2018/19 SEASON

FIRST SEASON PRODUCTION

SCHOOL GIRLS
Or, the African Mean Girls Play
By Jocelyn Bioh
Directed by Rebecca Taichman
Sep 2–30, 2018

SECOND SEASON PRODUCTION

QUACK
By Eliza Clark
Directed by Neel Keller
World Premiere
Oct 21 – Nov 18, 2018

THIRD SEASON PRODUCTION

BLOCK PARTY
Celebrating Los Angeles Theatre
Mar 7 – Apr 28, 2019

THEATRE OF NOTE

FOR THE LOVE OF
(or, the roller derby play)
By Gina Femia
Directed and Choreographed by Rhonda Kohl
Mar 7–17, 2019

SKYLIGHT THEATRE COMPANY

ROTTERTAD
By Jon Brittain
Directed by Michael A. Shepperd
Mar 28 – Apr 7, 2019

ANTAEUS THEATRE COMPANY

NATIVE SON
By Nambi E. Kelley
Based on the Novel by Richard Wright
Directed by Andi Chapman
Apr 18–28, 2019

FOURTH SEASON PRODUCTION

DANA H.
By Lucas Hnath
Adapted from Interviews with Dana Higginbotham
Conducted by Steve Cosson
Directed by Les Waters
World Premiere
May 26 – Jun 23, 2019
Presents the note production of
FOR THE LOVE OF
(OR, THE ROLLER DERBY PLAY)

Written by
Gina Femia

With (in alphabetical order)

Diaz de los Muertos ...................................................... CRYSTAL DIAZ
Michelle ........................................................................... ELINOR GUNN
Squeaky Mouse ................................................................. LIESL HANSON
Trauma Queen ................................................................. FAITH IMAFIDON
Jammy From The Block .......................................................... CINDY LIN
Frida Call-It-Low ................................................................. NADIA MARINA
Hot Flash .............................................................................. LYNN ODELL
Andrea the Vagiant ............................................................... ALINA PHELAN
Joy Ride ............................................................................... BRIANA PRICE
Ruth Bader Getsit ................................................................. NICOLE GABRIELLA SCIPIONE
Anna-Stecia ........................................................................... YOLANDA SNOWBALL
Prosecute-Her ...................................................................... JENNY SOO
Maid of Metal ........................................................................ NANCY STONE
Lizzie Lightning ................................................................. TANIA VERAFIELD

Scenic Design
Eli Smith

Costume Design
Vicki Conrad

Lighting Design
Rose Malone

Sound Design
Gilly Moon

Center Theatre Group Associate Producer
Lindsay Allbaugh

Production Stage Manager
Brooke Baldwin

Stage Manager
Maggie Swing

Originally Produced for Theatre of NOTE by
David Bickford, Kelly “Lucretia Hott” Lingen, Jenny Soo

Directed & Choreographed by
Rhonda Kohl

For The Love Of will be performed with an intermission.
MARCH 7–17, 2019 KIRK DOUGLAS THEATRE

QUESTIONS?
Call our Membership Concierge at 213.972.7564 or email membership@CTGLA.org

As a nonprofit organization, Center Theatre Group relies on the philanthropy of people just like YOU. Your tax-deductible contribution of $100 or more helps ensure that Center Theatre Group continues to bring the highest quality theatre to our community. And, as a member, you will unlock benefits that enhance your theatregoing experience, from behind-the-scenes members-only events to the best seats in the house—and more!

Learn more at CTGLA.org/membership
WHO’S WHO

CRYSTAL DIAZ (Diaz de los Muertos). A NOTE member since 2011. Crystal served on the Artistic & Management Committee and is currently the Membership Chair. Productions at Theatre of NOTE include: Cleo, Theo & Wu. For The Love Of (or, the roller derby play). Hot Cat. Niagara Falls. Shoe Story. Figure 8, and Skeleton Stories. She is a member of Theatre Movement Bazaar, an associate member of Sacred Fools, and has performed in New York, Chicago, London, and Edinburgh. She is a native New Yorker and a trained ballet/flamenco dancer. Special thanks to husband, Alexi DeLaRosa, Lizzy & Penny, and all of the strong women who hold her up.

