



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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All Laughs Matter to The Backpack

Three comedians. One stage. Celebrating our differences one joke at a time.

That's how The Backpack, Vince Morris, BT, and Billy D. Washington bill themselves. They'll be performing at the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts on Saturday, March 3, at 8:00 p.m. The show will be cabaret style downstairs at the Center.

The trio have been featured on major networks, such as HBO, Comedy Central, Showtime, MTV, A&E, Fox, and BET, numerous times. According to their bio, "We are here to celebrate our individualism. Our motto is 'be yourself – because everybody else is already taken'."

A former Houston police officer who decided to give comedy and music his all, Billy D. Washington presents, as the Denver Post puts it, "a low-key intensity and dead-on humor." He's a part-time church pianist who also tours with his own gospel musical. His full-time vocation of comedy has him appearing in both performing arts shows and college concerts.

BT exudes, as critics put it, a "Jerry Lewis style energy." He calls himself a "black redneck with a rock-star attitude." The Oklahoma native/Los Angeles resident earned a degree in show business from the University of Oklahoma. Besides comedy, he also doubles as an actor having appeared in Syfy Network and HBO films and series.

One critic said Vince Morris' approach was akin to "if Malcolm X did stand-up comedy." The Columbus, Ohio, native presents "a smooth, charismatic style" as he tackles ignorance in today's society and current controversial subjects in "a dangerously funny style."

They use the acronym S.E.L.L.O.U.T. to describe themselves: Serious. Educated. Laughing. Learning. Outrageous. Unique. Talented.

The Backpack has gotten rave reviews from venues where they've performed. "Their material is SO spot-on, just to the perfect "edge" in every way – with never going over or too far," one review noted. "They're very, very smart in reading their audience and they do so with humor and warmth."

Ease away the wintertime blues with lots of laughter, The Backpack style.

Tickets for The Backpack are \$25 and are available online at www.suffolkcenter.org or by calling 923-0003.

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Portions of this release are used by permission from an article by Eric Feber in the January 12, 2017 edition of the Virginian Pilot Suffolk Sun.