

in association with Dasha Epstein



The Night Watcher

Written and performed by Charlayne Woodard
November 18 – 22

WELCOME TO OUR VIRTUAL SEASON!

Primary Stages is excited to present its Fall 2020 Virtual Season!

In response to this uncertain and ever-changing landscape, we have reimagined our programming to bring Off-Broadway to your home and create community in the current theatrical climate. Starting this Fall, we return to our roots with the Foundation Series, including *The Tribute Artist* by Charles Busch and *The Night Watcher* by Charlayne Woodard. In our Living Room Commissions, artists who are reimagining the art form create new work in this time of evolution, including Inda Craig-Galván, Kate Hamill, Chesney Snow, and Susan Soon He Stanton.

This Virtual Season will break the fourth wall of how and why we create, renewing our commitment to developing new works and breaking down both financial and physical barriers to attending the theater for audiences worldwide. Through building on our strong foundation of artists and fostering new growth by amplifying essential voices who will push the boundaries of what theater can be, we are building this virtual home – and you, our audience, are the final brick in our wall.

Originally presented in our 2009/2010 Season at 59E59, *The Night Watcher* is an auto-biographical, one-woman play by actress-playwright Charlayne Woodard. Told with penetrating grace and candor, Woodard beautifully weaves together stories of the ordinary and extraordinary ways she has mentored the children in her life. Declared "thoughtful, vivid, entertaining, and poignant" in its original run, *The Night Watcher* is an intimate look at the various definitions of parenthood. We couldn't be more excited to welcome Charlayne back to our virtual stage this Fall.



Andrew Leynse Artistic Director



Shane D. Hudson
Executive Director



Artistic Director Executive Director
Andrew Leynse Shane D. Hudson

Founder Casey Childs

in association with Dasha Epstein

presents

THE NIGHT WATCHER

written and performed by Charlayne Woodard

Original Music and Compositions **Obadiah Eaves**Chants **Rickie Byars Beckwith**Production Team **Alan Harris and Elizabeth Warner**

Production Team Alan Harris and Elizabeth Warner

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Assistant General Manager Claudia McCoy

Director of Development Erica Raven-Scorza

The Night Watcher is approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes including intermission.

The Night Watcher was originally produced by Primary Stages at 59E59 Theaters in the 2009/10 Season.

WHO'S WHO



CHARLAYNE WOODARD

(Playwright/Performer) is a two-time Obie Award winner and Tony Award nominee. Acting: Originated roles for playwrights including Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, Jeremy O. Harris, Suzan-Lori Parks, Lynn Nottage, and Theresa Rebeck. TV: "Pose" (series regular), "Prodigal Son" (recurring), "Law & Order: SVU," "ER," and "Chicago Hope" (recurring). Films: Glass, Unbreakable, The Crucible, and Eye for an Eye. Playwright: The Garden, The Night Watcher, In Real Life, Neat, Pretty Fire, and Flight.

DASHA EPSTEIN (Co-Producer) has had a long career in the theater. After graduating from Barnard, she was introduced by her English professor, Howard Teichmann, to Lillian Hellman and became Lillian's office assistant. After taking time out to get married and raise two children. Dasha returned to the theater as co-producer with Morton Gottlieb on Same Time, Next Year. She went on to receive two Tony Awards for Ain't Misbehavin' and Children of a Lesser God, Nominations and Drama Desk Awards followed for Master Harold and the Boys, Chinglish, and The Invisible Hand (co-produced with New York Theater Workshop and in London). She also co-produced Orphans with Steppenwolf and then the London production starring Albert Finney. Dasha is an emeritus Board member of Primary Stages and coproduced Athol Fugard's Exits and Entrances with the company. She is on the Board of the American Theatre Wing and NY Stage and Film.