ELIOR GUNN (Michelle) is delighted to be cast alongside such talented actors in this honest, heartfelt play. Notable performances in Seattle: US premiere of Sugar Daddies, written and directed by Sir Alan Ayckbourn; Olivia in Twelfth Night and Cordelia in King Lear with Seattle Shakespeare Company; and last fall, Kyrta in a successful run of SkyLight at ACT Theatre. In L.A., she is a proud company member of Theatre of NOTE. For The Love Of will mark Elion’s Kirk Douglas Theatre debut. Many thanks to Center Theatre Group for this opportunity. She hopes you continue to support local theatre, and enjoy the show!

LESIEL HANSON (Squeaky Mouse) is a company member at Theatre of NOTE and is so happy to be back in For The Love Of! She is a native Californian who has performed onstage in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, New York, and Edinburgh. Previous credits include the longest running horror film Children of Sorrow and the original cast of Re-Animator the Musical. You can also catch her in the action/thriller feature Happy Hunters. Thanks to everyone who helped bring into the Scallywags family; I love this team and all of you.

FAITH IMAFIDON (Andrea the Vagabond). Understudy for the Joy Ride. Squeaky Mouse is a proud first-generation Nigerian and Boston native. She holds both an MFA in acting and BA in English from Harvard University. Favorite past performances include: Cut (Nume Ogulu)—Casa 0101, The Fertile River (Bever)—University of Maine’s Mabee Theatre, And Then They Fell (Crystal)—Brimmer Street Theatre, and The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Saint Monica)—The Hudson Theatre. When not onstage, Faith enjoys dance battles and trolling Epicurious for recipes. She is honored to work on the Kirk Douglas Theatre stage as she reunites with her lovely, badass female cast! Find more Faith at faithimaidon.com. Follow @faithiisauraus.

CINDY LIN (Danny From The Block). Understudy for Proscenute-Her can’t believe the gets to sit in with Mechant’s roller derby women again. Original cast of Theatre of NOTE’s West Coast premier of For The Love Of UCLA graduate and HODULIGN Theatre Company alumna. Past HTC credits Include The Wedding Singer, Legally Blonde, Titanic, Curtains, and Unleptown. Always singing, dancing, kicking, or teaching. Thank you to Theatre of NOTE and everyone that pushed this show forward for such much needed appreciation for my teachers and friends. Special thanks to my family—I’m forever grateful. For everyone that chooses after the love of the game.

NADIA MARINA (Frida Call-It-Low). Understudy for Diaz de los Muertos. Lizzi Lightning is back again for Block Party, but this time onstage. Her work as an actor includes Nina in Possum Carcass, Tyler in Some Girl(s); and Christina in Tree of Helga. She is also a producer and has worked on productions at the Echo Theatre Company as well as Theatre of NOTE.

LYNN ODELL (Hot Flash). Has acted, directed, and produced in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. She was a member of the Actors’ Playhouse in N.Y., Dude Theatre in San Francisco, and has been with the critically acclaimed Theatre of NOTE in L.A. for almost 20 years. She has also had the privilege of working at Sacred Fools Theatre and Elephant Theatre companies. Her TV credits include Criminal Minds, Law & Order, and TBS’s Conan. She is an accomplished soprano and has performed in the independent films Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves, Have You Seen Me?, Pariah, The Lost One, and Kill Me, Deadly.

ALINA PHELAN (Andrea the Vagabond). Credits: ICT. Dead Man’s Cell Phone, All in the Firing Line. (Robbie) Family Planning. Circle X. Lascivious Something Open Fist. All Night Long, Love Water, Theatre of NOTE. Rio Horns, Entropy, Niagara Falls. Hamlet. The First Quarto (winner—Garland Award), I Wanna Hold Your Hand, Disassembly, and Hearts Like Fists. TV: How to Get Away with Murder, Grey’s Anatomy. Shameless, Criminal Minds, amongst others. Thank you to David Bickford, Rhonda, and all the ladies on the team who make this show epic. The biggest thanks to Center Theatre Group for creating Block Party and inviting us to play in your arena.

BRIANA PRICE (Uly Rider) was born and raised in Pasadena, California. She studied at Columbia University in the city of New York, where she was preparing to be a doctor. However, her love for the arts took over and steered her in the direction of professional dance and theatre. Briana has toured with Nicki Minaj, performed at Glee and the Neighborhood, on stage in Tempest Redus as Ariel, All My Distances Are Far as Ruby, Future Sex, Inc. as an ensemble member, and most recently Upstairs Unbound as a female chorus member.

