

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **23 Years of Caroliner**

Curated by Sarrita Hunn, Marcella Faustini, and  
Museum of Viral Memory

December 13, 2006 – January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Closing Reception:

Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm

Caroliner performance starting at 8pm

with Luz Alibi and Georgio Marauder, Theremin Barney, and Ploc Munster

“This is some lost American Baroque, retrieved at rummage sales...Caroliner holds on to an old-fashioned esthetic of sensory assault, raised to an unusually high pitch of musical sophistication”

-Alex Ross, New York Times, April 15, 1993

### **23 Years of Hernia Milk and Ergot Dreams: A Retrospective of Caroliner and its Homage to a 19th Century Singing Bull**

Echo de Pensees Sound Series in conjunction with The Museum of Viral Memory presents, 23 Years of Hernia Milk and Ergot Dreams, the first ever opportunity to see the internationally recognized band Caroliner's extensive ephemera (propitious props, salutary sets, corrupted costumes, random releases, maligned missives, reviled relics and loquacious lyric books) collected in one place!

Caroliner was formed in San Francisco in 1983 when a ragtag band of temporally misplaced troubadours ran afoul of an astrally displaced gang of misbehaved minstrels. Initial violence blossomed from dead bull ghost into corporate confusion when deep inside a mould induced hallucination they copyrighted the original songs of a singing bull, Caroliner, who was tragically killed and eaten by its starved owner in the mythic age of 1833.

Taking ergot-poisoned pills through a Wisconsin death trip, the group began recreating their hallucinatory dream state through hypnotic sound, flamboyant costumes, and glowing props. Two decades later they are still digging through Caroliner's prodigious aural droppings with day-glo miner's helmets and home made shovels of calcium-welded bone. The sounds are a heady mix of toxic shock and shocking talk, folk confusion and percussive dissolution.

For Hernia Milk and Ergot Dreams concerned folks have dug through the group's checkered past and black-light warehouse to choose the cream of the crop of 23 years of Caroliner props, costumes, instruments, records, books, flyers and assorted other detritus. A closing reception will be held January 13<sup>th</sup> with Caroliner's first performance in a year and a half at PLAYSPACE's adjacent complex California College of the Arts' Graduate Center in San Francisco.

23 Years of Hernia Milk and Ergot Dreams exposes Caroliner's tragic trail of tears through the American dream and across the world.

PLAYSPACE  
California College of the Arts  
1111 8<sup>th</sup> Street (at 16<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin.)  
San Francisco, CA 94107

Regular gallery hours are Wed., Thurs., and  
Sat. 12-3pm. or by appt.

Contact shunn@cca.edu for more information.

