

For immediate release.

**THIRD EPISODE OF NOT A MOMENT, BUT A MOVEMENT
FEATURES “THE DUAT” BY ROGER Q. MASON PERFORMED BY
GREGG DANIEL AND PERCUSSIONIST DAVID LEACH**

**AVAILABLE JULY 15 THROUGH AUGUST 12
THIS EPISODE INCLUDES AN INTERVIEW WITH
MULTI-DISCIPLINED ARTIST FLOYD STRICKLAND**

A Related Panel Discussion To Be Announced

Center Theatre Group, The Fire This Time Festival and Watts Village Theater Company announces the third episode of **Not a Moment, But a Movement**, a series of events that amplify and center Black artists, premieres July 15 at 5 p.m. and is available on demand through August 12, 2021. At the center of this episode is **Roger Q. Mason’s “The Duat,”** directed by **Taibi Magar**, performed by **Gregg Daniel** (HBO’s “Insecure”) and featuring percussionist **David Leach**. Introduced by **Wayne Brady** and hosted by Watts Village Theater Company Co-Artistic Director **Bruce A. Lemon Jr.** the episode will also feature Lemon’s interview with multi-disciplined artist **Floyd Strickland**.

The video will be free to Center Theatre Group subscribers and supporters and \$10 for all others except for opening weekend July 15 – 18 when it is free to the public. This episode of Not a Moment, But a Movement will be available at www.CTGLA.org/NotAMoment. The video will be paired with a discussion exploring the intersection of arts and social justice on July 15 at 4 p.m. the title and participants will be announced.

Fusing dialogue, music and movement, “The Duat” follows Cornelius Johnson, a former FBI COINTELPRO (Counterintelligence Program) informant as he awakens in the Egyptian afterlife. While he awaits judgement, Cornelius struggles to come to terms with his family history and his own troubling role in the civil rights movement at UCLA in the late 60s. The digital premiere of “The Duat” features lighting design by Brandon Baruch; live music composed and performed by David Leach; sound design and original music composed by David Gonzalez and choreography by Michael Tomlin III. “The Duat” was filmed at the Kirk Douglas Theatre and edited by Jabari Phillips.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, **Roger Q. Mason** (they/them) is a Black, Filipinx, plus-sized, gender non-conforming, queer artist of color. As a writer, their plays have been seen on Broadway at Circle in the Square (Circle Reading Series); Off/Off-Off-Broadway at New York Theatre Workshop, The New Group, Dixon Place, The Fire This Time Festival, American Theatre of Actors, The Flea Theatre and Access Theater; and regionally at McCarter Theatre Center, Victory Gardens Theater, Chicago Dramatists, Steep Theatre, Serenbe Playhouse, Fuse Theatre

Ensemble, Theatre Rhinoceros, Open Fist Theatre, EST/LA, Son of Semele, and Skylight Theatre. Their work has been named finalist of the Geffen Playhouse Writers' Room, BRICLab Residency, The Lark Playwrights' Week and ScreenCraft Stage Play Award (judged by David Lindsay-Abaire) and was a semi-finalist for the Jerome Fellowship, Many Voices Fellowship and Shonda Rhimes Unsung Voices Fellowship. Mason holds an MFA in Writing from Northwestern University, M.A. in English from Middlebury College, and B.A. in English and Theatre from Princeton University. They are a member of Page 73's Interstate 73 Writers Group and an alumnus of The Fire This Time Festival. Mason received the Chuck Rowland Pioneer Award, a nod on the Kilroys List and the Fire This Time Festival Alumni Spotlight.

Taibi Magar is an Egyptian-American director based in New York, and a graduate of the Brown University MFA program. Most recently she directed "Capsule" by Whitney White and Peter Mark Kendall (Under the Radar Festival / The Public Theater, co-directed with Tyler Dobrowsky) and "Help" by Claudia Rankine (The Shed) which was paused due to the pandemic. Other NY credits: "Blue Ridge" starring Marin Ireland and "The Great Leap" starring BD Wong (Atlantic Theatre Company); "Is God Is" (Soho Rep, 2018 Obie Award); "Master" (The Foundry, NYT Critics Pick) and "Underground Railroad Game" (Ars Nova, NYT Critics Pick). She also premiered the new musical "We Live In Cairo" at A.R.T. Boston. Regional: Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Alley Theatre, The Guthrie Theater and Seattle Repertory Theatre, among others. International: Hamburg Festival, Edinburgh Festival, Malthouse Theatre (Melbourne) and Soho Theatre (London). Other: She is the recipient of a Stephen Sondheim Fellowship, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Fellowship, Public Theater Shakespeare Fellowship and TFANA Actors and Director Project Fellowship. Taibi is an alumni of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab and a NYTW Usual Suspect. Upcoming: "A Play For The Living In The Time Of Extinction" (BCS, streaming mid-July) and "Twilight: Los Angeles 1992" (Signature Theatre).

Presented in conjunction with Watts Village Theater Company and The Fire This Time Festival, Not a Moment, But a Movement events feature the work of multiple artists from varied disciplines. Each of the artists offers their own distinct voice which blends with, builds upon and sometimes clashes up against the other voices to create a unique piece that centers conversations that have long been held to the periphery. Each event is paired with a panel discussion to create a uniquely comprehensive cultural experience.

This performance is made possible in part by the City of Culver City and its Cultural Affairs Commission, with support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and the Culver City Arts Foundation.

Center Theatre Group's Digital Stage is presented by American Express. As presenting sponsor of The Digital Stage, American Express Card Members enjoy special opportunities on The Digital Stage, including: presales and early access for limited-release premium events, invitations to private pre- or post-show meet and greets and access to exclusive content curated especially for Card Members.

Bank of America is Center Theatre Group's Season Sponsor, including Digital Stage programming. For more than 20 years, Bank of America has partnered with Center Theatre Group to provide innovative Education and Community Partnerships programs as well as present world-class productions at the Ahmanson Theatre and Mark Taper Forum. Their generous support now extends online to The Digital Stage.

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation’s preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles’ leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Ritchie, Managing Director / CEO Meghan Pressman and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1600 to 2100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation’s leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics and circumstance to serve Los Angeles.

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July 8, 2021