

REDCAT

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY/CALARTS THEATER **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 2013

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Multimedia Artist **Cynthia Hopkins** presents

THIS CLEMENT WORLD

A Fiercely Creative Tribute to the Fragility of the Natural World



This Clement World, a new musical theatrical work by CYNTHIA HOPKINS and her collaborators will have its West Coast premiere at REDCAT, CalArts' downtown center for contemporary arts on **Thursday, October 24 to Sunday, October 27.**

Performed live with a chorus and 15-member band, Cynthia Hopkins' skillfully crafted ***This Clement World***, is a soulful, musical theatrical performance that poetically, yet urgently speaks to the earth's rapidly changing climate, with humor, artistry and immediacy. *The New York Times* says, "When she wraps her big, rich, soulful voice around an anthem to the beauty of the natural world, or the folly of our disregard for it, the show transcends."

The full evening work interweaves documentary footage of stunning landscapes captured during Hopkins' three-week Arctic voyage aboard a century-old ship, with an original avant-folk rock opera, and an extravagant narrative in which Hopkins portrays three fictional characters: the ghost of a Native American woman, a neutral visitor from outer space, and a child from the not-so-distant future who has traveled back in time. All act as tour guides for an imaginary exhibit of the wonders of our world, playfully conveying reflections on the current climate change, through a deeply idiosyncratic lens.

"Hopkins is the definition of postmodern artistry. Her work transcends single genres and mediums and defies definition, says the *New York Press*. Like in her previous works, ***This Clement World*** takes an innovative approach to narrative, with the integration of music, songs, text, movement and visual design, which allows her to construct a fiercely creative tribute to the world's fragility. The work illuminates the ways in which humanity is rendering its habitat inhospitable, and explores the changes necessary to maintain a liveable climate for generations to come.

Writer, composer, multi-instrumentalist and theater artist, **Cynthia Hopkins** has been called "A breathtaking visionary" (*Time Out New York*), known for creating and performing multilayered performance pieces that intertwine truth and fiction. She has been honored with a host of awards, including the 2007 Herb Alpert Award in Theater and a 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship. She is dedicated to creating groundbreaking original works that investigate innovative forms of communication through the process of performance. She attempts to alchemize disturbance into works of intrigue and hope and to obscure the distinction between edification and entertainment through works that are as philosophical as they are entertaining, as intellectually challenging as they are emotionally visceral, as deeply comical as they are tragic, and as historically aware as they are immediately engaging.

Hopkins says, "Whatever enrages, disturbs, and/or frightens me most becomes the subject of my work. My creative process is a survival technique which is a combination of inner and outer (personal and socio-political) demons into works of intrigue and hope, for the audience and for myself."

Her voice is a beautiful, aching instrument wavering between Patsy Cline and Billie Holiday, and her songs layered with humor, raunch, sadness and a courageous vulnerability both on tape and especially on stage. —John Hodgman

Hopkins is that rare bird that can blend intelligence and sincerity in offering something that is completely new but also terribly familiar. —Bitch Magazine

Part alt-country, part Lou Reed, part Patti Smith, part performance artist. —Washington Post

This Clement World

Written and composed by Cynthia Hopkins

Designed by Jeff Sugg

Directed by DJ Mendel

Image: *This Clement World* by Cynthia Hopkins. Photo: Jeff Sugg.

Funded in part with generous support from The Herb Alpert Foundation. The Alpert Award in the Arts, a fellowship program that supports innovative practitioners in the fields of dance, film/video, music, theater and visual arts, is administered by CalArts on behalf of The Herb Alpert Foundation.

Upcoming at REDCAT

Oct 30: [The Tiger Lillies](#)

Nov 7–10: [Gregory Maqoma/Vuyani Dance Theatre: Exit/Exist](#)

Nov 21–24: [Faifai: Anton, Neko, Kuri](#)

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EVENT INFORMATION

CYNTHIA HOPKINS: *THIS CLEMENT WORLD*

<http://www.redcat.org/event/cynthia-hopkins-0>

Date(s)/Time(s):

Thursday, October 24, 2013 at 8:30 pm

Friday, October 25, 2013 at 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 26, 2013 at 8:30 pm

Sunday, October 27, 2013 at 7:00 pm

Ticketing:

\$20-25 general [\$16-20 student]

Location:

631 West 2nd Street

Los Angeles, California USA 90012

For more information:

Visit redcat.org

Call 213-237-2800

ABOUT REDCAT | THE ROY AND EDNA DISNEY/CALARTS THEATER

REDCAT, CalArts' downtown center for contemporary arts, presents a dynamic and international mix of innovative visual, performing and media arts year round. Located inside the iconic Walt Disney Concert

Hall complex in downtown Los Angeles, REDCAT houses a theater, a gallery space and a lounge. Through performances, exhibitions, screenings, and literary events, REDCAT introduces diverse audiences, students and artists to the most influential developments in the arts from around the world, and gives artists in this region the creative support they need to achieve national and international stature. REDCAT continues the tradition of the California Institute of the Arts, its parent organization, by encouraging experimentation, discovery and lively civic discourse.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For current program and exhibition information call 213-237-2800 or visit www.redcat.org.

Location/Parking: REDCAT is located in downtown Los Angeles inside the Walt Disney Concert Hall complex with a separate entrance at the corner of West 2nd and Hope Streets. Parking is available in the Walt Disney Concert Hall parking structure. \$9 event rate or \$5 for vehicles entering after 8:00 pm on weekdays.

Street Address: 631 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles CA 90012

THE LOUNGE | Open to the public six days a week, the Lounge is a great place to spend an afternoon or grab a drink pre- and post-performance.

Lounge Hours: Tuesdays–Fridays from 9am until 8 pm or post-show; Saturdays from noon until 8 pm or post-show; Sundays from noon until 6pm or post-show

THE GALLERY | REDCAT's Gallery presents five major exhibitions each year, and publishes artist books and catalogues. Admission to the Gallery is FREE.

Gallery Hours: Tuesdays–Sundays from noon until 6 pm and through intermission

THE THEATER | Tickets for programs held in the theater are available through the REDCAT Box Office, by phone 213-237-2800 or online at www.redcat.org. Group, member, student and CalArts faculty/staff discounts available.

Box Office Hours: Tuesdays–Saturday from noon until 6 pm or two hour prior to curtain

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