

## THE MARSH UNVEILS NEW DAILY PROGRAMMING ON MARSHSTREAM *Programs added through August 31*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (5 August 2020) – **The Marsh** continues to offer a wide variety of new programming at 7:30pm nightly on **MarshStream**, its popular broadcast platform. Additional offerings through August 31 include a delightful look at a young French woman’s earliest ambitions; a Mother’s lasting legacy; an exclusive interview with author/singer/songwriter/music journalist/*New York Times* best-selling author Sylvie Simmons; a visit with award-winning director, producer, and writer Jacob Kornbluth; performances about finding love, discovering a father’s awful secret, a new dissertation by cranky humorist Merle “Ian Shoales” Kessler, and much more (*see latest schedule below*).

The program launched in April and has received overwhelmingly enthusiastic response, with hundreds flocking to view and participate each night. MarshStream programming varies daily, with Monday Night MarshStream (short performances by a variety of artists), Wild Card Tuesdays (everything from book/writer discussions, sing-a-longs, Tell It On Tuesday, to Sound Healing and Restorative Yoga), Wednesday Solo Arts Heal (offering stories of health, advocacy, and inspiration), Stephanie’s MarshStream on Thursday nights (interview, bantering, Q&A, and performance excerpts, moderated by Marsh founder Stephanie Weisman), plus Bingo! hosted by Josh Kornbluth, live full-length performance concert readings, archived performance streams, performance development classes, and more. A noon series includes CJ’s FitnesSing weekly singing lesson and fitness class, plus a Super Slow Weight Training and Zumba Room. Content is offered at 7:30pm nightly, and mid-day throughout the week via Zoom, YouTube, Instagram, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and iTunes. **MarshStream** viewers are asked to contribute whatever they can afford. Donations can be made by joining The Marsh’s membership program and via a virtual “tip jar” both on the website, with funds going to support and sustain The Marsh and its performances. For more information, the public may visit [www.themarsh.org/marshstream](http://www.themarsh.org/marshstream).

NOTE: Most past shows from earlier MarshStream dates are also available on the website for viewing.

## **Monday MarshStream**

***7:30pm, Monday, August 17***

Natacha Ruck's **May the Feminine Rule**

France, 1981: The first socialist president is about to be elected and a young Natacha Ruck is already beginning to implement her own political platform. But first, she will take down the schoolyard bully, eviscerate the rules of French grammar, and pull off the most fulfilling heist of her young life: making off with grandmother's chocolate.

***7:30pm, Monday, August 24***

Eleanor Clement Glass's **Mother's Day, Mother's Way**

When Eleanor Clement Glass asked her mother if anyone can control or orchestrate what happens with their family after they die, her mother always answered with an empathetic "yes." In **Mother's Day, Mother's Way**, Glass shares how her mother continued to have a lasting impact on their family after she passed away.

*Additional works on the bill to be announced. Please check [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org) for updates.*

***7:30pm, Monday, August 31***

*Featuring a short story performance by Pearl Louise and others. Please check [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org) for updates.*

## **Wildcard Tuesdays**

***7:30pm, Tuesday, August 18***

**Joshua Raoul Brody Plays and Sings the Beatles**

Lovable accompanist Joshua Raoul Brody will recreate the event he's been hosting at venues around the Bay Area for over 10 years: Beatles karaoke night. After playing some of his favorite Beatles songs, Brody will point the microphone at the camera and have audience members take over.

*7:30pm, Tuesday, August 25*

**TELL IT ON TUESDAY (TIOT)** *The Marsh Berkeley's long-running monthly storytelling series featuring performers both familiar and new. Please check [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org) for updates.*

## **Solo Arts Heal**

*7:30pm, Wednesday, August 19*

Bob Brader's **Spitting In The Face Of The Devil**. Hosted by Gail Schickele.

Hailed by critics as “brilliant,” “masterful,” and “unforgettable,” **Spitting In The Face Of The Devil** is New York monologist Bob Brader's gripping true story of discovering that his abusive and charismatic ex-Marine father is a pedophile. Brader's daring, uplifting, and often comedic play has toured the U.S. and Canada to tremendous critical acclaim. A powerful tale of personal survival and triumph that pertains to today's focus on sexual predators, **Spitting In The Face Of The Devil** is a 7-Time Best of Fest Award-Winner, including “Best Show” of the London Fringe and “Best Script” and “Best Encore” at NYC's United Solo Theatre Festival.