NANCY STONE (Mask of Mediocrity, Understudy for Hot Flash, Anna-Steica) is thrilled to participate in Center Theatre Group’s Block Party. Her most recent performance was as the Madama of Page 73’s Interstate 73 Writers Group, and an alum of EST/Ensemble Studio Theatre LA. For The Love Of Los Angeles theatre includes Washer/Dryer at West Players, Tartuffe, Love’s Labor’s Lost, and Embedded with The Actors’ Gang. At Pacific Pitch & Speech & Debate with Los Angeles New Court Theatre. Recent TV film: The Good Doctor, Grey’s Anatomy, Speechless, The Price, Bones, How I Met Your Mother, and Apple’s untlled morning show-drama with Reese Witherspoon. Nancy has also performed as an actor/improviser in the Bay Area and NYC.

TANIA VERAFIELD (Lizzie Lightning). Currently in A Night With Whitoth’s Other as Emilia through April, L.A. theatre—A Noise Within: Lady Helen/Glady, A Picture of Orlando: Rosalind/ Rosalind/Cinderella/ Hawk, In the Valley of the Shadow; Jesse, Still Life, Kayleen (all), Grouse Playground Injuries, Bug, Henry Murray’s Treefall theatre—Lincoln Center; Mede Mydyk/Filika, Beneath the Veil: Gardens: Elfin, The Little Dog Laughed, Partial film TV—Ms. Purple, Alex & Jaime, I Am Not a Hipster, Short Term 12/Dundance 2009 Best Short, The First Time, Julia, Harsh Times, Namaste, Anything Goes. It’s a dream come true to be making her Center Theatre Group debut—big thank you to all involved. Love is a contact sport. For you, Dad.

GINA FEMIA (Playwright) has written 31 full-length plays which include ALLONDYRA (winner; Leah Ryan Prize). We Are a Masterpiece (winner; Doris Wilson Award), The Mermaids’ Parade (semi-finalist; The Egoist), Brooke and the Fat Man (honorable mention; The Kilroys), For the Love Of (Original Works Publishing), and The Violet Sisters (Great Plains Theatre Conference). She is the 2019 Writers In Residence with Spicy Witch Productions, a current member of Page 73’s Interstate 73 Writers Group, and an alumn of EST Youngblood, Pipeline: Theatre’s PlayLab, and New Georges’ Audsiness Residency. Gina has received residencies with Page
Gilly Moon (Sound Designer) is excited to be remounting For The Love Of at the Kirk Douglas Theatre! Gilly received her MFA in sound design from CalArts in 2016 and has been pursuing sound design in multiple mediums ever since. Favorite credits include: Halloween Horror Nights at Universal Studios Hollywood, with Diablo Sound (sound media and systems design team member), Kaidan Project: Walls Grow Thin with Rogue Artists Ensemble (co-sound design, 2019 Ovation Award for Sound Design—Intimate Theatre), Gratitude and love to Julien for his support, and to Bash and Larry for their funny loyalty.

Brooke Baldwin (Production Stage Manager). Center Theatre Group: School Girls; Or, the African Mean Girls Play; Bloodletting; Sparrilbots; Big Night; Good Grief; Vucurua; Disgraced; Women Laughing Alone With Salad; Kansas City Choir Boy; Girlfriend, Chavela Vargas, Luna Gale; Race, different words for the same thing, The Nether, Second City’s A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens; LA Philharmonic & The Industry: Europas 1 & 2; Rio Hotel in Las Vegas; Duck Commander Musical; Moonlight Stage Productions: Newsies, The Little Mermaid, The Wizard of Oz; Cats, Cabirilo Music Theatre: Bye Bye Birdie, In the Heights, Kiss Me, Kate. And many more!

Maggie Swins (Stage Manager). Center Theatre Group. Linda Vista, Quack, Block Party 2018, Elliot, A Soldier’s Fugue; Sparrilbots; Big Night; King of the Rees, Block Party 2017, Vucurua, Throw Me on the Burnpile and Light Me Up; Geffen Playhouse: Big Sky, Barcelona, Guards at the Taj, Discord, The Country House, American Buffalo; Boston Court: Collective Rage: European tour: The Apple Family Plays; Off-Broadway: Singular Selling, Sony, Love’s Labour’s Lost, Sweet and Saucy, Knuckerbocker, Compulsion, That Hopaney Changey Thing (The Public Theatre), Stowgirl (Lincoln Center), Blood Knot, The Orphans’ Home Cycle (Signature Theatre Company).

