



MIRROR STAGE PRESENTS FOURTH HOLDING THE MOMENT SPEAKERS EVENT

Mirror Stage to Present Putsata Reang on January 10, 2026

SEATTLE, WA (December 24, 2025) – In the face of rising censorship and cultural erasure, storytelling is an act of resistance. Multidisciplinary arts organization **Mirror Stage** will present its final ***Holding the Moment*** speaker event, challenging systems of silence and invisibility through the power of story on Saturday, January 10, 2026. Putsata Reang will present “Resisting Erasure Through Storytelling.” Mirror Stage takes pride in offering affordable and accessible productions, and all ***Holding the Moment*** events are free, inclusive, and open to all ages (\$15 suggested donation) with both in-person at Rainier Arts Center in Seattle, and live-streaming options.

"The arts and humanities remain under attack, and Mirror Stage is doing all we can to counter the current administration's aggressive attempts to eliminate all forms of diversity, equity, and inclusion advancement," said Suzanne M. Cohen, Mirror Stage Managing Artistic Director. "***Holding the Moment*** is our way of meeting this current moment and holding strong in the face of opposition, by providing a platform to amplify the stories of those continuing to work to make the world a better, more inclusive place."

When Putsata Reang was eight years old, she didn't understand why her skin was brown when almost all of her classmates' skin was white. So she put an eraser to her arm and began to rub, hoping to become white. A decade later, feeling disoriented by the dawning realization that she is gay, Putsata put a razor to her wrist. But ultimately she was too ashamed to end her own life. That's because when she was a baby, and her family fled war in her native Cambodia, her mother had saved her life.

Today, an increasing number of Americans like Putsata are at risk of erasure because of external forces such as anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, and internal forces, such as shame and discrimination. Putsata discusses the dangers of dwelling on differences and encourages audiences to share their personal stories as an antidote to erasure.

Putsata Reang (she/her) is an author and journalist whose debut memoir, *Ma and Me*, was awarded the 2023 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association prize for nonfiction and was recognized as a finalist for the 2023 Lambda Literary Award. Her writing has appeared in publications including the *New York Times*, *Ms.* magazine, *Politico*, and *The Guardian*. Reang has held several prestigious residencies and was a fellow of the

Jack Straw Writers program and Alicia Patterson Foundation for journalists. Reang lives in Seattle.

Holding the Moment will feature Putsata Reang presenting “Resisting Erasure Through Storytelling” on **January 10, 2026 at 7:30pm** at **Rainier Arts Center** located at **3515 S Alaska St, Seattle, WA**. In support of Mirror Stage’s commitment to accessibility, the event will have ASL interpreters and also be available via live-stream. Both levels of Rainier Arts Center are fully accessible and have ADA restrooms. There is an outdoor wheelchair lift and ramps to each level. The auditorium has reserved areas for wheelchairs.

Holding the Moment events are not open to reviews. However, members of the media are welcome to attend. For more information and to request interviews with presenters, please contact Suzanne Cohen at suzannec@mirrorstage.org.

FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS

WHAT:

Holding the Moment: A Speakers Series

Featuring: Putsata Reang presenting “Resisting Erasure Through Storytelling”

WHERE:

Rainier Arts Center
3515 South Alaska St
Seattle, WA 98118

WHEN:

Saturday, January 10, 2026
at 7:30pm

TICKETS:

In-Person and Live-Streaming

FREE (\$15 suggested donation)

Limited Seats—RSVP in advance to guarantee seat

On-Site Box Office: Opens one hour before curtain

Info & Tickets: mirrorstage.org/events/holding-the-moment-jan-10-2026/

ABOUT HOLDING THE MOMENT

Holding the Moment is a speakers series featuring artists, educators, and activists

whose interactive presentations explore identity, memory, politics, and art—connecting personal truth to collective liberation. From confronting anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric to exposing cultural appropriation and reclaiming erased histories, each presentation invites us to resist oppression and build belonging. Free and open to all ages, each 90-minute event includes time for Q&A.

About Mirror Stage

Originally founded in 1991, Mirror Stage is a nonprofit multidisciplinary arts company that believes the power of story and art holds the key to bringing people together in imagining and embodying a better future. We challenge assumptions, bias and prejudice, increasing equity and inclusion while encouraging more thoughtful reflection on today's issues. Mirror Stage nurtures unique artistic voices, centering those who have been most oppressed by society's inequitable systems and structures. Mirror Stage gets people talking, as well as thinking. [Learn more about the history of Mirror Stage.](#)

Mirror Stage gratefully acknowledges the support of 4Culture, Allen Family Philanthropies, ArtsWA, the City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, the EPS Fund, Humanities Washington, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Posner-Wallace Foundation.

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#MirrorStage #HoldingTheMoment #MirrorStagePresents #AmplifyQueerStories
#PutsataReang #ResistanceThroughStorytelling

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