*7:30pm, Wednesday, August 26*

Lester Thomas Shane's **Mortal Coil**. Hosted by Gail Schickele.

In a compelling series of monologues, this award-winning one-man show presents a single night on a hospice unit. Writer and actor Lester Thomas Shane portrays 13 characters: patients, caregivers, and staff who face death and embrace life with unique insight, deep compassion, and gentle humor. **Mortal Coil** has played across the country and is used by many hospices as part of their training. Lester is the co-author of several screenplays and plays. He co-developed the program *P.O.V. Max* for Children's Television Workshop and wrote several episodes of A&E's popular *Biography* series as well as documentaries for *American Movie Classics (AMC)* and the *Discovery Network*.

## **Stephanie's MarshStream**

*7:30pm, Thursday, August 20*

Featuring special guest **Jacob Kornbluth**. Hosted by Stephanie Weisman.

Stephanie's MarshStream will feature an exclusive interview and Q&A with award-winning director, producer, and writer Jacob Kornbluth. The two will also discuss the release of Kornbluth

and W. Kamau Bell's original animated series entitled *Talk Boring to Me*, which examines the issues of the most relevant social issues facing the US in easy-to-understand videos. Kornbluth started his career as a writer and director in theater, where he collaborated on and directed three successful solo shows in San Francisco: *The Moisture Seekers*, *Pumping Copy*, and *Face by the Door*. All three works were nominated for or won "Best of the Bay" awards and successfully toured the country. A later version of *The Moisture Seekers* (called *Red Diaper Baby*) has been included in anthologies of the best one man shows of the '90s. His feature films *Inequality for All* (with Robert Reich), *Haiku Tunnel* (with Josh Kornbluth), and *The Best Thief in the World* (with Mary-Louise Parker) all premiered at Sundance. Kornbluth also directed and produced episodes of *Years of Living Dangerously*, a TV series which won him an Emmy Award.

### ***7:30pm, Thursday, August 27***

Featuring special guest **Sylvie Simmons**. Hosted by Stephanie Weisman.

Stephanie's MarshStream will feature an exclusive interview and Q&A with author Sylvie Simmons. She is an award-winning writer, the author of both fiction and non-fiction books, and has been a leading music journalist since the 1970s. One of the very few women included among the predominantly male music writing elite, BBC made a documentary on Simmons called *The Rock Chick*. Her books include the biographies of the French *enfant terrible* Serge Gainsbourg and the acclaimed *New York Times* bestseller and international hit, *I'm Your Man: The Life of Leonard Cohen*. After touring the world with her Cohen book and ukulele, Simmons came out as a singer-songwriter. In 2014 she signed a record deal and release her debut album, *Sylvie*. Simmons's second album, *Blue on Blue*, will be released this month on Compass Records.

### ***BINGO! with Josh Kornbluth***

#### ***7:30pm, Fridays***

Hosted by Josh Kornbluth

Audience members are invited to play five FREE games of BINGO! with prizes for the winner of each round.

### ***Solo Performer Spotlight***

***Saturday, August 22*** – Merle "Ian Shoales" Kessler's **The Secret Life of Announcers**, with LIVE post performance Q&A

***Sunday, August 23 – The Secret Life of Announcers*** remains available for streaming

This rollicking work dives into the mystery of where announcers go and what they do when they can no longer announce. Merle Kessler is a writer, humorist, and performer, best known perhaps by his pen name, Ian Shoales. As Ian Shoales he has been churning out cranky yet strangely humorous commentaries since 1979. First heard on NPR's "All Things Considered," he has been featured on "Morning Edition," "ABC's Nightline," and the online magazine, *Salon*. In addition, his pieces have been published in *The New York Times*, *LA Times*, *San Francisco Examiner*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, and *Minneapolis Tribune*, among other publications. Kessler is a founding member of Duck's Breath Mystery Theatre, the legendary yet obscure Bay Area-based sketch comedy group. He is the author or co-author of five books and appears regularly on the syndicated radio program "Philosophy Talk."