Theatre of Note is an L.A.-based nonprofit ensemble of theatre artists dedicated to creating high-caliber, original work that challenges both its artists and its audiences. Founded in 1981, its democratic, ensemble-based organization is dedicated to providing a creative environment in which collaboration and development of maverick theatre more accurately reflects L.A.’s diverse cultural makeup, thus inspiring a deeper connection with its audiences. NOTE also produces the annual Hollywood Performance Marathon, the NOTEworthy new play development workshops, and its educational outreach Young Writers Project. Stick your hand in L.A.’s NOTEorious black box theatre—you never know if you’ll get licked…or bitten.
WHO’S WHO

RYAN BROPHY (Josh) was nominated for the 2019 Ovation Award for Best Featured Actor in a Play for Rotterdam. L.A.; Oppenheimer (Rogue Machine), Idol Minds (Skylight), Justin Tanner’s Little Theatre (Fountain). USC (BA 2018). Romeo and Juliet, The Country Wife, You Can’t Take It With You, That Long Darn Dark, British American Drama Academy (LTP 2017). The Love of the Nightingale. Film: we could have danced (Sundance Ignite), Howler (USC), The Gift of the Magi (USC). Multimedia: Is the Sky Falling?(dir. Bill T. Jones). Alumni of YoungArts and Northwestern University’s Cherubs program. Instagram: @rybrophy. ryanbrophy.com

AUDREY CAIN (Lelani) is thrilled to be reprising the role of Lelani after an amazing run at the Skylight Theatre. Other theatre credits include East West Players’ production of La Cage Aux Folles (Anne) and the Fountain Theatre’s Rapid Development Series. Audrey was the proud recipient of Comcast NBCUniversal’s inaugural Conservatory Fellowship for East West Players’ Actors’ Conservatory, as well as the recipient of the Dan Velez Fund Scholarship for Acting. Many thanks to Center Theatre Group for this incredible opportunity, and to the “Rotterfam” for the endless joy.

ASHLEY ROMANS (Fiona/Adrian) is thrilled to be reprising the role of Fiona/Adrian after an amazing run at the Skylight Theatre. Other theatre credits include East West Players’ production of La Cage Aux Folles (Anne) and the Fountain Theatre’s Rapid Development Series. Audrey was the proud recipient of Comcast NBCUniversal’s inaugural Conservatory Fellowship for East West Players’ Actors’ Conservatory, as well as the recipient of the Dan Velez Fund Scholarship for Acting. Many thanks to Center Theatre Group for this incredible opportunity, and to the “Rotterfam” for the endless joy.

MIRANDA WYNNE (Alice) is thrilled to be reprising her all-time favorite role of Alice for Block Party 2019. Last year, Miranda was nominated for Best Lead Performance by the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle and Stage Raw. Born and raised in Los Angeles, she received her BA in theatre from UC San Diego. Some favorite credits include Oppenheimer (Rogue Machine Theatre), Punk Rock (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), and Three Sisters (La Jolla Playhouse). She would love to thank Center Theatre Group and Skylight Theatre for this opportunity and her grandma Addie for being her #1 fan. mirandawynne.com @mirandawynne

JON BRITTAIN (Playwright) received the Olivier Award in 2017 for Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre and was also nominated for the Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright. His other work includes The Wake, What Would Spock Do?, The Fringe First Award-winning musical A Super Happy Story About Feeling Super Sad, and the cult hit Margaret Thatcher Queen of Soho. Britain also directs stand-up comedy and has twice won the Edinburgh Comedy Award for his shows with John Kearns. He has written for Cartoon Network’s The Amazing World of Gumball and is currently a staff writer on The Crown.

