NOLLYWOOD DREAMS
ROBERT LUPONE, BERNARD TELSEY and WILLIAM CANTLER / artistic directors
BLAKE WEST / executive director

presents

NOLLYWOOD DREAMS

by JOCELYN BIOH

with ABENA, YAO DOGBE, CHARLIE HUDSON, III, SHIRO KIHAGI, NANA MENSAH, SANDRA OKUBOYEJO, ADE OTUKOYA, EMANA RACHELLE, MARSHA REGIS

scenic design ARNULFO MALDONADO
costume design DEDE AYITE
lighting design DAVID WEINER, JIYOUN CHANG
sound design PALMER HEFFERAN
projection design ALEX BASCO KOCH

hair & wig design NIKIYA MATHIS
dialect coach DAWN-ELIN FRASER
production stage manager ALYSSA K. HOWARD
general manager BETH DEMBROW
director of finance LIZ OLSON
director of marketing, communications & audience services NIKKI VERA
director of public engagement & education TRICIA PATRICK
production manager STEVE ROSENBERG

manager of artistic production AYANA PARKER-MORRISON
manager of artistic development ELISSA HUANG
casting THE TELSEY OFFICE / WILL CANTLER, CSA, KARYN CASL, CSA, DESTINY LILLY, CSA

publicity MATT ROSS PR / MATT ROSS
NICOLE CAPATASTO
LIZ LOMBARDI
LIV RHODES

produced by special arrangement with Mark Gordon Pictures and Fourth Wall Theatrical

NOLLYWOOD DREAMS was developed by the Cherry Lane Mentor Project (Angelina Fiordellisi, Founding Artistic Director) in April 2017
NOLLYWOOD DREAMS was developed with the support of New York Stage & Film and Vassar’s Powerhouse season, Summer 2016
NOLLYWOOD DREAMS is supported by The Laurents/Hatcher Foundation, The Bonnie Cashin Costume Design Fund, New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the New York State Legislature, and The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council.

Presented in the NEWMAN MILLS THEATER
CAST

IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:

Dede Okafor ................................................ NANA MENSAH
Ayamma Okafor .......................... SANDRA OKUBOYEJO
Adenikeh ......................................................... ABENA
Gbenga Ezie ................................. CHARLIE HUDSON, III
Fayola Ogunleye ............................. EMANA RACHELLE
Wale Owusu ................................................. ADE OTUKOYA

UNDERSTUDIES:

Understudies never substitute for the listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the appearance.

For Gbenga/Wale ................................. YAO DOGBE
For Ayama/Fayola .............................. SHIRO KIHAGI
For Dede/Adenikeh ......................... MARSHA REGIS

TIME: Early 1990’s
PLACE: Lagos, Nigeria
WHO’S WHO

ABENA—she/her (Adenikeh) From NJ, Abena is an actor/vocalist of dual Ghanaian and African-American descent. She originated and reprised the role of Nana in SCHOOL GIRLS; OR, THE AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY (MCC Theater, Center Theatre Group. *Drama Desk Special Award). Vocalist of the Royalton Resorts theme song, “Royalton Life”. AMDA graduate. Abena is also a former Disney Cruise mainstage vocalist. Additional NYC credits: MERRY WIVES (The Delacorte Theater) GODDESS (MCC SongLab/NYSAF), APPOINTMENT WITH GOD (The Playwrights Realm), RAGTIME (Ellis Island), HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN—WATER IS LIFE (NYMF). TV: “ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK”, “DAREDEVIL”, “THE OTHER TWO”, “CELEBS HAVE ISSUES”, and “FBI”. Instagram: @abenadryl

CHARLIE HUDSON, III (Gbenga Ezie) Broadway: A RAISIN IN THE SUN. Off-Broadway: NOLLYWOOD DREAMS (MCC Theater); (A) LOFT MODULATION (American Vicarious); HURT VILLAGE (Signature). REGIONAL: KING HEDLEY II, A RAISIN IN THE SUN, SEVEN GUITARS (Two Rivers Theater); DETROIT ’67 (Playmakers Rep); THE MOUNTAINTOP (Northern Stage); FATHER COMES HOME FROM THE WARS (ART); CLYBOURNE PARK, BENEATHA’S PLACE, (Baltimore Centerstage); FENCES (Virginia Stage Company); THE PIANO LESSON (Yale Rep); MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS (Portland Stage Company); FLY, (Crossroads Theater/The Vineyard Playhouse); RICHARD III, ALL THE KING’S Men, CYRANO DE BERGERAC, (Trinity Rep); MOTHER COURAGE (Public Theater/ NYSF); THREEPENNY OPERA (Williamstown Theatre Festival). Television: “ARCHIVE 81” (Netflix), “MANIFEST” (NBC), “THE NIGHT OF” (HBO), “SHADES OF BLUES” (NBC), “THE GOOD FIGHT” (CBS), “UNFORGETTABLE” (CBS), “FOREVER” (ABC), “THE ROSA PARKS STORY” (CBS), and “A RAISIN IN THE SUN Revisited” (PBS). Film: ROXANNE, ROXANNE; COMPLETE UNKNOWN; TWELVE; NEWLYWEEDS; LILLIAN. TRAINING: Alabama State University and Brown University/Trinity Repertory Consortium. I would like to thank my family for their love and support.

