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Date: March 5, 2010

FACT SHEET FOR *THE LAST CARGO CULT*

WHAT: *The Last Cargo Cult*
Created and Performed by Mike Daisey
Directed by Jean-Michele Gregory

WHEN: Mar. 19 – Apr. 11, 2010

Performances are Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m., Mar. 19 – Apr. 11, 2010 on the Hertz Stage. There will not be performances on Sunday, Apr. 4 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Opening Night is Wednesday, Mar. 24 at 8 p.m.

STORY: Groundbreaking monologist Mike Daisey comes to Atlanta with the story of his journey to a remote South Pacific island whose people worship America and its cargo. This narrative is woven against a searing examination of the international financial crisis that gripped the globe at the same moment. Confronting the financial system that dominates our world, Daisey wrestles with the largest questions of what the collapse means, and what it can tell us about our deepest values. Part adventure story and part memoir, he explores each culture to unearth a human truth between the seemingly primitive and achingly modern.

TICKETS: Tickets are \$25 and \$30 and are available at the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office by calling 404.733.5000 or online at www.alliancetheatre.org. Discount rates for groups of 10 or more are available by calling 404.733.4690. Discount rates are also available for members of the military, seniors and students. The Alliance Theatre is located at the Woodruff Arts Center, corner of Peachtree and 15th Street, in Midtown Atlanta. Box-office hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays and noon to 8 p.m. on weekends. Tickets may be charged on Visa, Discover, American Express or MasterCard. Groups of 10 or more call 404.733.4690.

THE CAST
Mike Daisey

Himself

THE CREATIVE TEAM:

Jean-Michele Gregory
R. Lamar Williams

Director
Production Stage Manager

Special Events:***How Theater Failed America***

Monday, Apr. 5, 7 p.m., Hertz Stage

Mike Daisey brings his most controversial monologue to the Alliance Stage for one night only, sinking his razor-sharp wit into a subject he knows well: the American theater. In this acclaimed monologue about theater, failure, passion, and hope, Daisey fearlessly takes stock of the state of theater in America: a shrinking world with smaller audiences every year. He tells his own story of a life in the theater, both hilarious and heartfelt, as he challenges us to believe in the power of live theater while questioning the state of things today. From gorgeous new theaters standing empty as cathedrals, to “successful” working actors traveling like migrant farmhands, to an arts culture unwilling to speak or listen to its own nation, Daisey seeks answers to essential and dangerous questions about the art we’re making, the legacy we leave the future, and who it is we believe we’re speaking to. This one-night performance of *How Theater Failed America* will be followed by a roundtable on the state of the American theater, featuring theater artists and administrators across Atlanta’s theater community in conversation with each other and the audience. Tickets for this special event are \$10.00 and may be reserved online or by calling the Box Office at 404.733.5000.

Before Plays

Mar. 25, and Apr. 1 and 8

Learn more about Mike Daisey, his previous work and the art of monologue. Also, it’s a chance to hear about upcoming activities and the next season at the Alliance. The talk begins one hour before the show and lasts approximately thirty minutes.

After Words

Mar. 21 and 28, and Apr. 11

Your chance to interact with Mike Daisey! The play is over and you really want to talk about it. After Words is an open dialogue that offers the audience the opportunity to explore and discuss various aspects of the play. The discussion begins when the play ends.

BIOGRAPHIES:**MIKE DAISEY**

(*Creator and Performer*) has been called “the master storyteller” and “one of the finest solo performers of his generation” by the New York Times for his groundbreaking monologues which weave together autobiography, gonzo journalism, and unscripted performance to tell hilarious and heartbreaking stories that cut to the bone, exposing secret histories and unexpected connections. His monologues include last season’s critically acclaimed *If You See Something Say Something*, the controversial *How Theater Failed America*, the six-hour epic *Great Men of Genius*, the unrepeatably series *All Stories Are Fiction*, and the international sensation *21 Dog Years*. Over the last decade he has brought his work to venues including the Public Theater, the Cherry Lane Theater, the Barrow Street Theatre, Yale Repertory Theater, the Spoleto Festival, Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Noorderzon Festival, the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art, American Repertory Theatre, Perseverance Theatre, Chicago’s

Museum of Contemporary Art, the Under the Radar Festival, Melbourne's Victorian College of the Arts, Performance Space 122, and many more. He's been a guest on the Late Show with David Letterman, as well as a commentator and contributor to Studio 360, WIRED, Vanity Fair, Slate, Salon, NPR and the BBC. His first film, *Layover*, was shown at the Cannes Film Festival this year, and a feature film of his monologue *If You See Something Say Something* will be released next year. His first book, *21 Dog Years: A Cubedweller's Tale*, was published by the Free Press and his second book, *Rough Magic*, a collected anthology of his monologues, will be published by TCG this fall. He has been nominated for the Outer Critics Circle Award, two Drama League Awards, and has been the recipient of the Bay Area Critics Circle Award, four Seattle Times Footlight Awards, the EST/Sloan Galileo Prize, and a MacDowell Fellowship.

JEAN-MICHELE GREGORY

(Director) works as a director, editor, and dramaturg, focusing on unscripted, extemporaneous theatrical works that live in the moment they are told. Working primarily with solo artists, for the last decade she has collaborated with monologist Mike Daisey, directing his many monologues at venues across the globe, including the Public Theater, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, the Under the Radar Festival, Yale Repertory Theatre, the Barrow Street Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Cherry Lane Theater, the Noorderzon Festival, American Repertory Theatre, Intiman, ACT Theatre, Performance Space 122, Portland Stage Company, the T:BA Festival, and many more. She also works with New York storyteller Martin Dockery (*Wanderlust, The Surprise*) and the Seattle-based performer and writer Suzanne Morrison (*Yoga Bitch, Your Own Personal Alcatraz*). Her productions have received two *Seattle Times* Footlight Awards (*21 Dog Years, The Ugly American*), the Bay Area Critics Circle Award (*Great Men of Genius*), and nominations from the Drama League and Outer Critics Circle (*If You See Something Say Something*).

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