MICHAEL A. SHEPPARD (Director). Artistic Director of L.A.’s award-winning Celebration Theatre. Recent directing credits: The Boy from Oz (awards: Ovation, LADCC), Rotterdam (awards: LADCC—Best Production, Stage Raw—Best Production, Laughter on the 23rd Floor (Scenic—Director of the Year, BWW—nom, Best Director). The View Upstairs (BWW Award—Best Director). Assistant Director for Swast (Mark Taper Forum). Acting credits: Fences (Troy, Ovation, LADCC nom), BootyCandy (LADCC nom, Ovation, Stage Raw win), The Color Purple (Mister; Ovation Award), Steel (Ovation Award), Intimate Apparel (NAACP Theatre Award). Broadway/regional credits: Cathy Rigby is Peter Pan, The Seafarer, Little Shop of Horrors. TV: Curb Your Enthusiasm, Soul Man, Hot In Cleveland.

JEFF MCLAUGHLIN (Scenic & Lighting Designer) works across most industries in which design is called for: film, television, commercials, corporate events, music videos, concerts, and escape rooms; however, his first love continues to be theatre. Recent notable works include Stupid Kid at The Road Theatre (Ovation nominie), Cult Of Love with IAMTA Theatre Company, the feature film Snapshots directed by Melanie Mayron, and Evil Live for The History Channel. He is very proud to be working on Rotterdam once again with the same amazing people as last time and some new ones to boot.

NAILA ALADDIN SANDERS (Costume Designer). Credits include Citizens: An American Lyric by Claudia Rankine, Neighbors by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, The Brothers Size and In the Red and Brown Water by Tarell Alvin McCraney, Gem of the Ocean, Joe Turner’s Come and Gone, Jitney, and The Piano Lesson by August Wilson. Anna Lucasta, Bronzeville, The Color Purple (musical), The Bald of Emmett Till, The Women of Brewster Place (musical), For the Love of Freedom, and The Haitian Trilogy are some of her other costume design credits. Nails is the recipient of a Drama Critics Circle and three NAACP Awards.

CHRISTOPHER MOSCATIELLO (Sound Designer). Recipient of the 2018 LADCC and 2015 Stage Raw Awards for Sound Design, Christopher Moscatiello is also a composer, sound editor/mixer, and music director for theatre, television, and

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WHO’S WHO

NOEL ARTHUR (The Black Rat) is excited to reprise this role here at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. He thanks his cast, Antaeus Theatre, director Andi Chapman, and adaptor Nambi E. Kelley. Other performance highlights include TAR (Playwrights’ Arena), Bars and Measures (Boston Court), and 1928’s Kitchen (Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble). TV: Jane the Viggo, Are You Sleeping, ER. Scrubs, NCIS, NCIS: Los Angeles. Shameless. My love to my wife and son, Vanessa and Neo Orion. IG: @boeleactor

MATTHEW GRONDIN (Jair) is honored to be at the Kirk Douglas Theatre with this inspiring group of artists! Recent credits: District Merchants, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, and the NewScRipts workshop of Origin Story (South Coast Repertory). The City of Conversation, Women In Jeopardy, Good People (Ensemble Theatre Company). A Moon for the Misbegotten (Rubicon Theatre), Stupid F**king Bird. Bad Boys (Stage West). Spinning Into Butter, Rabbit Hole (Actors Co-op). Friends Like These (New York International Fringe Festival). He is a member of the Antaeus Theatre Company, and appeared in their productions of The Cripple of Inishmaan and Non-Vital. Reading/Workshops include: Laguna Playhouse, Wallis Annenberg, and Pasadena Playhouse. TV: Westworld. For Dad.

GIGI BERMINGHAM (Mrs. Dalton) has appeared on many SoCal stages including Pasadena Playhouse, Old Globe, Inner City Shakespeare (ICT), La Mirada, Rubicon, Ensemble Theatre Company, MainStreet, and in many productions with classical theatre company Antaeus. TV: Jane the Viggo, Adam Ruins Everything, Scandal, Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., Mistresses, Chasing Life, Hart of Dixie, Weeds, Days of Our Lives. Film: Save the Date, Alex & Emma. Web: Kittens in a Cages. The Britshies. Awards: LA Stage Alliance Ovation Award for Master Class at ICT; Ovation and LADCC Awards for solo-comedy Non-Vital Organs. In December, Gigi performs Cabaret Noel. She is also a stage director and journalist.

