
JD LAWRENCE'S
SKIZOPHREMA
IT'S HEARTWARMING, IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEALING



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

ABOUT THE SHOW

JD Lawrence's SKITZophrenia based on a true adverse childhood experience is a new ninety-minute solo show written, directed, and survived by JD Lawrence. The Two-Time Telly Award Winner's performance in SKITZophrenia trumped the Guinness World Records title of "Playing The Most Characters In A One-Man Show". The NAACP Legacy Award Recipient is a national award-winning playwright and creator of shows on BET, Bravo, Aspire, and UpTV. Lawrence calls SKITZophrenia a "Therapeutic Dramedy Memoir". The show deftly tackles important mental health topics including schizophrenia, depression, PTSD, domestic violence, trauma, drugs & alcohol. Lawrence's performance is an absolute must-see. `



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

FULL SYNOPSIS

JD Lawrence's Schizophrenia, written, directed, and starring NAACP Legacy Award recipient JD Lawrence, showcases an array of characters in a 90-minute solo performance that shatters the boundaries of the Guinness World Records. Drawing from his own haunting Adverse Childhood Experiences, Lawrence fearlessly unveils the tumultuous journey of his youth in the infamous Amityville. Within the depths of this harrowing tale, he confronts his personal Amityville horror head-on. With an unwavering spirit and raw vulnerability, this Two-Time Telly Award Winner masterfully resurrects the most challenging chapters of his existence. From the clutches of an abusive stepfather to the absence of his biological father, Lawrence unapologetically exposes the wounds inflicted upon him by neglectful school administrators and being sexually assaulted by a family friend disguised as a minister. The haunting presence of the Amityville Horror House, a constant reminder on his way from school, fuels the flames of PTSD that slowly consume him. In a mesmerizing fusion of storytelling, acting, rap, song, dance, and comedy that has made the Two-Time Keep America Beautiful writer and director one of the top playwrights in the country, Lawrence paints a vivid portrait of his ten out of ten ACE score as he simultaneously entertains and educates. Seamlessly blending these artistic elements, Lawrence's powerful mental health autobiography leaves an indelible mark on the audience's hearts and minds.



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

WHY SKITZOPHRENIA

"Skitzoohrenia" would be the first one-person musical by an African-American person to explore *Adverse Childhood Experiences*. This representation is crucial in promoting diversity and inclusivity in the theater industry. By showcasing an African-American perspective on mental health, domestic violence, and childhood trauma, the show can contribute to a more inclusive and representative theater landscape.

SPARKING CONVERSATIONS

Live theater often prompts post-show discussions and conversations. This dialogue allows the audience to reflect on the themes presented, share their thoughts and experiences, and explore potential solutions. It can foster community engagement and collaboration in addressing domestic violence.



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

BASED ON A TRUE ACE's

The fact that JD Lawrence's Skitzoohrenia is based on a true story adds an element of authenticity and relatability to the show. Audiences are often drawn to real-life narratives as they provide a deeper understanding of the human experience. By presenting a story rooted in reality, the show can connect with viewers on a personal level and evoke empathy and emotional resonance.

WHAT IS ACE's?

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can include various forms of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual), neglect, household dysfunction (such as witnessing domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, or incarceration of a family member), or other traumatic events. Research has shown that individuals who have experienced ACEs are at a higher risk for a range of negative outcomes, including physical and mental health issues and substance abuse.



SKIZOPHRENIA

IT’S HILARIOUS, IT’S HEARTWARMING IT’S HEALING

EMOTIONAL IMPACT

Live theater has the power to evoke strong emotions and create a deep connection with the audience. By portraying domestic violence on stage, it can elicit empathy, compassion, and understanding from the viewers, helping them to grasp the gravity of the issue.

REALISM AND AUTHENTICITY

Live theater allows for a more authentic and realistic portrayal of domestic violence compared to other mediums. The raw emotions, physicality, and intensity of the performances can make the audience feel as if they are witnessing real-life situations, making the message more impactful.



SKIZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Live theater provides an opportunity to educate the audience about the complexities of domestic violence. It can shed light on the different forms of abuse, the cycle of violence, and the impact it has on individuals and families. By increasing awareness, it helps to break the silence surrounding domestic violence and encourages open dialogue.

PERSONAL CONNECTION

Watching live theater allows the audience to witness the characters' struggles and experiences up close. This proximity can create a personal connection, enabling individuals to relate to the characters and their stories. It can encourage victims or those who know someone experiencing domestic violence to seek help or support.



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

SHOW HISTORY

In 2019, JD Lawrence's groundbreaking production, Schizophrenia, took center stage at the iconic Klein Memorial Auditorium in Bridgeport, Connecticut. This 1400-seat proscenium theater became the backdrop for Lawrence's record-breaking performance, surpassing the Guinness World Record for the most characters portrayed in a solo act. The show caught the attention of ALW Entertainment, who brought Schizophrenia to the Bishop Arts Theater Center in Dallas, Texas, where it captivated audiences from various national health organizations, including NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness).

STAGE HISTORY

The writer, director, and star of Skitzophrenia have also performed at renowned venues across the country. From opening for the legendary Ruby Dee at the iconic Apollo Theater to being the only theater act to perform on Broadway at Bb Kings in Times Square, Lawrence has left his mark. His sold-out shows have graced prestigious theaters like the Wilshire Ebell in Los Angeles, the Beacon Theater in New York, the Lyric Opera House in Maryland, the Warner Theater in Washington DC, the Aire Crown Theater in Chicago, and even Planet Hollywood in Vegas.



SKIZOPHRENIA

IT’S HILARIOUS, IT’S HEARTWARMING IT’S HEALING

EMPOWERMENT AND PREVENTION

Live theater can empower individuals by showing them that they are not alone in their experiences and that there is hope for change. It can inspire victims to seek help, encourage bystanders to intervene, and educate communities on prevention strategies. By addressing the issue through theater, it can contribute to breaking the cycle of violence.

BEYOND THE STAGE

Schizophrenia's impact goes beyond the stage, as it has been recognized by BOCES Arts and Education. Now, the production aims to reach even more communities across the country, spreading its powerful message to schools, churches, correctional facilities, military bases, and mental health organizations.



SKIZOPHRENIA

IT'S HILARIOUS, IT'S HEARTWARMING IT'S HEALING

ACCOLADES

JD Lawrence's list of achievements is truly remarkable. He has been honored with prestigious awards such as the NAACP Legacy Award, two Telly Awards, and two Keep America Beautiful awards. In addition, he has received a Legislature Distinguished Achievement award and multiple Performing Arts Special Recognition awards from Congress. JD Lawrence's impact extends beyond awards and recognition. He has been granted the key to the city in Lafayette, Louisiana, and has been celebrated with JD Lawrence Day in Poughkeepsie. Furthermore, he has made history by surpassing the Guinness World Record for playing the most characters in a solo performance.



SKITZOPHRENIA

IT’S HILARIOUS, IT’S HEARTWARMING IT’S HEALING

SUMMARY

With its compelling true story, thought-provoking exploration of mental illness, and the creative genius of an award-winning writer, director, and producer, "Skitzoohrenia" is the perfect choice to bring awareness and spark important conversations at your venue or organization. This groundbreaking production not only sheds light on the complexities of mental health but also emphasizes the importance of diverse representation on stage. "Skitzoohrenia" offers a unique and powerful experience that resonates with audiences of all backgrounds. By showcasing the realities of mental illness through a captivating narrative, it challenges stigmas and encourages empathy and understanding. The combination of raw storytelling and the artistic vision of its creator ensures a compelling and impactful performance that will leave a lasting impression on your audience. By hosting "Skitzoohrenia," you have the opportunity to not only entertain but also educate and inspire. Skitzophrenia has the potential to ignite important conversations surrounding mental health, fostering a more inclusive and compassionate society. It is a chance to create a safe space for dialogue, promote understanding, and break down barriers. Don't miss the opportunity to bring "Skitzoohrenia" to your venue or organization. Join us in raising awareness, promoting diversity, and making a positive impact on the lives of your audience members. Together, we can create a more inclusive and empathetic world.