

**Kirsten Parker** (*Production Stage Manager*). Center Theatre Group: *different words for the same thing*, *I'll Go On* (Gate Theatre production), *A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens!* (premiere and re-loaded), *Neva* (co-production with South Coast Rep and La Jolla Playhouse), *The Nether*, *Jomama Jones: Radiate* (KDT workshop), *The Massoud Project* (Taper workshop). Ojai Playwrights Conference '13 & '14 (Company Manager). MFA: Yale School of Drama.

**The New Black Fest, Keith Josef Adkins, Artistic Director.** The New Black Fest is a celebration of diversity within the larger Diaspora. It is a gathering of artists, thinkers, activists and audiences who are dedicated to stretching, interrogating and uplifting the black aesthetic and the larger theatre canon.



*DouglasPlus* is an eclectic mix of theatre choices, ranging from fully-staged or minimally-staged events to workshops and readings that utilize both traditional and non-traditional performance spaces and seating configurations within the theatre. Each presentation has a very limited number of performances.

**STAFF FOR FACING OUR TRUTH: TEN MINUTE PLAYS ON TRAYVON, RACE AND PRIVILEGE**

General Manager, Kirk Douglas Theatre . . . . . Nausica Stergiou  
 Assistant General Manager, KDT. . . . . Katie Bruner Soff  
 Prop Master . . . . . Sarah Krainin  
 Production Manager. . . . . Christy Weikel  
 Assistant Production Manager . . . . . Kate Coltun  
 Stage Supervisor. . . . . Sean Kloc  
 Wardrobe Supervisor . . . . . Cambria Chichi  
 Light Board Operator and Programmer . . . . . Aaron Staubach  
 Deck Crew . . . . . Eric Adams  
 Audio Crew . . . . . Corwin Evans  
 Director of Theatre Operations . . . . . Eric Sims  
 Audience Experience Design/Front of House Manager . . . Tom Burmester  
 Assistant Performance Manager . . . . . Lauren Baxa  
 Facility Assistant . . . . . Max Oken  
 Concessions Manager . . . . . Sondra Mayer

**ELECTRICS CREW**

Veronica Acosta, Aaron Staubach,  
 Juan Lozano, Lunchbox, Ryan Tirrell.

**SET CREW**

Sean Kloc, Eric Adams, James Jonson, David Patrick.

**LEADS**

Jaquelan Johnson, Michael Pappas, Elizabeth Motuapuaka.

**CONCIERGES**

Trevor Algatt, Jane Bacon, Ashley Brown, Lia Chapman, Olivia Choate,  
 Shomari Cleveland, Jessica DeBruin, Joan Kubicek, Gina Manziello,  
 Janice Motuapuaka, Isabella Petrini, Martin Roman-Figueroa.

**USHERS**

Amy Buchwald, Marilyn DePaula, Angela Garcia, Britt Keller,  
 Erin Mulvey, Nicole Naito, Denise Reynoso, Jill Steele.

**CONCESSIONS**

Abilene Gonzalez, Monica Greene, Tatiana Jones.

**STAGE DOOR ATTENDANTS**

Cory Aycock, Christopher Nucho, Ian Ray.

**POST-SHOW FACILITATORS**

Christina Hjelm, Stephen Lydic.

**CREDITS**

Costumes provided by the Center Theatre Group Costume Shop.



The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

Website: CenterTheatreGroup.org



**Center Theatre Group**

L.A.'s Theatre Company

Ahmanson Theatre  
 Mark Taper Forum  
 Kirk Douglas Theatre

**Michael Ritchie**, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **Edward L. Rada**, MANAGING DIRECTOR  
**Gordon Davidson**, FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

in Association with The New Black Fest presents

**FACING OUR TRUTH.**

**TEN-MINUTE PLAYS ON TRAYVON, RACE AND PRIVILEGE**

Directed by **Shirley Jo Finney** and **Michael Matthews**

Colored by **Winter Miller**

With **Lorenz Arnell, Demetrius Grosse, Deidrie Henry, Aaron Jennings, Ameenah Kaplan, Erick Lopez, Linda Park, Deborah Puette, Tessa Thompson, Kevin Yungman**

*Night Vision* by **Dominique Morisseau**  
 With **Demetrius Grosse, Ameenah Kaplan**

*Dressing* by **Mona Mansour** and **Tala Manassah**  
 With **Deidrie Henry, Aaron Jennings**

INTERMISSION

*No More Monsters Here* by **Marcus Gardley**  
 With **Demetrius Grosse, Linda Park, Deborah Puette**

*The Ballad of George Zimmerman* by **Dan O'Brien** with composer **Quetzal Flores**  
 With **Lorenz Arnell, Deborah Puette, Kevin Yungman**  
 Musical Consultant **John Ballinger**

*Some Other Kid* by **A. Rey Pamatmat**  
 With **Lorenz Arnell, Erick Lopez, Tessa Thompson**

Costume Design **Whitney Oppenheimer**  
 Light Design **Richard Peterson**  
 Sound Design **Adam Phalen**  
 Movement by **Ameenah Kaplan**  
 Casting by **Meg Fister**  
 Dramaturg **Pier Carlo Talenti**  
 Production Stage Manager **Kirsten Parker**  
 Producing Associate **Lindsay Allbaugh**

Programming subject to change.

