

**THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO
PRESENTS PREVIEW RUN OF
CANDACE JOHNSON'S ONE-WOMAN MUSICAL
SCAT-TER BRAIN
THE MUSIC OF ADHD**

October 20 – November 10, 2024

Written and performed by Candace Johnson

Directed and produced by Don Reed

Creative consultation by Stephanie Weisman

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (9 October 2024) — Following performances at **The Marsh's** "In Front of Your Eyes" Performance Festival, audiences are invited to engage in the preview of *Scat-ter Brain: The Music of ADHD*, **Candace Johnson's** newest work. Directed and produced by **Don Reed**, this solo show follows CJ, a talented woman diagnosed with inattentive ADHD later in life, as she embarks on a journey of self-discovery. Through music, community, and faith, CJ learns to overcome her fears and embrace her true potential. The show highlights the unique joys and struggles of living with ADHD, offering a transformative look into neurodiversity. *Scat-ter Brain: The Music of ADHD* will be performed 5:00pm Sundays, October 20 – November 10, 2024, at **The Marsh San Francisco**, 1062 Valencia St., San Francisco. For tickets (\$20-\$35 sliding scale, \$50 and \$100 reserved) for more information, the public may visit themarsh.org.

ABOUT THE CAST AND CREATIVES

Candace Johnson (Playwright & Performer) is a multifaceted singer, actress, and educator who teaches voice and directs the University Gospel Choir at the University of California Berkeley. She is also a voice coach for the Formally Incarcerated People's Performance Project (FiPPP), a theater organization supporting artists impacted by incarceration. Vocally, Johnson crosses over from opera to musical theater, gospel, and jazz – often in one show. Artistically, Johnson's shows echo the human experience of self-discovery and highlight the lives of the marginalized. In 2018, she premiered her first one-woman show, *VOX in a BOX*, a musical autobiography about discovering her voice. Since then, she has written and performed seven original shows and continues to create new works.

Don Reed (Director & Producer) 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: Following performances at **The Marsh's** "In Front of Your Eyes" Performance Festival, audiences are invited to engage in the preview of *Scat-ter Brain: The Music of ADHD*, **Candace Johnson's** newest work. Directed and produced by **Don Reed**, this solo show follows CJ, a talented woman diagnosed with inattentive ADHD later in life, as she embarks on a journey of self-discovery. Through music, community, and faith, CJ learns to overcome her fears and embrace her true potential. The show highlights the unique joys and struggles of living with ADHD, offering a transformative look into neurodiversity.

***Scat-ter Brain: The Music of ADHD* is:**

Written and performed by Candace Johnson

Directed and produced by Don Reed
Creative consultation by Stephanie Weisman

WHEN: **October 20 – November 10, 2024**

SHOW: **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.

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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/scaterbrain>