

PRESS RELEASE

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Nataasja Saint-Satyr, Organizer/ Founder Prayers: Worldwide; Prayers: from LA nataasja@prayersfromla.org www.prayersfromla.org 510-520-7641



Margaret Garcia, Artist/ Founder Casa0101 Board Member margaret@prayersfromla.org www.casa0101.org 323-263-7684

Prayers Art and Performance Benefit Festival at Casa0101

Let us come together and have our voices be heard through art and music! Celebrate Together! SATURDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 17TH, 2016, 5:00pm-12:00am at CASA 0101 Theater: www.casa0101.org

Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, CA: Casa0101 Theater, 2102 E. 1st Street, LA, CA 90033

December 17, 2016 is the 2nd annual Prayers events. Featuring an Art and Performance Benefit Festival for Casa 0101 at Casa0101 with proceeding publication to follow Prayers Worldwide; Prayers from Los Angeles, Our Voices through Art and Performance. Everything related to this special day will solely benefit the Community, the participating Artists, and the chosen cause of Casa0101. Doors Open at 5:00pm. Featuring our Art Benefit Marketplace and Sale. Art Exhibits. Speakers. Local Vendors. Amazing Food. VR Demos. Healers and MORE. Benefit Concert begins sharply at 6:00pm. Doors Close at midnight.

Free Admission. Donations Encouraged. Entry Ticket (Sliding Scale \$5-\$20+) INCLUDES admission to the performances and is good for the entire night's event and activities. 100% of door proceeds go to benefit Casa 0101. For Art Benefit Sales: 50%+ of proceeds will go in Benefit and 50% to the Artist. Proceeds from the book goes to benefit the event's chosen cause and 2 local causes.

Featuring the Art & Performance of: the Community of Los Angeles, Local and World Artists' Prayer Pieces. Special Exhibitors include: Margaret Garcia, Joe Bravo, Bonnie Lambert, Sandra Cornejo, Jimmy Centeno, the Stamp Project Circle of Women Artists, and MORE. Performers include: Casa0101 Theater, writer-performer Rubén Funkahautl Guevara, music of Lysa Flores, DJ Billy Goods from Dam Funk's Funkmosphere, Brian Grillo and Derek O'Brien of Extra Fancy/Social Distortion, music of Par Avion, poet Joseph Rios, SA/Johannesburg Trap/Rap artist Horus Tha-God, Spanish duo Kevin Tiernan and Ruben Ramos, singer/songwriter Ilan Navah, and MORE! Filmmaker León Rechy of Mexico City will be creating an Art Documentary of the Event. 2016 will hold a theme and moment of Remembrance for those lost. Come remember, share, express love and thanks. See website for details: www.prayersfromLA.org.

Prayers Worldwide; Prayers from Los Angeles

We will hang your positive wishes and concerns. We invite the community and its artists to bring a prayer – a small/miniature art piece (all mediums welcome) that shows and tells their individual prayers, wishes, hopes, and dreams for the world today. This event will be a small step towards our collective healing. To take that step, we must make ourselves be heard, especially where and when we are ignored and underrepresented. What better way to share with each other, give voice, and support one another in a universal way than through the precious and accessible medium of art and performance. We won't just continue to shout and scream at injustice. We put aside ego and speak with each other, sharing our varying, interesting and worthwhile perspectives with our art, music, and performances. We bring to this annual benefit an inclusive Prayer exhibit of epic proportions. The world is a chaotic place that seems to grow more painful for us to endure and more overwhelming as we try to express our concern as a people angered, frustrated, with unsustainable sadness. This Prayers Day event will act as a communal salve, positive protest, and demonstration of identity.

Artists and community members may contribute their Prayer art piece. Join our movement. Everyone who participates is invested, cataloged, and documented in the proceeding publication and film.

"I think that there are certain ideas that are only powerful if you share them; they only matter if you share them. It's kind of like love. Love doesn't exist in a vacuum, you have to share it in order for it to have meaning. And for me, the idea of doing this, these series of prayers is an idea of sharing. I started first by doing very small, miniature portraits of concerns of mine..." Los Angeles Artist Margaret Garcia had the initial idea and has cultivated it throughout the years. Aligning her grandmother's experience from the 1920s in her mind, concern grew regarding the ongoing news of the hijacked brides of the world, little girls kidnapped, forced into relations, and married off. "It's not new, it's something that exists all over the world and if you are a person who takes notice and understands it, then you have compassion for other human beings." There are so many issues, whether we are talking about mass incarceration, family healthcare, access, equality, modern day slavery, children in forced labor, Syrian immigrants, war orphans, terror attacks that try our souls and spirits, or the many other human rights violations currently going on worldwide.

Our goal is for this themed Prayers Day event to grow worldwide cultivating positivism and healing together. We will choose a day once a year to come together and share our *Prayers* through intimate miniature art pieces within our communities.