

**CONTACT**

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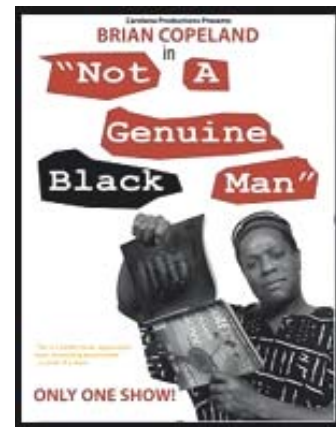
Toni@PRetCetera.com**MEDIA ADVISORY**

Through Feb. 3, 2018

The Hammer Theater in Association with the Marsh presents ...
Brian Copeland's Award-winning "NOT A GENUINE BLACK MAN"
Growing up Confounded and Isolated in a Nearly All-white Bay Area Town

San Jose, CA: On Saturday, February 3rd, Brian Copeland returns to San Jose in his award-winning performance of "Not a Genuine Black Man," a one-man play he first debuted in 1994 at The Marsh in San Francisco. Copeland reprises the powerful play that explores his childhood experiences as a member of one of the only African American families living in the then 94% white suburb of San Leandro, California.

His staggering tale of laughter, tears, and sociology went on to become the longest-running solo show in San Francisco theatrical history with over 800 performances. Copeland has performed the play in over 30 cities, including a critically acclaimed run Off-Broadway.



- WHO:** Brian Copeland
WHAT: One-man Play "Not a Genuine Black Man"
WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
WHERE: Hammer Theatre, San Jose State University, 101 Paseo de San Antonio
(Between 2nd & 3rd Streets), Downtown San Jose
TICKETS: \$20 Early Bird thru Jan. 17th (Discount Code: **EARLYBIRD**)
\$35 Gen. Adm.; \$10 Student Adv. Purchase; \$20 Student @ the door

The play is currently in television series development. In 2006, Copeland published a best-selling book based on "Genuine" that is now required reading in several high schools and colleges across the country. The book was the 2009 pick for Silicon Valley Reads, a library-based program in which all of Santa Clara County reads the same book simultaneously.

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ABOUT BRIAN COPELAND:

Brian Copeland is an award-winning actor, comedian, author, playwright, TV and radio talk show host based in the San Francisco Bay Area. To date, he has written and performed three subsequent critically acclaimed solo plays including *The Waiting Period* (2015 Theater Bay Area Award for Outstanding Production of a Solo Play), the hit Christmas show *The Jewelry Box* and *The Scion* (PBS affiliate KQED's Best New Play of 2014). His new play, *Grandma & Me: An Ode to Single Parents*, debuted in San Francisco in the fall of 2017.

In addition to his stage work, Copeland is a fixture in Bay Area broadcasting, where he has hosted programs on just about every television station, including KTVU (a five-year stint as co-host of Mornings on 2), ABC7 (host of the Emmy award-winning 7Live) and KNTV (the hit 2015 late night special *Now Brian Copeland*). He has also performed on MTV, A&E, NBC, VH1 and Comedy Central.

In 2006, Director Rob Reiner (a fan of *Genuine*) cast Copeland as Lee Chambers, the youngest son of Morgan Freeman, in the instant classic, *The Bucket List*.

A lifelong fan and listener of legendary Bay Area radio station KGO, Copeland was thrilled to become a substitute talk show host for the station beginning in 1991. In 1994, *The Brian Copeland Show* debuted as a weekend program that spent years as the most listened to radio show in its time slot. In the mid-2000s, Copeland did a weekly commentary feature for the station called *Copeland's Corner*. The segment was honored with awards from the Radio Television News Directors Association and the Associated Press.

Brian Copeland resides in the San Francisco Bay Area.

www.BrianCopeland.com