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FILE: Theater/Performance

Footloose presents *San Francisco, I Love You!*

[Shelton Theater](#), [533 Sutter](#), [San Francisco](#)

Close to Powell Street BART and Union Square

Nine weeks: Thursdays May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018

All shows 7:30 pm; Full bar opens at 7:00pm.

Tickets \$20-40 at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) 1-800-838-3006

More information, photos and bios at [ftloose.com](http://ftloose.com)

**San Francisco, California, March 26, 2018:** *San Francisco, I Love You!* is the newest, original, full-length work by Footloose Presents that runs at Shelton Theater on Thursdays only May 3 through June 28, 2018 at 7:30pm. Directed by Mary Alice Fry in collaboration with world class writers, filmmakers, composers and the cast, the show is packed with satire, slapstick comedy, drama, music and dance. The multi-talented performers play different characters and are part of the ensemble bringing stories onstage about the changes to our city of love. They are: Carolé Acuña, Sara-Jean Bartky, Joshua Berg, Khela Campos, Cesar A. Herrera, Krystle Liggins, Lisa McHenry, Kristen Rulifson, Bruce Yelaska and Xedex.

The show has a beautiful premise: You get to see the reactions of writers, composers, choreographers and filmmakers to the changes in San Francisco. The artists are expressing what they love and hate. The pieces are two to ten minutes long in this anthology of plays, musicals, spoken word, dances and a film. Each can stand alone or they fit cohesively into a theatrical whole. These vignettes range from romantic and idyllic to the gritty and not so pretty, and the moods change as quickly as our San Francisco weather.

The acts include, *'Round Midnight*, a noir style play set on a foggy San Francisco night by Ron Campbell; *SF Real State*, a farce about homelessness and the housing crisis in San Francisco by Jeff Bedillion; *You're Cooking Good*, a slapstick comedy food show with a local celebrity chef written and directed by Mary Alice Fry; *The Name Event*, written and performed by Bruce Yelaska with the ensemble about North Beach history and his story of how a Chicago boy put down roots in San Francisco in 1979, and thanks to rent control, still lives and works in Chinatown.

Filmmaker, Molly Stuart, premieres her movie, *Mi Casa No Es Mi Casa*, about the struggle she and her housemate, dancer/choreographer Xedex, went through in an attempt to keep their home in the Mission District. They were evicted in 2017. In the live performance of *San Francisco, I Love You*, Xedex presents a dance performance with Cesar A. Herrera in full Luchador Mexican wrestling costumes titled *Lucha Libre* that symbolizes a battle cry for territory being lost in the Mission.

Our lives as artists are the map of gentrification. We move from place to place, trying to stay ahead of the cycles of displacement. The latest billionaire tech takeover is hard to swallow along with the \$7 lattes. Somehow, we still love San Francisco anyway. From booms to busts, San Francisco is a crossroads of counterculture cool and capitalist bravado. This fickle city always tries to be mythological. Locals get nostalgic for a San Francisco that they miss, a San Francisco that they never got to see or one that never existed at all.

When audience members arrive, they will be invited to the Shelton Theatre's lower level bar. The cast and crew will already be part of the "Happy Hour" happening. A spirited, syncopated discussion amongst the cast referencing iconic features, facets, traits and locations that make San Francisco truly San Francisco will unfold. The intention is to get the audience to talk freely, relax, have a drink, mix and mingle. On cue, the cast all together will perform an unexpected, interactive musical section. Then the audience will be escorted into the main theater located next to the bar for the full 75 minute show.

### ***'Round Midnight* Written by Ron Campbell**

**Performed by Carolé Acuña, Josh Berg, Cesar A. Herrera and Kristen Rulifson**

This original noir play, *'Round Midnight* will premiere in *San Francisco, I Love You!* With a career that has taken him around the world, Ron Campbell is now a local. His long resume includes awards by Bay Area Theater Critics for roles in *One Man, Two Guvnors* at Berkeley Rep and *Don Quixote* at Marin Shakespeare Company. He created and continues to play the ringmaster role for Teatro Zinzanni. He was the lead clown in Cirque du Soleil's *Kooza*. Ron's acclaimed, one-man show, *R. Buckminster Fuller: The*

