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[Press Room](#)



Images of Quote Unquote Collective's *Mouthpiece* are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
QUOTE UNQUOTE COLLECTIVE
IN THE COMPANY'S FINAL PERFORMANCES OF *MOUTHPIECE*
FRIDAY–SUNDAY, MARCH 22–24**

**Performances conclude Cal Performances' Berkeley RADICAL 2018–19
Women's Work thematic programming strand,
which recognizes the distinct artistry of women as creators across a range of artistic genres**

**Company's campus visit includes a post-performance artist talk and guest lecture by
Mouthpiece creators in Cal Performances-sponsored UC Berkeley English Dept. course**

Berkeley, February 15, 2019 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents the Toronto-based **Quote Unquote Collective** in *Mouthpiece*, a two-woman production that combines intense physicality with spoken text and sung *a cappella* music, Friday–Saturday, March 22–23 at 8pm, and Sunday, March 24 at 3pm in Zellerbach Playhouse. The acclaimed theatrical work, which won the 2017 Stage Award for Best Performance at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, is created and performed by company co-founders **Norah Sadava** and **Amy Nostbakken**. *Mouthpiece* takes place over the course of a single day, and explores how one woman constructs her identity. The piece has been

praised for its raw, honest portrayal of womanhood—how women talk, how we talk about women, and how women find their own voice in the shadow of their mothers' influence.

The work's protagonist is Cassandra, played by both actors. Her mother has died, and she now has 24 hours to select outfits for herself and her mother's corpse, pick out a casket and flowers, and write a eulogy. The drama unfolds as an outward expression of Cassandra's inner conflict, as she seeks to reconcile her feminism and sense of self with her mother's powerful influence. The sung music consists of original compositions by Nostbakken that traverse genres ranging from opera to jazz to modern R&B. *Mouthpiece* won two Dora Mavor Moore Awards in Canada, and a film adaptation based on the play was premiered at the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival. These performances mark the final chance to see this innovative work performed live by Nostbakken and Sadava, who will retire *Mouthpiece* from Quote Unquote Collective's active repertoire after the Berkeley run.

The performances are part of Cal Performances' 2018–19 Berkeley RADICAL *Women's Work* thematic strand, which this season included five programs across several genres, created by trailblazing female theater artists, musicians, directors, and choreographers. Many of these works place traditional feminist thinking in conversation with a new wave of feminist thought, using imaginative narrative techniques and inventive blending of media. While Cal Performances has always presented women artists of the highest caliber, the *Women's Work* series is a focused look at the extraordinary artistry of a group of women who are not only principal creators of works, but more broadly, are expanding the definition of what it is to be an artist in the 21st century.

In conjunction with Quote Unquote Collective's campus visit, on Thursday, March 21, Nostbakken and Sadava will give a guest lecture in the UC Berkeley English department undergraduate course *Literature and the Arts: Rhythm, Riot, Revolution* (attendance by invitation only). Embracing its role on campus, and supported by funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Cal Performances partners with UC Berkeley faculty members on academic courses that integrate season presentations into the curriculum for both graduate and undergraduate students, an ongoing effort that helps connect students to the performing arts. In addition, following the Saturday, March 23 performance, the artists will join Cal Performances' director of artistic literacy Sabrina Klein onstage for a post-performance talk (free to ticketholders).

Funding for large-scale artist residencies and Cal Performances' suite of student life and learning programs, including innovative semester-long courses that bring together campus academic programs with Cal Performances' programs and artists for unique student engagement opportunities, is provided by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Quote Unquote Collective: Mouthpiece* on Friday–Saturday, March 22–23 at 8pm, and Sunday, March 24 at 3pm in Zellerbach Playhouse are \$35 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, March 22, 8pm
Playhouse

Saturday, March 23, 8pm

Sunday, March 24, 3pm

Zellerbach

**Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley Campus**

Theater

Quote Unquote Collective

Mouthpiece

Created and performed by Amy Nostbakken and Norah Sadava

Directed by Amy Nostbakken

Program: A two-woman show acclaimed for its raw honesty and insightful portrayal of womanhood, *Mouthpiece* follows one woman over the course of a single day, as she struggles to find her voice and contend with the formidable shadow cast by her mother. The work is co-created and performed by the Toronto-based Quote Unquote Collective, the performers seamlessly integrating sung *a cappella* passages with spoken text and moments of intense physicality.

Berkeley RADICAL: This performance concludes the 2018–19 *Women's Work* thematic programming strand, which explored the role of women creators in the arts and beyond, and this season included five programs across several genres, created by trailblazing female theater artists, musicians, directors, and choreographers.

Tickets: \$35 (prices subject to change)

Residency Activities

Post-Performance Talk

Zellerbach Hall

Saturday, March 23

The artists will join Cal Performances' director of artistic literacy Sabrina Klein onstage for a post-performance discussion. Free to ticketholders.

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