NANA MENSAH (Dede Okafor) is a Ghanaian-American actor, writer, and director. Previously on stage, she starred in Tracy Letts’ MAN FROM NEBRASKA, directed by David Cromer (Lucille Lortel Award and AUDELCO nominations). She stars in the film QUEEN OF GLORY, which she also wrote and directed. QUEEN OF GLORY premiered in the U.S. Narrative Competition lineup at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival winning Best New Director. She appears opposite Sandra Oh and Bob Balaban in Netflix’s comedy series, “THE CHAIR.” Other selected TV/film credits include: Netflix’s BONDING, Ekwa Msangi’s FAREWELL AMOR, Judd Apatow’s THE KING OF STATEN ISLAND,
NBC's NEW AMSTERDAM. Mensah first gained recognition in the role of “Sade” in YouTube's AN AFRICAN CITY.

SANDRA OKUBOYEJO (Ayamma Okafor) Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Okuboyejo is a first generation multidisciplinary storyteller. A graduate of Pace University with a BFA in Musical Theater, stage credits include: HAMILTON the musical (U/S Eliza, Angelica and Peggy), RAGTIME *ELLIS ISLAND* (Sarah), AIDA (Aida), CAROLINE OR CHANGE (Emmie; directed by Jeanine Tesori), THE DROWSY CHAPERONE (Janet), etc. TV: “TOMMY” on CBS. Additionally, she's had the honor of performing and musically arranging at venues such as Lollapalooza and the United Center, as well as on her original musical HALONA AND OPHELIA with her writing partner Hanako Greensmith. Most recently, she's expanded her artistic horizons into audiobooks; “Minecraft: the haven trails” by Suyi Davies, “The Sweetest Remedy” by Jane Igharo, and a book she’s written herself with the hopes of uplifting young black girls: “Black Girl Magic ABC affirmation and workbook”. Many thanks to God, my family and friends, my fantastic team at KMR and Perennial, Telsey&Co, this unparalleled cast and crew, and Nollywood films for helping me get through HOURS of braiding. Here’s to ushering joy back into the world. Instagram @sandraokuboyejo www.sandraokuboyejo.com


EMANA RACHELLE—she/her (Fayola Ogunleye) is excited to make her Off-Broadway debut at MCC. Theatre: IN THE NAME OF (The Shed NYC), CLYBOURNE PARK (Francine/Lena), RUINED (Sophie), and international tours in South Africa and Holland. TV: “INSECURE” (HBO), “#LOVEMYROOMIE” (Amazon Prime) & “30 ROCK” (NBC). MFA: West Virginia University, BADA (Oxford); BFA: NYU-Tisch. Emana performs improv and stand-up comedy around New York City. This performance is dedicated to the life and legacy of my first love, Ella Mae Robinson Warren. A woman who walked the floors for me and diligently drove me to drama classes at North Atlanta High School. Follow me on Instagram: @emanarachelle.

YAO DOGBE (understudy Gbenga/Wale) Born and raised in Hampton Virginia, Yao is a first generation Ghanaian-American
classically trained actor and storyteller. This would be Yao’s first opportunity working Off-Broadway with MCC Theater. Regional credits include: INTIMATE APPAREL (Northlight Theatre); FENCES (American Players Theatre); HOMEBOUND, OHIO STATE MURDERs (Round House Theatre); CYMBELINE (Utah Shakespeare Festival Macbeth (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); MEASURE FOR MEASURE, TWELFTH NIGHT (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); RICHARD III, TWELFTH NIGHT (Houston Shakespeare Festival); OTHESLOLO, LOVE’S LABOUR’S LOST (Montana Shakespeare in the Parks). Education: M.F.A. in Theatre, University of Houston. Awards: Yao was listed as one of Houston’s best actors in 2017 for his performance as Booth, in Suzan Lori-Parks’ TOPDOG/UNDERDOG. Recently Yao has received an honorary membership into Alpha Psi Omega (the National Theatre Honor Society) from his alma mater, Norfolk State University. Follow him on Instagram @yaonation

SHIRO KIHAGI (understudy Ayama/Fayola) is a Kenyan actress now residing in NYC where she has had the pleasure of working in theatre for the past four years. Some of her credits include WAAAFRIKA 123 by Nick Hadikwa Mwaluko performed at The New Ohio Theatre, THE CONTRACT by James Webb performed at Theatre Row and SKYSCRAPERS by Ira Kipp workshopped at ART/NY. Working on projects that are meaningful and relevant to her is something she is grateful for and she is elated to be a part of NOLLYWOOD DREAMS. She has a degree from The Culinary Institute of America and uses every free moment she has to be in the kitchen continuing her exploration of food. Food is for her soul and acting is for her heart. She thanks everyone on the NOLLYWOOD DREAMS team and is honoured to be part of such an amazingly talented cast.

