

A RAISIN *in the* SUN

By Lorraine Hansberry; Directed by Warren C. Bowles



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To our Community:

We are both eager and humbled to produce and interpret this cornerstone of American theatre with you in mind. Composer Steve Reich has said “a classic is something that remains news.” For sad, noble and essential human reasons, *A Raisin in the Sun* remains today’s news.

To each of the thousands of students who are stepping out of school for the day: this play was chosen especially for you. Do you see yourself in the dreams and daily battles of this play’s young people to be fully heard and truly understood? Maybe your own family churns with multiple dreams for the future. Perhaps you’ll recognize how hard we can be on the people we love the most.

To our loyal subscribers: veteran director Warren Bowles has marshaled a top-notch creative team and stellar cast in service to a play he loves, a story he knows intimately and a world we all believe deserves our attention and respect.

To our donors: your continued support helps us invest in thoughtfully crafted and passionately interpreted productions like this show and our new *The House on Mango Street*. These productions are “built to last” and to diversify our expanding repertory of curriculum-enhancing productions of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Of Mice and Men* and a trio of Shakespeare’s best. **Over 30,000 teens each year are the living beneficiaries of your investment!**

Thanks to each and all of you – for what you bring and give to make this performance a vital moment in our community’s cultural life.



A handwritten signature of Richard Cook in black ink.

Richard Cook, Artistic Director
651.767.8482 | cook@parksquaretheatre.org



A handwritten signature of C. Michael-jon Pease in black ink.

C. Michael-jon Pease, Executive Director, CFRE
651.767.8497 | pease@parksquaretheatre.org



photos for *A Raisin in the Sun* by Petronella J. Ytsma

STORY

Set on Chicago's South Side, the plot revolves around the divergent dreams and conflicts within three generations of the Younger family: son Walter Lee, his wife Ruth, his sister Beneatha, his son Travis, and matriarch Lena. When her deceased husband's insurance money comes through, Mama Lena dreams of moving to a new home and a better neighborhood in Chicago. Walter Lee, a chauffeur, has other plans: buying a liquor store and being his own man. Beneatha dreams of medical school. The tensions and prejudice they face form this seminal American drama. The Younger family's heroic struggle to retain dignity in a harsh and changing world is a searing and timeless document of hope and inspiration.

PLAYWRIGHT LORRAINE HANSBERRY



When Lorraine Hansberry's (1930-1965) *A Raisin in the Sun* appeared on Broadway in 1959, the artist became at 29 the youngest American playwright, the fifth woman, and the only African American to date to win the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play of the Year. The play represented a landmark in its authentic depiction of Black American life and the vivid demonstration of so gifted a creator, cast, and director. In 1961, the film version won a special award at the Cannes Film Festival and was nominated for a Screen Writer's Guild Award for Hansberry's

screenplay. In 1965, Lorraine Hansberry died of cancer at age 34. As if prescient, in the six years she had between the triumph of her first play and her death, she was extraordinarily prolific. Her second play to be produced on Broadway, *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*, was in its early run when Hansberry died; the curtain came down on that date. *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black*, an autobiographical portrait in her own words adapted by her former husband and literary executor Robert Nemiroff, was posthumously produced in 1969 and toured across the country. In 1970, *Les Blancs*, her play about the inevitability of struggle between colonizers and colonized in Africa, ran on Broadway to critical acclaim. During her career as a playwright, Hansberry wrote many articles and essays on literary criticism, racism, sexism, homophobia, world peace and other social and political issues. At her death, she left behind file cabinets holding her public and private correspondence, speeches and journals, and various manuscripts in several genres: plays for stage and screen, essays, poetry, and an almost complete novel.

excerpted from samuelfrench.com

A RAISIN *in the* SUN

By Lorraine Hansberry

Director	Warren C. Bowles
Scenic Designer	Lance Brockman
Costume Designer	A. Emily Heaney
Lighting Designer	Michael P. Kittel
Composer and Sound Designer	Evan Middlesworth
Properties Designer	Sadie Ward
Choreographer	Emily Madigan
Stage Manager	Jamie J. Kranz*
Assistant Stage Manager	Salima Seale

CAST

Ruth	Aimee K. Bryant*
Walter Lee	Darius Dotch*
Beneatha	Am'Ber Montgomery
Lena	Greta Oglesby*
Travis	Andre G. Miles
Asagai	Theo Langason
George	Cage Sebastian Pierre
Lindner	Robert Gardner
Bobo	Neal R. Hazard
Moving Man	Kevin Sanders Nelson

SETTING: Chicago's South Side, 1950s

PERFORMANCE TIME: The performance will run approximately 2 hours, 30 minutes, including one 20-minute intermission.

