NEXT UP IN STUDIO 3

February 25 – March 29, 2020

**POPCORN FALLS**

By James Hindman

A nasty neighboring town has shut off Popcorn Falls’ namesake waterfall and targeted them as a sewage treatment site. But the enterprising Popcorn Falls townsfolk (“kernels”) discover a loophole when they find they can secure a town-saving grant if they can produce a play — in just one week! The only problems: no playhouse, no players, and no play! Two actors frantically transform into over twenty roles in this over-the-top comedy that proves one play can save the world (or at least one town)!

April 14 – May 17, 2020

*Edward Albee’s*

**A DELICATE BALANCE**

Directed by Bernard Havard

*What would you do?* On one previously uneventful night, long-time friends arrive at your door unannounced and terrified — unable to say what they are running from, or how long they plan to stay. An unexplained fear has gripped them, and they have turned to you as their first and last resort. *What would you do?* Edward Albee won the first of his three Pulitzer Prizes for this absorbing look into the everyday hopes, fears, and secrets we all so delicately balance. Directed by Walnut Producing Artistic Director Bernard Havard.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT walnutstreettheatre.org OR CALL 215-574-3550 or 800-982-2787 (7 days a week, 10am – 10pm)

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INDEPENDENCE STUDIO ON 3

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*Philadelphia Weekly* is proud to be a sponsor of the Walnut Street Theatre’s Independence Studio on 3. Print issues of *Philadelphia Weekly* are published every Thursday, but the latest in news, the arts and much more is at phillyweekly.com, where you can also enter to win some of our fabulous giveaways, including free theatre tickets, concert tickets, movie passes and more! Follow *PW* on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @phillyweekly — and pick up the new *Philadelphia Weekly* for an in-depth look at the scene both in and around Philly!

WHYY, Greater Philly’s NPR and PBS station, supports and celebrates the arts through television and radio programming, local journalism and Member events — and by being a proud sponsor of the Walnut Street Theatre’s Independence Studio on 3! Concert lovers, museumgoers and patrons of the arts can access WHYY on WHYY-TV 12, WHYY-FM 90.9, the WHYY App and on WHYY Passport, where you can stream programs like *On Stage At Curtis* on-demand. Stay connected with us at WHYY.org/connect.
america's oldest theatre – philadelphia’s most popular theatre company

walnut street theatre

825 walnut street • philadelphia pa 19107

founded 1809

bernard havard
president and producing artistic director

january 7 – february 9, 2020

thurgood

by george stevens, jr.

set design
roman tatarowicz

costume design
levonne lindsay

lighting design
j. dominic chacon

sound design
damien figueras

director of production
siobhán ruane

stage manager
kelly l. schwartz

directed by
jerrell l. henderson

first performed at westport country playhouse and subsequently on broadway

1-7-20 thurgood_live.indd   3

12/16/19   12:00 PM
THE CAST

Thurgood .................................................................JOHNNIE HOBBES, JR.*

UNDERSTUDY
ANDRE N. JONES (Thurgood)

* The Actors and Stage Manager employed in this production are members of Actors’ Equity Association, the theatre union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

THURGOOD is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc., NYC  www.broadwayplaypub.com

The mission of the Walnut Street Theatre Company is to sustain the tradition of professional theatre and contribute to its future viability and vitality. It does so through the production and presentation of professional theatre; the encouragement, training and development of artists; the development of diverse audiences; and the preservation and chronicling of its theatre building, a National Historic Landmark.

Walnut Street Theatre is a member of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania, the National Alliance for Musical Theatre and the League of Historic American Theatres.

Walnut Street Theatre receives support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Walnut Street Theatre acknowledges with appreciation Bryce’s Catering Company (Wynnewood, PA) for their elegant catering of theatre events.

Accessibility Equipment, Training and Marketing provided by Independence Starts Here, the statewide cultural accessibility program of VSA PA/Amaryllis Theatre Co., jointly led in different regions in PA by cultural partners in that region. In Greater Philadelphia, Independence Starts Here is jointly led by Art-Reach, Inc.

Support for Walnut Street Theatre’s general operations provided in part by the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

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Advertisement
JOHNNIE HOBBS, JR. (Thurgood) is an Emeritus Associate Professor at the Ira Brind School of Theatre Arts at The University of the Arts and received the 2015 Barrymore Lifetime Achievement Award and is a four-time Barrymore nominee. Walnut Street Theatre credits – Oleanna, Driving Miss Daisy (National Tour) and The Other Place.

GEORGE STEVENS, JR. (Playwright) George Stevens, Jr’s interest in Thurgood Marshall began with a miniseries he wrote and directed, Separate But Equal, the story of the Brown vs. Board of Education school desegregation case on which Marshall was the lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Thurgood is his first play. Stevens is the founder of the American Film Institute and a writer, director, and producer. Motion pictures: The Thin Red Line; George Stevens: A Filmmaker’s Journey; John F. Kennedy: Years of Lightning, Day of Drums; The Diary of Anne Frank. Television: Separate But Equal (Sidney Poitier, Burt Lancaster), The Murder of Mary Phagan (Jack Lemmon, