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KID KOALA’S ROBOT ROMANCE, NUFONIA MUST FALL, UNFOLDS AT BING CONCERT HALL ON FEBRUARY 4

Based on his graphic novel of the same name, this innovative multimedia performance is equal parts cinema, puppet theater and music concert

Stanford, CA, January 12, 2016— Nufonia is a headphones-wearing, down-on-his luck robot who wants to write love songs for the girl of his dreams. There’s one problem. He can’t sing. It’s a charming love story with a cartoon-like aesthetic brought to stage by DJ extraordinaire Kid Koala, a turntable master who has transformed his graphic novel Nufonia Must Fall into a one-of-a-kind music theater/film hybrid with the help of the Afiara Quartet, director-designer K. K. Barrett and a team of puppeteers.

The work will have its only Bay Area showing in a performance presented by Stanford Live at Bing Concert Hall on Thursday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Based in Montreal, Kid Koala (aka Eric San) has a global fan base among devotees of dance-club music, hip-hop and graphic novels alike for his polymathic talents. Nufonia Must Fall actually originated as a comic (published in 2003) accompanied by a CD soundtrack San crafted for his sci-fi narrative of a music-loving robot. It was a serendipitous meeting with Barrett (acclaimed for his work ranging from MTV videos to such wildly creative films as Her and Being John Malkovich) that gave San the impetus to create this complex live-performance that premiered at Toronto’s Luminato Festival.

“I’ve always been a huge fan of the cinema,” explained San. “I especially love the dreamy feeling K. K. Barrett is able to create in the films he’s been involved with. And I grew up with Jim Henson, too. The early Muppet Show was a huge influence: the fact that they could create these universes on a miniature scale and that it could be so rich at the same time.”
Represented through mini puppets, every move of the unlikely couple in *Nufonia Must Fall* is filmed and projected live onto a huge screen, creating an engaging, live cinematic experience. Meanwhile, the Afiara Quartet’s chamber strings provide a moving soundtrack that evokes the lonely lives of the show’s key characters. And Kid Koala himself adds scratching, piano and character vocal effects.

“It has been an amazing experience to see the story literally come to life through this team of set designers, puppeteers and performers,” writes San in his program notes. “Don’t be fooled by its heavy-sounding title; *Nufonia Must Fall* is just a good old-fashioned love story, and I hope that audiences will have as much fun watching the show as we have had putting it together!”

The night before the performance, on February 3, Kid Koala will also show off his skills for Stanford students at a scratch demo and Q&A. For more information about tickets to the *Nufonia Must Fall* performance, visit live.stanford.edu.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for *Kid Koala’s Nufonia Must Fall*, presented by Stanford Live on Thursday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m., range from $30-$65 (check box office for availability) and are $15 for all current Stanford students. Tickets are available at the Bing Concert Hall Ticket Office, by phone at 650-724-2464 (BING) or online at live.stanford.edu.

**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. Maps and directions are available at http://live.stanford.edu/Venues/parkingmapsdirections.php.

**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 NOTE:

What:  
*Nufonia Must Fall*  
With DJ Kid Koala and the Afiara String Quartet; directed by K. K. Barrett

When:  
Thursday, February 4, 7:30 p.m.

Where:  
Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen Street, Stanford University

Tickets:  
$30-$65 (check box office for availability)

Description:  
The Montreal-based scratch DJ Kid Koala presents a multimedia adaptation of his graphic novel, *Nufonia Must Fall*, centered around a headphones-sporting robot on the verge of obsolescence and infatuated with a winsome office drone.

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