JON CHAFFIN (Bigger) is a native of Stone Mountain, Georgia. He is making his Center Theatre Group debut with the revival of the critically acclaimed production Native Son. Theatre: Two Trains Running (Matrix Theatre), American Saga—Gunshot Medley: Part 1 (Rogue Machine), Native Son (Antaeus Theatre), King Hedley II (Matrix Theatre), The Dump Water (Push급Push Theater). Television/ Film: Lucifer, Snowfall, Hawke Five-O. The Haves and Have Nots, Stitches, Army Wives, Blindspotting. If Not Now, When? 96 Minutes. Jon received his BA from Fort Valley State University. He is also a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

MILDRED MARIE LANGFORD (Bessie, Viral) is excited to be back at it with Antaeus’ powerful production of Nambi E. Kelley’s adaptation of Native Son as part of Center Theatre Group’s Block Party 2019. Other credits include: Rogue Machine Theatre and Collaborative Artists: Boc’s co-production of Dionna Michelle Daniel’s American Masterpiece Foundation Fellow Medley: Part 1. Mildred can also now be seen in the new series Commune on YouTube at Commune the Series, which she co-executive produced and co-wrote with an uber-talented group of artists. #communetheseries

NED MOCHET (Billy) is so pleased to be a part of this incredible cast. Ned appeared in Antaeus Theatre Company’s production of Hedda Gabler. Ned also appeared in Sam Hunter’s A Permanent Image at Rogue Machine. Ned hails from Chicago, where he worked for The Goodman Theatre, The Court Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, Remains, and many others. He wishes to thank his pack at home for all the love and support.

NAMBI E. KELLEY (Playwrighty. Award-winning playwright and actress, Nambi has performed on stages across the world and on television. She is currently serving in residence at New Victory Theatre with a new play as a Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow. She has penned plays for Steppenwolf, Goodman Theatre, Lincoln Center (Director’s Fest), and internationally. Formerly playwright in residence at the National Black Theatre and Goodman Theatre. Awards include: The Prince Prize, Writers Alliance Grant (Dramatists Guild Foundation), the Francesca Primus Prize (finalist), and The Kevin Spacey Foundation Award (finalist). Currently working on an adaptation of Toni Morrison’s Jazz. Native Son will premiere in NYC in July 2019. Nambi is working on several commissions, including television and film projects. namibekelly.com

ANKI CHAPMAN (Director). Associate Artistic Director of Ebony Repertory Theatre. Her directing credits include Ebony Repertory Theatre’s The Gospel at Colonus, which garnered 14 Ovation nominations, including Best Play and Best Play Direction, and won the NAACP Theatre Award for Best Production (2016). Others include Mockingbird, As It Is In Heaven, The Ninth Wave, Actors Co-op Steel Magnolias (for which she garnered the Regional Art Directors award), and a host of others. Assistant director for Joe Turner’s Come and Gone (Mark Taper Forum). Film: the award-winning short films Memorial Street, Elijah’s Song, and Why? A graduate of Yale School of Drama, An alumna of The American Film Institute’s Directing Workshop for Women. And is honored to be forever Hallon Chapman’s daughter.

VICTORIA PLATT (Hannah), Center Theatre Group. Venice (Kirk Douglas Theatre, Ovation Award nom), Pippin (Mark Taper Forum), Native Son (Antaeus Theatre—2018), Julie’s Last Jam (Broadway), Building the Wall and Roxy in Cyrano (Fountain Theatre), Sammy (Old Globe), Asphalt (REDCAT), and Atlanta (Geffen). TV: Dimensional Shift (pilot, lead), NCIS: Los Angeles, Lucifer, Bones, The Mentalist, Castle, Criminal Minds and contract roles on both All My Children and Guiding Light. Film: the adaptation of Harry DC 48 Hour Film Project. BFA, USC. Her family has her heart.

BRANDON RACHAL (Buddy). Los Angeles Theatre: Fences (Long Beach Playhouse), Love’s Labour’s Lost, Twelve Night (Downtown Repertory Theatre Company), Othello (Inner City Shakespeare). Regional: Romeo and Juliet (Texas Shakespeare Festival). Film: Iago Web. Jesus Freaks. Training: BA theatre, USC. IG: @brandonrachal

VICTORIA PLATT (Hannah), Center Theatre Group. Venice (Kirk Douglas Theatre, Ovation Award nom), Pippin (Mark Taper Forum), Native Son (Antaeus Theatre—2018), Julie’s Last Jam (Broadway), Building the Wall and Roxy in Cyrano (Fountain Theatre), Sammy (Old Globe), Asphalt (REDCAT), and Atlanta (Geffen). TV: Dimensional Shift (pilot, lead), NCIS: Los Angeles, Lucifer, Bones, The Mentalist, Castle, Criminal Minds and contract roles on both All My Children and Guiding Light. Film: the adaptation of Harry DC 48 Hour Film Project. BFA, USC. Her family has her heart.

