

For immediate release
Complicated Courtesies written & performed by Kimberly Dark

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Kimberly Dark's **Complicated Courtesies** is entertainment – and then some. The performance inspires you to laugh, think, and engage with your life and others more boldly, creatively. You can positively affect your surroundings, just by being your big, beautiful, complicated self.

We all have them: aspects of our personalities, or interesting issues that we don't bring out in every kind of company. Do you handle your various "selves" with panache and profundity? Or do you try to pretend you're only what you show a certain audience?

Come explore how to become a courteous chimera – the kind of multi-faceted, fantastical creature that has many fearsome and fantastic features and yet, remains friendly to all. Who knows, if we learn to embrace our inner diversity – maybe loving the diversity in others won't be so hard...

Complicated Courtesies – Dark's sixth full-length solo theatre production – debuted in the Hawaiian Islands in September 2010. As a sociologist and a performance artist, Dark uses entertainment to illuminate potentially contentious cultural themes. It can be scary to talk about topics such as gender, race, parenting and the environment. What if we disagree? Come see how vibrant views and exciting experiences can be cleverly and kindly conveyed in **Complicated Courtesies**.

"Kimberly Dark has an uncanny way of making you think hard when you think you are only being entertained. Her keen insights seep into your questioning mind as you laugh, are captivated by stories, and are wowed by the intimacy she creates with her to-the-bone honesty. This piece [*Complicated Courtesies*] weaves together politeness in all its gendered majesty, how to live with fullness and integrity, facing our own many 'faces,' and healing ourselves and others with the power of dignity." – Carol Plummer, Ph.D., Professor of Social Work, University of Hawai'i, Manoa.

"Kimberly Dark is an engaging, thought provoking, inspiring speaker. After watching [*Complicated Courtesies*], if you have been paying attention, you cannot leave the theater the same persona as when you walked in." – Michele Newman, Women's Center Director, University of Hawai'i, Hilo.

Kimberly Dark is a writer, mother, performer and professor. She is the author of five award-winning solo performance scripts, and her poetry and prose appear in a number of publications. For more than 10 years, Kimberly has inspired audiences in fancy theatres, esteemed universities and fabulous festivals. She tours widely in North America and Europe, anywhere an audience loves a well-told story. The *Evening Echo* in Cork, Ireland says, "The

balance between objectivity and intimate analysis certainly gives Dark an edge and has made her a force to be reckoned with on every level.” *The Salt Lake Tribune* in Utah says, “Dark doesn’t shy away from provocative, incendiary statements, but don’t expect a rant. Her shows, leavened with humor, are more likely to explore how small everyday moments can inform the arc of our lives.” *The High Plains Reader* in Fargo, North Dakota says, “Dark’s skill as a storyteller gets to your heart by exposing hers.”

For theatre and community bookings, please contact Nicole at nicole@kimberlydark.com
For college and university bookings, please contact Kirkland Productions (www.kirklandproductions.com)