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**L.M. BOGAD'S BITING POLITICAL SATIRE ABOUT COINTELPRO IN A
LIVE VIRTUAL INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE**

ARTSEMERSON PRESENTS
COINTELSHOW: A PATRIOT ACT

SIX PERFORMANCES ONLY

ARTSEMERSON.ORG

MARCH 8 – 12, 2023

**ALSO ANNOUNCING ARTSEMERSON'S NEWEST PUBLIC DIALOGUE
SERIES**

THE POINT: DISRUPTING DIGITAL POLICING

FEBRUARY 21, 2023 AT 6:00PM ET

[Boston, MA – Friday, February 17, 2023]– ArtsEmerson, Boston's leading presenter of contemporary world theater and film and the professional presenting and producing organization of Emerson College, announced that **Cointelshow: A Patriot Act** will be available as a live virtual experience on ArtsEmerson.org from March 8 – 12, 2023. **Cointelshow: A Patriot Act** is L.M Bogad's biting political satire about COINTELPRO, the FBI's counterintelligence program with which they sabotaged, disrupted, and repressed domestic groups like the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, the American Indian Movement, along with individuals like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Fred Hampton. Over the course of an hour, this interactive, virtual experience takes audiences under the redaction marks of actual, heavily-censored COINTELPRO documents into an underworld haunted by its victims. Created by L,M Bogad and Mondo Bizarro Productions, ArtsEmerson invites virtual audiences to join Special Agent Christian White on a cheerfully creepy, and often grimly funny, tour of the FBI's notorious COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM.



Cointelshow: A Patriot Act

Photo credit: Mondo Bizarro

“We're happy to present L.M. Bogad's humorous and eye-opening **Cointelshow: A Patriot Act** at ArtsEmerson,” says Executive Director David C. Howse. “We remain committed to virtual offerings in order to keep theatre accessible to our audiences - and we are thrilled to see how individuals who participate in this interactive experience react to this piece that has important relevance in our society today.”

“I am grateful to ArtsEmerson for taking on this production of my play by the brilliant Mondo Bizarro,” says L.M. Bogad. “It's been a pleasure to work with them. This is a play that's trying to call attention to the hazards of unregulated state surveillance and abuse of power, and the need for unity in social movements; sadly those concerns continue to be all too relevant in our world today.”

Tickets for **Cointelshow: A Patriot Act** may be purchased 24/7 at ArtsEmerson.org, or by calling 617-824-8400 (Tue-Sat from 12:00PM ET - 6:00PM ET). The Paramount Center Box Office (559 Washington Street, Boston) is open for walk-up service Thu-Sat from Noon - 6:00 PM ET. Tickets are Pick Your Price starting at \$15.

ArtsEmerson's public dialogues series, The Point, continues with a special virtual event this month. At ArtsEmerson, the art is the provocation; conversation is the point. The Point is a conversation series that invites audiences to explore big questions in intimate settings. Hosted by a member of the ArtsEmerson team, local and national luminaries will offer their points of view on the urgent questions surfaced by the artists on our stages. Join us this season to dive deep into topics of cultural theft, government surveillance, and global approaches to decolonization.

The Point: Disrupting Digital Policing will discuss topics in alignment with the upcoming performances of **Cointelshow: A Patriot Act** with a virtual conversation exploring digital safety and liberty for communities of color online which will take place on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00PM ET. As technology continues to develop and further integrate into all facets of life, the over-policing of Black and brown Americans has evolved with it. In Boston and across the country people are innovating virtual spaces and fighting for policies that center and protect BIPOC Americans. Join ArtsEmerson's Director of Artistic Programming, Ronee Penoi, as she moderates a conversation with Lauren Ruffin (Arizona State University, CRUX), Kade Crockford (ACLU – Massachusetts), and more. The conversation will be available via YouTube and begins at 6:00PM ET. Registration is free and open to the public, and available [here](#).

For production stills and other media kit assets, click [here](#).

