

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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**Feminists Are Funny:
The Amazonians Present a Bold All-Women Comedy Night at the
Museum of Sonoma County
8 PM, Saturday, May 21, 2022**

(Santa Rosa, CA) – April 5, 2022 – The Museum of Sonoma County will host ***Feminists Are Funny***, a night of feminist focused comedy presented by the Amazonians at 8 PM on Saturday, May 21, 2022. Tickets are \$20 for Museum Members and \$25 for non-members. Tickets can be purchased at <https://museumsc.org/events/?eid=9220>. The doors open at 7 pm. Produced and hosted by comics Dara M. Wilson (Sketchfest) and Jackie Keliiaa (Comedy Central), Amazonians is a carefully curated, high-quality lineup that showcases the diverse woman + genderqueer experience, featuring the voices of people of color and members of the LGBTQIA community. *Feminists are Funny* is a companion program to the Museum’s exhibition ***Agency: Feminist Art & Power***, and is an intersectional comedy show that honors all aspects of womxn’s identities. The show will be set in the museum gallery space among the powerful works in the exhibition.

“Amazonians was created so that the often marginalized could have the space and power to be who they wanted without fear of ridicule or repercussion. That’s *agency*,” said Dara M. Wilson. “We pride ourselves on having lineups of all hitters, no filler and this one is no different. These ladies aren’t just confident and competent comedians, the joy they feel on stage is obvious and infectious.” Jackie Keliiaa agrees. “To me, *agency* is self expression and voice. It’s honoring how I feel in the moment, it’s expressing my wants, needs and boundaries. It’s celebrating beauty and embracing abundance. I have come to learn that agency is not inherent, it is not a given. My agency is big, loud, fun and at times fierce and I love it. Amazonians celebrates the bold and the badass. Our stage is a fertile ground of creativity that honors our intersectional identities, our wholeness and our humor. At our shows, you can expect full, joyous and unapologetic expression, one of my favorite forms of agency,” says Keliiaa.

Agency: Feminist Art and Power, brings together the work of twenty-nine womxn artists who represent different cultural backgrounds, generations, geographic locations, LGBTQ and gender identities. This impressive group of artists, which includes Judy Chicago, Guerrilla Girls, Mickalene Thomas, Jaune Quick-to-See-Smith and Joan Semmel, to name only a few, explore the concept of agency as defined as the capacity

to act or exert one's own power; to act independently and to make free choices. *Agency: Feminist Art and Power*, organized in partnership with the Feminist Art Project and curated by Karen M. Gutfreund, is now on view at the Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) contemporary art gallery through June 5, 2022.

"Feminism is serious business, but as Cat Del Buono illustrates in her video work in the *Agency* show, comedy is another way to lead us to our humanity. It is an effective vehicle for social change, just as is visual art making and viewing." says Connie Tell, National Committee Chair of The Feminist Art Project (TFAP). "Given everything terrible that is going on in the world, laughter is a terrific path towards relief and renewal."

Performing Comedians

Dara M Wilson is Bay Area comedian and storyteller who's performed live at SF Sketchfest, Wakandacon, and KALW. Her specialty is taking the toughest parts of life (racism, house fires, stalkers- she's experienced it all!) and finding the funny in them. She's been featured in Essence Magazine, Google Play Music and Blavity.com. You can find her (online, where it counts) Instagram - [@daramwilson](#)

Sureni Weerasekera is a Sri Lankan-born, San Diego-raised, & San Francisco-based stand up comedian, actor and writer. She is known for her lighthearted, conversational banter to her ruthless, dark jabs that shed light on cultural dilemmas in a palatable, enticing way. She has featured at 2019/2020 SF Sketchfest and Desi Comedy Festival. With an aptitude for writing, Sureni was awarded the 2019 Diversity in Comedy Writing Fellowship at Killing My Lobster SF. She is the creator of "Medium Roasts," a mini-video series about the cafe world, whom she writes, edits and acts. Instagram - [@sureni](#)

Jackie Keliiaa is a stand-up comedian, actor, and writer based in Oakland, California. You can find her in the 2021 release, [We Had a Little Real Estate Problem: The Unheralded Story of Native Americans & Comedy](#). She has been featured on [Comedy Central](#), [Team Coco](#), [Illuminative's 25 Native American Comedians to Follow](#), and was Comic of the Week on [The Jackie And Laurie Show](#). She wrote for the web series [You're Welcome America](#) and has been featured in [Vulture](#), [Uproxx](#), the [LA Times](#) and [KQED](#). Jackie has opened for Judah Friedlander, Nikki Glaser, and was featured on the [First Nations Comedy Experience](#) streaming on Amazon Prime Video. Jackie is a regular at Bay Area venues and has performed at San Francisco SketchFest, Punch Line San Francisco and Cobb's Comedy Club. Instagram - [@jackiecomedy](#)

Sydney Stigerts With her blonde pompadour and blunt sarcasm, Sydney Stigerts established herself in the Sacramento, CA comedy scene at a young age. She delights in skewering her millennial peers almost as much as she likes mocking her queer community. On stage, she is high energy, relatable, and would love to tell you a story. As a member of the group 1° of Separation: A Funny Look at Depression, she has performed at colleges and comedy clubs from South Dakota to California. With three other members of 1° of Separation, she was the subject of the documentary Dying to Laugh. She has opened for Cameron Esposito, Bob the Drag Queen, and has

performed in the San Diego Comedy Festival, The Laughed Out Queer Comedy Festival in Las Vegas and The Big Pine Festival in Phoenix. Instagram - [@sydstig](#)

About the Museum of Sonoma County

Located in Downtown Santa Rosa on Seventh Street between A and B Streets, the Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) presents exhibitions of modern and contemporary art and local and regional history. MSC is open year-round with changing exhibitions, public programs, school tours, and education programs. MSC preserves and manages a regional art and history collection of over eighteen thousand objects, the region's largest object documentation of Sonoma County's history and culture.

Mission

The Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) engages and inspires diverse populations of our region and beyond through art and history exhibitions, access to collections, and public programs that are inclusive, educational, and relevant to local, state, and national audiences.

Museum of Sonoma County

425 Seventh Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
707-579-1500
www.museumsc.org

Admission

Adults: \$10.00
Students and Seniors: \$7.00
Museum Members: FREE
Children 12 and under: FREE
EBT Cardholder: FREE (part of
Museums 4 All)

Museum Hours

Open Wednesday through Sunday
11:00am-5:00pm

Closed on the following holidays: New Year's Day, President's Day, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas; please visit our website for additional closures.

[CLICK HERE FOR IMAGES](#)



Jackie Keliiaa, Photo courtesy of Maurice Ramirez



Dara M. Wilson



Sureni Weerasekera, Photo courtesy of Dave Eubanks



Sydney Stigerts, Photo courtesy of Nick Larson