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105 Proof; or, the Killing of Mack "The Silencer" Klein marked TLA's return to the Minnesota Fringe Festival in 2015, after a year hiatus. It was praised by audiences and press alike. *City Pages'* Ed Huyck called it "a breathtaking achievement ... *105 Proof* isn't just one of the best shows of the Fringe, it's one of the best shows of the year." The production was also lauded by the *Pioneer Press* and *Star Tribune*, and given an average of five stars over 72 online audience reviews. It was the fifth-top-selling show of the 2015 Festival.

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FAMILY VALUES



A week after rehearsals began, director Warren C. Bowles talked to feature writer Matt DiCintio about the Younger family, their values, and their aspirations.

Hansberry's play is well known to many audiences, and this is not the first time you've worked it. What makes this time different?

It's wonderful to have such a very strong cast. We're going to be able to investigate the depth of this family and the individual characters within it. The play is an American classic, but we don't want to play it on a superficial level, as if everyone was familiar with it. This is a wonderful, wonderful family. They shed a real light on the situation of black people in the fifties, and that sense of aspiration and wanting to move out of the particular condition they're in.

The play is very much of its time. How does it resonate today?

That's the key. You know, the term "family values" is so overused and nebulous nowadays that it can be dangerous to use it. But what we see here are real family values, real individuals. Some people today tend to make the whole experience of being black in this country as something that is rather vague and universal. You hear politicians talk about African Americans as though they are one singular group. But here are real sacred experiences and aspirations. Hansberry is giving us a very particular worldview of what it is to be black in America and black in the world. She had little or no respect for people who only seek wealth, and you get that sense from George and the Murchisons. But with the Youngers, there is a tremendous sense of family dignity and family history. When we first met as a cast, we talked about how one of the first things we hear when some

tragedy occurs is, "What would Martin Luther King have to say about XYZ if he were here?" Of course, he's not, but the dream and the goal are. In *Raisin* there is a longing for that result. This is definitely a play about 2016.

How are you and Darius Dotch approaching the character of Walter Lee and his values?

First, I hope audiences don't assume that his idea to open a liquor store is negative. Walter Lee's business sense may be weak, but there are a lot of very good businessmen whose business is the selling of alcohol and spirits. I come from an area in Minneapolis where one of the strongest businesses is Ken and Norm's Liquors, that was run by two black men who really supported the community – to the extent that new owners realized they had to keep the name because they were such a strong part of the community. The business is part of Walter Lee seeking his "manhood." The family has just lost Big Walter, a dominant figure, so Walter Lee has an expectation that he will fill that role. The business decision is tough for him – taking a chance that will earn his family's respect and allow him to "come into his manhood," as Mama says. That's how high the stakes are. We should keep in mind that \$10,000 is a lot of money, almost \$100,000 in today's money. It's extraordinarily life-changing. That's a big investment Walter Lee wants to make. For himself and for his family.

Matt DiCintio holds a PhD in Drama from Tufts. He works at Boston University and teaches at Emerson College.



AIMEE K. BRYANT*

Ruth

Park Square *Nina Simone: Four Women, The Color Purple, Constant Star*
Representative Theatre

Congo Square Theatre: *Spunk*; Ten Thousand Things: *The Music Man*; Children's Theatre Company: *Akeelah and the Bee*; Pillsbury House Theatre: *Marcus, or the Secret of Sweet*; Theatre Forever: *The Nature Crown*; Guthrie Theater: *My Fair Lady* **Training** B.F.A., Musical Theatre, Howard University **Awards/Other** *City Pages* Best Actress 2015; 2015-2016 McKnight Theatre Artist Fellow **Upcoming Projects** Park Square: *Nina Simone: Four Women*; Ten Thousand Things: *Intimate Apparel*

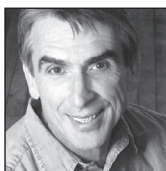


DARIUS DOTCH*

Walter Lee

Park Square *The Color Purple, Stick Fly* **Representative Theatre** Jungle Theater: *Bars and Measures*; Children's

