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**ARTIST AND HER AUDIENCES BRING WAX PAINTINGS TO LIFE
IN INTIMATE, IMMEDIATE PERFORMANCES**

Charlie Levin blends interactive theater and visual art in 'Single Point Perspective'

*This is a person. And this is a person.
Are they friend? or foe?
Victim? or villain?
Are they coming toward you? or falling away?
—a selection from the "Single Point Perspective" text*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (April 28, 2016) – Combining the warmth of sweet-smelling wax with a transparent canvas that lets her paintings be seen from all perspectives, Charlie Levin invites audiences into a compelling artistic narrative.

The people watching are also her co-creators. In her project "Single Point Perspective: A Meditation on Race, Loss, Grief, and The Other," Levin paints live in front of an audience, applying melted wax to a sweeping, clear pane of glass. Members of the audience read aloud from a text provided by the artist, and she paints in response. The result is intimate and compelling, an unusual mixture of interactive theater and visual art.

Originally workshopped in December 2015 at the monthly Featured Artist Series by San Francisco's Kinetech Arts, "Single Point Perspective" is now being featured at the San Francisco International Arts Festival. Levin will perform on four dates at the Fort Mason Chapel at 2 Marina Blvd.: Saturday, May 21, at 5 p.m.; Friday, May 27, at 7 p.m.; Sunday, May 29, at 4 p.m.; and Friday, June 3, at 9:30 p.m. The event runs 45 to 60 minutes with no intermission.

The performance responds to current conflicts surrounding race and identity, melding interviews, quotes and Twitter posts with Levin's own thoughts on perspective, protest, grief and loss. As audience members read, Levin paints illuminated images that are continually changing as the light's direction and intensity do. She's looking forward to bringing the work to the Chapel's sacred space of dark wood and stained glass.

"This piece explores truth, complexity and nuance in a world where all points of view and choices of action are happening simultaneously, a world in which we are all implicated," Levin said. Along the way, the people reading make their own choices about the tone and speed of the text, taking part in the art, she added. "Everyone in the room creates the event together."

Each performance will be followed by a post-show conversation moderated by Ayodele Nzinga, the founding director of Lower Bottom Playaz Inc., Oakland's premiere North American African theater company. Nzinga is a Black Arts Scholar who uses performance to open space for essential conversations that are difficult to have, to make invisible things visible, and to consider the places where human stories touch.

Based in Oakland, Levin makes performances, interactive paintings and installations exploring questions of complexity, identity and perception. With over 20 years of work, including as co-founder of Chicago-based Local Infinites Visual Theater, she has presented her work locally, nationally and internationally. Highlights include Oerel (Netherland), Kyiv Traveny (Ukraine), Sight Sonic (UK) and Soundwalk (Long Beach).

Bay Area shows include "Keeping an Eye on Surveillance," curated by Hanna Regev; CODAME'S 5ENSES; and collaborations with the renowned interactive technology dance company Kinetech Arts.

Tickets to Levin's performances at the San Francisco International Arts Festival are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. They may be purchased online at www.sfiarf.org/charlie_levin.

For more about Levin's work, including a video of her creating wax paintings, go to art.girlcharlie.com. High-resolution images are available at <http://gom.io/girlcharlie>.