

ROKE: THE ART OF LUV (PART 6)

Royal Osiris Karaoke Ensemble [ROKE] is a musical priesthood that explores the metaphysics and mythologies of love, desire, and connectivity in the the VHS and Internet Ages. Formed by artists Tei Blow and Sean McElroy, and later joined by Eben Hoffer, ROKE generates contemporary ritual out of found media, synthesizing strategies of video, meme, party, opera, theater, social practice, and installation. ROKE has performed rituals in New York at The Public Theater's Under the Radar Festival, Guggenheim Museum, The Bushwick Starr, Kate Werble Gallery, Special Effects Festival at Participant Inc., Prelude Festival, AUNTS Arts@Renaissance, JACK, and the James Farley Post Office, in Philadelphia at FringeArts, and in Portland, OR at PICA's TBA Festival. ROKE received a 2016 Creative Capital award for their multi-disciplinary series The Art of Luv. They were awarded a 2013 Franklin Furnace Fund Grant and a 2014 BAX Space Grant. They were part of the Public Theater's Devised Theater Working Group and PS122's RAMP residency program. They spent the summer of 2014 at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and were 2015 CUNY Hunter Artists-in-Residence in ceramics.

AWESOME GROTTO!

June 7-24, 2018

Created and performed by

Royal Osiris Karaoke Ensemble (Tei Blow, Eben Hoffer, Sean McElroy)

In collaboration with

John Gasper and Shea Leavis

Video Performances by

Allison Kelly, Sifiso Mabena, Tracee Rohde, Erica Sweany, Madeleine Wise

Choreography by

Annie-B Parson

Directed by

Eben Hoffer

Video design by

Hyung Seok Jeon

MIDI Gamelan Engineering

by Jonathan Eaves

SPECIAL THANKS!

Sources that were directly and indirectly quoted in the creation of this work:

Elizabeth Smart, Wikipedia, Tracee Rohde, EBay reviewers, Plato, Tiqqun, John Lennon, Kohl's 2013 Q3 Earnings Call, Susan Sontag, Elizabeth Fraser, Erica Sweany, bell hooks, Bethany Jones, Ram Dass, Henry David Thoreau, Taylor Swift, The Kohl's Greatness Agenda, Roland Barthes, Sherry Turkle, Mirra Billotte, Alli Kelly, Sifiso Mabena, Helen Luke, Erica Sweany, Jess Edkins, Toshiro Blow Hromack, Bobby Flay, The Anonymous YouTuber from Georgia, Brian, The Goddess

Vendors whose services contributed to the formation of this piece: Sunrise Domes, Centralia Fur and Hide Inc., North Dumpling, Home Depot, Swan Linen, CC Van Rental, La Flacca, Alcone Cosmetics, Ost Cafe, Michaels, Rhythm Traders Inc., Pondliner.com, Kohl's, Kossar's Bagels, Kevin's Autobody, eBay users... Fiverr user Orcatek, Grocery Stop 2 Inc.

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SPECIAL NOTES

The Art of Luv is a multi-part, multi-disciplinary series which plumbs popular media to address the mythologies behind normative 21st Century

codes of romantic conduct. The products of this practice have taken a range of forms, including public ritual-performances, video, sculpture, installation, lecture, party.

THE ART OF LUV FEATURES

Part 1: Elliot
(ritual-performance, 2016)

Part 2: The LUV Pavilion
(installation, party, social space, 2015)

Part 3: Meg Mondays
(video, lecture, party, 2015)

Part 4: Project Peplum
(video, 2016)

Part 5: Swipe Right/ROKÉ Cupid
(ritual-performance, 2017)

Part 6: Awesome Grotto!
(ritual-performance, 2018)

ABOUT ABRONS

Abrons Arts Center is a home for contemporary interdisciplinary arts in Manhattan's Lower East Side neighborhood. A core program of the Henry Street Settlement, Abrons believes that access to the arts is essential to a free and healthy society. Through performance presentations, exhibitions, education programs and residencies, Abrons mobilizes communities with the transformative power of art.

Abrons Arts Center values freedom of expression and creativity, ever striving to provide creative communities with a space that celebrates diversity of thought and experience. Abrons aims to be an anti-oppressive home to people from all backgrounds and does not discriminate on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, citizen status, ancestry, age, religion, disability, sex or gender identity. As definitions of expression and inclusion evolve, Abrons is committed to continually revising this statement in collaboration with our communities.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement
Abrons Arts Center is situated on the Lenape island of Manhahtaan (Mannahatta) in Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland. We pay respect to Lenape peoples, past, present, and future and their continuing presence in the homeland and throughout the Lenape diaspora. We offer our care and gratitude to the land, water and air of Lenapehoking, and are committed to resisting colonialism and imbalance with Mother Earth through the support of Indigenous-led programming and Indigenous artistic practices.
You are welcome here.

For tickets and showtimes:
abronsartscenter.org

ABRONS FUNDING

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