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THE SHOTGUN CABARET PRESENTS

## Carte Blanche

*performing*

# ***FEMME FATALE***

***The greatest sex scandal of the last 24 hours!***

**Berkeley**— Inspired by the scandal involving the French president François Hollande and actress Julie Gayet, *Femme Fatale* is a poetic comedy about the art of seduction. In a setting of antique frames and ingenuous live video, dance theater artist Marie Walburg Plouviez changes body shapes, faces and hair, all in reference to a cast of feminine icons, and denouncing the representation of the female body in our society. **Two Shows Only – Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at The Ashby Stage.**

**In the genre of French cabaret**, this one-woman show tells the story of an expert in love, seduction and romance. She reveals her stories, her victories and defeats as a woman in love with power. Steeped in magic, music, dance and video, this show is an ode to seduction, taking the audience into a visual world of fantasies. Fanny Chantilly, the iconoclast *Femme Fatale*, will tell you about herself, her life, her France, her body and her freedom of speech. Come take a selfie with the most influential french queen of seduction in history. This show will cut your head off!

Since they met, *Carte Blanche* founders Marie Walburg Plouviez and Charline Formenty often discussed creating a show about the stereotypes Americans give to French ladies because they are hilarious, often wrong but completely true. The desire to create a show about that subject was combined with their desire to create a french cabaret.

When French President François Hollande got involved in a scandal, cheating on his girlfriend with actress Julie Gayet, they realized these elements were the perfect combination for a really good comedy.

And because a good comedy always has a deeper layer of drama, they also developed material about the current state of feminism. How can a woman be a seducer, a mother, and have a career? It seems that only superstars can do it, but at what price? Talking about feminism in 2015 is not as easy as one might think. Over the years, it has become a difficult word to define. Formenty and Plouviez are part of a generation of women that was raised to believe that they could do it all: a great career, a perfect lover, an amazing family, and of course, a perfect body. A generation obsessed with images, and celebrities. Sometimes celebrities that became famous without doing anything interesting. A generation of women creating an image of themselves on the social medias. What is it to be a feminist today? Is a feminist a woman that can do it all?

### **About *Femme Fatale*:**

*Carte Blanche* is a dance/theater company that aims for work of excellence, strong commitment and discipline. We create original work, from writing, to costumes, lights, decor, videography, production, marketing, visual design and of course acting at a professional level. A hybrid between dance, theater and video interaction, the company name *Carte Blanche* refers to the limitless possibilities and number of different medias on stage.

Discovering each other through work and through our experience of being foreigners, living in a new country, and learning a new language, we created a unique and unusual work method, layering imagery from our personal mythology, texts from classic authors, dance repertoire references, improvisation, and video interaction inspired by George Méliès's work.

Created by two French women (Charline Formenty and Marie Walburg Plouviez) in search for a cultural bridge between their culture and the city they live in, Carte Blanche is a dance/theatre company based in San Francisco, Bay Area.

Artistic director Charline Formenty plays in nuances with generosity and spontaneity, passion and light, seduction and presence, freedom and rigor to share her poetic approach on existential problems and pushes the doors between truth and invisibility.

**About The Shotgun Cabaret:**

Over the years The Shotgun Players have come across some of the great underworld performers of the Bay Area's delicious subculture: poets, comedians, musicians, aerialists, drag queens, dancers, filmmakers, vaudevillians and queer superstars to name a few. It hasn't been so easy to find a place for these folks in our mainstage season. But we do sometimes have available nights... and we do have that liquor license... So a Shotgun Cabaret was born!

**CALENDAR LISTING**

**WHAT:** Inspired by the scandal involving the French president François Hollande and actress Julie Gayet, *Femme Fatale* is a poetic comedy about the art of seduction. In a setting of antique frames and ingenuous live video, dance theater artist Marie Walburg Plouviez changes body shapes, faces and hair, all in reference to a cast of feminine icons, and denouncing the representation of the female body in our society.

**WHEN:**

Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 8PM

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 8PM

**WHERE:** The Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Avenue, Berkeley. Free parking in the Ashby BART parking lot.

**TICKET PRICES:** \$20. Advance Tickets available at: [www.shotgunplayers.org](http://www.shotgunplayers.org), 510.841.6500.  
[www.shotgunplayers.org](http://www.shotgunplayers.org).

For more information please contact: **Liz Lisle** at [liz@shotgunplayers.org](mailto:liz@shotgunplayers.org), or (510) 841-6500 x302.

Also visit: <http://carteblanche-sf.com/>