

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pictures available upon request.

**Dreamland Arts Presents “motherlanded” by Julia Gay
a One-Woman Show about Life as a Chinese Adoptee**

October 17-27, 2019 at Dreamland Arts
677 Hamline Ave N, St Paul, MN 55104

(St. Paul, MN) – Dreamland Arts presents the remount of *motherlanded*, a one-woman show written and performed by Julia Gay. Gay’s solo performance *motherlanded* explores her personal narrative as a Chinese adoptee. Through poetry, memoir, and movement, the performance honors the women in her life, from her adoptive mother and birth mother to the older woman who owned the Chinese restaurant she frequented as a child. Through the performance, Gay invites audiences to experience pivotal and intimate moments of her life that deeply shaped her understanding of her identity as a Chinese adoptee, including the first time she met her adoptive mother and her return to China nine years later, during which she visited the spot she was found as a baby.

motherlanded premiered in 2016 as a part of Pangea World Theater’s *LSA! Emerging Artist Showcase*. The show’s remount will be produced by Gay and presented as a part of Dreamland Arts’ Theaterwalla program, a pilot program that supports the art of solo theater of writer/performers who create their own work.

The production showcases the talents of lighting designer Mike Wangen and sound design and score composition by Eric M. C. Gonzalez. Gay will further develop the show to reflect where she is in her journey as an adoptee, now three years after the premiere.

Adopted in 1996, Gay was among the first wave of Chinese adoptees to the U.S. Through this production she hopes to bring together Chinese adoptees and offer them a space for reflection and healing.

“So often adoption narratives center the adoptive parents’ perspective. *motherlanded* seeks to recenter the adoptee’s voice. This is my love letter to all Chinese adoptees, near and far,” says Gay.

Tickets are \$10-\$20 sliding scale. Visit dreamlandarts.com/motherlanded for more information.

Performance Schedule:

Thu, Oct 17 at 7:30p (Preview)

Fri, Oct 18 at 7:30p (Opening)

Sat, Oct 19 at 2:00p

Sat, Oct 19 at 7:30p (ASL)

Sun, Oct 20 at 2:00p*

Fri, Oct 25 at 7:30p*

Sat, Oct 26 at 2:00p

Sat, Oct 26 at 7:30p

Sun, Oct 27 at 2:00p (Closing)

*A brief post-show discussion will follow the performance.

Playwright and Performer Bio

Julia Gay is an actor, dancer, playwright, stand-up comedian and teaching artist. She completed her BA at Macalester College, studying American studies, urban studies, and theatre. Julia was the recipient of the Playwrights’ Center’s (PWC) 2017-18 Many Voices Mentorship and is currently a PWC Affiliated Writer. This is her fourth season with St. Paul-based professional dance company, Ananya Dance Theatre (ADT), training, performing, and touring nationally and internationally in the contemporary Indian dance form of Yorchha. As an actor, Julia has worked with the CornerHouse, the Guthrie Theater, Mixed Blood Theater, Pangea World Theater, Penumbra Theatre, Pillsbury House + Theatre, the Playwrights’ Center, and Transatlantic Love Affair, among others. Learn more at www.juliagay.com.

WHAT: “motherlanded” written & performed by Julia Gay

WHEN: October 17-27, 2019

WHERE: Dreamland Arts at 677 Hamline Ave N, St Paul, MN 55104

COST: Sliding scale \$10-\$20 (no online service fee)

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About Dreamland Arts

Dreamland Arts is a family-owned business, owned and operated by theater artists Zaraawar Mistry and Leslye Orr. The theater opened in September 2006. Zaraawar and Leslye's house is attached to the theater building through an underground passage in the basement. The business was named after a dilapidated movie theater in Secunderabad, India.

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