In light of the George Zimmerman verdict, The New Black Fest commissioned six diverse playwrights to write 10-minute plays on the topic of Trayvon Martin, race and/or privilege. The purpose of *Facing Our Truth* is to incite serious discussion in our collective communities around these urgent issues.

**Kirk Douglas Theatre July 12 and 13, 2014**



## Who's Who

**Lorenz Arnell** (*Red/Trayvon/Andre*). Stage credits include *The Ballad of Emmett Till* (Garland and LADCC Awards for Best Actor; Ovation Awards for Best Ensemble and Production) at The Fountain Theatre, and at various theatres in Los Angeles - *East of the Sun and West of the Moon*, *Survival*, *King Richard III* and *Guys and Dolls*, among others. He has appeared on TV and in *It Out* (seasons 5 and 6), *iCarly* and *1969*.

**Demetrius Grosse** (*Blue/Husband/Doctor*) originated the role of Percival Nash in the off-Broadway hit *Black Angels Over Tuskegee* (NAACP Award). He teams with director Shirley Jo Finney a second time after last winter's LATC premiere of Marcus Gardley's *The Road Weeps*. TV roles include *Dexter* (recurring), *Heroes* (recurring), *Justified* (recurring), *Banshee* (lead). Grosse appeared in *Saving Mr. Banks* opposite Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson, and also in *This is Martin Bonner* (Best Picture at Independent Spirit Awards). Twitter:@DemetriusGrosse.

**Deidrie Henry** (*Purple/Mother*) is thrilled to be back at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. Performances include *American Night* (Yale Repertory Theatre), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Douglas and Ebony Repertory Theatre), *Parade* (Mark Taper Forum), *Coming Home* and *Yellowman* (Fountain Theatre). Regional: Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Center Stage, Alliance Theatre, Hartford Stage, Arena Stage, Huntington Theatre. Television: *Justified*, *Twisted*, *Touch*, *The Riches*, *ER*. Proud member of Actors' Equity, SAG and AFTRA.

**Aaron Jennings** (*Yellow/Son*). Theatre Credits: *Take a Giant Step* at First Stage Theatre and Stage 53 Theatre, *The Ballad of Emmett Till* (as Till) at the Fountain Theatre, *The Thing I Am* at the Nate Holden Theatre, and at the New Roads School – *Our Country's Good*, *Angels in America* (as Roy Cohn) and *The Tragedy of King Richard the Third*. Film: *Movie 43* and *Pinkville*. TV: *Bones*, *Vegas*, *Rizzoli & Isles* and *Meet the Browns*.

**Ameenah Kaplan** (*Choreographer/Green/Wife*). Acting: *The Office*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Harry's Law*, *STOMP*. Choreography: CTG – *Legend of Alex*. *The Royale*. L.A.: *Brothers Size*, *In the Red and Brown Water*, *The Ballad of Emmett Till*, *Bash'd*, *Women of Brewster Place*, *Altar Boyz*, *Title of Show*, *Oedipus the King—Mama*, *Frosty the Snow Manilow*, *A Christmas Carol King*, *Santa Claus is Coming to Motown*, *Comedy of Aerosmith*, *Alice in One Hit Wonderland II*, *It's a Stevie Wonderful Life*. Original work: *Everyman for Himself*.

**Erick Lopez** (*Pink/Owen*) recently performed at the Kirk Douglas Theatre in Kimber Lee's *different words for the same thing* as Frankie. Erick can be seen on MTV's *Faking It* (Tommy). Recent Credits: *Switched At Birth* (ABC Family), *Surviving Jack* (FOX), *Bold and the Beautiful* (CBS), *Vampire Diaries* (CW) and *Matador* (El Rey Network). Raised in Dallas, he attended the University of Texas at Dallas as an ATEC major (Arts and Technology). Continues to write and shoot projects in his free time.