LISTINGS INFORMATION FOR COINTELSHOW: A PATRIOT ACT

Dates:

March 8 – 12, 2023

Venue:

Virtual Event

ArtsEmerson.org

Performance Schedule:

<i>Wednesday, March 8, 2023</i>	<i>7:30PM ET</i>	<i>Press Performance</i>
Thursday, March 9, 2023	7:30PM ET	
Friday, March 10, 2023	8:00PM ET	
Saturday, March 11, 2023	2:00PM ET	
Saturday, March 11, 2023	8:00PM ET	
Sunday, March 12, 2023	2:00PM ET	

Ticket Information:

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Running Time:

60 minutes

CREDITS**PRODUCED BY:**

Mondo Bizarro Productions

WRITER:

L.M. Bogad

PERFORMER:

Bruce France

COMPOSER:

Peter J. Bowling

VIRTUAL BACKEND:

Dan Pruksarnukul

DIRECTORS:

Nick Slie and Dan Pruksarnukul

SET DESIGN:

Bruce France, Dan Pruksarnukul, Nick Slie & Yamil Rodriguez

ADDITIONAL COLLABORATORS:

Yamil Rodriguez

L.M Bogad (Guggenheim Fellow 2021; www.lmbogad.com) is a writer/performer specializing in humor, imagination, and theatrics in progressive social movements. He is professor of political performance at U.C. Davis, and author of the books *Tactical Performance: The Theory and Practice of Serious Play*, *Electoral Guerrilla Theatre: Radical Ridicule and Social Movements*, and *Performing Truth: Works of Radical Memory for Times of Social Amnesia*, and scripts including *ECONOMUSIC*, *HAYMARKET*, *SANTIAGO 9/11/1973*, *COINTELSHOW*, and *TAHRIR*. He is creator/host of the podcast, *THE PLAGUE*, and the Creator and Artistic Director of *Delivering Democracy*, a troupe of dancing mailboxes and ballot boxes, which entertained and informed voters in 2020 in the “battleground state” of Pennsylvania. Bogad has innovated playful interventions, street theatre, and mediagenic pranks with social movement organizations for 25 years, performing and leading workshops internationally in twenty countries, from Chile to Finland, from New Zealand to Egypt (during the first phase of the 2011 Revolution), on picket lines, in squatted buildings, and in major museums and theatres. He is a Cabinet Member and WPA Artist with the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture, alumnus of the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab, and cofounder of the Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army.

Mondo Bizarro Productions is a New Orleans-based company that has been creating interdisciplinary art and fostering creative partnerships in local, national and international communities for twenty years. Our creative endeavors range from ensemble performances to large-scale community festivals, from innovative digital storytelling projects to site-responsive productions. As artists of place, our journeys begin and end in New Orleans: we tour to embolden our efforts here. Our creations embody the urgency of our desire to listen

to our land and culture, develop allies in collective action, and provide a platform for using art as a tool to understand what makes us commonly human and individually unique. Since 2002, our wide array of imaginative projects have toured to art centers, universities and outdoor locations in 38 states across the country and abroad.

PRESENTER INFORMATION

ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the professional presenting and producing organization at Emerson College, and its mission is to bring people together to experience powerful performances that delight, provoke, and inspire, celebrating both our differences and common humanity. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard — the year the U.S. Census confirmed there was no single cultural majority in Boston — ArtsEmerson is committed to building a cultural institution that reflects the diversity of our city. Our imaginative and globe-spanning live and virtual performances, films, and conversations invites each of us to be part of a Boston that is more creative, equitable, and connected. ArtsEmerson is led by Executive Director, David Howse. For more information visit ArtsEmerson.org.

Emerson College

ArtsEmerson and HowlRound Theatre Commons both operate from within the Emerson College Office of the Arts. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theater District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit Emerson.edu. For media inquiries specific to Emerson College, please contact Michelle Gaseau (E: Michelle_Gaseau@emerson.edu, O: 617-824-3547, C: 617-429-2624).

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