

**THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS  
PEARL ONG'S SOLO TOUR-DE-FORCE  
NIGHT DRIVER**

Written and Performed by Pearl Ong  
Directed by David Ford  
**March 1 - April 5, 2025**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (27 January 2025) — Writer/performer **Pearl Ong** returns to **The Marsh San Francisco** with her solo show, *Night Driver*. What's a Hong Kong princess doing behind the wheel of a San Francisco cab? And how does her very proper mother react? *Night Driver* takes audiences on the unexpected journeys of a model minority gone rogue. This captivating story vividly revisits the vibrant, free-spirited gay scene in San Francisco from the late 1970s to the mid-1980s, blending humor, rebellion, and cultural clashes to portray a life fiercely determined to defy expectations. The show returns after its brief and wildly successful run last summer at The Marsh's In Front of Your Eyes Performance Festival where it won the award for "Best Newcomer" and "Best Attended Solo." Written and performed by **Pearl Ong** and directed by **David Ford**, *Night Driver* will run **March 1 - April 5, 2025** (press opening: *March 15*), with performances **8:00pm Saturdays** at **The Marsh San Francisco** (1062 Valencia St., San Francisco). For tickets (\$25-35 general admission, \$50 and \$100 reserved) or more information the public may visit [themarsh.org](http://themarsh.org).

**ABOUT THE CAST AND CREATIVES**

**Pearl Ong** (Playwright/Performer) embarked on her performance journey in 2019 at Stage Werx in San Francisco. Since then, she has showcased short autobiographical pieces at Solo Sundays at Stage Werx, Tell It On Tuesday at The Marsh Berkeley, Monday Night at the Marsh, and Marsh Rising at the San Francisco Marsh. She also performed her first full length piece *Night Driver* at Marsh Rising and The Marsh's In Front of Your Eyes Performance Festival at The Marsh San Francisco.

**David Ford** (Director) has been collaborating on new and unusual theater for three decades and has been associated with The Marsh for most of that time. The San Francisco press has variously called him "the solo performer maven," "the monologue maestro," "the dean of solo performance," and "the solo performer's best friend." A week rarely goes by when residents of the Bay Area cannot enjoy one of his productions. Collaborators include Geoff Hoyle, Brian Copeland, Charlie Varon, Echo Brown, Marilyn Pittman, Rebecca Fisher, Wayne Harris, Jill Vice, and Marga Gomez. Ford's work has been seen regionally at The Public Theater, Second

Stage Theater, Theatre at St. Clement's, Dixon Place, Theatre for the New City (New York), Highways Performance Space (Los Angeles), and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Co. (Washington, D.C.). His work has also been featured in most of the fringe festivals in North America, and at theaters around the Bay Area including Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Magic Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company. Ford's directing has garnered several "Best of Fringe" Awards and a Goldie Award.

### **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:** Writer/performer **Pearl Ong** returns to **The Marsh San Francisco** with her solo show, *Night Driver*. What's a Hong Kong princess doing behind the wheel of a San Francisco cab? And how does her very proper mother react? *Night Driver* takes audiences on the unexpected journeys of a model minority gone rogue. This captivating story vividly revisits the vibrant, free-spirited gay scene in San Francisco from the late 1970s to the mid-1980s, blending humor, rebellion, and cultural clashes to portray a life fiercely determined to defy expectations. The show returns after its brief and wildly successful run last summer at The Marsh's In Front of Your Eyes Performance Festival where it won the award for "Best Newcomer" and "Best Attended Solo."

***Night Driver* is:**

Written and performed by Pearl Ong  
Directed by David Ford

**WHEN:** **March 1 - April 5, 2025**  
*Press opening: March 15*

**SHOWS:** **8:00pm Saturdays**

**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](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/nightdriver>