

**THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS
THE DESIGNATED DAUGHTER
WITH POST-SHOW TALKBACK ENGAGEMENTS**

Written and Performed by Victoria Podesta

Directed by Mark Kenward

October 19 – November 2, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (3 September 2019) – *The Designated Daughter* is being presented by **The Marsh San Francisco** as part of the Reimagine End of Life festival, a citywide exploration of death and celebration of life through creativity and conversation. Every family has one: the dutiful child who stays behind shouldering familial responsibilities. Podesta wasn't that daughter. However, when her elderly mother moves in – wreaking comic chaos, forcing a painful confrontation with a buried past, and prompting the search for the perfect pajamas – she has one last chance to build a bond of truth and love. The result is a haunting, beautiful, and ultimately uplifting show about caregiving for a dying parent that asks: What do the living owe the dying? Moreover, what do the dying truly bequeath the living? Post-show talkbacks, featuring experts in everything from caregiver educators to authors, will be offered throughout the run. *The Designated Daughter* will be presented **October 19 – November 2, 2019** (press opening: October 19) with performances at 8:00pm Wednesdays, 5:00pm Saturdays, and 2:00pm Sundays at **The Marsh San Francisco**, 1062 Valencia St., San Francisco. For tickets (\$20-\$35 sliding scale; \$55 and \$100 reserved) or more information, the public may visit www.themarsh.org or call The Marsh Box office at 415-282-3055 (open Monday through Friday, 1:00pm-4:00pm).

Victoria Podesta (Performer/Author) first performed at The Marsh almost 30 years ago with the solo work *Far To Go*. Had she known that title would be prophetic, she might have chosen another. Following 2019 performances of this new work at Chicago Dramatists Theatre and the United Solo Festival in New York, she is returning to The Marsh San Francisco with *The Designated Daughter*, offering other tales of the mother/daughter bond/bind.

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Saturday, October 19: Talkback with Amanda Coggin from Zen Hospice Project, who specializes in mindful caregiver education and teaching open death conversations.

Wednesday, October 30: Talkback with Gayle Greene, Ph.D.; Professor Emerita, Literature and Women's Studies; and author of *Missing Persons*, a memoir about dealing with death in a culture that gives no help.

Reimagine End of Life is a week-long, community-wide exploration of death and celebration of life through creativity and conversation. Drawing on the arts, spirituality, healthcare, and design, weeklong series of events are created that help break down taboos and bring diverse communities together in wonder, preparation, and remembrance. Initially prototyped in 2016 as part of an effort to investigate the intersection of art, community, and the end of life, Reimagine End of Life will be in San Francisco in October 2019 and in New York in 2020.

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 performances of 175 shows across the company’s two venues in San Francisco and Berkeley. A

THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS “THE DESIGNATED DAUGHTER”

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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:

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SHOWS: 5:00pm, Saturday, October 19 (*press opening*)
2:00pm, Sunday, October 20
5:00pm, Saturday, October 26
2:00pm, Sunday, October 27
8:00pm, Wednesday, October 30
5:00pm, Saturday, November 2

WHERE: **The Marsh San Francisco**, 1062 Valencia St., San Francisco
(between 21st & 22nd Streets)
Parking is available at New Mission Bartlett Garage
(21st St between Mission & Valencia)
Bart Station (closest): Mission & 24th Street

TICKETS: \$20-\$35 sliding scale; \$55 and \$100 reserved

INFO: For information or to order tickets visit **themarsh.org** or call **(415) 282-3055** (Monday through Friday, 1:00pm-4:00pm). For additional information on the Reimagine festival, visit **letsreimagine.org**.

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