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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PROUD TO PRESENT... DIGS INTO WHITE SUPREMACY AT CAL REP

LONG BEACH, California - California Repertory Company, part of the CSULB Theatre Arts Department, continues its spring season with the award-winning

We are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as South West Africa,

From the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915

by Jackie Sibblies Drury.

The show opens on March 9th directed by Chris Anthony in the University Theater.

6 students, 3 black and 3 white, construct a presentation about the genocide of a little-known African people. The rehearsal room becomes a cultural crossroad with our own colonial past careening headlong into Black Lives Matter, Neo-Nazis, and the #MeToo movement. As colonial 20th century Africa bleeds into 21st century America, we start to wonder, can these students escape their own story?

Proud to Present... is an OBIE award-winning play that “impressively navigates the tricky boundaries that separate art and life” says *The New York Times*. Featuring at its heart a familiar conflict; how are stories told when history is always written by the victor? The story from the white oppressor gets told while the Herero, who were nearly wiped out of existence, seemingly have no story to tell.

Cal Rep’s Artistic Director Jeff Janisheski says “*Proud to Present* is a challenging, meta-theatrical play reflecting issues present in the rehearsal room and in our society: prejudice and power, racism and remembering, stereotypes and storytelling. I’m thrilled that we’re presenting this important new play by one of America’s most important new playwrights, Jackie Sibblies Drury.”

Jackie Sibblies Drury is an emerging American Playwright currently residing in Brooklyn. *Proud to Present...* premiered at the Soho Rep in 2012. Drury was inspired to write *Proud to Present...* when an attempt to write a historical drama about the Herero Genocide ended in failure. That failure and the struggle to articulate it led her to create a similar situation on stage. In speaking about the play Drury says, “The way that we talk about race now and the way that we deal with racism is by not talking about it and not dealing with it or feeling that we already sort of dealt with it, and I think that can be really damaging.”

Director Chris Anthony is the Managing Director of the CSULB Theatre Arts Department. She is also the Associate Artistic Director at the Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles working with their Will Power to Youth program.

Theatre Arts

Calendar Listing for *Proud to Present...*

*We are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia,
Formerly Known as South West Africa,
From the German Sudwestafrika,
Between the Years 1884-1915*
By Jackie Sibblies Drury
Directed by Chris Anthony
CSULB Theatre Arts, 1250 Bellflower Blvd, Long Beach, CA, 90840

Performances:

Thursday, March 8 at 8:00 pm

Friday, March 9 at 8:00 pm (Opening Night)

Saturday, March 10 at 8:00 pm

Sunday, March 11 at 2:00 pm

Wednesday, March 14 at 8:00 pm

Thursday, March 15 at 7:00 pm (Inside Look with collaborators)

Friday, March 16 at 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 17 at 8:00 pm

Tickets and Information:

Tickets: <http://web.csulb.edu/colleges/cota/theatre/on-stage-now/index.html>

Prices: General Admission \$20

Students (w/ID)/ CSULB Faculty & Staff/\$15

Seniors (55+)/ Military: \$17

Groups: Groups of 10 or more start at \$12.5/ticket

Location: University Theater at CSULB, 7th Street and East Campus Drive

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