

THE JUDITH CHAMPION MIXFEST

(WRIT)UAL MIX:
Traditions of the Diaspora

A FREE READING SERIES
PLAY FESTIVAL

AUGUST 7 – 16, 2023

CO-CURATED BY

Daaimah Mubashshir, NSangou Njikam & Awoye Timpo

Artistic Director
Neil Pepe

Associate Artistic Director
Annie MacRae

Associate Producer
Abigail Katz

We acknowledge that the Atlantic Theater & School buildings were built on the occupied traditional lands of the Lenape people. We are grateful to the Indigenous caretakers of these lands and honor the Lenape Tribes who continue to thrive today.

(WRIT)UAL MIX

GOOD BLOOD

By **Diane Exavier**

Directed by **Cristina Angeles**

Wednesday, August 9 | 7pm

Josephine

Margaret Odette*

Chelsea/Granmoun

Malika Samuel*

David/Jude

Ricardy Fabre*

Yves

Carl Hendrick Louis*

Max

Julian Elijah Martinez*

Stage Manager

Sydneii Colter*

**Members of Actors' Equity Association*

DIANE EXAVIER (*Playwright*) is a writer, theatermaker and educator working at the intersection of performance and poetry. Her work has been presented with The New Group, BRIC Arts, The Bushwick Starr, Bowery Poetry Club, Dixon Place, and more. Diane concerns herself with what she recognizes as the 4 L's: love, loss, legacy, and land. Her play *Bernarda's Daughters* premiered Off-Broadway in 2023, co-produced by The New Group and National Black Theatre. Her poetry collection, *The Math of Saint Felix* was recently published by The 3rd Thing Press. A 2021 Jerome Foundation Finalist, Diane lives and works in Brooklyn. She is currently working on a Sloan Foundation new play commission in partnership with Manhattan Theatre Club.

CRISTINA ANGELES (*Director*) is an Afrolatina director, writer, and theater maker whose mission is to create empathy and conversation by directing new plays, musicals, and socially conscious adaptations of classics that place people of color at the forefront. Her work challenges the preconceived notions of what the American Theater can be, while confronting the intersections between our public, private, and political selves. Today, Cristina is the Founding Artistic Director of Checkmark Productions, an NYC based company dedicated to artists of color and the telling of their stories, and an Associate Resident Director at Roundabout Theatre Company. Previously, she has been awarded the Drama League's New York Directing Fellowship, the Roundabout Directing Fellowship, and worked as an Associate Director on and off Broadway. Cristina was named one of the Broadway Women's Fund's "Women to Watch" of 2022, and her recent directing credits include Hilary Bettis's *Queen of Basel* at Theaterworks Hartford, Sondheim and Lapine's *Into the Woods* at Pace University, and overseeing the national tour of Charles Fuller's *A Soldier's Play* directed by Kenny Leon. Up next, Cristina will be directing the New York premiere of Vichet Chum's *High School Play* at Fordham University, and Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* at University of Rochester. More at cristinaangeles.com

RICARDY FABRE (*David/Jude*) is honored to be a part of MixFest. Theatre Credits include: *Wine in the Wilderness* (Two River Theatre), *New Golden Age* (Primary Stages), *Stick Fly* (Rep. Theatre of St. Louis), *The Christians* (Chautauqua Theatre Company), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Seattle Rep), *Our Town* (Portland Center Stage), *Christmas Carol* (Trinity Rep), *Lessons in Survival* (Vineyard Theatre), *I and You* (The People's Light), *The Convert* (Central Square Theatre). Education: Brown/Trinity Rep MFA Acting.

CARL HENDRICK LOUIS (*Yves*). Broadway: 1984, *The Cherry Orchard* (Roundabout Theatre Company). Off-Broadway: *The Fears* (Signature Theatre), *The Emperor Jones* (Irish Repertory Theatre), *The Tempest* (Classical Theatre of Harlem), *Little Children Dream of God* (Roundabout Theatre Company), *The King's Whore* (Walkerspace), *In Fields Where They Lay* (Hudson Guild Theatre), *Marat/Sade* (Classical Theatre of Harlem). Regional: August Wilson's *Radio Golf* (Two River Theatre), *Mlima's Tale* (Westport Country Playhouse), *Sunset Baby* (Kitchen Theatre Company). Film: *Fan Girl*, *Unknown Soldier*. Television: "Random Acts of Flyness," "Manifest," "Mindhunter." Education: New York University's Graduate Acting Program and Fordham University's Theatre Program.