**Linda Park** (*Blue, Greatest Grand/Ookie*). Theatre: *Elektra* (Getty Villa); *Love In American Times* (San Jose Rep world premiere); *All My Sons* (Matrix); *Roger and Vanessa* (Latchmere Theatre, London premiere); *You Can't Take It With You*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Top Girls* (Antaeus). TV: series regular on *Star Trek Enterprise*, *Raines*, *Women's Murder Club* and *Crash* and a recurring role in *Legends*. Film: *Jurassic Park 3*, *Infestation* and *The Look of Love*. Linda also produces and stars in a cooking and lifestyle show entitled *Urbn Harvest*.

**Deborah Puette** (*Indigo/Patient/Cop*). Selected Theatre: *Rabbit Hole*, La Mirada; *Other Desert Cities* (u/s), Mark Taper Forum; *A Delicate Balance*, *Odyssey*; *The Eccentricities of a Nightingale*, A Noise Within; *Tryst* (Ovation, LADCC, Garland nominations, LA Weekly Award, Lead Actress), *Black Dahlia*; *Brownstone*, Laguna Playhouse; *Stop Kiss*, Rogue Machine; *The Glory of Living*, Circle Theatre (debut, Joseph Jefferson Citation). Selected television/ film: *Extant*, *Revolution*, *True Blood*, *Rake*, *The Office*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Parks and Recreation*, Sam Raimi's *Oz: The Great and Powerful*.

**Tessa Thompson** (*Teal/Elissa*). Stage: *Pyrenees* (CTG), *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (Pasadena Playhouse), *As You Like It* (LA Shakespeare), *Indoor/Outdoor* (Colony), *Romeo and Juliet* (Theatre@Boston Court) On Screen: *Copper*, *Heroes*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Private Practice*. She starred in the award winning indie *Mississippi Damned* and the film adaptation of Ntozake Shange's play *For Colored Girls*. She stars in *Dear White People* and *Selma*, both to be released in the fall. She is in the electro-soul band Caught A Ghost.

**Kevin Yungman** (*Conductor/Zimmerman*) is a 21-year-old seasoned performer living in Los Angeles. His credits range from leading Broadway companies on national tours to starring in television sitcoms. He is currently the lead in a television pilot filming in Florida and New York and flew back to California for this opportunity to perform in *Facing Our Truth*. "I am exuberantly excited and eager to see what magic we can make unfold here at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. Let the fun begin!"

PLAYWRIGHTS:

**Marcus Gardley** is a poet-playwright whose work includes *Every Tongue Confess* (Edgerton New Play Award), *On the Levee*, *And Jesus Moonwalks the Mississippi*, *This World in a Woman's Hands*, *Love is a Dream House in Lorin*, *dance of the holy ghosts. (L) imitations of Life* and *like sun fallin' in the mouth*. He recently received the 2011 PEN Laura Pels Award for Mid-Career Playwright. The New Yorker describes Gardley as "... the heir to Garcia Lorca, Pirandello and Tennessee Williams."

**Tala Manassah** is deputy executive director of the Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, the national leader in school-based social and emotional learning programs. She earned her A.B. with honors in philosophy and A.M. in the humanities at the University of Chicago, under the tutelage of Martha Nussbaum. As a playwright, she has co-written, with Mona Mansour *The House*, *The Letter*, *After* and musical

*The Wife*. Most recently, they were given an Ensemble Studio Theatre/Sloan commission to write a play about 1970s Iraq.

**Mona Mansour's** plays include *The Way West*, *The Hour of Feeling*, *Urge for Going*, *The Vagrant*, *Across the Water*, *Girl Scouts of America* and *Broadcast Yourself*. She has written *The House*, *After* and *The Letter* with Tala Manassah. They also worked together on a musical, *The Wife*, and have been commissioned to write a play about 1970s Iraq. Mona's television credits include *Dead Like Me* and *Queens Supreme*. 2012 Whiting Award. 2014 Middle East America Playwright Award.

**Winter Miller** is an award-winning playwright and founding member of the Obi-recognized collective 13 Playwrights. She is best known for her drama *In Darfur*. Other plays include *The Penetration Play*, *Paternity*, *Seed*, *The Arrival*, and the musical *Amandine*. Her activist collection of short plays and monologues will be published in Spring 2014 by No Passport. She enjoys mentoring and writing politically engaging plays with marginalized youth, such as *Home/Away*, *The F on My Chest* (Theatre Askew) and *Conspicuous*.

**Dominique Morisseau**, playwright/actress, is alumni of the Public Theater Emerging Writers Group, Women's Project Lab, and Lark Playwrights Workshop. Credits include the three-play cycle *Detroit '67*, *Paradise Blue* and *Skeleton Crew*, and also the plays *Sunset Baby* and *Follow Me To Nellie's*. Awards: Jane Chambers Playwriting Award, two-time NAACP Image Award, Primus Prize commendation, Stavis Playwriting Award, Spirit of Detroit Award, U of M Emerging Leader Award, Weissberger Award, the PoNY Fellowship and the esteemed Kennedy Prize for Drama.