Theatre Company: *Akeelah and the Bee*; Penumbra Theatre: *Detroit '67*; Mixed Blood Theatre: *Colossal*; Pillsbury House Theatre: *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet and the road weeps, the well runs dry*; History Theatre: *Lombardi, A Civil War Christmas*; Big Top Chautauqua: *Play Ball Musical* **Training** B.A., Theatre Arts **Awards** Ivey Award for Best Ensemble (*Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet*) **Upcoming Projects** Ten Thousand Things: *Intimate Apparel*



ROBERT GARDNER

Lindner

Park Square *The Language Archive, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Odyssey, Melville Slept Here, Dancing at Lughnasa*

Representative Theatre Walking Shadow Theatre Company: *Mary Stuart*; Iowa Theatre Artists: *A Walk in the Woods*; Hardcover Theatre: *London After Midnight*; Starting Gate: *Barefoot in the Park*; St. Croix Festival Theatre: *Foxfire*; MN Shakespeare Project: *King Lear* **TV/Film** *Our Father Taught Us, Mister X, Abandon Me, The Morning Light* **Training** A.B., Oberlin College; M.A., Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

Awards/Other *Lavender Magazine* Best Supporting Actor, 2008; Professor Emeritus of Theatre, Gustavus Adolphus College



NEAL R. HAZARD

Bobo

Park Square *Of Mice and Men, Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders*
Representative Theatre

Horizon Theatre: *The Bluest Eye*; Theatre in the Square: *The Piano Lesson*; Soulstice Rep: *Othello*; Push-Push Theatre: *Pill Hill*; 7 Stages Theater: *Hush*; Georgia Shakespeare Festival: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* **TV/Film** Tyler Perry Productions: *House of Payne*; The HistoryMakers/PBS: *An Evening with Andrew Young*; Lifetime: *The Anna Nicole Smith Story* **Training** Journalism, University of Rhode Island **Awards** HBO Short Film Competition top five: A.M. Session writer/actor **Other** Life on Campus Program; Acting Instructor; Actor with Science Live Theatre at Science Museum of Minnesota



THEO LANGASON

Asagai

Park Square *The Snow Queen* **Representative Theatre** Sandbox Theatre: *Queens* (at Park Square

Theatre), *The Little Pilot* (Director), *Killer Inside, This is a World to Live in*; 7th House Theater: *Hair* **Training** B.A., Theatre Arts, Rutgers University – Camden



ANDRE G. MILES

Travis

Park Square *The Color Purple, Ragtime* **Other** Andre is a 6th grader at Hope Academy in

Minneapolis, and has a passion for theater and sports.



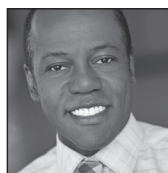
AM'BER MONTGOMERY

Beneatha

Park Square Debut **Representative Theatre** Phoenix Theater: *Girls in White Dresses*; Jungle

CAST

Theater: *Two Gentlemen of Verona* **Training**
University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater
B.F.A. Actor Training Program



KEVIN SANDERS NELSON

Moving Man

Park Square Debut
Representative Theatre

Voice Conservatory
University of Miami:

Carmen, The Marriage of Figaro; Canyon
Theater (Palm Springs, CA): *The Music Man*;
River Campus Theater (Southern Missouri
University): *Big River*; Greenville College
(Illinois): *Faust*; Gifted Productions Theater
(St. Louis, Missouri); Wood Theater (Little
Rock, Arkansas) **Training** B.A., Radio and
Television Broadcasting, Greenville College,
Greenville, IL; Opera Theater Workshop,
Voice Conservatory (Miami, Florida)



GRETA OGLESBY*

Lena

Park Square American
Family Representative

Theatre Penumbra
Theatre: *Amen Corner*;

Guthrie Theater: *Caroline or Change*;
Arena Stage: *Akeelah and the Bee*; Oregon
Shakespeare Festival: *Gem of the Ocean*;
American Players Theatre: *King Lear*;
Milwaukee Rep: *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*
Training B.S., Rust College, Holly Springs,
MS **Awards/Other** Black Theater Alliance
Award, Joseph Award, McKnight Theater
Artist Fellowship Award **Upcoming Projects**
Penumbra Theatre: *Black Nativity*; Kansas
City Rep: *A Raisin in the Sun*



CAGE SEBASTIAN PIERRE

George

Park Square *My Children!*
My Africa! **Representative**

Theatre American Players
Theatre: *Eurydice, King*

Lear, The Comedy of Errors; Guthrie Theater
(Dowling Studio): *Earthquakes in London*;
Open Eye Figure Theatre (Driveway Tour):
Tucker's Robot **Training** University of
Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor
Training program

