



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAP UCLA PRESENTS
TAYLOR MAC'S HOLIDAY SAUCE...PANDEMIC!
CREATED BY MAC AND POMEGRANATE ARTS DECEMBER 12**

*COVID-Era Virtual Reinvention of the Beloved Annual Live Seasonal Variety Show
Follows November 13 Release of Holiday Sauce Album*



On December 12, [UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance \(CAP UCLA\)](#) and prestigious theaters and cultural institutions around the world present the **Pomegranate Arts** production ***Taylor Mac's Holiday Sauce...Pandemic!*** The special, live-streamed event reimagines for this time of social distancing Mac's celebrated *Holiday Sauce* show. *Holiday Sauce...Pandemic!* is presented at 7 p.m. PST on December 12. The event requires a minimum donation of \$25 to CAP UCLA to [register](#). Mac dedicates *Holiday Sauce* to Mother Flawless Sabrina, Mac's drag mother, who passed away three weeks before the live show made its world premiere at Town Hall NYC in December 2017.

Conceived as a virtual vaudeville, *Holiday Sauce...Pandemic!* blends music, film, burlesque, and random acts of fabulousness. To create it, Mac has joined forces with longtime creative producer Pomegranate Arts (**Linda Brumbach**, Founder and Director; **Alisa E. Regas**, Managing Director,

Creative), director **Jeremy Lydic**, designers **Machine Dazzle** and **Anastasia Durasova**, and cinematographer **Rob Kolodny**. It features a full band led music director/arranger **Matt Ray** and including **Colin Brooks**, **Viva DeConcini**, **Antoine Drye**, **Greg Glassman**, **J. Walter Hawkes**, **Marika Hughes**, **Dana Lyn**, and **Gary Wang**; special guests **Thornetta Davis**, **Stephanie Christi'an**, and **Tigger! Ferguson**; and performers who make cameo appearances: **Dusty Childers**, **Sister Rosemary Chicken**, **sidhe degreene**, **Romeo-Jay Jacinto**, **Glenn Marla**, **Travis Santell Rowland (Qween)**, and **Timothy White Eagle**.

The program comes on the heels of—and celebrates the release of Mac's ***Holiday Sauce*** album, another opportunity for home-bound audiences to experience Mac's singular artistry and approach to the holidays. For Taylor Mac, there is more to the holidays than rampant capitalism and gift giving, and imagination is its own spirituality. This holiday season will be bittersweet for so many. *Holiday Sauce...Pandemic!* reminds us of the collective power of our chosen families, a message that is particularly resonant this year, when so many have lost so much.

The *Holiday Sauce* album celebrates the time of year we hate with unique renditions of songs we love. In addition to traditionals including "God Rest Ye Gentlemen," "How Can I Keep from Singing?," "Little Drummer Boy," and "Silent Night," the recording features an original entitled "Christmas with Grandma" and covers such as Graham Nash's "Cathedral"; the Velvet Underground's "The Black Angel's Death Song" and "All Tomorrow's Parties"; and Frank Ocean's "Super Rich Kids."

Holiday Sauce... Pandemic! was commissioned by **The International Ibsen Festival**, **The Norwegian Ministry of Culture**, and **The National Theatre of Oslo**, who present it with additional support from CAP UCLA, Artpark-Lewiston, NY, ASU Gammage at Arizona State University, Berliner Festspiele, Curran San Francisco, FirstWorks/Brown Arts Initiative, The Guthrie Theater, The Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth, Live Arts Miami, OZ Arts Nashville, Park Avenue Armory, Seattle Theatre Group and On The Boards, Stanford Live at Stanford University, Teatros del Canal Madrid, TO Live, UtahPresents, and Wexner Center of the Arts at the Ohio State University.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAP UCLA presents

[*Taylor Mac's Holiday Sauce...Pandemic!*](#)

Created by Taylor Mac and Pomegranate Arts

Saturday, December 12, 2020, 7 p.m. PST

\$25 minimum donation; [Register](#)

Credits:

Holiday Sauce is produced and arranged by *24-Decade* music director **Matt Ray** and features Mac on lead vocals and ukulele and a band including Matt Ray on piano, Fender Rhodes electric piano, glockenspiel, bells, and background vocals; **Bernice "Boom Boom" Brooks** on drums; **Steffanie Christi'an** on vocals; **Thornetta Davis** on vocals; **Viva DeConcini** on guitar; **Antoine Drye** on trumpet; **Greg Glassman** on trumpet; **J. Walter Hawkes** on trombone; **Marika Hughes** on cello, **Dana Lyn** on violin; and **Gary Wang** on bass.

