

Support Your Local Hostess.

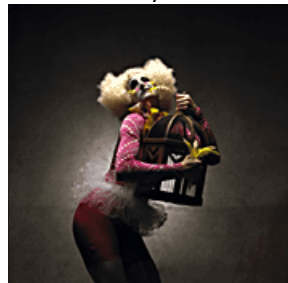
This weekend Charming Hostess is at the swank [Yerba Buena Center for the Arts](#), so come on down. We're part of a celebration of experimental artists from the Bay Area. Check out the preview from the SFWeekly below. We're heavy hitters!



[SF Weekly Preview...](#)

Bay Area Now: Under the Radar at YBCA

FRI-SAT 10/21-22



Homo-hop punk rockers, faux drag divas, and PlaySkool-inspired orchestras -- typical Saturday night hipster fare in S.F. But how often do you get to see them in a fancy joint? "Bay Area Now 4: Under the Radar I" brings us tried-and-true stage icons and unsung inventiveness in Yerba Buena's slick setting. Four ear-to-the-ground curators put together the crème de la crème of local underground stage arts for this show, and it could wow even the snootiest performance habitués of the museum world.

Charming Hostess is one of the heavy hitters. The trio describes its musical genre as "nerdy-sexy-commie-girly," draws its inspiration from punk/klezmer fusion and the unlikely erotic charge it finds in Marxism, and tosses in percussive 1980s-style handclaps for good measure. Another massively popular group not usually associated with the upper crust is Toychestra, a musical ensemble that creates atmospheric soundscapes not with pianos or violins, but rather with kitschy children's toys like the board game Don't Wake Daddy. The five ladies also clank away at toddler-size pianos and Muppet drum sets on jangly original tunes like "Grover Rides a Happy Honker." No Bay Area arts showcase would be complete without a queen, but drag superstars Glamamore, Fauxnique, and Kiddie are well-known for inspired costumes and unusually intelligent design.

Catch the gamut of San Francisco's curious talent this Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission (at Third Street), S.F. Tickets are \$15-20; call 978-2787 or visit www.ybca.org.

-- Nirmala Nataraj



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