

June 28, 2014



# LIVE PERFORMANCE: SOPHONT IN ACTION

## Desirée Holman

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

This exhibition and performance is supported by donors to the Fresh Art Fund. Additional support is provided by the di Rosa Collectors Council and our members.

Desirée Holman wishes to extend her gratitude to Caitlin Denny and Michael Hunter for their pivotal role in the production of the live performance; Lee Sonko for his expertise in programming the kinetic electronic components of the sculptures; Brook Lane of Job & Boss for her costume design; and Angel Deradoorian for the creation of the soundscape. Thank you for your support of this performance.

We hope you will also join us for the following event:

**Thursday, July 10, 7 PM**  
**Artist Talk: Desirée Holman**  
**Location: Gatehouse Gallery**

Desirée Holman discusses the development of *Sophont in Action* in conversation with cultural critic Erik Davis, author of *Techgnosis: Myth, Magic, and Mysticism in the Age of Information*.

\$10 General / \$5 Members

RSVP to [meagan@dirosaart.org](mailto:meagan@dirosaart.org) or call (707) 226-5991 x27

### LIMITED EDITION PRINTS:

di Rosa is pleased to offer a limited edition of signed, custom-made prints by Desirée Holman to benefit the production of *Sophont in Action*. This project was a collaboration made possible through Electric Works in San Francisco and The RealReal.com. The prints are available for a limited time exclusively at [TheRealReal.com](http://TheRealReal.com) and in di Rosa's gift shop.



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# Desirée Holman: Sophont in Action

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*Sophont: An intelligent being, human or non-human, capable of extraordinary reasoning and introspection.*

In conjunction with the exhibition *Sophont in Action*, Desirée Holman presents a site-specific performance featuring residents of the local community. The elaborate live performance builds on Holman's current body of work exploring the overlapping terrain of New Age mysticism, science fiction, and technology. The exhibition and performance bring to life the full spectrum of related sub-cultures and their influence on the mainstream through investigations of the past, present, and future.

As a viewer, you will be guided by foot and open-air bus throughout di Rosa's vast landscape to encounter the following cast of characters:

## GUIDES:

Identified by their gauzy smocks and flashing screens, *Sophont in Action* Guides use non-verbal cues to direct the audience throughout their journey.

## TIME TRAVELERS:

Marked by their Psionics helmets and white linen frocks emblazoned with marbled cosmic patterns, these psychic-fiction human hybrids have the ability to move backward and forward in time. The term "psionics" refers to the rubric of psychic ability, including telepathy and telekinesis. Inspiration for this sculptural headgear comes from recent technological developments, such as Google Glass, which might dramatically change our interaction with the world through brain-computer interfacing. The animated helmets scrub for signals in an attempt to make contact with the beyond.

## ECSTATIC DANCERS:

Informed by the culture of Conscious Dance, Ecstatic Dancers are free-form movers who practice with directed intentionality and believe that mental focus can effect change in the world. These characters don calf-length unisex robes with designs based on Holman's paintings of outer space and auras. They practice the New Age ideologies of self-spirituality and epistemological individualism which teach that there is no clear locus of final authority beyond the individual.

## INDIGO CHILDREN:

Often described as the next stage in human evolution, Indigo Children are an ill-defined New Age concept. This purported group of youth, born after 1981, are said to be digital natives embodying techno-advanced intelligence that may bring to light a new formula for peaceful cooperation with cognitive technologies. Adorned with indigo dyed costumes and hands, these characters are believed to be highly empathic and to possess psychic abilities.

## PLEASE NOTE:

This is a silent performance. We respectfully ask that there is no talking or whispering throughout the duration of your experience.

**Cell phones, cameras, and recording devices are not allowed during the performance.** Please honor the performers and your fellow audience members by supporting the authenticity of this immersive experience. Turn phones off before leaving the Gatehouse Gallery. di Rosa will post production photos to our website and Facebook for you to share. Please use the hashtags **#sophontinaction** and **#dirosaart** for photos of the performance.

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## CAST:

### Time Travelers:

Krystin Bradford  
Brenda Epperly  
Karen Kelly  
Minnette Lehmann  
Geoffrey Leigh  
Heather Phillips  
Alice Rayner  
Barbara Smith  
William Stinson  
Jade Zabrowski

### Indigo Children:

Dylan Rose Bradford  
Kyle Bradford  
Franklin Kelly  
June Kelly  
Eliza Phillips

### Ecstatic Dancers:

Liz Christensen  
Daniel Kennard  
Genovia Morgan  
Jocelynn Joy Murphy  
Lily Ann Page  
Elizabeth Stokkebye  
Miles Votek  
Timothy Wood

### Guides:

Meridith Allen  
Sarah Cathers  
David Fitzgerald  
Rhonda Holberton  
Michael Hunter  
Malia Legros  
Maxine Maas  
Elizabeth Thomas  
Barbara Zimmerman

### Boatman:

Brian Yarish

### Jitney Driver:

Gonzalo Magdaleno

### Crew:

Desirée Holman, Director,  
Choreographer, Costume Design for  
Ecstatic Dancers & Guides  
Caitlin Denny, Producer  
Amy Owen, Curator  
Meagan Doud, Curatorial Assistant  
Michael Hunter, Assistant Director  
Brook Lane of Job & Boss, Costume  
Design for Time Travelers & Indigo  
Children  
Lee Sonko, Psionics helmet  
programming

### Soundtrack:

Angel Deradoorian, *Dance*, 2013. 11  
min. 19 secs. Courtesy of the artist.