***Saturday, August 29 – LIVE Steve Budd's What They Said About Love*** with LIVE post performance Q&A

***Sunday, August 30 – What They Said About Love*** remains available for streaming

In this absorbing solo show, which was the "Best of Fringe" winner at the San Francisco Fringe Festival, Steve wonders why other people can—and why he can't—tie the knot. He sheds light on how people meet and make it to the altar, the push and pull of relationships, singles who can't seem to settle down, and more. The Oakland based actor captures the physical and vocal nuances of more than a dozen Bay Area characters, using their own words taken from hours of interviews, and weaves in his relentless search for "the one." Directed by Mark Kenward and developed with David Ford, **What They Said About Love** introduces a cast of characters including a New Age couple who could swear they met *before* they met, a couple who met on Craigslist, and a pair of metal heads who thought it would be a hoot to get married on 6-6-6 (June 6, 2006), as well as others. Budd's solo show enjoyed extended runs at both The Marsh San Francisco and The Marsh Berkeley, becoming a hit with local audiences and critics who called it "truly a jaw-dropping audience experience" (*Joint Forces Journal*), "hilarious and poignant" (*East Bay Express*), "a sweet and bittersweet exploration" (*Berkeleyside*), and "Budd's versatility is entirely commendable" (*Daily Cal*). *Talkin' Broadway* hailed it as "theater at its best. Funny, poignant, thoughtful, and revealing about the search for love."

To simulate the feeling of waiting in the lobby until a theater opens, The Marsh has created the **MarshStream Studio Waiting Room**. Available 30 minutes prior to each performance/event for Marsh members, and 15 minutes prior to the general public, the Waiting Room can be joined via Zoom Room where guests can mix and mingle, or viewed on YouTube live, with additional entertainment such as unique content, live music, and even prizes.

In addition to nightly program offerings on MarshStream, The Marsh has also launched **Marsh Youth Theater (MYT) MarshStream**, classes offered at 4:00pm daily taught by MYT instructors. From Creative Dramatics to Storytelling, Dancing, and more, class types, instructors, and age levels vary for each class. For weekly class schedules and additional information, please visit [themarsh.org/mytmarshstream](http://themarsh.org/mytmarshstream).

### **ABOUT THE MARSH**

**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 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** continues to offer a wide variety of new programming at 7:30pm nightly on **MarshStream**, its popular broadcast platform. Additional offerings through August 31 include a delightful look at a young French woman’s earliest ambitions; a Mother’s lasting legacy; an exclusive interview with author/singer/songwriter/music journalist/*New York Times* best-selling author Sylvie Simmons; a visit with award-winning director, producer, and writer Jacob Kornbluth; performances about finding love, discovering a father’s awful secret, a new dissertation by cranky humorist Merle “Ian Shoales” Kessler, and much more.

**DATES:** *Varied content offered nightly at 7:30pm*

**Aug 17** – Monday MarshStream: Eleanor Clement Glass’s **Mother’s Day, Mother’s Way**

**Aug 18** – Wildcard Tuesdays: **Joshua Raoul Brody Plays and Sings the Beatles**

**Aug 19** – Solo Arts Heal: Bob Brader’s **Spitting in the Face of the Devil**  
**Aug 20** – Stephanie’s MarshStream featuring special guest **Jacob Kornbluth**  
**Aug 21** – BINGO! with **Josh Kornbluth**  
**Aug 22** – Solo Performer Spotlight: Merle “Ian Shoales” Kessler’s **The Secret Life of Announcers** with LIVE Q&A  
**Aug 23** – Solo Performer Spotlight: Merle “Ian Shoales” Kessler’s **The Secret Life of Announcers** – available for streaming all day  
**Aug 24** – Monday MarshStream:  
**Aug 25** – Wildcard Tuesdays: Tell It On Tuesday (TIOT)  
**Aug 26** – Solo Arts Heal: Lester Thomas Shane’s **Mortal Coil**  
**Aug 27** – Stephanie’s MarshStream featuring special guest **Sylvie Simmons**  
**Aug 28** – BINGO! with **Josh Kornbluth**  
**Aug 29** – Solo Performer Spotlight: Steve Budd’s **What They Say About Love** with LIVE post performance Q&A  
**Aug 30** – Solo Performer Spotlight: Steve Budd’s **What They Say About Love** available for streaming all day  
**Aug 31** – Monday MarshStream

-30-

**PRESS:** Contact Sydney Albin, Carla Befera & Co.  
[sydney@cb-pr.com](mailto:sydney@cb-pr.com)

**PHOTOS:** Downloadable high-res photos are available here: <http://cbpr.co/press/marshstream>