECT

The final project will be a series of site-specific installations and performances through which a dozen people will individually journey during the course of a day. We are seeking experienced artists and performers interested in being part of a collaborative team to create this experience. Together, we will explore the question "Am I Alive?" in all its manifestations. Artists working on this project are asked to use the question as a starting point from which to create works that will invite the viewer/participant to ask that question with us. The function of the project as a whole should drive the forms of the individual pieces, while it is the individual pieces that the experience of the project is formed. In the end, it is a constant exploration.



Some installations and performances that have worked well in the past have been:

- ~ A quartet of laughter, orgasms, tears, and squeals conducted by a blindfolded participant
- ~ A dinner where speech is forbidden, and all communication is through dance
- ~ Being cocooned and fed like a larva
- ~ Being the jury for one's own trial



Each artist or team of artists will be invited to create a new experience that will be created for this piece. Each experience should:

- ~ Explore the theme "Am I Alive?"
- ~ Invite audience participation
- ~ Create a piece which is part of a larger whole
- ~ Be able to be documented



# GET INVOLVED

We expect over a hundred people will become involved in creating this project, perhaps many more than that. Please read the descriptions below and see what sort of role you might like to play.

## COLLABORATING ARTISTS: Create a site-specific installation or performance experience

We are interested in creative people who have an expertise in one or more art forms and a desire to collaborate. Each Collaborating Artist or Artist Team will take responsibility for creating one of the episodic experiences. Each experience must be executed with a level of artistic professionalism. Collaborating artists must be willing to attend part or all of a day-long retreat on March 26 in the Bernal Heights section of San Francisco and be free for the event day on May 22. If you are interested please contact us and plan on attending the introductory meeting on Sunday, February 20 at 7pm at Cafe Macondo in San Francisco's Mission district at 16th St. and Guerrero.



## PRODUCTION ARTISTS: Contribute your skills

If you are creative and would like to contribute, but don't have the time to participate in the conceptualization of the piece, then perhaps you would like to contribute your expertise to one of the projects. Graphic designers, theatre designers, computer programmers, videographers, photographers, writers and thinkers, among others, are very much encouraged to participate. If interested, please email us.

## PARTICIPANTS: Give us your day and get a truly authentic experience

We will need about a dozen people to be our core participants in the piece. There are no requirements to becoming a participant other than being willing to interact with each experience that you encounter. If you are interested in being a participant, please email us a brief description of yourself and what you hope to get out of the experience. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer a spot as a core participant to everyone who wishes.



## AUDIENCE: Witness and interact

Several of the experiences will likely require additional people to witness the journey of the individual participants or parts thereof. If you would like to witness this project, please email us about your interest and availability.



## CONTACT:

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PLEASE FORWARD THIS DOCUMENT TO ANYONE YOU  
KNOW WHO MAY BE INTERESTED.

