Spring Workshop
proudly presents
Adventures in Reality: A Musical Soirée with Writer/Composer Michael Friedman

Photo by Brian Young

Adventures in Reality: A Musical Soirée with
Writer/Composer Michael Friedman

Date: 27 October 2012 (Saturday)

Time: 7-8pm

Location: Spring Workshop
               3/F Remex Centre, 42 Wong Chuk Hang Road,
               Aberdeen, Hong Kong

**FREE ADMISSION

Spring Workshop, a new non-profit arts residency program in Hong Kong, is proud to present *Adventures in Reality: A Musical Soirée with Writer/Composer Michael Friedman,* a mini-concert with the award-winning writer/composer Michael Friedman. The event will be a musical and lyrical exploration of Friedman's wide-ranging interests, which run from Mormons to Mongkok, communes to Cantopop, and U.S. President Andrew Jackson to HK Chief Executive C.Y.Leung.

Michael Friedman is a New York-based, Obie award-winning composer and writer who has written for musical theatre for over fifteen years. In his work, Michael is interested in the politics of popular music, and the ways in which music reflects the intersections of different cultures, which has led him to explore fields as diverse as the music of 19th century revolutionary Paris, the adult film industry, contemporary Evangelical mega-churches, and 1970s/80s Brooklyn. His most recent work expands on this as he traces the origins and lineage of popular song, how it crosses cultures, travels across and between countries, and escapes its ethnic or economic or linguistic origins.

During his residency at Spring Workshop, Michael will be exploring Hong Kong's unique cultural aspects and also working on commissions for other institutions around the world. Friedman writes: "Hong Kong, with its polyglot culture, is a perfect place for me to continue my exploration, tracing song (sea shanties, Cantonese opera, cantopop, children's songs, etc.) at the crossroads of East and West, and at the edge of empire. I hope to collect and discover and uncover the lost, the hidden, the forgotten, and the submerged."

For his premiere in Hong Kong, Michael's engaging, witty and thoughtful music will be showcased in *Adventures in Reality: A Musical Soirée with Writer/Composer Michael Friedman.* This unique mini-concert with Michael singing at the keyboard is free-of-charge and takes place at Spring Workshop at 7pm on Saturday, 27 October 2012. Drinks will be served. Please rsvp for a seat before Oct 23 at http://www.springworkshop.org/michaelfriedman_soiree

Additionally, for students, writers, composers, performers or anyone deeply interested in avant-garde musical theatre, Michael Friedman will be available to meet at Spring in October. Please contact Athena Wu at athena@springworkshop.org to make appointment.

Remarks: The Obie Awards are annual awards given by *The Village Voice* newspaper to theatre artists and groups in New York City; the Obie Awards cover off-Broadway and off-off-Broadway productions.

High-resolution images can be downloaded from
https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pofgs9kgxehyagm/gcl8f3MQeL
Photos: Brian Young

About Michael Friedman

Michael Friedman wrote the music and lyrics for Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, which recently completed runs at the Public Theater and on Broadway, and received Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Best New Musical and was featured on multiple top ten lists for 2010. He is a founding Associate Artist of The Civilians, and has been the Composer/lyricist for the company's In the Footprint, This Beautiful City, [I Am] Nobody's Lunch, Gone Missing, and Canard, Canard, Goose? He also wrote music and lyrics for Saved and The Brand New Kid. With Steve Cosson, he is the co-author of Paris Commune. His music was recently heard in the Signature Theatre's revival of Tony Kushner's Angels in America and in the Public Theater's production of Mr. Kushner's new play, The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures. He was also the dramaturg for the recent Broadway revival of A Raisin in the Sun, directed by Kenny Leon. A 2009-2010 Barron Visiting Professor at the Princeton Environmental Institute, he is an Artistic Associate at New York Theatre Workshop, and a recipient of a MacDowell fellowship, a Meet the Composer Fellowship, and a Princeton University Hodder Fellowship. He received a 2007 Obie award for sustained excellence.

Upcoming projects include Pretty Filthy, a musical about the adult film industry with the Civilians, an adaptation of Jonathan Lethem's novel, Fortress of Solitude, and commissions from Playwrights Horizons, the Huntington Theatre, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

About Spring Workshop

In August of 2012, Spring opened as a non-profit arts space committed to an international cross-disciplinary program of artist and curatorial residencies, exhibitions, music, film and talks.

Anchored in the Wong Chuk Hang industrial neighbourhood of Hong Kong, Spring serves as a platform and laboratory for exchange between the vibrant artists and organizations that define Hong Kong's rich cultural landscape and the emerging and established artists and organizations around the world that seek to engage in far-reaching dialogue. www.springworkshop.org

For enquiries and media interviews with artists Michael Friedman, please contact Kit Yip at +852 9863 3068 / kit@springworkshop.org or Athena Wu at +852 2110 4370 / athena@springworkshop.org.

For more information about Spring, please visit
www.springworkshop.org.