*History (and Mystery) of the Universe* continues to be revived. A short list of awards includes the London Fringe One Man Show of the Year, LA Drama Critics Circle, Bay Area Critics' Circle, and 15 Drama-Logue Awards. He has worked at Mark Taper Forum, Seattle Rep, San Diego Rep, Old Globe, the Edinburgh Festival and more. Ron was a lead actor in Boxcar's *Speakeasy* (2016-17) and recently starred in *Around the World in 80 Days* (2017) with TheatreWorks at Lucie Stern Theater. [soarfeat.org](http://soarfeat.org)

***SF Real State* Written by Jeff Bedillion**

**Performed by Sara-Jean Bartky, Josh Berg and Krystle Liggins**

Jeff Bedillion's comic play about the local housing crises, *SF Real State*, gets its debut in *San Francisco, I Love You!* Jeff identifies with the broad and bawdy wit of classic French farce style, modeling his stock characters of Americans facing socio-political dilemmas with those of Moliere. *Forbidden Fruit*, his first hit play headlined the Fresh Fruit International Lesbian and Gay Theatre Festival and played Off Broadway in New York City for extended runs. Past projects with Footloose Presents include his comedies, *OPEN*, and *What in Tarnation*.

***You're Cooking Good***

**Written and directed by Mary Alice Fry**

**Performed by Carolé Acuña, Cesar A. Herrera and Lisa McHenry**

This is a fast-paced, slapstick comedy with a local celebrity chef and his inept sidekicks cooking up an Italian food demonstration in North Beach. The eye-popping shenanigans and clowning cause chaos in the kitchen. Humor and play is used to inspire support for local farm to table choices.

***The Name Event (North Beach History)***

**Written and Performed by Bruce Yelaska with the ensemble**

There is family. And there is your cafe family. Bruce Yelaska calls Cafe Trieste home. This is his true story of how a Chicago boy put down roots in San Francisco's North Beach in 1979, which was the center of the local arts and design scene. Thanks to rent control, he still lives and has his design firm in Chinatown. [yelaskadesign.com](http://yelaskadesign.com)

***Lucha Libre, Choreographed by Xedex***

**Performed by Xedex and Cesar A. Herrera**

The Mission is Ground Zero for gentrification. Two luchadores battle in a match to symbolize the fight between tenants and landlords. Mexican wrestling is characterized by colorful masks, rapid sequences of holds and "high-flying" maneuvers, like the ones used in this highly dynamic dance. Xedex was born in Mexico. He is a dedicated dancer who also choreographs and performs in his own and others' pieces. An educator with the San Francisco Unified School District, he was a longtime resident of the Mission until being evicted, which is the subject of the film by Molly Stuart listed below.

***Mi Casa No Es Mi Casa***

**A film premiere by Molly Stuart with Xedex**

Two housemates in San Francisco come face-to-face with a housing market gone mad. Molly Stuart is a Bay Area filmmaker. She has directed, filmed, and edited documentaries about a variety of social issues ranging from migrant farm worker struggles to Israeli conscientious objection. Her latest short film, *Objector*, screened in over a dozen film festivals internationally and won several awards including Best Short from ALBA Human Rights Documentary Film Festival. Molly's film work has also been published in magazines including *The Nation* and *In These Times*. She is currently earning an MFA in Cinema at SF State University, where she won the Bill Nichols Excellence in Cinema Award and the Canon Best in Show Award.

**About Footloose Presents:**

Footloose is a team of career artists whose mission is to make professional quality performance that represents a broad range of San Francisco artists. As an organization, we advance multiple agendas beyond the art itself, whether for economic development, social justice, creative place making, or all of these and more. We offer authentic and direct cultural experiences at the grassroots level--meeting people where they live, work, and play--reinforcing community identity, and building connections to strengthen and build on artistic expression and storytelling. We do this by making accessible events that are easy to find, affordable, inclusive and fun to be part of. Having a long history of operating community spaces, the company now leases Spring Fall Studio in West Berkeley's historic Sawtooth Building. [ftloose.com](http://ftloose.com)

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Footloose is funded by San Francisco Grants for the Arts, generous individuals and businesses.

FREE PRESS TICKETS: You and a guest are welcome to complimentary tickets to the show of your choice.

Please confirm by email to [footloosepresents@gmail.com](mailto:footloosepresents@gmail.com) or call the office at 510-658-3530.

Pick up at the box office before the show.