

PROGRAM & CONVERSATIONAL TOOLKIT

Notes from Our Artistic Director

Cloaked in this well-known and often-produced work are issues that are equally well-known but not as equally addressed. Themes like racism, prejudice, apathy, indifference and a system of justice that has to balance or eradicate all of that and more. Unfortunately, all too often those issues are not being addressed by our judicial system and who's surprised when it's hard to even talk about them around our dinner tables, in our programs and pews or even in quick water cooler conversation at work.

As a Director, helping artists discover their onstage character is one of the most challenging (and rewarding) aspects of the rehearsal process. Convincing people to step out of their comfort zone and get uncomfortable takes time and trust. Unique to this project in a way that I've never experienced before was asking the men to simply become more of who they already are - Black men with opinions, emotions, joys and a care for their community. These men were invited to express themselves and then given the time and space to do so. You get the rare opportunity to see the outcome of that work.

As the Founding Artistic Director of Acts On Stage, I'll be working to bring signature works of theater and programming to our region. I don't think it gets more signature than this theatrically-staged film and it's just our first show! It was truly an honor to work with these men and to give them an opportunity to exercise a passion that they either never pursued or that needed to be rekindled.

Thank you to the cast & crew members who not only portrayed these characters but who each possessed the greatest of character throughout this entire process. I'm grateful to my wife for her support and to everyone else who played a role in bringing this story to life. I invite you to share in the success of this monumental moment!

Until next time...PEACE-N-GOD BLESS.

Notes from Our Executive Director

I have never been the Executive Director of a theater before and so far it's been a lot of hard work! But if learning how to do this hard work means we get to bring you high-quality, significant, relevant material like what you are about to see in this production of "12 Angry Men" then I and the entire AOS staff will continue every day to figure it out!

Thanks to our Board, Spirit Media, our Sponsors, the cast & crew and especially to my husband for helping push us into this incredible moment! Because of you, we were able to pivot and bring the community something to talk about - and in the shadow of this story, I hope we all keep talking!



vianene



Theater Company Morthwest Welcome to a NEW ^ Reality

A THEATER dedicated to centering the creative talents, works, and initiatives of People of Color and People of Faith.

Your Theater of Choice for Change!



Change lives dramatically by producing programs and performances that elevate the arts, artists and all audiences.

MISSION

Be a driving force behind a new era renaissance where creativity creates change.

Acts On Stage is committed to elevating the arts as a dynamic method and the artist as curious messengers who masterfully entertain and skillfully inspire. Our hope is to simultaneously create and impact community through works that bring us together and provoke us all to act for the greater good.

PROMISE

- A Regular Season of high quality shows & events
- Consistent Cultivation of new works
- Professional Programs that develop new talent
- Intentional Community Engagement
- Commitment to Equity in pricing and practices









JOIN this Change Lives Dramatically mission by giving a one time or monthly gift today. Your support helps us be a driving force behind a new era renaissance where creativity creates change!





Text ActsOnStage to 21000



@ActsOnStage



ActsOnStageInc@gmail.com

or scan this QRC code with your smartphone









We are so very thankful for all our sponsors who not only contributed financially but gifted us with their support through encouragement, consultation and, partnership.

These businesses, organizations, and churches committed to work with us to bring you this film and important conversations. Please look them up and bless them with your support.

