Holiday Sauce is mixed by Grammy-winner **Fernando Lodeiro** (Esperanza Spalding, Vampire Weekend, Lady Gaga) and mastered by Grammy-winner **Emily Lazar** (Beck, Lou Reed, David Bowie). It is released by **Favorite Fruit**, a new company established by **Pomegranate Arts**.

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ABOUT TAYLOR MAC

[Taylor Mac](#) (who uses “judy,” lowercase *sic*, not as a name but as a gender pronoun) is a playwright, actor, singer-songwriter, performance artist, director and producer. Judy’s work has been performed at New York City’s Lincoln Center, The Public Theatre and Playwrights Horizons, London’s Hackney Empire, Los Angeles’s Royce Hall, Minneapolis’s Guthrie Theater, Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre, the Sydney Opera House, Boston’s American Repertory Theatre, Stockholm’s Sodra Theatern, the Spoleto Festival, San Francisco’s Curran Theater and MOMA, and literally hundreds of other theaters, museums, music halls, opera houses, cabarets, and festivals around the globe.

Judy is the author of seventeen full-length works of theater including *A Gary: A Sequel to Titus Andronicus*, *Hir*, *The Lily’s Revenge*, and *A 24-Decade History of Popular Music*, which, in its world premiere at St. Ann’s Warehouse in Brooklyn, Wesley Morris of *The New York Times* called “one of the great experiences of my life.”

Mac is a Pulitzer Prize Finalist for Drama, a Tony Award Nominee (for Best Play), and the recipient of multiple awards including the Kennedy Prize, a NY Drama Critics Circle Award, a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a Guggenheim, the Herb Alpert in Theater, the Peter Zeisler Memorial Award, the Helen Merrill Playwriting Award, 2 OBIEs, and the one judy is most proud to be associated with, an Ethyl Eichelberger Award. An alumnus of New Dramatists, judy is currently a New York Theater Workshop Usual Suspect, the Resident playwright at the Here Arts Center, and the 2020 Artist in Residence at WNET’s ALL ARTS. In 2017, Mac was named a MacArthur Fellow.

ABOUT POMEGRANATE ARTS

Founded by Linda Brumbach in 1998, [Pomegranate Arts](#) is an independent production company based in New York City dedicated to the development of international performing arts projects. As a creative producing team, Pomegranate Arts works in close collaboration with contemporary artists and arts institutions to bring bold and ambitious artistic ideas to fruition. With a hands-on approach, Pomegranate creates unique structures and partnerships in all performance mediums. Whether creating a new work with established artists at the peak of their career or introducing the vision of a younger artist, Pomegranate specializes in producing provocative performance events of the highest quality.

ABOUT CAP UCLA

[UCLA’s Center for the Art of Performance](#) (CAP UCLA) is the public-facing research and presenting organization for the performing arts at the University of California, Los Angeles—one of the world’s leading public research universities. We are housed within the UCLA School of the Arts & Architecture along with the Hammer and Fowler museums. The central pursuit of our work as an organization is to sustain the diversity of contemporary performing artists while celebrating their contributions to culture. We acknowledge, amplify and support artists through major presentations, commissions and creative development initiatives. Our programs offer audiences a direct connection to the ideas, perspectives and concerns of living artists. Through the lens of dance, theater, music, literary arts, digital media arts and collaborative disciplines, informed by diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, artists and audiences come together in our theaters and public spaces to explore new ways of seeing that expands our understanding of the world we live in now.

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