

THE MARSH BERKELEY PRESENTS
THE DMV
THE LINE ALL OF AMERICA LOVES TO HATE
7:30pm Fridays, June 7 – July 19, 2024

BERKELEY, CA (28 May 2024) — **Don Reed** returns to **The Marsh Berkeley** with an inspired reworking of his riotous solo show, *The DMV*. Reed, a master of impersonations and characterizations, takes on eight characters who experience prejudgments based on age, class, race, physical abilities, and more. Through a series of laugh-out-loud and deeply moving monologues, accompanied by spirited dance sequences, audiences embark on an adventure centered around the experience of impatiently waiting in line. *The DMV*, written, performed, and directed by Don Reed will be presented 7:30pm Fridays June 7 – July 19, 2024 at **The Marsh Berkeley**, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. For tickets (\$25-\$35 sliding scale, \$50 and \$100 reserved) or more information, the public may visit themarsh.org.

The DMV, originally titled *STEREOTYPO: Rants and Rumbblings at the DMV*, premiered in 2015 at The Marsh San Francisco and received critical acclaim. *KQED* hailed the show as “Hilarious. Amazing. The most fun you’ll ever have at the DMV,” noting “The characters are all recognizable ‘types,’ but the point of the play is that each eventually defies our conceptions of who we think they are and what we think they can do.” *Stark Insider* declared Reed “is soooo good that if you caught *Can You Dig It?* or his other shows, you’ll be back for more.” *East Bay Express* wrote Reed “excels at physical comedy, and his numerous dance interludes vacillate between being self-effacing and impressively charismatic,” and “The performer can pirouette almost as well as he can deliver a punch line, allowing him to sashay through several characters with charm and wit.” *The DMV* enjoyed multiple extensions at The Marsh San Francisco and Berkeley and most recently played at Brian Copeland’s The Best of San Francisco Solo Series.

ABOUT DON REED

Don Reed (Writer/Performer/Director) was the 2016 Theatre Bay Area winner for Outstanding Solo Production for *East 14th* and is the co-producer of filmmaker Robert Townsend’s solo hit *Living the Shuffle*. Reed has earned recognition from the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle, as well as three nominations from the NAACP for Best Actor and Best Playwright. Reed is currently the host/curator and producer with Mike Ghiringhelli of *Redwood Nights*:

Storytelling Under the Stars at Deer Park Villa and the host/curator of *True Funny: Standup & Storytelling*. Additionally, he played a leading role in the Amazon Prime comedy series "Bartlett," which was co-financed and featured recurring appearances by *HAMILTON* creator Lin Manuel Miranda. Recently, Reed finalized an agreement with Carson Entertainment Group, granting him access to the entire library of "The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson." This enables him to share his Hollywood tale emphasizing the significance of perseverance through his solo production, *The Never Too Late Show*. He also has an extensive background in writing, producing, and directing across various mediums, including short films for HBO, and works for the Oprah Winfrey Network. Reed has also performed in the Netflix feature film "Unleashed," and his voice has been featured in popular productions such as "Spiderman," "Johnny Quest," "Saturday Night Live promos," and "2 Broke Girls." Reed was also the opening act/warm-up comedian for "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno for over 1,000 episodes and has shared an excerpt story from *East 14th* on NPR/WYNC's "Snap Judgment." Audiences may tune in to KQED's "The California Report Magazine" to hear his recent story, "The Fruitarian."

ABOUT THE MARSH

The Marsh is known as "a breeding ground for new performance." Launched in 1989 by Founder and Artistic Director Stephanie Weisman, it annually hosts more than 500 performances 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 the 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." In April 2020, The Marsh launched its digital platform MarshStream and hosted more than 700 live streams which provided 300 performers and its youth class participants a platform to continue discovering, developing, and producing art during the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown. Today, The Marsh presents both in-person live performances and content on its MarshStream, continuing to expand its reach to audiences onsite and around the world. The Marsh believes in the power of people's storytelling and has several classes for the public to create their own works as well as through its developing work performance series: Monday Night Marsh, Tell It on Tuesday, and Marsh Risings. The theater company also collaborates with over 25 San Francisco public schools providing a year-round youth program serving students at its theater and in the classrooms.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: **Don Reed** returns to **The Marsh Berkeley** with an inspired reworking of his riotous solo show, *The DMV*. Reed, a master of impersonations and characterizations, takes on eight characters who experience the prejudgments made on age, class, race, physical abilities, and more. Through a series of laugh-out-loud and deeply moving monologues, accompanied by spirited dance sequences, audiences embark on an adventure centered around the experience of impatiently waiting in line.

The DMV is:

Written/performed/directed by Don Reed

WHEN: **June 7 – July 19, 2024**

SHOWS: **7:30pm Fridays**
No performance July 5

WHERE: **The Marsh Berkeley**, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley
Parking: Allston Way Garage, 2061 Allston Way between Milvia & Shattuck.
BART station (closest): Downtown Berkeley BART

TICKETS: \$25-\$35 sliding scale; \$50 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).

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PRESS: Contact Paige D'Encarnacao, Carla Befera & Co.
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PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available here: <http://cbpr.co/press/TheDMV>