

PIPELINE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Nicholas Peterson - 617.512.1688

Press Performance: Monday, March 9 at 7:30pm or by request.

(CAMBRIDGE) – From March 5 to 29, 2020, The Nora and WAM Theatre are proud to present **PIPELINE** by Dominique Morisseau.

Nya, an inner-city public school teacher, strives to give her only son Omari the opportunities her own students will never have. When he is threatened with expulsion from his upstate, private school, she must confront his rage and her own parenting choices. A lyrical play by Dominique Morisseau praised by the *New York Times* for “piercing eloquence” about “family struggling to outrun social prophecy.”

Dawn M. Simmons makes her Central Square Theater debut directing **PIPELINE**.

The cast of **PIPELINE** includes Hubens “Bobby” Cius, Alexandria Danielle King, Kevin Craig West, James Ricardo Milord, Barbara Douglass, and Sandra Seoane-Serí.

The design team is Shelley Barish (*Scenic Designer*), Elizabeth Rocha (*Costume Designer*), Michaela Carmela Bocchino (*Lighting Designer*), John Oluwole ADEkoji (*Projections Designer*), and Greg Smith (*Sound Designer*). Lauren Burke is the Stage Manager and Lyanne Low is the Assistant Stage Manager.

PIPELINE will run March 5 to 29, 2020 at Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge. For tickets and other information the public is invited to call Central Square Theater’s Box Office at 617.576.9278 x1 or visit CentralSquareTheater.org

Production History

PIPELINE was commissioned by Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre Company and premiered at the Lincoln Center Theatre in New York City in June 2017 under the direction of Lileana Blain-Cruz. In September 2019, American Theatre magazine announced that **PIPELINE** was one of the Top Ten Most Produced Plays of the 2019-20 Season.

Playwright Information

DOMINIQUE MORISSEAU (*Playwright*) Plays include *The Detroit Project* (A 3-Play Cycle) which includes the following plays: *Skeleton Crew* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Paradise Blue* (Signature Theatre), and *Detroit '67* (Public Theater, Classical Theatre of Harlem and NBT). Additional plays include: *Pipeline* (Lincoln Center Theater), *Sunset Baby* (LAByrinth Theatre); *Blood at the Root* (National Black Theatre) and *Follow Me To Nellie's* (Premiere Stages). She is also the book writer on the new musical *Ain't Too Proud – The Life and Times of the Temptations* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre). Her work has been commissioned by Steppenwolf Theatre, Women's Project, South Coast Rep, People's Light and Theatre, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival/Penumbra Theatre. Film/TV: She most recently served as Co-Producer on the Showtime series *Shameless*. Awards: Spirit of Detroit Award, PoNY Fellowship, Sky-Cooper Prize, TEER Trailblazer Award, Steinberg Playwright Award, Audelco Awards, NBFT August Wilson Playwriting Award, Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama, OBIE Award, Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellowship, and being named one of *Variety's* Women of Impact for 2017-18. Et Cetera: Dominique is an alumna of The Public Theater Emerging Writers Group, Women's Project Lab, and Lark Playwrights Workshop and has developed work at Sundance Lab, Williamstown Theatre Festival and Eugene O'Neil Playwrights Conference.

Director Information

DAWN M. SIMMONS (*Director*) Central Square Theater: debut; Theatre: *The Wiz*, *Warrior Class*, *Saturday Night Sunday Morning* (Lyric Stage Company of Boston); *With Glittering Eyes* (Hibernian Hall); *Macbeth* (Actors' Shakespeare Project); *The Three Musketeers* (The Front Porch Arts Collective/Greater Boston Stage Company); *The Irish and How They Got That Way* (Greater Boston Stage Company); *Just Cause* (The Boston Project), *Men On Boats* (SpeakEasy Stage Company); *The Real Inspector Hound* (Bad Habit Productions); *Hard and Fast: A Love Story* (Boston Public Works); *Smile* (New Exhibition Room); *The Embryos* (Fresh Ink Theatre), Dawn is the Artistic Director and co-founder of The Front Porch Arts Collective, Online: FrontPorchArts.org and Executive Director and proud member of StageSource, Online: StageSource.org.