MARSHA REGIS (understudy Dede/Adenikeh) Originally from Haiti, Marsha has grown up in the Caribbean and Canada. She has been studying and working as an actor for well over a decade. Marsha’s selected theatre credits include the role of Mayme in Lynn Nottage’s INTIMATE APPAREL (Grand Theatre, Arts Club Theatre), Amina in BELLEVILLE (Company Theatre/Canadian Stage), Susan in David Mamet’s RACE, a role for which she received a Jessie Richardson Award nomination in Canada (Théâtre La Seizième). Marsha has also gathered numerous TV credits over the years. Some of those include “FBI” (CBS), “Suits” (USA), “COVERT AFFAIRS” (CW), “FRINGE” (FOX), “SUPERNATURAL” (WB), and “SMALLVILLE” (WB). Feature films credits include THE COMPANY YOU KEEP (Robert Redford, dir.), THE WATCHMEN (Zack Snyder, dir.), THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE (Scott Derrickson, dir.), and WHITE NOISE (Geoffrey Sax, dir.). Marsha holds an MFA from the Actors Studio Drama School. MarshaRegis.com

JOCELYN BIOH—she/her (Playwright) is an award winning Ghanaian-American writer/performer from New York City. Her written works for theatre include: MERRY WIVES adapted from Shakespeare’s
MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR (The Public Theater/Shakespeare in the Park) NOLLYWOOD DREAMS (MCC Theater), GODDESS the musical which will have its world premiere at Berkeley Rep in 2022, and the multi award winning SCHOOL GIRLS; OR THE AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY which was originally produced at MCC Theater in 2017/2018 and has gone on to have over 20 regional productions. She is a former TOW playwriting fellow (2017) and has been commissioned by MTC, Atlantic Theater Co., Williamstown Theatre Festival and Second Stage. Jocelyn has also written for TV on “RUSSIAN DOLL,” Spike Lee’s “SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT” and is also writing the live screen adaptation of the hit Broadway musical ONCE ON THIS ISLAND for Disney+.

SAHEEM ALI—he/him (Director) is a proud immigrant from Kenya, and currently serves as the Associate Artistic Director/ Resident Director of The Public Theater. Recent productions include MERRY WIVES (Delacorte Theatre/Shakespeare in the Park), ROMEO Y JULIETA and RICHARD II (The Public/WNYC), SHIPWRECK (Woolly Mammoth), FIRES IN THE MIRROR (Signature Theatre), THE NEW ENGLANDERS (MTC), THE ROLLING STONE (Lincoln Center Theater), PASSAGE (Soho Rep), FIREFLIES (Atlantic Theater Company), DANGEROUS HOUSE (Williamstown Theater Festival), SUGAR IN OUR WOUNDS (MTC), TARTUFFE (Playmakers Rep), TWELFTH NIGHT (The Public), KILL MOVE PARADISE (National Black Theater), NOLLYWOOD DREAMS (Cherry Lane) and THE BOOTY CALL (Inner Voices). Upcoming productions include the world premiere of the musical GODDESS, which Saheem conceived and will direct for Berkeley Repertory Theatre. He is a Usual Suspect at New York Theater Workshop, a Sir John Gielgud SDCF Fellow and a Shubert Fellow.

ARNULFO MALDONADO (Scenic Designer) is a New York City based set and costume designer. Arnulfo is a recipient of a Princess Grace Fabergé Theater Award and a multiple Henry Hewes Design nominee. He recently received the 2020 Obie for Sustained Excellence in Set Design, as well as a Special Citation Obie as part of the Creative Team of the Pulitzer Prize winning A STRANGE LOOP by Michael R. Jackson. Notable design credits include the aforementioned world premiere of Michael R. Jackson’s A STRANGE LOOP (Playwrights Horizons), as well as: Clare Barron’s DANCE NATION (Playwrights Horizons), Jocelyn Bioh’s SCHOOL GIRLS, OR; THE AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY (MCC Theater), Jaclyn Backhaus’ MEN ON BOATS (Clubbed Thumb/Playwrights Horizons), and Donja R. Love’s SUGAR IN OUR WOUNDS (Manhattan Theater Club, Lucille Lortel Award Outstanding Scenic Design recipient), ONE IN TWO (New Group) and most recently Will Eno’s THE UNDERLYING CHRIS (Second Stage). U.S. premieres include Anne Washburn’s SHIPWRECK (Woolly Mammoth) and debbie tucker green’s generations (Soho Rep).

