nora chipaumire

• **Dambudzo**

Art, Dance, Music
September 25 - 27
8 PM

REDCAT
Roy and Edna Disney CalArts Theater

CALARTS
California Institute of the Arts

We gratefully acknowledge that REDCAT operates on the land known as Yaanga, a place that for millenia has been under the care and stewardship of the Tongva, Tataviam, and Chumash peoples including the Gabrieleño, Fernandeño, and Ventureño and other Indigenous peoples who made their homes in and around the area we now call Los Angeles. We honor their ancestors past, present, and future, and their vital presence through the generations as first peoples of this land.

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY CALARTS THEATER

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In a powerful performance incorporating dance, sound, painting, and sculpture, nora chipaumire confronts colonial legacies in a transformed REDCAT theater. Drawing inspiration from the Shona word *dambudzo*, meaning trouble, as well as the ideas of Zimbabwean writer Dambudzo Marechera, this new work considers the revolutionary possibilities of performance. REDCAT becomes home to a *shabini*—an informal bar set up in private residences where citizens gather to debate politics and plan community action. Amidst a soundscape of barking dogs and live music, visitors will be immersed in what the four-time Bessie award winner describes as "a name, a desire, a lament, an inspiration, even a loathing—a poem—that speaks to the 1980s before the fall of communism and the end of apartheid." Reflecting on the complex struggles of her home country, Zimbabwe, chipaumire's work expands beyond theater into a lived experience of resistance and ritual. Refusing to be confined by category or discipline, her anti-genre performance is an insurgent act of remembering, disrupting, and dreaming forward.

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CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

Concept and Creative Direction: nora chipaumire

Performers: nora chipaumire, Tatenda Chabarwa, Joyce Delores Edwards, SoKo Jena, Fatima Katiji, Jonathan Kudakwashe Daniel, tyroneisaacstuart, Shamar Watt, Gilbert Zvamaida

Music Recordings: Bhundu Boys

Production Assistants: Kwadwo Owusu Ansah, Abigail Hutchinson, Johanna Rau, Catalina Wortmann

Film Production: Mieke Ulfig

Sound Engineers: Vusumuzi Moyo, Kwamina Biney

Technical Director: Heidi Eckwall

Technical Assistant: Soren Kodak

Company Managers: Jay Beardsley, Amélie Gaulier, Laetitia Tshombe

Booking and Distribution: ArKtype / Thomas O. Kriegsmann, Astrid Rostaing

Dambudzo is a commission of Wiener Festwochen and Festival d'Automne à Paris, produced by nora chipaumire, and developed in residency with Callie's Berlin.

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY CALARTS THEATER

Presented in English and Shona.

Please note: Dambudzo *contains loud sounds and low lighting.*

On September 26, there will be a post-show Q&A with nora chipaumire, moderated by REDCAT Deputy Director and Chief Curator, Performing Arts, Katy Dammers.

ABOUT THE ARTIST
nora chipaumire was born in 1965 in what was then known as Umtali, Rhodesia (now Mutare, Zimbabwe). She is a product of colonial education for black native Africans—known as Group B schooling—and is invested in knowledge acquisition and sharing outside of prescribed parameters. Celebrated for her dynamic performance quality, choreography, and interdisciplinary works,

chipaumire was a 2012 Herb Alpert Award recipient in Dance. Her past works have included "NEHANDA," a large-scale opera, "#PUNK 100% POP *NIGGA," a three-part live performance album, and "portrait of myself as my father," "RITE, RIOT," and "Miriam." chipaumire has been a Doris Duke Fellow, a Researcher in Residence at the NYU Future Imagination Collaboratory, a Mellon Artist-in-Residence at Columbia University, and a Guest Professor at the Freie Universät Berlin. She is a four-time New York Dance and Performance Award ("Bessie") winner and a proud recipient of the 2016 Trisha Mckenzie Memorial Award for her impact on the dance community in Zimbabwe. She was also nominated for a NAMA award as an exiled Zimbabwean making an impact on the arts at home and abroad in 2020. She was a Fellow at Quick Center for the Arts at Fairfield University (2020) and an Artist in Residence at the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, LMCC (2019-2021). chipaumire is honored to include the acknowledgements of the arts communities in awards such as a recent three-year structural support from the Mellon Foundation (2022-25), a COVID-19 related "Dance Bubble" grant from The Mellon Foundation

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(2021), a Guggenheim Fellowship (2018), a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant (2016), a Doris Duke Artist Award (2015) and a Princeton Hodder Fellowship (2014).

UPCOMING AT REDCAT

San Cha: *Inebria Me /* October 16 - 18

Los Angeles-based composer, musician, and performance artist San Cha presents a new experimental opera drawing on influences including Mexican immigrant family life, Catholic church choir, and Bay Area drag.

REDCAT CREW

Lighting Operator: Christa Troester
Audio Engineer: Shivani Desai
Audio Assitant/QLab: Anthony Storniolo
Camera Operator: Ed Carlo Arafiles
Wardrobe: Arianna Yunker
Deck: Jerrel Milan, Dan Stevens

REDCAT would like to extend a special thank you to our devoted team of Volunteer Ushers.

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REDCAT STAFF

Jacques Boudreau, Facilities and Production Manager

Jheanelle Brown, Film Programming

Chu-Hsuan Chang, Associate Technical Director, Lighting

Brent Charles, Box Office and Visitor Services Manager

Katy Dammers, Deputy Director and Chief Curator,
    Performing Arts

Allison Keating, Deputy Director, Finance and Operations

Daniela Lieja Quintanar, Chief Curator and
    Deputy Director, Programs

Lucio Maramba, Associate Technical Director,
    Audio and Video

Adam Matthew-McMillen, Director of Production
    & Technical Director

Naomi Oppenheim, Front of House Manager

João Ribas, Steven D. Lavine Executive Director of
    REDCAT & Vice President for Cultural Partnerships

Rolando Rodriguez, Administrative Manager