OBADIAH EAVES (Sound Design and Original Music) Obadiah's work has appeared on Broadway in Saint Joan; The Country House; The Assembled Parties; Harvey; A Life In The Theatre: Collected Stories: Accent On Youth; Come Back, Little Sheba; The Lieutenant of Inishmore and Shining City. Other recent work includes Noura (Playwright's Horizons): As You Like It (Old Globe): Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead (Huntington); A Doll's House Part 2 (Seattle Rep); The Portuguese Kid (MTC); Hannah and the Dread Gazebo (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); The Total Bent (Public). Awards: BACC, Lortel, Audelco Viv. TV and other: HBO, Nickelodeon, Discovery, History Channel, Bravo, A&E, TLC, and Fisher-Price toys.

FOR THE ORIGINAL PRODUCTION OF THE NIGHT WATCHER

Playwright Charlayne Woodard Director Dan Sullivan

Production Stage Manager **Kelly Glasow**Assistant Stage Manager **Kiki Hess**Production Assistant **Katie Fergerson**Production Assistant **Cody Richard**

Set Design Charlie Corcoran
Set Design Tom Lynch
Sound Design Obadiah Eaves
Lighting Design Geoff Korf
Projection Design Tal Yarden
Costume Design Jess Goldstien
Production Photographer James Leynse
Casting Stephanie Klapper

59E59 THEATERS

Since 2004, Drama Desk Award-winning 59E59 Theaters has been dedicated to hosting the best theater from across the country and around the world to premiere in the heart of Midtown. This Off Broadway destination is a spectacular, modern theater complex boasting three performance spaces, presenting live performances 50 weeks a year. 59E59.org

59E59 THEATERS STAFF

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Artistic Director	Val Day
Marketing Director	Kirsty Gaukel
Associate Curator/Finance	Jessica Hart
Production Manager	Lauren Parrish
Director of Ticketing Services	Kelvin Veras

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Primary Stages is a member of the Alliance of Resident Theatres/New York, the service organization for NYC's non-profit Off- and Off-Off-Broadway theatres.



PRIMARY STAGES

PRIMARY STAGES is an Off-Broadway not-forprofit theater company dedicated to inspiring, supporting, and sharing the art of playwriting. We operate on the strongly held belief that the future of American theater relies on nurturing playwrights and giving them the artistic support needed to create new work. Since our founding in 1984, we have produced more than 135 new plays. Our productions and artists have received critical acclaim, including numerous Tony, Obie, Lortel, Off-Broadway Alliance, AUDELCO, Outer Critics' Circle, Drama League, and Drama Desk awards and nominations. Primary Stages supports playwrights and develops new works through commissions, workshops, readings, and our education and engagement programs: the Dorothy Strelsin New American Writers Group, Marvin and Anne Einhorn School of Performing Arts (ESPA), Teenwrights, Primary Plus Developmental Reading Series, our Free Student Matinee Program, TixTeen, and the Primary Stages Off-Broadway Oral History Project. Through these programs, Primary Stages advocates for our artists, helping them make important—and often transformative-connections within the theater community. For more information on Primary Stages and our various programs, please visit us at primarystages.org.

ANDREW LEYNSE (Artistic Director) is currently in his 17th season as Artistic Director of Primary Stages. Andrew is a director and founding member of the Primary Stages Dorothy Strelsin New

American Writers Group (now in its 25th year), teaches for Primary Stages ESPA (Einhorn School of Performing Arts) and The Tepper Semester for Syracuse University, and is the Artistic Director of the Colorado New Play Festival in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Andrew is a proud Board Member of A.R.T./New York and is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon's Directing Program.

SHANE D. HUDSON (Executive Director)

is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama and Emerson College. Shane has served as Director of Development at Elevator Repair Service, Managing Director of the Yale Cabaret, Associate Director of Development at PlayMakers Repertory Company, General Manager/Marketing Director for Blue Man Group, Theater Manager of the Charles Playhouse, and Executive Director of StageSource. He is an adjunct professor at Marymount Manhattan College.