DEDE AYITE (Costume Designer) is a two time tony nominated costume designer whose Broadway credits include A SOLDIER’S PLAY, SLAVE PLAY, AMERICAN SON, and CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD. Select Off-Broadway credits include SECRET LIFE OF BEES,
MARIE AND ROSETTA, (Atlantic); BY THE WAY, MEET VERA STARK, (Signature); BLKS, SCHOOL GIRLS... (MCC); BELLA: AN AMERICAN TALL TALE (Playwrights Horizons); THE ROYALE (Lincoln Center); TONI STONE (Roundabout). Regionally, Ayite’s work has appeared at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Steppenwolf, Arena Stage and more. She has worked in television with Netflix, Comedy Central, and FOX Shortcoms. Ayite earned her MFA at the Yale School of Drama and has received an Obie, Lucille Lortel, Helen Hayes, Theatre Bay Area, and Jeff Awards, along with four Drama Desk Nominations.


JIYOUN CHANG—she/her (Co-Lighting Designer) Broadway: SLAVE PLAY (Tony Nomination). Off-Broadway: for colored girls, MERRY WIVES (Public); ANATOMY OF A SUICIDE, EDDIE AND DAVE (Atlantic); MARY’S SEACOLE, PLOT POINTS IN OUR SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT, brownsville song (LCT3); SOJOURNERS, HER PORTMANTEAU (NYTW); SOMEthing CLEAN, TOO HEAVY FOR YOUR POCKET, UGLY LIES THE BONE (Roundabout); BAM, MCC, Signature, Guggenheim, Berkeley Rep, Cal Shakes, Guthrie, The Old Globe, OSF, Studio Theatre. Falstaff Award 2012 (Troilus and Cressida). Nominations: Tony, Drama Desk, Theatre Bay Area, Henry Hewes Design Awards. Obie Award in special citation. MFA: Yale School of Drama.

PALMER HEFFERAN (Sound Designer) Select credits include Broadway: GRAND HORIZONS (Second Stage), THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT (Studio 54). Off-Broadway: SHADOW/LAND, SHIPWRECK, WILD GOOSE DREAMS (The Public Theater); FEFU AND HER FRIENDS (TFANA); MARYS SEACOLE (LCT3); BLKS, COLLECTIVE RAGE, CHARM, SCHOOL GIRLS... (MCC Theater); THE NEW ENGLANDERS, SUGAR IN OUR WOUNDS, IMPORTANT HATS... (MTC); SOMETHING
CLEAN, BOBBIE CLEARLY (Roundabout); FABULATION, DEATH OF THE LAST BLACK MAN... (Signature Theatre). Awards: 2019 Obie Award for Sustained Excellence in Sound Design.

ALEX BASCO KOCH (Projection Designer) Broadway: BE MORE CHILL (Drama Desk, Lortel, Outer Critics Circle nominated); IRENA’S VOW. Off-Broadway: BUYER & CELLAR (North American Tour; Menier Chocolate Factory; Barrow Street; Rattlestick); FIREFLIES (Atlantic; Lortel nominated); I WAS MOST ALIVE WITH YOU (Playwrights Horizons); THE LIQUID PLAIN (Signature; Oregon Shakespeare Festival); GOODBAR (The Public Theater’s Under the Radar Festival). Regional: INDECENT (Guthrie); THE WHO’S TOMMY (Denver Center); APPROVAL JUNKIE, TIGER STYLE (Alliance; Huntington Theatre Company); STAX, MARLEY (Baltimore Center Stage); INVISIBLE MAN (Court Theatre, Chicago; Studio Theatre, Washington DC; Huntington); REENTRY (Baltimore Center Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Roundhouse Theatre). Concert: The Magnetic Fields’ 50 Song Memoir.

NIKIYA MATHIS—she/her (Hair & Wig Designer) Nikiya Mathis holds an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts’ Graduate Acting Program. She is the recipient of the 2020 Henry Hewes Design Award, The Antonio Award and she is a Drama Desk nominee. Makeup/ Hair & Wig Design Broadway: CHICKEN & BISCUITS. Off Broadway: The Public Theatre; New York Theatre Workshop, MCC, Soho Rep, Women’s Project, Ars Nova, Page 73 Productions @ Walker Space, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Classical Theater of Harlem, National Black Theater. Regional & University: Baltimore Center Stage, La Jolla Playhouse, Hartford Stage, Huntington Theatre, Syracuse Stage, Long Wharf Theatre, Berkshire Theatre, Theatre Works, NYU Tisch, American Academy of Dramatic Art, AMDA and Barnard College.

