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[PRESS ROOM](#)

NEW CONSERVATORY THEATRE CENTER ANNOUNCES COLMAN DOMINGO'S TOUCHING AND OFFBEAT FAMILY DRAMEDY, DOT

San Francisco, CA (February 17, 2022) – In March, **New Conservatory Theatre Center** is ecstatic to produce critically-acclaimed playwright Colman Domingo's *Dot*. Full of love, laughter, and absolute chaos, this moving and hilarious play offers a look at a woman losing herself in the past and the family trying to keep her in the present.

The Shealys are barely holding it together. Matriarch Dotty is struggling to hold onto her memory, eldest daughter Shelly is looking for an escape route, golden child Donnie and his husband are constantly bickering, and the baby of the family, Averie, has gone from viral sensation to a discount store cashier. Back in their West Philly home for the holidays, one thing's for sure: the only way they're getting through this is together. Now being adapted for television as *West Philly, Baby* on AMC Networks, *Dot* is a loving look at the ties that bind - and drive us crazy.

Playing March 4 – April 3, 2022, *Dot's* Opening Night is **Saturday, March 12** at 8pm. Tickets are \$25–65 and are available at nctcsf.org, by emailing boxoffice@nctcsf.org or by calling (415) 861-8972. Pay-what-you-wish tickets are available for preview performances, **March 4 - 11**, and can be reserved starting one week before the first performance through the box office.

For this production, NCTC is proud to partner with the **Institute on Aging** and **OpenHouse**. Since 1983, the Institute on Aging has worked to enhance the quality of life for aging adults and adults living with disabilities from different cultural backgrounds, including the LGBT community, enabling them to maintain their health, well-being, and independence. Dedicated to supporting patients with dementia and their caretakers, the Institute provides our community with personalized care plans, on-demand care coaching, trained home care aides, and an Enrichment Center for physical and mental stimulation. OpenHouse has worked to center the voices and experiences of LGBTQ+ older adults by providing opportunities to make social connections and build community since 1998. Through housing assistance, wellness services, and community engagement, Openhouse enables San Francisco Bay Area LGBTQ+ seniors to overcome the unique challenges they face as they age. At every performance, audience members will have the opportunity to donate directly to these organizations through NCTC's Share the Love donation bucket in the lobby.

In our continued dedication to keeping our audiences and artists safe, this is a performance with limited seat capacity. **All guests will be required to present proof of vaccination and wear masks while at the theatre.** NCTC also requires all actors, staff, and volunteers to be fully vaccinated, and all front of house staff will be masked during performances. There are limited exemptions to vaccination

requirements (such as religious beliefs and qualifying medical reasons, and those under 12 years old) and those guests must present a negative COVID-19 test that was taken no more than 72 hours prior to the performance date.

Audiences can enjoy these special events during the run of the show:

- Low-cost Previews: Friday, March 4 - Friday, March 11
- Opening Night will take place on **Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 8pm.**
- Onstage Insight, Post-Show Discussion featuring the cast, and moderated by the director will take place after the performance on **Sunday, March 20 at 2pm.**
- Additional special events to be announced!

Critics are celebrating *Dot*:

“Uproariously funny” proclaims *The New York Times*.

“Vibrant and outrageous” declares *The Huffington Post*.

“Fearless mix of bone-dry humor and warp-speed emotional shifts” praises *Entertainment Weekly*.

Playwright Colman Domingo is a Tony, Olivier, Drama Desk, and Drama League Award-nominated actor, director, writer, and producer. As a writer, his plays and musicals include *Wild with Happy*, *A Boy and His Soul* (2010 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Solo Show, GLAAD Media Award), the Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*, and Geffen Playhouse’s groundbreaking musical *Light’s Out: Nat King Cole*. His plays have been produced by The Public Theater, Vineyard, La Jolla Playhouse, Humana Festival of New American Plays, New York Stage and Film, A.C.T, The Tricycle Theater in London, Brisbane Powerhouse in Australia, among others.

Director ShawnJ West is a California-based director and actor. West relocated to the Bay Area almost nine years ago after 16 years in Seattle, WA where he directed productions of the Seattle cult hit *Sex In Seattle*: Episodes 15, 16, 17 & 18 with SIS Productions; ReAct’s production of *WELL*; and the 2009 West Coast premiere of *Illyria* and *The Seven Year Itch* with Redwood Theatre. His Bay Area directing credits include the Playwright Center San Francisco’s shorts and showcase, the African American Shakespeare Company’s production of *Cinderella*, *A Soulful Christmas* with Lorraine Hansberry Theatre as well as assistant director on *Macbeth*, also with the African American Shakespeare Company.

The cast of *Dot* includes **Greg Ayers** (Adam), **Kim Donovan** (Jackie), **Lore Gonzales** (Fidel), **Juanita Harris** (Dotty), **Marcus J. Paige** (Donnie), **Kimberly Ridgeway** (Shelly), and **Brittany Nicole Sims** (Averie). The creative team includes technical direction by **Carlos Aceves**, costume design by **Marisely Cortes**, production management & casting coordination by **Stephanie Desnoyers**, sound design by **James Goode**, set design by **Kuo-Hao Lo**, props design by **Tom O’Brien**, dialect coaching by **Patricia Reynoso**, and stage management by **Elsbeth Sweatman**.

New Conservatory Theatre Center has been San Francisco’s premier LGBTQ+ and Allied performing arts institution and **progressive arts education conservatory** since 1981. NCTC is renowned for its diverse range of **innovative, high-quality productions**, touring productions and **shows for young audiences**; its

foundational anti-bullying work with youth and educators through **YouthAware**; and its commitment to developing **new plays** to continue expanding the canon of queer and allied dramatic work.

Supported in part by **The Bernard Osher Foundation**, **Horizons Foundation**, **Grants for the Arts**, and the generosity of NCTC's individual donors.

###

Dot

FACT SHEET

WHO:

Written by **Colman Domingo** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Directed by **ShawnJ West** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Technical Direction by **Carlos Aceves** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Costume Design by **Marisely Cortes** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Production Management & Casting Coordination by **Stephanie Desnoyers** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Sound Design by **James Goode** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Set Design by **Kuo-Hao Lo** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Dialect Coaching (Philadelphia) by **Melinda Marks** (*pronouns: they/them*)

Props Design by **Tom O'Brien** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Dialect Coaching (Russian) by **Patricia Reynoso** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Stage Management by **Elspeth Sweatman** (*pronouns: she/her*)

CAST:

Adam ... **Greg Ayers** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Jackie ... **Kim Donovan** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Fidel ... **Lore Gonzales** (*pronouns: they/them*)

Dotty ... **Juanita Harris** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Donnie ... **Marcus J. Paige** (*pronouns: he/him*)

Shelly ... **Kimberly Ridgeway** (*pronouns: she/her*)

Averie ... **Brittany Nicole Sims** (*pronouns: she/her*)

WHAT: Bay Area Premiere of *Dot*

WHERE: New Conservatory Theatre Center

Walker Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave @ Market St, San Francisco, CA 94102

WHEN: March 4 - Apr 3, 2022

Ed Decker
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Barbara Hodgen
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thursdays – Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 2pm
Opening Night: Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 8pm

Special Engagements:

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COST: \$25-65

LEARN MORE: www.nctcsf.org/21-22-Season/Dot

TICKETS AND BOX OFFICE: [415-861-8972](tel:415-861-8972), boxoffice@nctcsf.org