**Dan O'Brien** is a playwright and poet living in Los Angeles. His play *The Body of an American* premiered in London in January, was presented at Portland Center Stage (Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama) and opens at the Wilma Theater in January 2015. His debut poetry collection, *War Reporter*, won the 2013 Fenton Aldeburgh Prize. He is currently writing a play with music for CTG as well as a new play for Oregon Shakespeare Festival's American Revolutions and the Public Theater on the history of the gun in USA.

**Quetzal Flores** (*Composer*) is the musical director of the East Los Angeles-based rock group Quetzal since 1993. He has shared the stage and has collaborated with groups and artists such as Los Lobos, Taj Mahal, Zack De La Rocha (Rage Against the Machine), Los Van Van, Son De Madera, Susana Baca, Daara J and Aloe Blacc, among others. The ensemble Quetzal has made considerable impact in the world of Chicano music and has released five albums, the latest of which is *Imaginaries*.

**A. Rey Pamatmat** was the 2012/2013 Hodder Fellow in Playwriting and the 2011/2012 PoNY Fellow. His plays include *after all the terrible things I do*, *Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them* Steinberg (ATCA New Play Citation, and nominated for 2013 GLAAD Media and Lambda Literary Awards), *Thunder Above*, *Deeps Below*, *A Spare Me*, *DEVIANT* and *High/Limbo/*

*High/*. Awards: Princess Grace Award, Princess Grace Special Projects Grant, NYFA Playwriting Fellowship, E.S.T./Sloan Grant. Rey is Co-Director of the Ma-Yi Writer's Lab.

**Shirley Jo Finney** (*Director*) has won Ovation, Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle, Garland, LA Weekly and NAACP Awards for her directing; most recently, a second Ovation for *In the Red and Brown Water*. Other Credits: *The Brother Size*, *The Ballad of Emmett Till*, *Yellowman*, *Central Avenue*, *From the Mississippi Delta*, Marcus Gardley's *the road weeps the well runs dry*, and the opera *Winnie*. For television, she directed several episodes of *Moesha*. She received the International Black Filmmakers Best Director Award for her short film, *Remember Me*.

**Michael Matthews** (*Director*). Recent Credits: *Rabbit Hole* (La Mirada), *Funny Girl* (3D Theatricals), *Very Still and Hard To See* (LA Weekly nomination, director; world premiere), *The Color Purple*, *The Musical* (Ovation and LA Weekly Awards, director), *What's Wrong With Angry?* (Ovation nomination, director), *Take Me Out!* (Ovation nomination, director; NAACP Award, director) *The Women of Brewster Place*, *the Musical* (Ovation nomination, director; NAACP Award, director). Michael currently serves as Co-Artistic Director at Celebration Theatre. Member SDC.

**Whitney Oppenheimer** (*Costume Design*) holds her BFA in Costume Design from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Previous theatrical wardrobe and assistant credits include *Silence! The Musical* (Hayworth Theatre), *Macbeth* and *Peace in Our Time* (Antaeus Company). Film shorts include *Momma Bear*, *Walk the Light*, *The Things We Left Behind*, and features include *11/11/11* (Asylum Productions), *Expendables III*. She is happy to be a part of the CTG family and for this design opportunity in Los Angeles. She would like to thank her supportive family, Zach Kashkett and Mr. Zembuch.

**Richard Peterson** (*Light Design*). Designs include *Forever*, *Stoop Stories*, *An Evening with Sutton Foster* and *Jomama Jones' Radiate* at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. He also designed, with his partner, Heather Graff, *Topdog/Underdog*, *Forgiveness*, *Paragon Springs*, *The Exonerated* and *Night Must Fall*. Chicago Designs: The Second City's *Iraqtile Disjunction*, The Second City/Chicago Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet Musical*, *4.48 Psychosis*, *Machinal* (Jeff Award), *Hauptmann* and *The Crucible* (Jeff Awards scenic and lighting design/After Dark Award scenic design). www.HeatherRichDesigns.com

**Adam Phalen** (*Sound Design*). Recent shows include *9 Circles* (Bootleg Theater); *Other Desert Cities* (Mark Taper Forum); *The New Electric Ballroom* and *The Word Begins* (Rogue Machine Theatre); and *St. Jude* and *Titus Redux* at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. He is the resident sound designer/technical director for the Ojai Playwrights Conference and the Head of Audio at the Douglas. Other CTG: *The Paris Letter*, *Flight*, *¡Gaytino!*, *From The Front*, *Taking Flight*, *Of Equal Measure*, *Taking Over*, *Eclipsed*, *Bones*.