DAWN-ELIN FRASER—she/her (Dialect Coach) Broadway: THE GREAT SOCIETY; TINA—THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL; SLAVE PLAY; WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME; ONCE ON THIS ISLAND; WAITRESS; FINDING NEVERLAND. National Tour: WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME; ONCE ON THIS ISLAND; The Gershwin’s PORGY AND BESS; WAITRESS; FINDING NEVERLAND. Off-Broadway: SLAVE PLAY; NAT TURNER IN JERUSALEM; SOJOURNERS; HER PORTMANTEAU; AN ORDINARY MUSLIM; THE HOUSE THAT WILL NOT STAND (NYTW); FIRES IN THE MIRROR; BY THE WAY MEET VERA STARK; OUR LADY OF KIBEHO (Signature Theater); INVISIBLE THREAD (Second Stage); EVE’S SONG; BARBEQUE; PASSING STRANGE (The Public Theater), MERRY WIVES (Shakespeare in the Park). Regional: GUYS AND DOLLS (Guthrie Theater); FINDING NEVERLAND; CROSSING: AN AMERICAN OPERA; WAITRESS (A.R.T); COMEDY OF ERRORS (Oregon Shakespeare Festival). Head of Spoken Voice and Speech, New Studio on Broadway NYU/Tisch. Certified Teacher, Knight-Thompson Speechwork. Education: MFA, American Conservatory Theater.

ALYSSA K HOWARD (Production Stage Manager) is a NYC-based stage manager and more: seeyouinc8.wordpress.com. Recent

TIA HAREWOOD-MILLINGTON (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Colorado-raised, New York City-based stage manager with a passion for working on live TV events, concerts, new theatrical works, and projects that center and uplift women and marginalized communities. Past credits include The 2021 Met Gala, GovBall 2021, Countdown to the BET Awards, MAKING GOOD (Theatre Aspen) Dick Clark’s New Years Rockin’ Eve, VAX Live: The Concert to Reunite the World, HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE (Manhattan Theater Club), ONE IN TWO (The New Group), THE NEW ENGLANDERS (Manhattan Theater Club), LEMPICKA (Williamstown Theatre Festival), SELLING KABUL (Williamstown Theatre Festival), SOFT (Williamstown Theatre Festival) BRIGHT & BRAVE (Dixon Place), SHIPWRECK (The Public). Proud alumna of Hofstra University 2019 and member of Actor's Equity. Thanks and love always to Mom, Lindsey, Noah, and Lowe 217. Instagram: @tia.h.millington

THE TELSEY OFFICE (Casting). With offices in both New York and Los Angeles, The Telsey Office casts for theater, film, television, and commercials. The Telsey Office is dedicated to creating safe, equitable, and anti-racist spaces through collaboration, artistry, heart, accountability, and advocacy.

BONNIE CASHIN COSTUME DESIGN FUND was established in 2018 with a generous gift from The Bonnie Cashin Foundation to honor the legacy of the late fashion and costume designer, Bonnie Cashin. The Fund supports the design and construction of costumes for MCC Theater productions.

ACTORS’ EQUITY ASSOCIATION (“Equity”), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors’ Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated
with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. Equity is governed by its own members through an elected Council, representing principal actors, chorus actors and stage managers living in three regions: Eastern, Central and Western. Members at large participate in Equity’s governance through a system of regional Boards and Committees. Equity has 28 designated area liaison cities with over 100 members each. #EquityWorks
Since 1999, MCC THEATER has used the power of theater to excite minds, foster a collaborative and creative community for New York City high school students across all five boroughs, investing in the next generation of theatermakers. Every year, more than 1200 New York City students’ lives are transformed through our programs, cultivating in them a deep appreciation for the arts and its power to engage and affect change.

Driven by our mission to provoke conversations, we are committed to using the power of theater to ask some of the essential questions of our times. Our EDUCATION programs break down barriers to embolden students and young audiences to deepen their CURIOSITY and find confidence in THEIR VOICES. Those voices are uplifted as their words are woven together to form the fabric of our UNCENSORED, BKYC UNCENSORED and FRESHPLAY performances.
After making a seamless transition to remote learning in March of 2020, MCC continues to adapt and innovate to meet the changing needs of our students and community. Since then we have hosted LIVE online performances of UNCENSORED and BKYC UNCENSORED as well as a week long virtual ON DEMAND staged reading festival for FRESHPLAY. We continue the long and valued relationships with our four partner schools: Manhattan International High School, Baruch College Campus High Schools, both in Manhattan, and The High School for Law and Public Service on the George Washington High School Campus in Washington Heights and The High School for Public Service in Brooklyn. We are committed to providing quality arts-based education because youth voices matter and creating an inclusive space where everyone’s stories are heard can inspire change in ourselves and in society.