JULIAN ELIJAH MARTINEZ (*Max*) Broadway: *Network*. Off-Broadway: *This Land Was Made* (Vineyard Theatre), *Sanctuary City* (New York Theater Workshop), *Anatomy of A Suicide* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Mud* (Boundless Theater Company), *Alligator* (New Georges). Regional: *King Lear* (Shakespeare Theater Company), *Father Comes Home From The Wars Part 1, 2, 3* (co-production Yale Rep and A.C.T), and *9 Circles* (Forum Theatre, Helen Hayes nomination). TV: "Wu-tang: An American Saga," "Law and Order: SVU," "That Damn Michael Che Show," "Prodigal Son," and "Elementary." Other: Company member of The Acting Company, and Board member of Developing Artist. Training: MFA Yale School Of Drama. julianelijahmartinez.com

MARGARET ODETTIE (*Josephine*). Off-Broadway: Shakespeare in the Park's *Much Ado About Nothing* (Public Theater), *Black Mother Lost Daughter* (National Black Theatre), *The Convent* (Rattlestick Theater), *Sehnsucht* (Jack), *Figaro* (The Pearl Theatre), *She Kills Monsters* (Flea Theater). Regional: *Revenge Song* (The Geffen Playhouse), *Paradise Blue* (Long Wharf Theatre), *Skeleton Crew* (Chester Theatre Company), *A Raisin in The Sun* (Clarence Brown Theatre), *The Taming of The Shrew* and *In The Next Room* (Chautauqua Theatre Company). Television: "Sex/Life" (Netflix), "Step Up" (Starz), "Blindspot" (NBC), "How To Make Love To A Black Woman" (Showtime), "Instinct" (CBS), "Elementary" (CBS). Film: *The Independent, Boogie, Sleeping with Other People*. Education: BA Brown University, MFA NYU Tisch. Margaret sits on the Board of the 52nd Street Project.

MALIKA SAMUEL (*Chelsea/Granmoun*) is an interdisciplinary storyteller and teaching artist, presently faculty at her alma mater NYU Tisch. Additionally, she applies her creative experiences and professional skills towards developing curricular interventions across the medical/healthcare education/practice continuum. Broadway: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (OBC), *The Music Man*. NY Theater: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Double Feature Plays), *Bernarda's Daughters* (TNG/TNBT and TNG/Audible Theater), *Crumbs from the Table of Joy* (Keen), *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord* (WP). TV: "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "EVIL," "Orange Is the New Black," "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," "Chicago P.D.," "Law & Order: SVU," "The Good Wife," "Person of Interest," "The Big C Hosting: Nick Studio 10," "2013 Kids' Choice Awards Pre-Show," "Kidz Bop Kidz Star USA." Film: *Holiday Rush*, *Submission*, *Central Park*, *Hello Apartment*, *Kilimanjaro*. Directing: *in lucem: a devised piece* (Tisch Drama Stages), *The Wolves*, *Marie Antoinette and the Magical Negroes*, *The House of Bernarda Alba* (NYU MSNR), *Bloom Bloom Pow* (A.R.T/NY Theaters, movement direction). XOXO to family, friends, Paradigm and A3!

SYDNEI COLTER (*Stage Manager*) is excited to be collaborating with the Atlantic Theater for the first time. Off-Broadway: *Bernarda's Daughters*, *Evanston Salt Costs Climbing*, *Black No More* (The New Group). Other recent credits include: *Sweet Chariot* (Shiva Theatre), *The Outsiders* (Daryl Roth Theatre), *Echoes in the Garden* (The Chain Theatre).

Monday, August 7 | 7pm

PANEL DISCUSSION - ROOTS, RHYME, AND REASON:

Traditions of Black Storytelling

moderated by **Dr. Sybil R. Williams**

Tuesday, August 8 | 7pm

BURNBABYBURN: an american dream

by **a.k. payne**

directed by **Awoye Timpo**

Wednesday, August 9 | 7pm

GOOD BLOOD

by **Diane Exavier**

directed by **Cristina Angeles**

Monday, August 14 | 7pm

SHORT PLAYS

by **Dennis A. Allen II, Keelay Gipson, Amina Henry,**

Goldie E. Patrick & Liza Jessie Peterson

directed by **Raelle Myrick-Hodges & Derrick Sanders**

Tuesday, August 15 | 7pm

A FREEKY INTRODUCTION

by **NSangou Njikam**

directed by **Dennis A. Allen II**

Wednesday, August 16 | 7pm

THE IMMEASURABLE WANT OF LIGHT

by **Daaimah Mubashshir**

directed by **Colette Robert**

SPECIAL THANKS

David Callahan, Kirk Curtis, Braley Degenhardt, Dylan Gervais, Julianne Graffeo, Mark Thomas Johnson, John Lagucki, Clare McCormick, Melissa Rocha, Bailey Sawyer, Sarah Shapiro, Jared Solomon, Barbara Toy

Judith Champion, who also underwrote Atlantic's Launch commissioning program, sadly passed away in July of 2022. She was a fierce advocate for theater, and wanted to leave a legacy of support for new voices so that American theater will thrive for generations to come.

(Writ)ual Mix and all of Atlantic's new play and musical development activities are made possible through the support of The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

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