

THE MARSH BERKELEY EXTENDS
DON REED'S CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED
CAN YOU DIG IT?: THE '60S

Now through September 9, 2018

BERKELEY, CA (27 July 2018) — **The Marsh Berkeley** announces the extension of Don Reed's wonderfully wild autobiography *Can You Dig It?: The '60s* through September. Hot on the heels of Reed's hilarious and critically acclaimed *East 14th* and *The Kipling Hotel*, Reed (HBO, *Snap Judgment*, Amazon Prime) takes Bay Area audience members on a nostalgic ride through the amusing and oftentimes turbulent 1960s and beyond. *Can You Dig It?: The '60s* takes place before Reed's father became a pimp, before little Donnie was forced into that door-knocking religion, and includes some mind-blowing and unbelievably true tales. From the Beatles to the Black Panthers, James Brown to the Jerk, MLK to JFK to the KKK—audiences will delight in living vicariously through the eyes of an awkward blinking kid just trying to fit in during the tumultuous '60s. Called "a comedic goldmine. An electrifying performer whose impressions of the colorful characters of his childhood are well-drawn and flat-out hilarious" by *KQED*, *Can You Dig It?: The '60s* will be presented 5:00pm Saturdays & 5:30pm Sundays, **now through September 9** at **The Marsh Berkeley**, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. For tickets (\$20-\$35 sliding scale, \$55-\$100 reserved), the public may visit www.themarsh.org or call The Marsh box office at **415-282-3055** (open 1pm-4pm, Monday through Friday).

Called "hilarious" by *The New Yorker* and "a dynamic performer" by *San Francisco Chronicle*, Don Reed has created a trio of solo shows that recount his entertaining and at-times downright outrageous coming-of-age journey. *Starkinsider* claims "Reed's one-man show at the San Francisco Marsh is simply the best I've seen all year and then some," while *KQED* says "it's a bittersweet tale that's also flat-out hilarious, as much for Reed's deft comic delivery as for the unforgettable misadventures he describes." Reed's first installment, *East 14th*, traces his irregular teen years through the '70s—in which his stepfather forced him to become a Jehovah's Witness, while his biological father led the freewheeling life of an Oakland pimp. In *The Kipling*

THE MARSH BERKELEY PRESENTS “CAN YOU DIG IT?: THE ‘60S”

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Hotel, Reed recalls his collegiate years at UCLA through the ‘80s, as he struggled to supplement a partial scholarship by working as a live-in waiter at an unforgettable retirement hotel frequented by exotic elderly denizens, earnest students, aspiring actors, and drug dealers. His entertaining autobiographical tale comes full circle with *Can You Dig It?: The ‘60s*, a “prequel-plus” covering Reed’s formative years in a 1960s Oakland grammar school. Filled with Reed’s signature theatrical outré and flawless comedic timing, he brings to life a full cast of colorful characters, the story of his wild and wonderful childhood unfolds with a series of hilarious, touching, and incredible anecdotes—including untold tales unveiled on stage for the first time.

Don Reed is the 2016 Theater Bay Area (TBA) winner for Outstanding Solo Production, a 2017 TBA nominee for the same award, a San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle nominee, and NAACP triple nominee for Best Actor and Best Playwright. He is presently co-starring in the Amazon Prime series *Bartlett*, where Reed plays the boss in a struggling ad agency alongside Lin-Manuel Miranda (*Hamilton*) and Utkarsh Ambudkar (*The Mindy Project*). Reed can be seen in the movie *Unleashed* starring Kate Micucci (*The LEGO Batman Movie*), Justin Chatwin (*Doctor Who*), and Steve Howey (*Shameless*), now on Netflix. Reed has performed, written, and directed for film, television, and theater. As a producer and writer, he has also been working on transforming Charlotte Burley and Lyah Beth LeFlore’s best-selling book *Cosmopolitan Girls* into a television series. Reed was the opening act/warm-up comedian for *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* for more than 1,000 episodes and is presently the warm-up comedian for Snoop Dogg’s game show *The Joker’s Wild*. His voice can be heard on: *Spiderman*, *Johnny Quest*, *Captain Planet*, *The Voice*, *Law & Order*, *SNL* and as the voice of the cat on *2 Broke Girls*. He has created promos for *The Voice*, The Golden Globes, The Academy Awards, MLB, *Chappelle’s Show*, Tyler Perry Films, and the Olympics. Additionally, he has written, directed, produced, and starred in the HBO shorts: *Lucky: The Irish Pimp* and *Pookie Watson: Hood Detective*. Reed has written and starred in work for Oprah Winfrey’s OWN. He is also a board member of the thriving 51Oakland foundation which aims to keep music and the arts alive in Oakland Public Schools.

The Marsh is known as “a breeding ground for new performance.” It was launched in 1989 by Founder and Artistic Director Stephanie Weisman, and now annually hosts more than 600

THE MARSH BERKELEY PRESENTS “CAN YOU DIG IT?: THE ‘60S”
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performances of 175 shows across the company’s two venues in San Francisco and Berkeley. A leading outlet for solo performers, The Marsh’s specialty has been hailed by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as “solo performances that celebrate the power of storytelling at its simplest and purest.” The *East Bay Times* named The Marsh one of Bay Area’s best intimate theaters, calling it “one of the most thriving solo theaters in the nation. The live theatrical energy is simply irresistible.”

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: **The Marsh Berkeley** announces the extension of Don Reed’s wonderfully wild autobiography *Can You Dig It?: The ‘60s* through September. Hot on the heels of Reed’s hilarious and critically acclaimed *East 14th* and *The Kipling Hotel*, Reed (HBO, *Snap Judgment*, Amazon Prime) takes Bay Area audience members on a nostalgic ride through the amusing and oftentimes turbulent 1960s and beyond. *Can You Dig It?: The ‘60s* takes place before Reed’s father became a pimp, before little Donnie was forced into that door-knocking religion, and includes some mind-blowing and unbelievably true tales. From the Beatles to the Black Panthers, James Brown to the Jerk, MLK to JFK to the KKK—audiences will delight in living vicariously through the eyes of an awkward blinking kid just trying to fit in during the tumultuous ‘60s.

WHEN: **Now through September 9**

SHOWS: 5:00pm, Saturdays
5:30pm, Sundays

WHERE: **The Marsh Berkeley**, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley
Parking: Allston Way Garage, 2061 Allston Way between Milvia & Shattuck
The Downtown Berkeley BART station is one block away on Shattuck

TICKETS: \$20 - \$35 sliding scale, \$55 - \$100 reserved
For tickets, visit www.themarsh.org or call 415-282-3055

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PRESS: Contact Sydney Albin, Carla Befera & Co.
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PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available here:
<http://www.cbpr.co/press/canyoudigit>