

THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS  
**LETTERE D'AMORE**  
(LETTERS OF LOVE)  
**November 16 – December 15, 2024**

Written by Dacia Maraini  
Performed by Francesca Fanti

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (15 October 2024) — **The Marsh San Francisco** presents *LETTERE D'AMORE* (Letters of Love), a fictional theatrical monologue by celebrated Italian writer and feminist activist **Dacia Maraini**, starring and translated by **Francesca Fanti**. In this compelling work, Fanti portrays Mara, whose discovery of passionate love letters written by Italian poet Gabriele D'Annunzio sets her on a journey into the past. Known for his sensual and evocative language, the letters prompt Mara to re-examine her late mother's life and the complex bond they shared, leading to revelations about family and love across time. *LETTERE D'AMORE* will be presented 8:00pm Saturdays and 5:00pm Sundays **November 16 – December 15, 2024** (*press opening: November 16*) at **The Marsh San Francisco**, 1062 Valencia St., San Francisco. For tickets (\$20-\$35 sliding scale, \$50 and \$100 reserved) or more information, the public may visit [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org).

**ABOUT THE CAST AND CREATIVES**

**Dacia Maraini** (Playwright) is an award-winning Italian writer and feminist activist whose work explores women's issues, freedom, and societal roles. Her notable accolades include the Formentor Prize for *L'età del malessere* (1963), the Premio Campiello for *La lunga vita di Marianna Ucrìa* (1990), and the Premio Strega for *Buio* (1999). A survivor of a Japanese concentration camp during WWII, her life is detailed in the documentary "I Was Born Traveling." Maraini co-founded several theater companies, including the del Porcospino ("Porcupine") theatrical company in 1966, which focused on producing new Italian plays, featuring her work *La famiglia normale* as well as plays by Moravia, Siciliano, and others. She also co-founded the Teatro della Maddalena, a women-only theater company, reinforcing her commitment to female empowerment in the arts.

**Francesca Fanti** is an award-winning actress who gained acclaim with the bold one-woman comedy show *Orgasmo Adulto Escapes From the Zoo* (written by Nobel Prize winner Dario Fo and Franca Rame) at The Marsh, winning the ADA Artistic Director Achievement Award and

Bay Area Critics Award for Best Solo Performance. She has worked with renowned directors like Francis Ford Coppola and appeared in high-profile projects such as “American Crime Story” and “Nine” alongside Daniel Day-Lewis. Fanti has also voiced characters in “Madagascar 3,” “Luca,” and Guillermo Del Toro's “Pinocchio.” Her versatility spans theater, TV, film, and voice work, and she’s currently developing two series, one which is inspired by the true story of a friend gone missing.

### **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:** **The Marsh San Francisco** presents *LETTERE D’AMORE* (Letters of Love), a fictional theatrical monologue by celebrated Italian writer and feminist activist **Dacia Maraini**, starring **Francesca Fanti**. In this compelling work, Fanti portrays Mara, whose discovery of passionate love letters written by Italian poet Gabriele D’Annunzio and translated by Francesca Fanti sets her on a journey into the past. Known for his sensual and evocative language, the letters prompt Mara to re-examine her late mother’s life and the complex bond they shared, leading to revelations about family and love across time.

*LETTERE D’AMORE* is:

Written by Dacia Maraini

Performed by Francesca Fanti

**WHEN:** **November 16 – December 15**  
*Press opening: November 16*

**SHOWS:** **8:00pm, Saturdays and 5:00pm, Sundays**

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

**TICKETS:** \$20-\$35 sliding scale, \$50 and \$100 reserved

**INFO:** For information, the public may visit [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org).

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**PRESS:** Contact Paige D'Encarnacao, CBCO Public Relations & Marketing  
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**PHOTOS:** Downloadable high-res photos are available here:  
<http://cbpr.co/press/LETTEREDAMORE>