## SEATTLE **MEP**

### Before He Was King Richard, He Was TEENAGE DICK

By Mike Lew Directed by Malika Oyetimein

Complete casting announced and tickets are on sale now at SeattleRep.org

"I found the play exhilarating." - The New York Times



**SEATTLE, WA (January 31, 2022) --** Seattle Rep today announced complete casting for its upcoming production of *Teenage Dick*, the critically acclaimed new play from **Mike Lew** (*Tiger Style!*), directed by University of Washington School of Drama alum **Malika Oyetimein** (Sound Theatre Company's *Hoodoo Love*). *Teenage Dick* will perform in the Leo K. Theater from March 4 - April 3, 2022; single tickets and digital access are on sale now and may be purchased online at *SeattleRep.org*, or by calling the Patron Services Office at 206.443.2224.

In this satirical retelling of Shakespeare's *Richard III*, one of the most famous disabled characters in literary history is

reimagined as a 16-year-old outsider with all the teenage angst of high school. Bullied for his cerebral palsy, Richard plots his revenge as well as a glorious and ambitious plan to win senior class president. As he falls deeper into political turmoil, Richard is faced with an unexpected choice. Is it better to be loved or feared?

"There's this idea that you're a saint because you're disabled, but these stories never really look at the person. So the impetus behind the play was to look at disabled tropes then and now and try to carve out a more human portrayal," *Teenage Dick* playwright Mike Lew in an interview with *The Boston Globe*.

*Teenage Dick* will feature performances from **MacGregor Arney** (Richard Gloucester), **Meredith Aleigha Wells** (Barbara Buckingham), **Erika Vetta** (Elizabeth York), **Michael** 

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**Monicatti** (Eddie Ivy), **Meme Garcia** (Clarissa Duke), and **Rheanna Atendido** (Anne Margaret). <u>Please find complete cast bios here >></u>

*Teenage Dick* features set design by **Christopher Mumaw**; costume design by **Sara Ryung Clement**; lighting design by **Matthew Webb**; and sound design by **Erin Bednarz**.

#### ABOUT MALIKA OYETIMEIN (Director)

Malika Oyetimein received her MFA from The University of Washington's School of Drama. Nominated by Liesl Tommy, she is in the cohort of the inaugural New Hope Colony Artist Residency, in addition to being Merrimack Repertory Theatre's Artist-in- Residence. As of the fall of 2021 she joined the MFA directing faculty at Boston University. She was featured in Seattle's City Art Magazine 2016 Future List and her productions of *Bootycandy* (2016) and *Hoodoo Love* (2017) were nominated for Gregory Awards: Best Production. She is the co-adapter and director of Dr. Maya Angelou's *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* (Book-It Repertory Theatre) which garnered a Gregory Award nomination for Best Director. Select directing credits: *Passage* (Boston University), *Fannie Lou Hamer: Speak on it* (Merrimack Repertory Theatre), *One in Two* (Playbill.com), *How I Learned What I Learned* (Arden Theatre Co.). The workshop production of *The First Deep Breath* (National Black Theatre), *The Bitter Game* (Wallis Annenberg), *Eclipsed* (Southern Repertory Theatre), the world premiere of *WHITE* (Theatre Horizon), *Barbecue, Bootycandy* (Intiman Theatre Festival), *And In This Corner: Cassius Clay* (Seattle Children's Theatre).

FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS WHAT: *Teenage Dick* By Mike Lew Directed by Malika Oyetimein

In this satirical retelling of Shakespeare's Richard III, one of the most famous disabled characters in literary history is reimagined as a 16-year-old outsider with all the teenage angst of high school.

Bullied for his cerebral palsy, Richard plots his revenge as well as a glorious and ambitious plan to win senior class president. As he falls deeper into political turmoil, Richard is faced with an unexpected choice. Is it better to be loved or feared? Find out in this witty and lively production.

WHEN: March 4 - April 3, 2022

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Performance times: Tuesday–Sunday Select Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday matinees at 2:00 p.m. and evening performances at 7:30 p.m. (no matinees during previews) Press Invite Night: Wednesday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.

#### WHERE:

**Seattle Rep's Leo K. Theater**, located at Seattle Center at the corner of Second Ave. and Mercer St., Seattle, Washington

#### TICKETS:

#### Start at \$17 – ON SALE NOW

Discounted tickets for groups of 10+ may be purchased by calling 206.443.2224. For ticket reservations or digital access, call the Seattle Rep Patron Services Office at 206.443.2222 or toll-free at 877.900.9285, or go online at *seattlerep.org* 

Seattle Rep offers Pay What You Choose tickets available for all of our performances. Pay What You Choose seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis with a minimum donation of \$5 per person over the phone, and a minimum of \$1 in person. Tickets are also available with our digital partner TodayTix 24 hours in advance or you may pre-order your tickets by phone at 206-443-2222. In-person purchases are available now.

There is a limit of 4 Pay What You Choose tickets per person. (Full-price tickets may be reserved in advance in any quantity.)

#### PHOTOS:

Production images will become available in the coming weeks. For available pre-production images or artwork, please visit our online <u>Press Room here >></u>

#### SOCIAL:

SeattleRep.org Facebook - /SeattleRep Instagram - @SeattleRep Twitter - @SeattleRep #SeattleRep #TeenageDickSREP

#### **About Seattle Rep**

Seattle Rep puts theater at the heart of public life. Founded in 1963 and winner of the 1990 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, Seattle Rep is currently led by Artistic Director Braden Abraham and Managing Director Jeffrey Herrmann. Over a season and throughout the

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year, Seattle Rep collaborates with extraordinary artists to create productions and programs that reflect and elevate the diverse cultures, perspectives, and life experiences of the Pacific Northwest. Seattle Rep's nationally recognized programs include the New Play Program, Seattle Rep's Public Works, Youth Engagement programs, Pay What You Choose ticketing options, and numerous audience enrichment and engagement opportunities including post-play panels, discussions, and community events and presentations.

The 2021/22 Season Sponsor is ArtsFund.

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For more information: Michelle S. Leyva, Michelle Sanders Communications (206) 595-1151 michelle@michellesanderspr.com