Throughout the pandemic MCC’s Education Department virtually served from MAR 2020-JUN 2021:

- **103 STUDENTS** in our after school Youth Company programs
- **925 STUDENTS** across our in-school partnerships within four high schools in NYC
- **199 STUDENTS** were served through our Virtual Student Matinee program

MCC THEATER’s Education Programs are supported by the Axe-Houghton Foundation, The Emily Davie and Joseph S. Kornfeld Foundation, Harold J. Newman† & Ruth Newman, The Pinkerton Foundation, The Eric Rosedale Playwriting Fund, Tiger Baron Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the city council.
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STAFF FOR NOLLYWOOD DREAMS

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Assistant Director .............................................................Sophiyaa Nayar
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Automation ................................................................................Peter Strand
Wig Supervisor ...........................................................................NiKi McDaniel
Wig Swing ..................................................................................Tinkia Sadiku
Stitcher .....................................................................................Victoria Sterling Kelly
Makeup Design ...........................................................................Ashley Jeady
Light Board Operator ...............................................................Samuel Ean Grady
Sound Board Operator .............................................................Amelia Way
Set for NOLLYWOOD DREAMS ..............................................Tom Carroll Scenery, Inc.
Lighting ....................................................................................Production Resource Group, LLC
Sound ......................................................................................Masque Sound
Video ..........................................................................................4wall Entertainment
Additional elements ..................................................................Global Scenic Services

SPECIAL THANKS
Sheree Cromartie
Burnt Umber Productions
Ardesia

CASTING
THE TELSEY OFFICE
William Cantler, CSA, Karyn Casl, CSA
Destiny Lilly, CSA, Charlie Hano

STAFF FOR NOLLYWOOD DREAMS
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Comfort ....................................................................................Sandra Okuboyejo
James ......................................................................................Ade Otuoya
Rose .......................................................................................Emana Rachelle
Young Comfort ........................................................................Chanel Umoh
Young James ...........................................................................Judah Sandridge
Production Assistants ...........................................................Adriana Guerrero, Katherine Guanche
Chauffeur ..................................................................................Chris Caimano
Producer ..................................................................................Ayana Parker-Morrison
Special Thanks .......................................................................Ardesia, Donyale Werle
Our PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT programs invite audiences to delve deeper into our onstage work as well as build bridges across our community artistically and geographically. Connect with us and each other.

Audience members of all generations have emboldened our work with VIBRANT DISCUSSIONS, debates, and reflections that spill out of the theater and fill the streets and continue to reverberate throughout New York City and beyond.

**LET’S TALK:** We invite you to join our Audience Conversations taking place directly after select performances. We also host moderated TalkBacks with our cast and creative teams.

**LET’S ENGAGE:** Community Specific theater nights, panel discussions, and workshops open up the door to wider engagement with our work and our company.

**LET’S WATCH:** Open mic nights and invitations to student staged readings as well as film screenings bring audiences together in a new way to celebrate artists and artistry in a variety of formats.
THE ROBERT W. WILSON MCC THEATER SPACE

Inaugurated on JAN 9, 2019, MCC’s new Hell’s Kitchen home, THE ROBERT W. WILSON MCC THEATER SPACE, is a state-of-the-art complex designed for us to do what we do best: shakes things up. The space houses two theaters, two rehearsal studios, extensive backstage facilities, administrative offices, and ample audience amenities.

THE NEWMAN MILLS THEATER is named for Ruth & Harold† Newman and Marianne & Steve Mills. As dedicated co-chairs of The Campaign for MCC THEATER, they led a successful fundraising effort in support of MCC’s education and artistic programs.

THE SUSAN & RONALD FRANKEL THEATER is named for Susan & Ronald Frankel. They have been active with the company since 2015. Susan Frankel is also an MCC THEATER Board member.

ROBERT W. WILSON was a well-known and successful investor from the mid-1960’s to the mid-1980’s. After retirement, he devoted his life to philanthropy. He was a transformative philanthropist, primarily funding worldwide organizations in the preservation and conservation areas. An avid New Yorker, he was also involved with a number of New York’s cultural institutions. He was a major supporter of, and held leadership roles with, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Environmental Defense Fund, The Metropolitan Opera, the Whitney Museum, and the World Monuments Fund. In addition, he and the Trust continue to support the above institutions and The Nature Conservancy, The New York Public Library, Central Park Conservancy, BAM, and the Wildlife Conservation Society.
Every Patron is treated to....

- **PERSONALIZED TICKET SERVICE**—we reserve the best seats for you.
- **EARLY ACCESS** to information about casting, special events, and future programming.
- **YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION TO POST-SHOW PATRON EVENTS** to meet the cast, talk to the artistic leadership, and be a part of the conversation with other Patrons.
- **THE CHANCE TO ATTEND PRIVATE READINGS** and other exclusive special events.
- **A TAX DEDUCTION** for supporting our work.

