Emmy-nominated comedian Bill Maher (see *Express-News* article below) performs on Saturday night, 8:00 p.m., at Laurie Auditorium at Trinity University. For tickets, call (210) 226-2891 or visit here.

Bill Maher takes aim at Ted Cruz and Ted Nugent

San Antonio Express-News By Hector Saldana

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Bill Maher will be on stage Saturday at Laurie Auditorium on the Trinity University campus.

Some might think polarizing comedian, political satirist and TV host Bill Maher is only coming to Texas to replenish the grab bag. That's not entirely true, though Maher makes no secret that Ted Cruz and Ted Nugent "are certainly both in my act."

"And Ted Cruz probably will be a lot more," said Maher, star of HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher," who arrives at

Laurie Auditorium on Saturday. San Antonio has been a regular stop.

"I always love to come to Texas," said Maher last week. "Texas is a world in itself as I'm sure Texans know. It almost was its own country. It could be its own country. For my liberal bubble friends who think Texas is only Rick Perry, I know a different world of Texas."

Maher understands there are plenty of hearts (even those of die-hard comedy lovers) that he'll never win over, "especially when you're a polarizing figure like I am," he said. "But who gets everybody?"

Certainly, the tea party isn't Maher's demographic, and neither is "red-meat guy" U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz.

"Ted Cruz is one of the most ambitious politicians I've ever seen, and I don't mean that in a flattering way," he said.

"I always try to tell people who are asking about Republicans: Who's the worst? Ted Cruz, by far, because Ted Cruz knows better. Ted Cruz does not lack for intelligence. But you can just tell that he always is calculating, 'What can I say that will get the idiot tea party person on my side?'"

Maher dismisses Nugent as a gun nut "that had a hit record in 1976" and "a drama queen." He's referring to Nugent's outrageous claim that if President Obama was reelected, he'd be dead or in jail by now.

"Oh, Ted! Oh, my gosh. The drama. Dead or in jail? What I call a win-win, first of all," Maher joked.

On a more serious note: "What I don't like is people who only know to cheer for their team. And I see it all the time. Here, with my own audience in Los Angeles. They only know to cheer for the blue team and boo for the red team. Look, I'm mostly cheering for the blue team myself, but it's not that simple."

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