Actor Information

HUBENS "BOBBY" CIUS (*Omari*) Central Square Theater: *black odyssey boston*. Other credits include *Pass Over* (SpeakEasy Stage Company), *The Three Musketeers* (Greater Boston Stage Company), *A Free Man of Color* (Salem State University). Training: BA in Theatre Arts at Salem State University. Awards: 2018 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Region 1 – NETC Best Scene Partner, 2019 KCACTF Region 1 – Irene Ryan 1st Honorable Mention. Online: @bobby_cius

BARBARA DOUGLASS (*Laurie*) Central Square Theater: *Saving Kitty* (Costume Design); Other credits include Edith in *Delicate Particle Logic* (Flat Earth Theatre); Ruella in *Communicating Doors*, Alma in *The Porch*, Polly in *Other Desert Cities* (Vokes Theater); Becky in *Becky's New Car*; Karen, Marjorie, and Norma in *Plaza Suite*; Sonia in *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike*; Karla in *Wonder of the World* (Quannapowitt Theater); Barbara in *August: Osage County*, Dotty in *Noises Off*, Sara in *The Sisters Rosensweig*, Sue in *All My Sons* (Footlight); Lyn in *Apple*, Frankie in *Christmas Belles* (Phoenix Theater Artists); Susan in *Becky Shaw, Alarms & Excursions*, Berthe in *Boeing Boeing* (Hovey Players); Awards: DASH Lead Actress: *Becky's New Car*; DASH lead actress: *Plaza Suite*; DASH costuming: *The Lion In Winter*; DASH supporting actress: *Moon Over Buffalo*; MyTheater Award lead actress (nom): *August: Osage County*.

ALEXANDRIA DANIELLE KING (*Nya*) Central Square Theater: *The Revolutionists*, *Arabian Nights*; Born in Chicago, Alexandria Danielle King is an actor, poet, songwriter, educator, youth advocate, director, choreographer and nature enthusiast. She received her BA in Drama from Tufts University and advanced theatre training certification from The Moscow Arts Theatre School. She believes that performance art is a divine tool for revealing and examining the condition of the heart. Some of her previous acting credits include: Antigone in *Antigone* (Classical Theatre of Harlem), Chelle in *Detroit '67* (New Horizon Theatre), Lorraine Hansberry in *Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart* (PBS American Masters). In Boston, you can see her in *The Bluest Eye* at Huntington Theatre April 24th- May 24th. Website: AlexandriaDanielleKing.com Instagram: @Divineloveheals. Pronouns: Divine Queen. For Johnny Lee Davenport.

JAMES RICARDO MILORD (*Dun*) Central Square Theater: *A Christmas Carol* (2019); Other credits include *The Handmaid's Tale* (Boston Lyric Opera); *The Agitators*, *Cyrano* (Gloucester Stage); *Anna Christie*, *Barbecue* (Lyric Stage); *Akeelah and the Bee* (Wheelock Family Theatre); *Clybourne Park* (Longwood Players Club); *The Good Negro*, *Splendor*, *The Brothers Size Trilogy*, *A Clockwork Orange* (Company One); *Macbeth* (Shakespeare Now). Film: *Honest Thief* (Solution Entertainment Group), *Proud Mary* (Screen Gems), *The Brotherhood* (Showtime), a handful of indies and industrial commercials. Mr. Milord continues to pursue his dreams professionally and encourages all to do the same.

SANDRA SEOANE-SERÍ (*Jasmine*) Central Square Theater: debut; WAM Theatre: *Pipeline* (Fresh Takes Play Reading). Sandra Seoane-Serí is a recent alum of UMass Amherst who studied theater and film. She enjoys holding the camera as much as being on stage. She has worked in the Cannes Film Festival where she hopes to submit her own film one day. She enjoys plays that talk about difficult issues in order to start a dialogue in hopes to connect and understand each other. REGIONAL THEATRE: Realidad in *Policapra* at Artists Theater of Boston. UNIVERSITY THEATRE: Rachel in *Baltimore*, Angel in *Marisol*, Aline in *Infants of the*