MCC is a nonprofit, and we count on our Patron community to support the work behind the work. Your tax-deductible contribution helps us...

- **PRODUCE** vital new plays and musicals.
- **DEVELOP** new work by the next generation of theater artists.
- **CHANGE** the lives of nearly 1,200 NYC public high school students each year.
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provoke conversations that have never happened and otherwise never would.

MCC THEATER was founded in 1986 as MANHATTAN CLASS COMPANY by a collective of young actors, writers, and directors determined to steer their own artistic development—and shake things up! That initial group included Artistic Directors Bernie Telsey, Bob LuPone and Will Cantler, since joined by Executive Director Blake West. Our increasingly expansive work continues today.

- **WE PRODUCE EXCITING THEATER.** We produce seasons of BOLD new plays and musicals by exceptional ARTISTS.

- **WE DEVELOP NEW WORK.** We develop NEW WORK by emerging and established artists through a rigorous process that encourages CREATIVE RISK-TAKING.

- **WE HONOR YOUNG VOICES.** Each year our education programs use the power of theater to ROUSE the imaginations of over 1200 high school STUDENTS across ALL FIVE BOROUGHS.

- **WE GET PEOPLE TALKING.** COLLABORATION and COMMUNITY are at the core of everything we do.
WE SAVED YOU A SEAT

Commemorate your support of MCC THEATER with a seat in the Newman Mills Theater

Standard seats begin at $1,500 per seat. For more information about seat naming, please contact Sara Stevens at ssstevens@mcctheater.org or (212) 727-7722 ex. 205.
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HAROLD J. NEWMAN

MCC THEATER acknowledges the passing of our dear friend Harold Newman (1931-2021), an esteemed board member for 20 years. Hal’s commitment to MCC was unwavering. His financial support was instrumental in the creation and sustainability of our partnership at George Washington High School, where he attended high school. He was the first individual donor to the Campaign for MCC, which supported building the space we now occupy and expanding all of our programs for artist and students. MCC was blessed to be among the organizations he loved and supported so passionately. He was a galvanizing force and while his passing leaves a void, his legacy will live on in our theater and in our hearts. We will miss him as we continue to be inspired by him.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Raanan, Ph.D., Chair
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Thank you to the generous corporate sponsors that support our work through the annual MISCAST Gala, production support, and corporate matching programs.

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Benefits of sponsorship include premium seats at the gala and performances, prominent recognition, and opportunity to create unique employee or client entertaining events. For more information, please contact Sandra Davis at (212) 727-7722 ex. 236 or sdavis@mcctheater.org

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PRODUCER’S CIRCLE

We are so grateful to our Producer’s Circle members who provide major support of our mission to provoke conversation among artists, audiences and students—at every point in the play-making process, in all of our programs. Our Producer’s Circle Members play a key role in the development of new work for the stage and MCC’s work with young artists and students.

Anonymous  
Marjorie & Fredric Altschuler  
Javan Bunch  
Carol G. Deane  
Robert J. DiDiano  
Barbara Doran  
Nicole & Stephen Eisenberg  
Rachel & Melvin Epstein  
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Javan Bunch  
Carol G. Deane  
Robert J. DiDiano  
Barbara Doran  
Nicole & Stephen Eisenberg  
Rachel & Melvin Epstein  
Susan & Ronald Frankel

List as of 9/27/2021. To learn more about the Producer’s Circle, please contact (212) 727-7722 ex. 233 or patrons@mcctheater.org.

MCC PATRONS

We are so grateful to the members of our Patron Program, who provide vital annual support for our programming on and off stage, our education and public engagement initiatives, and so much more. For more information on the Patron Program, please visit mcctheater.org/support or contact patrons@mcctheater.org or (212) 727-7722 ex 233. (List as of 9/27/2021)

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Over the years, MCC THEATER has looked to our audience and friends to provide encouragement to fully support a nurturing environment for theater artists and students to explore compelling stories. We thank each and every one of you for your generosity. (List as of 9/27/2021)

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Amid a global pandemic, MCC THEATER persevered and transitioned the annual MISCAST gala to a virtual celebration. We’re so grateful to all of our donors who helped make this event a worldwide phenomenon. (List as of 7/14/2021)

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR MCC THEATER

MCC THEATER is proud to thank everyone who has supported The Campaign for MCC THEATER. You helped make our dream of a home of our own a reality. Our new home allows us to deepen our mission and encourage greater collaboration amongst all of our artists, students, and audiences. (List as of 9/27/2021)

Special thanks to The Office of the Mayor of New York City, Bill DeBlasio; The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl; The New York City Council, Speaker Corey Johnson; and the Office of Manhattan Borough President, President Gale Brewer for their dedication to the arts and their foundational support for this project.

