



# WE MAKE SPACE FOR ART

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**CULTURALDC PRESENTS *USE ALL AVAILABLE DOORS* BY PINKY SWEAR PRODUCTIONS**  
*Local feminist theatre company brings playwright's ode to WMATA to Dupont Underground*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - In a swan song to a WMATA train car, local feminist theatre company Pinky Swear Productions premieres *Use All Available Doors* at Dupont Underground with the support of CulturalDC from April 13 to May 6, 2018.

*Use All Available Doors* follows a soon-to-be-decommissioned WMATA train car, a grieving operator re-evaluating her life's path, and a revolving door of passengers as they travel the length of the Red Line from Shady Grove to Glenmont. A vignette occurs between each stop, highlighting the diverse nature of the Red Line's path, including a parade, a sing-a-long, and unsolicited foot washing. The production will be performed on Dupont Underground's real tracks and features seats made from WMATA-donated cushions from a scrapped 4000-series car.

"I really like the idea of presenting a theatre piece in a non-theatre space," notes Toni Rae Salmi, who will be directing the show and leading community engagement efforts for Pinky Swear. "Because Dupont Underground is literally underground, our audience will already have that 'in a Metro station' vibe. It's a concrete space with no windows, low lighting, and high ceilings—all we're missing is the Brutalist architecture!"

To capture the community's diverse backgrounds and experiences, *Use All Available Doors* will actively engage Red Line users by hosting pop-up events at various stations and encouraging community members to share their own WMATA stories.

"CulturalDC is proud to partner with Dupont Underground and Pinky Swear Productions to bring these engaging, homegrown stories back to the community in a non-traditional setting," says Tanya Hilton, executive director of CulturalDC. "With shows such as *Use All Available Doors*, CulturalDC brings captivating, immersive theatre experiences to communities all across the District."

Tickets are available at <https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/987352>.

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## **ABOUT PINKY SWEAR PRODUCTIONS**

[Pinky Swear](#) is a feminist theatre company that celebrates the diversity of women's experiences by telling inclusive and subversive stories. The company is currently celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in the District by presenting two premiere productions by local playwrights in 2018. These shows—like all of Pinky Swear's productions—focus on elevating the voices of women and non-binary individuals, celebrating DC stories outside of the White House and Capitol Hill, and working in the diverse community of the greater Washington, DC area.

## **ABOUT CULTURALDC**

[CulturalDC](#) has a 19-year history of creating affordable, sustainable artist spaces in the Washington, DC, area. CulturalDC has brokered more than 250,000 square feet of artist space, including the Arts Walk at Monroe Street Market, Atlas Performing Arts Center, GALA Hispanic Theatre, Source Theatre and Woolly Mammoth Theatre. Each year, CulturalDC serves more than 1,000 artists and welcomes 30,000 audience members and participants who patronize local businesses and contribute an estimated \$1 million to the local economy.

CulturalDC's performing arts program is geared at developing performing artists and performing arts organizations and connecting with communities across Washington, DC. We offer participants a chance to explore their craft by providing the basic tools needed to produce strong work: access to unique performance spaces and production mentorship. Specific production support provided by CulturalDC includes collaboration on marketing, publicity, and audience development, as well as production and artistic advisement as needed. This season, we are partnering with Blind Whino SW Arts Club for a performance in September and Dupont Underground for performances in December and April.

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## **ABOUT DUPONT UNDERGROUND**

The Dupont Underground is a 501(c)(3) cultural organization committed to developing a multidisciplinary platform for creative expression. We are transforming a public work – the subterranean streetcar station in Dupont Circle – into a new public infrastructure to support creative exchange, contemporary arts practice, and an ongoing conversation about the city.

Our goal is to foster programming that encourages the public to create and engage with the leading edge of contemporary expression in the visual, environmental, and performing arts. We are particularly interested in the place where that expression crosses disciplinary boundaries and is informed by areas such as technology, science, philosophy, and commerce. We strive to reflect the diversity of our community – both artists and audiences. We endeavor to host projects and work that might not be an easy fit in the District's more conventional cultural venues.

Opened in 1949 as a trolley station, 75,000 sq.ft. of underground platforms and tunnels were closed off in 1962, when the city's streetcar system shut down. Other than designation as fallout shelter in the late 1960s and hosting a short-lived food court on the west platform in the mid-1990s, the space has remained empty. Until now.

**For more information** visit [culturaldc.org](http://culturaldc.org).  
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