Spring, Attendant in *Tape*, Fei Fong Torres in *Snowflakes*, Shar in *The Happiest Song Plays Last*, John Williamson in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, Abigail Williams in *The Crucible*, Lidia in *Runaways*, Stepmother in *Cinderella*. FILM: *In the Heights*, HER in *TWO & two*. TRAINING: University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Online: @tripleesse

KEVIN CRAIG WEST (*Xavier*) Central Square Theater: debut; WAM Theatre: *Noms de Guerre* (Fresh Takes Play Readings), 24 Theatre Project, Artistic Associate; Regional Theatre: *Shakespeare in Love*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *Race*, *Metamorphoses*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Take Me Out*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Friend of a Friend* (Capital Repertory Theatre), *Dracula* (Actors' Theatre of Louisville), *Race* (Northern Stage), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Florida Repertory Theatre). Off-Broadway: *Sonnets for an Old Century* (The Barrow Group), *Joe Fearless* (The Atlantic Theatre Company). Other Theatre: *Grant & Twain* (PS21), *Master Harold and the Boys...* (Leatherstocking Theatre Company), *Judevine*, *Panache* (Oldcastle Theatre), *My Children! My Africa!* (Siena), *Macbeth*, *Of Mice and Men*, *A Tale of Cinderella* (NYSTI). Film: *The Way Forward*, *Bumpin Uglies*, *I Hate Being Black*, *LazerTown*, *Twilight Storytellers*, *The Groundskeeper*, *Little Bi Peep*. Award-winning filmmaker. Online: @KevinCraigWest

Central Square Theater is accessible to persons with special needs and to those requiring wheelchair seating. For tickets and other information about **PIPELINE** the public is invited to call Central Square Theater's Box Office at 617.576.9278 x1 or visit CentralSquareTheater.org.

About Central Square Theater

Central Square Theater (CST) opened in 2008 through a groundbreaking partnership between The Nora and Underground Railway Theater (URT). This collaboration has been called a model for the arts community (The Boston Foundation, Culture is our Commonwealth, and The National Collaboration Prize), as it has paired two like-minded performing arts organizations in a strategic alliance with the City of Cambridge and MIT, resulting in the development of a state-of-the-art performing arts center in the heart of Central Square. CST has a mission to support its two theaters-in-residence while maintaining a shared vision of artists and audiences creating theater vital to their communities. The Nora and URT have a combined track record of over 50 years producing award-winning theater. Located in Central Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and steeped in its multiracial, intergenerational, ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods, the CST theater experience exudes a democratic energy where classes, races and age groups come together to be inspired, entertained and energized.

Press inquiries should be directed to Central Square Theater Director of Marketing Nicholas Peterson, 617,576.9278 x205 (Office), 617.512.1688 (Cell - This cell number not for publication)
Email: NDP@CentralSquareTheater.org

PIPELINE

by Dominique Morisseau

directed by Dawn M. Simmons

Produced by The Nora & WAM Theatre

March 5 - 29, 2020, Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA

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- Director:** Dawn M. Simmons
- Design Team:** Shelley Barish (*Scenic Designer*), Elizabeth Rocha (*Costume Designer*), Michaela Carmela Bocchino (*Lighting Designer*), John Oluwole ADEkoji (*Projections Designer*), Greg Smith (*Sound Designer*).
- Stage Manager:** Lauren Burke, Lyanne Low (Assistant Stage Manager)
- Performing at:** Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge 02139
- Performance Schedule:** March 5 - 29, 2020
Weeknights: 7:30pm. Friday: 8PM, Saturday: 3PM & 8PM,
Sunday: 2PM
- Estimated Run Time:** 90 minutes - no intermission
- Press Performance:** Monday, March 9 at 7:30PM
- Ticket Prices:** Tickets begin at \$25. Discounts for students, seniors, and groups.
- Student Rush:** \$15 with valid college ID, in person at the box-office only, one hour before curtain, subject to availability.
- Box Office:** 617.576.9278 x1, CentralSquareTheater.org
- Press Contact Only:** Nicholas Peterson, Director of Marketing, 617,576.9278 x205 (Office), 617.512.1688 (Cell - This cell number not for publication)