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ARTISTIC STAFF



WARREN C. BOWLES

Director

Park Square *My Children! My Africa!*, *Visiting Mr. Green*, *Constant Star*, *Of Mice and Men*, *I Have*

Before Me a Remarkable Document Given To Me By a Young Lady From Rwanda, *Trying Representative Theatre* More than 40 years' professional experience acting and directing at Mixed Blood Theatre, Guthrie Theater, Ten Thousand Things, American Players Theatre, A Contemporary Theatre, San Diego Public Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival and other theaters across the country **Training** B.A., University of Notre Dame/L'Université Catholique de l'Ouest, Angers, France; M.A., University of Minnesota Twin Cities **Awards/Other** 2016 Ivey Award for Direction; Recipient of a 2005 McKnight Fellowship for Theater Artists and in 2004 Mayor R. T. Rybak proclaimed January 18 "Warren Caesar Bowles Day" in Minneapolis. Warren is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

LANCE BROCKMAN

Scenic Designer

Park Square *Nina Simone: Four Women*, *My Children! My Africa!*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders*, *Red Representative Theatre* Penumbra Theatre: numerous productions including *Vera Stark*; Minnesota Centennial Showboat: numerous productions **Training** B.A./M.S., Kansas State Teachers College **Awards/Other** Twin Scenic Collection and Theatre of the Fraternity Exhibits of historic scenic art sketches

A. EMILY HEANEY

Costume Designer

Park Square *The Language Archive*, *The Red Box*, *Stick Fly*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *American Family*, *Words By...Ira Gershwin and the Great American Songbook*, *Jekyll and Hyde Representative Theatre* Shakespeare & Company: *The Learned Ladies*; Lakeshore Players: *Young Frankenstein*; Loudmouth Collective: *The Best Brothers*; Fortune's Fool: *Why We Laugh Upcoming Projects* Gremlin Theatre: *Outside Paducah*; Theater Coup d'Etat: *The Crucible*; Lakeshore Players: *The Happy Elf*

MICHAEL P. KITTEL

Lighting Designer

Park Square Over 120 productions (as Resident Lighting Designer) including *Great Expectations*, *The Color Purple*, *Red*, *Ragtime*, *Grey Gardens*, *Democracy*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Rock 'n' Roll Representative Theatre* Ordway, Frank Theatre, Stages Theatre Company, Steppingstone Theatre, Mu Performing Arts, Bloomington Civic Theatre **TV/Film** tpt: *The St. Olaf Christmas Festival Training* University of Wisconsin-River Falls **Awards** Ivey Award for *The Pillowman* (Frank Theatre); *Lavender Magazine* 2008 & 2009 Best Lighting Design

JAMIE J. KRANZ*

Stage Manager

Park Square Over 25 productions including *The Liar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Snow Queen*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Murder for Two*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders*, *The Color Purple Representative Theatre* Children's Theatre Company: *Pinocchio*, *Seedfolks*, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*; Mixed Blood Theatre: *DJ Latinidad's Latin Dance Party*, *Pussy Valley*; The Playwrights' Center: *Playlabs*; The Gulfshore Playhouse, Goodspeed Musicals, Maine State Music Theatre, Utah Shakespeare Festival, The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey **Training** M.F.A., Stage Management, Columbia University **Upcoming Projects** Park Square: *Flower Drum Song*

EMILY MADIGAN

Choreographer

Park Square Debut **Representative Theatre** Sandbox Theatre: *Queens*; Theater Latté Da: *Cabaret*; Artistry: *Hairspray*; Chanhassen Dinner Theatres: *The Little Mermaid*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Hairspray Awards* Rathaus Productions: *Cabaret* (Choreographer, and featured Dancer), Minneapolis Musical Theatre: *Leap of Faith* (Choreographer)



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EVAN MIDDLESWORTH

Composer and Sound Designer

Park Square *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue; Sherlock Holmes and the Ice Palace Murders; Cyrano; Words By; Of Mice and Men; Good People; King Lear; August: Osage County; The Last Seder* **Representative Theatre** Gulfshore Playhouse: *Constellations*; Aurora University: *Our Town*; ArtsWest Theatre: *History Boys*; Seattle Public Theatre: *I Hate Hamlet*; Second Story Repertory: *Anything Goes*; Purdue University: *Big Love* **Training B.A.**, Sound Design, Purdue University **Other** Owner, Pine Hollow Audio, Eau Claire, WI (Audio Production, Sound Design, Composition) **Upcoming Projects** Park Square: *Macbeth*; Gulfshore Playhouse: *Constellations*; Aurora University: *Our Town*

