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Candace Roberts' "**Not My City Anymore"**
Music Video Release Party at the Gold Dust Lounge

Rising San Francisco Cabaret star sings the blues about the city's economic crisis

Video Still, Photo Credit: Damian Lucas

WATCH THE MUSIC VIDEO

Wednesday | June 25th | 7–8:30 pm
Gold Dust Lounge | 165 Jefferson Street | SF, CA 94133
www.golddustsf.com | (415) 397-1695

June 2, 2014, San Francisco, CA-- Cabaret Singer/Songwriter **Candace Roberts** and the **Gold Dust Lounge** are pleased to present a viewing and celebration of Roberts' new music video, "**Not My City Anymore**" on **June 25th from 7-8:30pm** at the Gold Dust Lounge. After receiving an overwhelmingly positive response from fans and critics while performing the song throughout the city, Roberts, known for combining cabaret, opera, jazz, pop and a dose of social commentary, has now written, produced and co-directed the music video "Not My City Anymore". Over the course of the evening's celebration, attendees will have the opportunity to view the music video, hear a live rendition of the song, see behind the scenes footage from the video shoot, meet the cast and crew and engage in a lively discussion about the top 10 things

citizens can do to save San Francisco. This event is free of charge to ages 21 and over and **the first drink is on the house.**

"Not My City Anymore" is a theatrical piece, both frenetic and melancholy, espousing an almost campy, vaudevillian flair. Roberts and her backup performers represent the city of San Francisco, dressed in old-timey garb, referencing the boom of the Gold Rush and the Barbary Coast nostalgia intrinsic to San Francisco's history. Just when the viewer is situated within this visual paradigm, in saunters a young tech guy, breaking up the party with his anachronistic clothing and technological devices. Mr. Tech goes on to make special deals with City Hall while Roberts and her crew sing and dance their indignation and heartbreak, all the while watching their city become unrecognizable.

"Not My City Anymore" was shot at the iconic Gold Dust Lounge, a roughly 80 year old San Francisco bar/institution that was evicted from its original 1933 location on Union Square to put in a chain clothing store. The Gold Dust has subsequently re-opened on Fisherman's Wharf. "Not My City Anymore" addresses this very issue, calling out the ever growing crisis of economic disparity in a city whose legacy has been defined by ideals of radicalism, inclusion and acceptance. As the income gap widens, San Francisco becomes more and more inaccessible to the working and middle classes, and "Not My City Anymore" dissects what this means in both practical and psychological terms. With a cast that represents the diversity which once defined this city's greatness, Roberts' music video eloquently illustrates the machinations of institutionalized exclusivity from the top down--City Hall to sex workers, the tech industry to the service industry.

Besides being a hot-button issue, this is also a personal story for Roberts who, like so many artists, is struggling to find a foothold in a city she fell in love with long ago. To support herself Roberts has worked the gamut of odd jobs and currently sustains herself as a traveling pet-sitter who hops around living in her clients' homes. On her website she candidly discusses the genesis of "Not My City Anymore."

I found myself working a lot in the Castro and {was} increasingly affected by the roughly six or seven high rises that shot up in the neighborhood…high rises I could never afford to live in. I felt the same way walking on Valencia Street in the Mission, an area I inhabited for eight years. The apartments, stores and restaurants…definitely not catering to me. More and more friends fled while more and more of my favorite haunts and organizations were forced to shut. For months and months it was the instant topic of conversation at every party or event. "Did you hear about so and so getting evicted?"

In making this video, Roberts described the process as "charmed from the start." A fan suggested filming at the Gold Dust Lounge since the bar had experienced the ubiquitous eviction story first hand. The Gold Dust Lounge welcomed the project with open arms and was integral to the production's success. Roberts raised over $5,000 on Kickstarter so she would be able to pay the crew for their labor and was lucky enough to work with some of San Francisco's finest creatives. **Danny Plotnick**, independent filmmaker and **USF professor of film/video** was

brought on to co-direct, **Damian Lucas** of **Little Giant Lighting and Grip** was the Director of Photography and **LeeWei Chao** of **Alonzo King LINES Ballet** choreographed the intricate dance sequences.

“Not My City Anymore” is a work of art that aims to spark a larger conversation about the cultural and economic issues that are plaguing San Francisco. It also calls out the ills of global income inequality at large. As Roberts sings:

“The top tier always looks the same, no matter the city you name”

Candace Roberts is a San Francisco based singer/songwriter and cabaret performer. Since the release of her 2010 CD, “Honeymoon for One”, Candace has been in residence at Martuni’s Piano Bar in San Francisco, performing on the 4th Thursday of every month. There she sings, plays ukulele and tells stories with the support of her longtime piano accompanist, Larisa Migachyov. Candace guest stars in many long-running burlesque and variety shows (Little Minsky’s) as well as storytelling series (Bawdy Storytelling), she does private parties, gives house concerts and has played such local venues as the Fillmore, Cafe du Nord, the Lost Church and the Make-Out Room. She is also developing a one woman musical at the Marsh Theater tentatively called “Death’s Greatest Hits”, which explores all the messed up shit we do to avoid dying, literally and figuratively. Candace hopes to translate more of her songs into video as soon as possible.

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