

## **INFRARED**

**In Celebration of the Compton Transgender District  
program 1**

### ***Kairos Dirt and the Errant Vacuum***

**October 9, 2018 – CounterPulse  
Madsen Minax and Eve Minax in person**

**INFRARED:** *In 2017, the City of San Francisco indicated intention to designate a portion of its Tenderloin neighborhood (a portion which includes CounterPulse and the office of San Francisco Cinematheque Cinematheque) as the “Compton’s Transgender, Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual District” in reference to a 1966 protest action held at Compton’s Cafeteria, located at the intersection of Turk and Taylor Streets in San Francisco. This pre-Stonewall action is recognized as a significant milestone in queer and transgender political activism. In celebration of this designation—the first legally recognized municipal transgender district in the world—San Francisco Cinematheque is proud to present INFRARED, four nights of experimental films by and about transgender, nonbinary and gender nonconforming artists curated by transgender filmmaker Malic Amalya.*

***Kairos Dirt and the Errant Vacuum*** (2017) by Madsen Minax; digital video, color, sound, 90 minutes, exhibition file from the maker

Through dreamscapes, television monitors, radio frequencies and orifices a queer middle school lunch lady, a non-binary student and an astrologer/life coach/phone sex operator discover a fantastic and carnal alternate dimension occupied by a genderless apparition. (Malic Amalya)

Rosie Cutler, a middle school lunch lady and aspiring poet, and TJ Fortune, a mystical gender ambiguous student, have an unusual relationship. TJ neither fits within the framework of his age, nor gender, and because of this is both bullied and revered. He recoils into an abandoned warehouse where he builds a massive sculptural shrine from discarded objects and trash. Through a dream Rosie makes intimate contact with an otherworldly being who she hopes will bridge the gap between real and imagined to reveal truths about our world. Amid the post-industrial decay of the American south, a disparate band of nobodies including fellow lunch ladies, a mystical mortician, a transgender elder, a ministry worker, and a lesbian hospice provider all encounter the otherworldly being, known only as Kairos Dirt, who occupies a carnal dimension of death and sex driven existence. A spiritual medium / phone sex operator is called upon to help transport these nobodies into this carnal dream-dimension. Television monitors, radio frequencies and orifices all become portals to access this dimension. The characters must ask 'what is dream? what is reality? what must we give up to become something else?

Drawing from the history of cult classics, b and midnight movies, camp and drag, Kairos Dirt uses a magical realist approach to landscape, that unfolds between a waking reality and dream-spaces. From the oddly timeless exteriors of Memphis, TN to the meager interiors of Rosie's apartment, stockpiled with six tube televisions forming a pyramid of flickering screens, the anachronism of both time and place persists. Characters interact with technologies that span from the 1950s until now as they negotiate a post-industrial society in flux, and ultimately seek alternate modes of human connectivity.