

THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO EXTENDS DAN HOYLE'S NEW SOLO SHOW TAKES ALL KINDS

January 11 – February 22, 2025

Written by: Dan Hoyle

Directed by: Aldo Billingslea

Developed with: Charlie Varon and Michael Moran

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (9 December 2024) — Due to overwhelming popular demand, **The Marsh San Francisco** will bring back Dan Hoyle's latest work, *Takes All Kinds*, with an extension run in the new year, January 11 through February 22, 2025. Directed by **Aldo Billingslea** and developed with **Charlie Varon** and **Michael Moran**, *Takes All Kinds* opened October 4, 2024 and since then has been playing to packed houses and standing ovations, receiving high praise from audiences and critics, including the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which gave the show its highest rating (Leaping Man), calling it "Something almost supernatural" that "ignites your imagination." In this 75-minute work, Hoyle recreates real conversations with Americans he met on the front lines of political battles—from school board showdowns in Sarasota to organizers in Atlanta, churchgoers in Charleston, a lively barbershop in Las Vegas, and a reformed extremist in Missouri now working to deradicalize others. Since the election, audiences have noted the show is even more relevant, providing insight into what just happened, and how the fractured country may look to move ahead, particularly as inauguration draws near. *Takes All Kinds* reflects the heart-wrenching, funny, and complex stories of people caught in the social and political currents shaping our nation. Hoyle also offers tender and inspiring portraits of everyday Americans turned unlikely changemakers, illuminating ways forward in tumultuous times. Continuing his brand of journalistic theater that has been called "riveting, funny and poignant" by *The New York Times*, this newest work has been hailed as "sublime" (*SF Gate*) and a "genius celebration of America on the brink. Moving and timely. There is no shortage of laugh-out-loud moments." (*Theatrius*). The show has also been nominated for 2024 *Broadway World* awards for both Best Solo Performance and Best Director. *Takes All Kinds* concludes its current run on December 13, and then will return January 11 through February 22, 2025, with performances 7:30pm Fridays and 5:00pm Saturdays, (no shows January 24 and February 14) 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.

ABOUT THE CAST AND CREATIVES

The Marsh has been home to **Dan Hoyle's** (Writer/Performer) world premiere shows *Talk To Your People* (2022), *Border People* (2019), *Each and Every Thing* (2014), *The Real Americans* (2010), *Tings Dey Happen* (2007), and *Florida 2004: The Big Bummer* (2004). These shows have all received raves, with *The Huffington Post* praising Hoyle's brand of journalistic theater for its "emotional depth and intellectual breadth." Hoyle's most recent mainstage work, *Talk To Your People*, received its world premiere at The Marsh in 2022. In 2019 at The Marsh, Hoyle premiered *Border People*, an insightful solo performance portraying the borders that many negotiate in their everyday lives. It was greeted with unanimous critical acclaim, earning the highest rating from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which praised the production as "a testament to the core-to-nerve ending commitment and courage" of those living on borders of any kind. The critically acclaimed *Each and Every Thing* debuted at The Marsh in 2014 and was declared "smartly constructed and highly entertaining" by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and a "poignant, funny comment on the digital age" by *The Mercury News*. The show's run was extended several times due to popular demand. The 2010 world premiere of *The Real Americans* was an instant hit, receiving kudos from major news outlets with *The New Yorker* praising his performance as "smart, entertaining, funny, insightful and surprising." In 2007, *Tings Dey Happen* was awarded the Will Glickman Award for Best Play, while *The New York Times* called it "funny and poignant." When discussing his work at The Marsh with *East Bay Times*, Hoyle proclaimed "The Marsh is to me the best place in the country to develop new work...there's nothing else like it."

Aldo Billingslea (Director) is a professor of theater at Santa Clara University (SCU) where he teaches courses in performance and performance studies. Billingslea became SCU's inaugural associate provost for diversity and inclusion and served as the vice president of the 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley. He also serves on the advisory board of Gritty City Youth Repertory Theater and on the Board of Regents for Archbishop Mitty High School. Billingslea has appeared in productions of August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean*, Joe Turner's *Come and Gone*, Ma Rainey's *Black Bottom*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Seven Guitars*, *Fences*, *Two Trains Running* and *Radio Golf*; Eugene O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape* and *Anna Christie*; Arthur Miller's *Death of A Salesman*; August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*; Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* and more than two dozen different plays by William Shakespeare. Billingslea has worked in the San Francisco Bay Area at the American Conservatory Theater, Aurora Theatre Company, California Shakespeare Theater, Cutting Ball Theatre, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, Magic Theatre, Marin Shakespeare Theatre, Marin Theatre, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. He has also worked at Portland Center Stage, Tacoma Actors Guild, Sacramento Theatre Company, Theatre Three in Dallas, San Antonio's Majestic Theatre, InterAct Theatre Company in Philadelphia, San Diego's Old Globe Theatre, and Shakespearean Festivals of California, Dallas, Marin, Oregon, and Utah.

Charlie Varon (Developer) is known for his three decades of creating, performing, and directing new work in San Francisco. He has collaborated with Dan Hoyle for 20 years, on his solo shows *Circumnavigator*, *Tings Dey Happen*, *Each and Every Thing*, *The Real Americans*, and *Border People*. Charlie's own shows – all created in collaboration with David Ford – include the plays *Rush Limbaugh in Night School* (1994), *The People's Violin* (2000), and *Rabbi Sam* (2009), as

well as the storytelling/dining experience *Storyborscht* (2017) and Charlie's collaboration with Brian Copeland, *The Great American Sh*t Show* (2019). Current projects include teaching storytelling, coaching writers and performers, and fundraising for Democrats in North Carolina, California's Central Valley and elsewhere. Varon has recently returned to his roots in satire with his surreal *Comic Bonbons*, short audio pieces featuring his impersonations of Bernie Sanders, Alan Watts, Studs Terkel and Pete Seeger, among others. These can all be heard for free at charlievaron.com.

Michael Moran (Developer) is the executive director, co-artistic director, and one of the founders of the Oakland Theater Project, a theater company with a mission to create exquisite theatrical experiences to inspire compassion and forge bonds across socioeconomic and racial barriers. Moran has worked as a professional actor in regional theaters throughout the United States and has directed over 15 productions at Oakland Theater Project. He is the recipient of the San Francisco Bay Area Theater Critics Circle Award for Best Director in the East Bay.

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:

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***Takes All Kinds* is:**

Written and performed by Dan Hoyle

Directed by Aldo Billingslea

Developed with Charlie Varon and Michael Moran

WHEN: **January 11 – February 22, 2025**

SHOWS: **7:30pm, Fridays & 5:00pm Saturdays**

No show: January 24 and February 14

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: \$25-\$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, CBCO Public Relations & Marketing.
paige@cb-pr.com | 415-570-2623

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