SADIE WARD

Properties Designer

Park Square *Nina Simone: Four Women; Murder for Two; The Other Place; 2 Sugars, Room for Cream; 33 Variations; Behind the*

Eye; Of Mice and Men **Representative Theatre** Theatre in the Round, The Phipps Center for the Arts, Lyric Arts, Theatre Unbound, Theatre Pro Rata **Training B.A.**, Theatre Studies; B.F.A., Arts Administration **Other** Human Resources Generalist at the Guthrie

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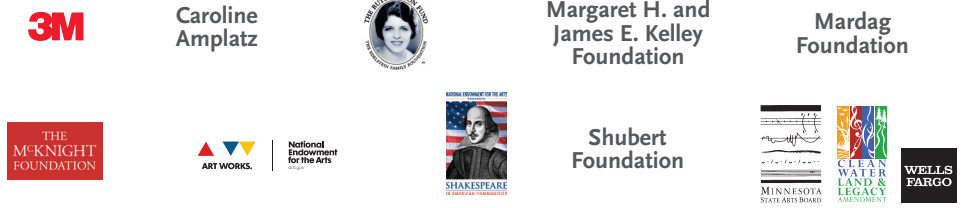


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in memory of
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J. Michael Barone
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* in-kind gift

Individual support was received between 9.1.2015 and 8.31.2016. Please help keep our records correct by contacting us with any changes or oversights. Contact Rachel Bentley at 651.767.8483 or bentley@parksquaretheatre.org

PARK SQUARE STAFF

Richard Cook, Artistic Director
Michael-jon Pease, CFRE, Executive Director

ARTISTIC

Rob Jensen, Technical Director
Ian Stoutenburgh, Assistant Technical Director
Megan West, Production Manager
Jamil Jude, Artistic Programming Associate
Michael P. Kittel, Resident Lighting Designer
Matt Erkel, Lead Carpenter
Charlotte Deranek, Sound Supervisor
John White, Literary Management Volunteer

EDUCATION

Mary M. Finnerty, Education Director
Megan Losure, Education Sales & Services Manager
Connor M. McEvoy, Education Associate
Marcia Aubineau, Post-show Discussion Moderator
Arianna Diaz-Celon, Education Intern
Immersion Day and Ambassador Program
Teaching Artists: Tessie Bundick, Josh Campbell, Shanan Custer, Carson Kreitzer, Annie Enneking, Mary K. Flaa, Christina Ham, H. Adam Harris, Steve Hendrickson, Brian Hesser, Katharine Horowitz, Stephen Houtz, JuCoby Johnson, Aditi Kapil, Mike Kittel, Kym Longhi, Katy McEwen, Leslye Orr, Joe Papke, Aaron Preusse, Doug Scholz-Carlson, Jen Scott, Eric Sharp, Dane Stauffer, Regina Marie Williams

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Audience Development Director
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Community Engagement Manager
Lynne Beck, Development Consultant
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Michael Hanisch, Videographer
Jim Heideman, Telemarketing Services
Alicia Pedersen, Marketing Assistant
Rachel Wandrei, Graduate Intern, Development

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Sheri J. Zigan, Finance & Operations Director
Jackson Smith, Finance Coordinator
Dave Peterson, Facility & Event Manager
John Romano, Donna Handson,
Facility & Event Associates
Amanda Lammert, Audience Services Director
Front of House Staff: (Evening) Jiffy Kunik - Performance Supervisor; Jimmy Vincent - Lead House Manager; Adrian Larkin, Ashe Jaafaru, Federic Nobello, Jackson Smith, Kasey Tunell, Mariah Christensen, Michelle Clark, Missy Keller, Sarah Bauer, Justin Campbell, Kristen Parizek, Kellie Nitz, Maria Perez, Laura Hall; **(Daytime)** Adrian Larkin - Lead House Manager; Federic Nobello - House Manager; Gayle Smith, Louise Rosemark, Ann Feider, Patricia Arnold, Paula Manzuk, Ting Ting Cheng, Liz Englund
Ticket Agents: Ben Cook-Feltz - Ticket Office Supervisor, Jimmy Vincent, Kristen Parizek
Usher and Friday Morning Club Coordinator: Judy Bartlett