ANDY SCHMEDAKE (Lighting Design) is a Los Angeles-based lighting designer for theatre, dance, and live events. Recent credits include designs for Gabriel Iglesias, Steel Magnolias, The Man Who Came to Dinner, The 39 Steps, 33 Variations (Actors Co-op—2017 Ovation Award for Lighting Design), One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest (2018 Ovation Award for Lighting Design). Dogfight (After Hours Theatre Company), Native Son (Antaeus Theatre Company—2018 Ovation nominee), and The Art Couple (Sculated Fools). Andy holds an MFA from the School of Drama at Carnegie Mellon University and teaches lighting as a guest lecturer in lighting design at UC Santa Barbara. schmedakedesigning.com

JEFF GARDNER (Sound Designer) is thrilled to be back at Block Party running sound design for the very first time at Echo Theater Company. Jeff’s designs include Cry It Out, also with Echo Theater Company; Picnic for Antaeus Theatre Company; The C s for the Geffen Playhouse; Rosenzweig & Goldsmedem Are Dead for A Noise Within, Tesser for Circle X Theatre Company, Les Blancs for Rogue Machine Theatre; The Recommendation for IAMA Theatre; Two Trains Running at the Matrix Theatre; and its Wonderful Life for The Pasadena Playhouse. Jeff can also be seen performing live sound effects
for L.A. Theatre Works and is resident sound designer for the Westside School in Pasadena. jeffthomagardner.net

ADAM R. MACIAS (Projection Designer) is very excited to be working with Center Theatre Group to bring the Native Son group back together again! He is an Ovation-nominated video designer and sound designer. Some of his recent credits include: Rope (sound designer and composer—Actors Co-Op Theatre), Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (sound designer, composer, and video designer—Arcadia Performing Arts Company), Native Son (video designer—Antaeus Theatre Company), A Walk In The Woods (sound designer & composer—Actors Co-Op Theatre), and much more! Go to adammacias.com to see and listen to his designs and music!

TAYLOR ANNE CULLEN (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to make her debut at the Kirk Douglas Theatre with the incredible team of Native Son! Other PSM credits include: How We’re Different From Animals (Elan Ensemble), The Little Foxes (Antaeus Theatre Company), Alcina (USC Thornton School of Music), A Weekend with Pablo Picasso (Casa 0111 Theatre), The Kentucky Cycle, Mockingbird, Love and Information (Long Door Damn Dark (USC School of Dramatic Arts)). Stage management internship credits include: Tosca (LA Opera), Bul, Dutch Masters (Raguel Machine Theatre), and Anna Purna (The New Group). Taylor is a graduate of the University of Southern California’s School of Dramatic Arts, BFA in stage management.


ANTAEUS THEATRE COMPANY is an actor-driven theatre company that explores and produces timely and timeless works, grounded in our passion for the classics. We illuminate diverse human experiences through performance, training, and outreach. We believe in the transformative power of live theatre. Antaeus was founded in 1991 by Dakin Matthews and Lillian Groag, who felt strongly that Los Angeles actors could form an ensemble theatre company equal to any other in the world. Antaeus.org

ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR NATIVE SON
Assistant Director:.................................Jessica E. Williams
Choreographer:.................................Indira Tyler
Light Choreographer:.......................Bo Foxworth
Head Carpenter:...............................Bo Foxworth
Assistant Lighting Designer:..............Meghan Hong
Video Engineer:.................................Joey Guthman

CREDITS
Original Props Designer:........................Jacqylnn Guzman
Original Dramaturg:..........................Dylan Southard
Original Arrangements by..........................and Mr. Addison Doby
Native Son is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

