

DON REED'S EAST 14TH RETURNS TO THE MARSH

March 21 ó April 26, 2014 at The Marsh Berkeley

BERKELEY, CA (28 February, 2014) ó **The Marsh** announces the return of Don Reed's autobiographical hit **EAST 14TH**, playing **March 21 – April 26, 2014** at The Marsh Berkeley. The first installment in Reed's hilarious coming-of-age trilogy, this Off-Broadway hit invites audiences to 1970s Oakland, when Reed's stepfather tried to force him to be a straight A, God-fearing teenager ó but Reed wanted to be just like dear old Dad. Too bad he didn't know dear old Dad was a pimp. **EAST 14TH** plays **Fridays at 8pm** and **Saturdays at 8:30pm** at **The Marsh Berkeley MainStage**, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley. For tickets (\$20-\$50), the public may visit www.themarsh.org or call **415-282-3055** between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

Called "hilarious!" by *The New Yorker*, "hard not to love," by *The New York Times*, and "a delightful ride with a dynamic performer" by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, **EAST 14TH** traces Don Reed's irregular teen years through the 1970s, when he was torn between his mother and Jehovah's Witness stepfather on one side of the Oakland thoroughfare, and his enigmatic father on the other. After opening at The Marsh in 2009, **EAST 14TH** went on to become one of the Bay Area's longest running solo shows.

The second installment in Reed's trilogy, *The Kipling Hotel*, followed Reed's collegiate years at UCLA through the '80s, as he struggled to supplement a partial scholarship by working as a live-in waiter at an unforgettable retirement hotel. The third installment, *Can You Dig It? Back Down East 14th*, rewound to the '60s, going back to Reed's formative years in Oakland grammar school when the family was whole ó that is before his father became a pimp and his mother reluctantly became a Jehovah's Witness.

Reed, a San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Nominee and NAACP Double Nominee for Best Actor and Best Playwright, has performed, written, and directed in film, television, and

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theatre all over the country and was the longtime opening act/warm-up comedian for *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*. His 1991 segment on HBO's *Robert Townsend & His Partners in Crime*, which featured a variety of up-and-coming comedians, was well-received and led to many recurring and guest starring roles on various television programs. In addition to performing as the opening act/warm-up comedian for *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, Reed has opened for Tony Award winner Tommy Tune, and has worked on programs including *Spiderman*, *The Flintstones*, *ER*, *Frasier*, *Friends*, *Scrubs*, *Will & Grace*, *Law & Order*, and *Saturday Night Live*. Reed has written promos for the Golden Globes, the Academy Awards and the Olympics. Additionally, he has written and developed screenplays for Spike Lee's *40 Acres and a Mule* and Maverick Filmworks. Reed is currently a board member of the thriving 51Oakland foundation keeping music and the arts alive in Oakland Public Schools.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS:

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WHEN: March 21 through April 26, 2014

SHOWS: Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays 8:30pm

WHERE: **The Marsh Berkeley MainStage**
2120 Allston Way
Parking: Allston Way Garage, 2061 Allston Way between Milvia & Shattuck
The Downtown Berkeley Bart station is one block away on Shattuck

TICKETS: \$20 - \$35 sliding scale, \$50 reserved

INFO: For information or to order tickets call **(415) 282-3055** or visit www.themarsh.org

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PRESS: Contact Kelsey Verdier, Carla Befera & Co.
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PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available here:
<http://www.cb-pr.com/press/east14th.html>