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATES: Aditi Kapil, Playwright, Director and Actor; Carson Kreitzer, Playwright; Ricardo Vázquez, Playwright and Actor; James A. Williams, Director, Actor and Teacher

ACCESS SERVICES STAFF: Audio Description: Rick Jacobson; American Sign Language Interpreters: Mary Baremore, Elly Carpenter, Paul Deeming, Shelley Lehner, Susan Masters, Charlette Reiner; Open Captioning: Kathleen Conroy, Jill Boon

CONSULTANTS: Assignment Writers: Ting Ting Cheng, Matt DiCintio; Auditor: Clifton Larson Allen; Community Engagement Consultants: Jamil Jude, Alicia Wiesneth; Disability Advisor: Jill Boon; Marketing Consultant: Christopher Taykalo; Volunteer Curator: Toni Dachis

VOLUNTEERS: Friday Morning Club: Susan Adix, Doreen Aszmus, Sue Bjerke, Pat Dalluhn, Monica Fritzen, Pat Sackett; Thanks to all of our Volunteer Ushers

THE SOUL OF GERSHWIN

THE MUSICAL JOURNEY OF AN AMERICAN KLEZMER

Music and Lyrics by
George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin
Songs from *Porgy and Bess* by
George Gershwin, DuBose Heyward
and Ira Gershwin
Created and Written by Joseph Vass
Directed by Peter Moore

*Whether you've got rhythm
or not, you'll leave singing!*

DEC 2 – 31 on Park Square's Proscenium Stage



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Best Twin-Cities Jazz Club
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Your Park Square Ticket Stub
 Gets You In Free
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LIVE MUSIC
 MENU UNTIL MIDNIGHT
 HAPPY HOUR 5pm-7pm

Downtown, Downstairs. Historic Hamm Building, Saint Paul, MN

PARK SQUARE INFORMATION

CONTACT

Park Square Theatre
 408 St. Peter Street, Suite 110, Saint Paul, MN 55102
 Ticket Office: 651.291.7005
 Usher Hotline: 651.767.8489
 Education: 651.291.9196
 Donor Development: 651.767.8497
 Audience Services: 651.767.8487
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These activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, and a grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota.

TICKET OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Friday:

12:00 – 5:00pm & 6:30 – 8:00pm (performance days only)

12:00 – 5:00pm (non-performance days)

Saturday: 2:00 – 8:00pm* (performance days only)

*For Sat matinees, ticket office & phones open at 12:30pm

Sunday: 12:30 – 3:30pm (performance days only)

Proscenium Stage seats 348. Andy Boss Thrust Stage seats 203.
 The Historic Hamm Building is smoke-free.
 Latecomers are seated at the discretion of the House Manager.
 Restrooms and water fountains on main floor and lower level.
 Cameras/audio/video equipment and laser pointers prohibited.

DON'T MISS WHAT'S COMING IN 2017!



BIG MONEY



Presented and Created by the
Sandbox Theatre Ensemble
Led by Derek Lee Miller

On May 19th, 1984, a live studio audience watched Michael Larson win an unprecedented \$110,000 on the game show "Press Your Luck." Was he on the level? In January 2017, Sandbox will explore this one man's obsession to beat the odds and win the cash. Big bucks, no whammies!

Jan 12 -28 Drama-Comedy / Andy Boss Thrust Stage

Flower Drum Song



Co-Produced with Mu Performing Arts

Music by Richard Rodgers; Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by David Henry Hwang; Directed by Randy Reyes

Father produces Peking Opera. Son knows nightclub acts sell better. Immigrants in 1950s Chinatown rediscover their roots (and find love) in the new world. American razz-ma-tazz and stylized Chinese opera create a beautiful score that is by turns lushly romantic and showbiz-brassy. Hwang's new script crackles with authenticity and humor.



Jan 20 -Feb 19 Musical / Proscenium Stage

NINA SIMONE: FOUR WOMEN

By Christina Ham
Directed by Faye M. Price

Back by popular demand – now with added music! Writing "Mississippi Goddamn" in a bombed Birmingham church, Simone meets three strong women bound by tragic circumstance. Together, they sing their truth and rise triumphant with classics like "Sinner Man" and "I Loves You, Porgy."



Feb 7-26 Play with Music / Andy Boss Thrust Stage

