

Volta Collective Press Release  
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**“MILK” employs the senses to tell the story of feminine desire and revenge**

The Institute of Art and Olfaction presents the world premiere of Volta’s  
multi-sensory dance performance



Pictured (L-R): Melissa Achten, Volta Collective, Alexis Okeowo

*“Stronger than lover’s love is lover’s hate. Incurable, in each, the wounds they make.”  
- Euripides, Medea*

The Institute of Art and Olfaction and Los Angeles based dance theatre company Volta will present the world premiere of “MILK.” Drawing in part from the Greek tragedy “Medea,” the work mixes dance, prose, sound, and scent to examine the construction of feminine desire and destruction. While writer Alexis Okeowo orates an original epic narrative, Volta will use movement to map the contemporary

MORE

politics of hysteria, beauty, and revenge. Harpist Melissa Achten will score the performance live and sound architect Nicholas Snyder will create an accompanying composition. Volta is collaborating with the Institute of Art and Olfaction to develop custom blends that tell the story through scent.

“Volta is passionate about creating multi-disciplinary performances that expand the limits of contemporary dance,” say Megan Paradowski and Mamie Green, founders and directors of Volta. “By teaming up with the Institute of Art and Olfaction, we are able to transport audiences into a universe of all-consuming feminine desire using the power of scent.”

“We are thrilled to work with Volta to further their vision through scent - one of the most visceral and emotive senses,” says Saskia Wilson-Brown, founder of the Institute for Art and Olfaction. “We have created the aromatic components of Medea’s story based on a deep study of the text by Euripides, and historical research into the possible smells of the milieu in which the tragedy unfolded.”

Green and Paradowski will be joined by dancers Kaia Makihara, Madi Tanguay, and Keilan Stafford.

MORE

**Performance Schedule:**

Purchase performance tickets here: <https://tickets.voltacollective.com/>

**Performance Dates:**

Thursday 11.10.2022

Friday 11.11.2022

Saturday 11.12.2022

**Performance Location:**

Institute of Art and Olfaction  
932 Chung King Road  
Los Angeles CA, 90012

**Performance Time:** 6:00pm

**Ticket Price:** \$20.00

About Volta Collective:

<https://www.voltacollective.com/>

Directed by Mamie Green and Megan Paradowski, Volta fuses physicality, theatricality and multidisciplinary approaches to performance. Volta is passionate about presenting dance in accessible, nontraditional spaces, often collaborating with artists across mediums. Volta's work expresses the communal rage, wonder, and love that connects us all. It has been presented in the US and Europe at Hošek Contemporary, NAVEL LA, the Museum of Neon Art, Orange County Dance Festival, Sade Gallery, Lash Social Club and at multiple Dance Film Festivals.

MORE

About Alexis Okeowo:

<https://www.alexisokeowo.com/>

Alexis Okeowo is a writer and artist. They are a staff writer at The New Yorker, a contributing editor at Vogue, and the inaugural Writer-in-Residence in the Design Research, Writing, & Criticism Program at the School of Visual Arts. They are working on their first video short, *In Transit*.

About Institute of Art and Olfaction:

<https://artandolfaction.com/>

Founded in September 2012 in Los Angeles, The Institute for Art and Olfaction is a 501(c)3 non-profit devoted to advancing public access to the practice of working with scent. We do this by initiating and supporting experimental projects with scent, by providing accessible education in our laboratory as well as in partnership with institutions and community groups, by curating art exhibitions that incorporate scent in our gallery, and by raising visibility for independent, artisan and experimental and artistic practices with scent as a whole. Through these efforts, we extend the world of scent beyond its traditional boundaries of appreciation and use.

MORE

Praise for Volta Collective:

**“... the choreography and performance level ... provided a deeper look into the excellent work one might see in the future from Volta Collective.”**

**- Jeff Slayton of LA Dance Chronicle**

**“It is very rare for artists to get to the core of something after a short period of time, and not only did you produce something that is aligned to the soul of our organization, you distilled it into a powerful time and space based performance.”**

**- Corrie Siegel of Museum of Neon Art**

**“... TO THE INCREDIBLE VOLTA COLLECTIVE NEXT WAVE NARRATIVE DANCE GENIUSNESS“**

**- Brian Lee Hughes of Gallery SADE**

END