

THE MARSH San Francisco

PRESENTS

Marilyn Pittman's off-Broadway award-winning

IT'S ALL THE RAGE

March 8 – April 15, 2012

San Francisco, (January 26, 2012) – The Marsh San Francisco is excited to welcome back **Marilyn Pittman's** critically acclaimed solo show, **IT'S ALL THE RAGE**. Originally developed as part of **The Marsh's** 2009 Performance Initiative, the show won Best One-Woman Show at New York's Off-Broadway United Solo Festival in November 2011.

"I grew up in a funny family. And then my dad shot my mom. And then himself. He was a WWII vet, she was a poet. The 'greatest generation?' Nah. Love is deadly. It could happen to you. I survived it. Mostly. And I'm a comic." Marilyn says it's 'the funniest show about murder-suicide you'll ever see.'

In 1997, **Pittman's** identity as a stand-up comic, UC Berkeley journalism educator and NPR talent consultant was shattered by the sudden murder-suicide of her parents. The Pittmans had been married for almost fifty years before their shocking deaths. It was a family of big personalities doing daring things like her dad's wild goose chases up mountain roads on vacation. As her mom would say, "We had a lot of fun!" And they did. Hard as it was to reconcile this tragedy with her family memories, **Pittman** has a knack for mining humor out of dark truths. The show is 28 scenes in 60 minutes, a wild ride that is both hilarious and heart-breaking.

Directed by David Ford, the show plays on **Thursday at 8:00 pm, Saturday at 8:30 and Sunday at 7:00 pm** from **March 8 – April 15, 2012** at the upstairs Studio Theater at **The Marsh San Francisco**, 1062 Valencia Street. For tickets, the public may visit www.themarsh.org or call **415-282-3055** Mon- Fri between 1-4pm.

After **Pittman's** parents died, she poured through her mother's journals and her father's post-WWII love letters, trying to find out: Did they really love each other? Why did they stay married if they were so unhappy? Could she and her siblings have seen this coming? Gradually, she came to understand how their love eroded over time into dangerous patterns of hate and fear. As she researched her father's WWII service, she saw parallels to the increase in murder-suicides by soldiers returning from war, and to the waves of mass

murders and gun violence since their deaths. Her parents' tragedy was in some way part of a larger story, which is why the show is called "It's All The Rage."

Pittman emerged from the San Francisco comedy scene during the AIDS era of the late 80's and early 90's. One of the first openly gay comics in the country, she made her name at Josie's Cabaret in San Francisco's Castro district, with her headliner sets and her two solo shows "*Thank Your For Sharing*" and "*But Enough About You*." LGBT audiences from Provincetown to Anchorage applauded her takes on right-wing fundamentalists, the personal ads, gay sex, lesbian relationships, and annoying self-help books. She is a G.L.A.A.D. Media Award winner from that time for her work as an 'out' comic.

Her roots in radio started over three decades ago. ABC affiliate KGO hired her because of a threatened boycott by G.L.A.A.D. in response to the homophobic rants of talk radio's new star, Rush Limbaugh. Her commentaries on the dot.com era were heard nationally on NPR and she was a comedy pundit on Air America, KQED's "*Forum*," and NPR's "*Talk of the Nation*." Since 2004, **Pittman** has hosted "*Out In The Bay*," a weekly interview show on LGBT issues, people, and culture on KALW, an NPR affiliate.

She is the top talent consultant for NPR stations and teaches broadcast performance at UC Berkeley's Journalism School and The Knight Digital Media Center there. She also coaches Silicon Valley executives on their presentation skills. She is currently developing a new sports talk radio show with her partner, Tim Fitzgerald, and is at work on a documentary, "*Valencia Rose to Josie's Cabaret: A History of Queer Comedy in San Francisco*."

In 2010, **Pittman** performed the show at **The Marsh** to sold-out houses and standing ovations, first as part of the *Festival of New Voices II* and then during a successful run in 2010.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

WHEN: March 8 through April 15, 2012.

SHOWTIME: Thursday at 8:00 pm; Saturday at 8:30 pm and Sunday at 7:00 pm

WHERE: The Marsh San Francisco, Studio Theater, 1062 Valencia Street at 22nd Street
Parking: New Mission Bartlett Garage (21st St. between Mission & Valencia)
The nearest Bart Station is 24th & Mission.

TICKETS: \$15-35 Sliding Scale. Reserved Seats: \$50.
For tickets, visit www.themarsh.org or call 1-800-838-3006

For more information, visit The Marsh website at www.themarsh.org

For photos, visit The Marsh website at www.themarsh.org and click on media.