ANTAEUS THEATRE COMPANY STAFF
Board of Directors:............................................David Ginder, Chair, Rhonda Aldrich, Jamie Anderson, Sonja Berggren, Stuart Berton, Charlie Bohlen, Bill Brochtrup, Bob Craft, Eno DiGiaccio, Dawn Didawick, Ruth Elei, Karen Frederiksen, Harry Grober, Maryam Lantam, Melinda Eades Le Moyne, Kwame Martinez, Claudette Neves, Ana Rose O’Hara, Stuart Ritz, Jason Scoggin, Kitty Swink, Reba Thomas, Debra Thompson, Jocelyn Towne, Peter Van Norden, Arlene Vidor, Jack Walker, April Weisler
Executive Director:.................................Ana Rose O’Hara

ANTAEUS THEATRE COMPANY STAFF

CENTER THEATRE GROUP
MICHAEL RITCHIE (Artist Director) is in his 14th season as Center Theatre Group’s Artist Director, and has led over 200 productions to the Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, and Kirk Douglas Theatre stages, including the premiers of six musicals that moved to Broadway—The Drowsy Chaperone, Curtains, 13, 9 to 5: The Musical, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, and Leap of Faith—and the Pulitzer Prize in Drama finalist Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo.

DOUGLAS C. BAKER (Producing Director) is now in his 29th season at Center Theatre Group. He is an active member of the Broadway League, the Independent Presenters Network, and is a proud member of the Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers. In May 2013, Doug received the Broadway League’s prestigious Outstanding Achievement in Presenter Management Award.

LINDSAY ALLBAUGH (Associate Producer) is a member of Center Theatre Group’s artistic staff and has served in varying capacities for the past 14 years. Selected producing credits include—Mark Taper Forum: Archduke, Bent, What the Butler Saw, Stewerd of Christendom, Waiting for Godot; Kirk Douglas Theatre: Block Party, Big Night, Good Grief, Vickiors, Throw Me On the Bumpée and Light Me Up, Endgame, Women Laughing Along With Salad, Chavez Ravine, Race, different words for the same thing, The Nether. Co-Artistic Director of the Elephant Theatre 2004–2014.

NAUSICA STERGIOU (General Manager) has worked professionally supporting artists in theatres of all shapes, sizes, and locales including many seasons at Center Theatre Group as General Manager and, previously, as Audience Development Director. She oversees mainstage productions at the Taper and Douglas, as well as new play commissions and developmental productions through Center Theatre Group’s New Play Development. Nausica has taught at USC’s School of Dramatic Arts, and advises and works with local nonprofits including Hollywood Orchard.

GORDON DAVIDSON (Founding Artistic Director) led the Taper throughout its first 38 seasons, guiding over 300 productions to its stage and winning countless awards for himself and the theatre—the including the Tony Award for theatrical excellence, Margo Jones Award, The Governor’s Award for the Arts, and a Guggenheim fellowship. The Kentucky Cycle and Angels in America (Part One) won the Pulitzer in consecutive years and, in 1994, three of the four plays nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play were from the Taper (Angels in America won). In 1989, Gordon took over the Ahmanson and, in 2004, he produced the inaugural season in the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

BLOCK PARTY CORE TEAM
Line Producer, Special Artistic Projects:................Patricia Garza
Production Manager:.................................Chris Reid
Associate General Manager:.........................Jan- Julian Williams

ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR BLOCK PARTY
Block Party General Management:......................Melvin Alwood, Casey McDermott, Eric Sims
Production Coordinator:..............................Brooke Baldwin
Carpeters:.................................................Michelle Black, Ryan Fischer, Bo Foxworth, Connor Hayes, Curt Gavin, Melissa Hartman, Ryan Howard, Joe Kidzinski, Randy Pound

CONCIERGES
Concierge Manager:..................................Ryan Howard, Joe Kidawski, Randy Pound
Front-of-House Leads:................................Trevor Agatt, Aj Meijer, Tahar Palloch
Front-of-House Lead Swings:.........................Chase Anderson-Shaw, Bradford Barnes, Olivia Chase, Eduardo Fernandez-Baumann, Stephen Lydic, Adrienne Marquand
Discussion Leaders:.................................Chase Anderson-Shaw, Megan Delhart, Amber Espinosa-Jones, Eduardo Fernandez-Baumann, Stephen Lydic, Adrienne Marquand, Isabella Petroni

Antaeus Theatre Company is a proud member of the Alliance of Resident Theatres (LORT), the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE), the American Theatre and Dance Alliance, the Broadway League, Independent Presenters’ Network (IPN), LA Stage Alliance, National Alliance for Musical Theatre (NAMT) and the Theatre Communications Group (TCG).