Anonymous
The Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Susan &amp; Ronald Frankel</th>
<th>Emma A. Shearer</th>
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<td>Cathy Glaser &amp; Steve Semlitz</td>
<td>Lori &amp; Edward Forstein</td>
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<td>Steve Richardson &amp; Kirk Rubi</td>
<td>Reeva &amp; Ezra Mager</td>
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<td>Lois Weinroth</td>
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<td>Janine &amp; Jonathan Whitney</td>
<td>John Lewin &amp; Margie</td>
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<td>The Garson Rappaport Family</td>
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<td>The Blanche &amp; Irving Laurie Foundation</td>
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<td>Robert &amp; Virginia LuPone</td>
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<td>Gina Maria Leonetti</td>
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<td>Bruce MacAffer</td>
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<td>Susan Raanan &amp; Robert Fleischer</td>
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<td>Marina &amp; Bill Marcoux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Rosendale Playwriting Fund</td>
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<td>Robert &amp; Fulvia McCrie</td>
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<td>Rosemarie† &amp; Lou Salvatore</td>
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<td>Leslie Lewit &amp; son, Jacob Lewit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marjorie &amp; Fredric Altschuler</td>
<td>Lewis G. Cole</td>
<td>Dahlia Neiss &amp; Family</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| Javan Thomas Bunch | Ann Dickinson and Richard Purington | Anh-Tuyet Nguyen† 
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| Rachel & Melvin Epstein | Maureen & Bill Barton | Dr. Robert Press |
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The funds listed below provide ongoing support to several of MCC’s key initiatives.

**BONNIE CASHIN COSTUME DESIGN FUND** provides support for costume design in one production each season.

**THE GARY PLATT INITIATIVE FOR NEW MUSICALS** supports artistic development and production of new musicals.

**STEVE RICHARDSON AND KIRK RUBI COLLEGE MENTORSHIP FUND** supports MCC Youth Company college and career preparation activities.

**ERIC ROSEDALE PLAYWRITING FUND** supports the annual FreshPlay for the MCC Youth Company.

**THE R&S SHULMAN FUND** supports artistic development and production of new plays, with a focus on work by African American playwrights.

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**ARTIST COUNCIL**

MCC THEATER wishes to acknowledge Artists and Industry Leaders who have generously donated their time and talent to support MCC THEATER’s mission through our Education & Outreach programs, annual MISCAST Gala, and Online Auction.


MCC THEATER wants to center our event in practices rooted in fostering community. We acknowledge how the PAST and the FUTURE converge on our PRESENT. MCC’S theater home sits on the UNCEDED land of the LENAPE people. We acknowledge that this stolen land was worked on by enslaved Africans. May this living land acknowledgement - to the LENAPE, their elders past and present, and their future generations, as well as to the experience of enslaved Africans and their descendants, serve as a starting ground for change.
OUR 2021-22 SEASON

NOLLYWOOD DREAMS
by JOCELYN BIOH
directed by SAHEEM ALI
Begins OCT 2021

SPACE DOGS
by VAN HUGHES and NICK BLAEMIRE
directed by ELLIE HEYMAN
Begins JAN 2022

HERE SHE IS, BOYS
by ANA NOGUEIRA
directed by MIKE DONAHUE
Begins MAY 2022

SOFT
by DONJA R. LOVE
directed by WHITNEY WHITE
Begins APR 2022

NOLL YWOOD DREAMS
new play

HERE SHE IS, BOYS
new play

SOFT
new play
UP NEXT
new musical SPACE DOGS
космические собаки
by VAN HUGHES and NICK BLAEMIRE
directed by ELLIE HEYMAN
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All 4 productions for 1 low price!

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Discounts on your guest tickets.

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<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>PATRON MEMBERSHIP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PACKAGES start at $212</strong></td>
<td><em><em>PAY ONLY $55</em> UP FRONT AND UNLOCK $45 TIX</em>*</td>
<td><strong>MEMBERSHIP from $1,500</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Valid for all performances</td>
<td>✓ Valid for all performances</td>
<td>✓ 2 complimentary tickets to each production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Unlimited no-fee exchanges</td>
<td>✓ Unlocks $45 Preferred Seats</td>
<td>✓ Invitation to Patron events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Excludes Premium Seats</td>
<td>✓ Up to 3 no-fee exchanges per production</td>
<td>✓ Personal concierge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Book your tickets before the general public</td>
<td>✓ Pay as you go and only see the shows you want to see</td>
<td>✓ Unlimited same-day returns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ 20% off Guest Tickets</td>
<td>✓ Book tix before the general public</td>
<td>*Goods &amp; Services from $500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ All ticket fees waived</td>
<td>✓ 10% off Guest Tickets</td>
<td>*does not include one-time $12 handling fee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*includes all fees

Call (646) 506-9393 or visit MCCTHEATER.ORG to save.