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NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO’S SELECTED SHORTS PROGRAM COMES TO BING CONCERT HALL FOR LIVE PERFORMANCE ON MAY 15

The Stanford Live event, hosted by television star Kaczmarek, features a trio of stories by Bay Area writers Daniel Alarcón, Diane Cook and Dave Eggers

Stanford, CA, April 29, 2015—It’s story time for adults with National Public Radio’s award-winning series of short fiction read by the stars of stage and screen. The wildly popular program Selected Shorts—which features classic and new works of short fiction for a live audience and to 300,000 radio listeners across the country every week—will serve up stories by three Bay Area writers for its upcoming Bing Concert Hall show on Friday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The Stanford Live program opens with “The Mast Year” by the Oakland-based writer Diane Cook, whose work has been published in Harper’s Magazine, Granta, Tin House, One Story, Guernica, The New York Times Magazine and elsewhere. Cook’s story will be performed by the evening’s host Jane Kaczmarek, best known for her role as Lois on the hit television comedy Malcolm in the Middle.

Daniel Alarcón was named one of the best 20 writers under 40 by the New Yorker in 2010. His short story “Republica and Grau,” which was published in the New Yorker in 2006, will be performed by theater and film veteran David Strathairn, whose numerous credits include Good Night, and Good Luck; Sneakers; Cold Souls; Beyond the Call; Howl; HBO’s Temple Grandin; and Lincoln.

The final story is “The Alaska of Giants and Gods” by Dave Eggers, the author of many important novels and stories, and the founder of San Francisco’s independent publishing company McSweeney’s. It will be performed by the Tony and Emmy-nominated actress Kate Burton.

Selected Shorts is broadcast on more than 150 stations around the country. The radio show is recorded live as a popular New York City stage show that began in 1985 and still enjoys sellout audiences today. Also, the Selected Shorts podcast is one of the most popular podcasts on iTunes, with
over 100,000 downloads every week. For more information, visit www.selectedshorts.org.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for *Selected Shorts* on **May 15** range from $30-$45 for adults and $15 for all Stanford students. Although the performance is currently at capacity, a limited number of tickets will be available at the door. Also, a sign-up list for ticket notification is available at [live.stanford.edu/go/notifylist](http://live.stanford.edu/go/notifylist). For more information call the Bing Ticket Office at **650-724-2464** (BING).

**VENUE INFORMATION**

Bing Concert Hall is located on the Stanford University campus at 327 Lasuen Street on the corner of Lasuen and Campus Dr. Parking on campus is free of charge after 4:00 PM and on weekends at all times, and may be found in the Galvez Lot across Campus Drive from Bing Concert Hall.

**ABOUT THE PERFORMERS**

**Kate Burton** was nominated for Tony Awards for her work in *Hedda Gabler, The Elephant Man,* and *The Constant Wife*. Her other Broadway work includes *Present Laughter, Spring Awakening, The Beauty Queen of Leenane, Jake's Women, Company* and *Some Americans Abroad*. She appeared in *Three Sisters* in London's West End, and her Off Broadway work includes A.R. Gurney's *The Grand Manner* at Lincoln Center Theater, as well as five seasons at Boston's Huntington Theatre Company and 20 seasons at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Her screen credits include *127 Hours, Liberal Arts, 2 Days in New York, Max Payne, Unfaithful, Celebrity, The Ice Storm* and *Big Trouble in Little China*. She was nominated for Emmy Awards for her roles in *Grey’s Anatomy* and *Scandal*, and her other television work includes *Veep, Rescue Me, The Good Wife, Full Circle* and the HBO film *Empire Falls*. She will appear in the upcoming film *Bleeding Heart*, which will premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival.

**Jane Kaczmarek** is best known for her role as Lois on the hit comedy *Malcolm in the Middle*, for which she was nominated for Emmy, Golden Globe and SAG Awards. Her 30+ year television career began on *The Paper Chase* and *Hill Street Blues*, and she can currently be seen on USA TV's *Playing House*. She has appeared on stage in New York and Los Angeles. Her favorite plays include *Lost in Yonkers, Death of a Salesman, House of Blue Leaves* and *Good People*. She is the creator of Clothes Off Our Back, a foundation that auctioned celebrity red carpet finery raising over 4 million
dollars for children’s charities.

David Strathairn’s theatre credits include the New York productions of Richard Nelson’s Conversations at Tusculum and Rodney’s Wife, August Strindberg’s Dance of Death, Tom Stoppard’s Hapgood, Harold Pinter’s The Birthday Party, and A Winter’s Tale at Classic Stage Company, as well as Underneath the Lintel, Scorched and The Tempest at American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. In addition to appearing in seven films written and directed by John Sayles, his other film work includes Good Night and Good Luck, Sneakers, Cold Souls, Beyond the Call, Howl, HBO’s Temple Grandin and Lincoln.

ABOUT STANFORD LIVE

Stanford Live presents a wide range of the finest performances from around the world fostering a vibrant learning community and providing distinctive experiences through the performing arts. With its home at Bing Concert Hall, Stanford Live is simultaneously a public square, a sanctuary and a lab, drawing on the breadth and depth of Stanford University to connect performance to the significant issues, ideas and discoveries of our time.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

What: Selected Shorts, hosted by Jane Kaczmarek
When: Friday, May 15, 7:30 p.m.
Program: Diane Cook: “The Mast Year,” performed by Jane Kaczmarek
Daniel Alarcón: “Republica and Grau,” performed by David Strathairn
Dave Eggers: “The Alaska of Giants and Gods,” performed by Kate Burton
Where: Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University
Tickets: $30-$45
Presented by: Stanford Live

Description: The popular national public radio program Selected Shorts—which features great actors reading classic and new works of short fiction—brings its touring show to Bing Concert Hall with a trio of stories by Bay Area writers.

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