University

















Brown Realty Solutions - www.brshomesolutions.com

Cascade Church Portland - www.cascadepdx.org

Classic Eats - www.classiceatsburien.com

Clerestory Works - www.clerestoryworks.org

Grace Chapel - www.gracechapelonline.org

HOLLA Mentors - www.hollamentors.org

Imago Dei Community – www.idcpdx.com

JORE Consulting - www.joreconsulting.com

KevOnStage Studios - www.kevonstage.com

Lake Burien Presbyterian Church - www.lbpc.org

Luis Palau - www.palau.org

Multnomah University - www.multnomah.edu

Race & Equity Task Force - www.seattlepresbytery.org/race-equity

Spirt Media - www.spiritmedia.com

Union Church - www.unionchurchseattle.org

Y.O.U.thPDX - www.youthpdx.org

Youth Theatre Northwest – www.youththeatre.org



1| Lyshawn Hunter 2| Malik Bundy 3| C.M.G. Angel 4| Jeffrey Cheatham II 5| Gianni Johnson 6| Montrel Jackson 7| Craig Jackson 8| Michael Walker 9| Ernest Henderson 10| Franklin Johnson 11| Jaeden Thomas 12| Jay Raymond

> Guard| Isiah Anderson, Jr. Defendant| KyRi Miller Judge| Takashi Miller (not pictured)

CREDITS

CAST

The Foreman - Lyshawn Hunter	Juror 9 - Ernest L. Henderson
Juror 2– Malik Bundy	Juror 10 - Franklin L. Johnson
Juror 3 - C.M.G. Angel	Juror 11 - Jaeden Thomas
Juror 4—Jeffrey Lee Cheatham II	Juror 12 - Jay Raymond

Juror 5 - Gianni Shemar Johnson

Juror 6 - Montrel Jackson Defendant - KyRi Miller
Juror 7 - Coach Craig Jackson Judge - Takashi Miller
Juror 8 - Michael Walker Guard - Isiah Anderson, Jr.

Produced by Acts On Stage Theater

Adapted and Directed by Isiah Anderson, Jr.

Project Managed by Michelle Lang-Raymond

Filmed & Edited by Spirit Media
Graphic Design by Adrian Sims
Lighting by Dan Elsner
Sound Engineering by Takashi Miller

Production Crew, Assistance & Consultation

Michela Walker, Trenton Walker, Sydney Coleman Allison Gibson, KyRi Miller, Jay Raymond, Sam Townsend, Jr., Shades Construction, Attorney Sheley Anderson

Catering & Hospitality Services

Ms Helen's Soul Bistro, Angie Hicks, Kenisha Blackman, C. Davis Texas BBQ, Erica Olsen

"A New NW Reality" Commercial featuring

LaCretiah Claytor, Colin Parker Stephens, Trenton Walker, Allison Gibson

AOS BOARD — Sheley Anderson, Nicole Anthony, Robert Baker, MaryEllen Bolden, Elias Bullock, Zach Bruce, Jr., John Carlisle, LaCretiah Claytor, Michael Cole, Jr., Moses Masitha, Jay Raymond, Sam Townsend, Jr.

Acts On Stage Staff

Executive Managing Director, Michelle Lang-Raymond
Artistic Director, Isiah Anderson, Jr.
Operations Manager, Michael Walker
Administrative Support, Allison Gibson

PRESS RELEASE: FOR YOUR INFORMATION & ENGAGEMENT

On Sunday, November 22nd @ 4pm

Acts On Stage Theater will premiere an online interactive broadcast

of their first theatrically staged production

"12 Angry Men"

featuring (for the first time anywhere) an all Black Male cast!

This iconic courtroom drama takes audiences on a winding journey between the guilt or innocence of not just the defendant but of the **American justice system** itself. In a black and white society, we're forced to consider **what truth lies within** the gray areas of our hearts.

Acts On Stage is committed to using its work to elevate the arts and bring attention to matters that matter like racial equity, social justice and positive urban community engagement. This production allows us to bring awareness, attention, and action to these matters by utilizing the brilliance and beauty of the arts. Now, more than ever it is imperative that creativity creates change and that we inspire audiences to move from media consumption to the engagement of #ArtsAsActivsm!



ENJOY THE SHOW



Please Note: There are a few saucy words uttered... ok yelled in this performance. You'll be ok.





The following pages were created to help you process the themes presented in this production. Use these questions as guides in your own reflection and in group conversation. As you journey, be kind and patient but also risk being direct and honest. Where the conversation moves you, be moved.