CASEY CHILDS (Founder) founded Primary Stages in 1984 and has directed many productions for the company. He served as the Artistic Program Director for the New Dramatists from 1981-1985 and was the recipient of the Carnegie Mellon Commitment to New Playwrights Award, as well as two Emmy Awards and many nominations for his extensive work in television. He is a past Vice President of the Directors' Guild of America and a past trustee of The National Association of Television Arts and Sciences. Casey has a BFA in acting and an MFA in directing from Carnegie Mellon University.



"Legends of Texas" by Nilsa Reyna Monday September 21st, 2020 @ 7pm ET

PRIMARY STAGES

INTENSIVE MENTORSHIP DIGITAL SERIES 2019-2020





"Derecho" by Noelle Viñas Thursday September 24th, 2020 @ 7pm ET



Hoster Play
by
Andres Osorio
Monday November 30th, 2020

@ 7pm ET



"The Lonely" by Andrew Rincón Thursday December 3rd, 2020 @ 7pm ET

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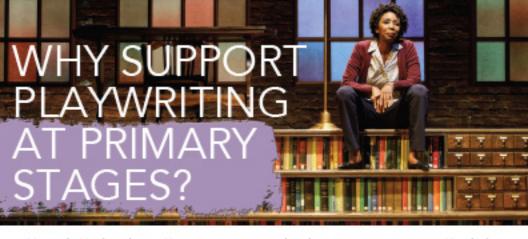


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Join Primary Stages Einhorn School of Performing Arts!

Interested in honing your craft and creating new artistic relationships?
Primary Stages ESPA offers classes in Acting, Writing, and Directing for all artists, in all stages of their careers. Our focus is on nurturing, honoring, and advocating for emerging artists by providing them countless developmental opportunities, space to write and rehearse, and a family of collaborators.

Spring Online Classes Announced Soon!
TO ENROLL, VISIT PRIMARYSTAGES.ORG/ESPA



It's simple. You love theater. You want to see new work and new perspectives on stage. You think training the next generation of theater artists is important. You believe all New Yorkers should have access to art regardless of financial means. You know that experiencing a diverse range of plays that represent all voices is significant in the creation of empathy and understanding in the world. You understand that producing theater is expensive, but definitely worth the investment. You are eager to help.

As a PRIMARY PARTNER, you are guaranteed the best seats in the house. You receive concierge ticketing services with our patron hotline. You are granted access to private readings, rehearsals, Opening Nights, and other intimate events with our artists. You meet others who value and share the same love for theater as you do. You become a true collaborator in our mission to inspire, support, and share the art of playwriting.

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SERVE

Over 20,000 theater-goers, artists, and students each season through our mainstage productions

DEVELOP

20 new works ennuelly through Primary Plus, playwright residencies, commissions, readings and workshops, and The Dorothy Strelsin New American Writers Group

NURTURE

600 early-career and established artists through the artistic home provided by ESPA, which offers more than 100 courses and workshops each year

TEACH

40 public high school students how to write their first script and find their voice in Teenwrights, our free after-school playwriting program

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT HAPPEN.

Join our family of partners, playwrights, directors, and performers. Membership starts at \$500.

To join, and for benefits levels, visit primarystages.org/partners, call 212.594.2125, or email kendra@primarystages.org.

UP NEXT AT PRIMARY STAGES...

A Christmas Carol

A One Night Only Virtual Benefit Reading of the Charles Dickens classic novel

directed by Theresa Rebeck

LIVE! DECEMBER 16 AT 8PM EST

Recording available for free!

TICKETS AVAILABLE STARTING DECEMBER 1

LIVING ROOM COMMISSIONS



TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION AT PRIMARYSTAGES.ORG

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^{*} Includes gifts made to the 2020 Primary Stages Virtual Gala.

 $[\]mbox{\Large \lozenge}$ Includes gifts made to the 35th Anniversary Campaign for the Future of Primary Stages.

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