

REDCAT

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY/CALARTS THEATER NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kelly Hargraves, khargraves@calarts.edu, 213-237-2873

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2015 8:30 PM

FOR REVIEW CONSIDERATION

RSVP TO khargraves@calarts.edu

**REDCAT presents
The Los Angeles Premiere of
Kristina Wong's
The Wong Street Journal
November 12-15, 2015**



REDCAT, CalArts' downtown center for contemporary arts, presents Kristina Wong's sharply hilarious solo performance *The Wong Street Journal*, **Thursday November 12 to Sunday November 15, 2015.**

Directed by Emily Mendelsohn, *The Wong Street Journal* is part psychedelic TED lecture, part amateur hip-hop extravaganza, and part nonsense. On a charmingly crude hand sewn set made from the finest discount felt, the incisive L.A. performer, comedian and Facebook phenom breaks down such complex issues as click bait, global poverty, privilege and economic theory, using uneasy-to-read charts, live hashtag wars, and riveting hand-crafted slideshows.

Wong weaves a self-skewering personal narrative with a laugh-out-loud interrogation of America's legacy on the rest of the world, with a special focus on observations from her recent adventures in Northern Uganda, researching and recording a rap album with local rappers.

BIOGRAPHY

Kristina Wong was recently featured in the New York Times' *Off Color Series*" highlighting artists of color who use humor to make smart social statements about the sometimes subtle, sometimes obvious ways that race plays out in America today." She is a performance artist, comedian and writer who has created five solo shows and one ensemble play that have toured throughout the United States and UK. Her most notable touring show, "Wong Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" looked at the high rates of depression and suicide among Asian American women and toured to over 40 venues since 2006. It's now a broadcast film distributed by documentary juggernaut, Cinema Libre Studios. She's been a commentator for American Public Media's Marketplace, PBS, Jezebel, xoJane, Playgirl Magazine, Huffington Post and a guest on Comedy Central's The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore, FXX's "Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell," Al Jazeera's "The Stream" and AM Tonight on Fusion TV.

Kristina has twice given the commencement speech at UCLA, her alma mater. On television, she's been on General Hospital, Nickelodeon's "Nicky Ricky Dicky and Dawn," and Myx TV's "I'm Asian American and Want Reparations for Yellow Fever." She recently spent a month in Northern Uganda researching The Wong Street Journal and recording "Mzungu Price," a rap album with local Ugandan rappers. Kristina's mail order bride website is www.bigbadchinesemama.com.

The Wong Street Journal

Written and Performed by Kristina Wong
Directed by Emily Mendelsohn
Sound Designer: Jessica Paz
Additional Music-- Nerio Badman

Show Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwI7uWizgxI>

Watch Kristina on The New York Times "Off Color" Series

<http://www.nytimes.com/video/arts/100000003199595/off-color-issa-rae.html?playlistId=100000003199586>

"Fiercely comic...the kind of politically focused theater that not only makes you think and question your own preconceptions but also have a great time doing it." --San Francisco Chronicle

"Politically charged art with unapologetic humor." --Bitch Magazine

“Simultaneously hilarious and deeply thought-provoking” –Reappropriate

The Wong Street Journal is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation Fund Project co-commissioned by REDCAT, The Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Circuit Network, Miami Light Project, and NPN. The Creation Fund is supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Supported by the NPN Performance Residency Program. For more information: www.npnweb.org.



Purchase online or call the REDCAT box office to purchase at [213-237-2800](tel:213-237-2800).

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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](tel:213-237-2800) or visit www.redcat.org.

LOCATION/PARKING

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

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.

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. 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](tel: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 hours prior to curtain.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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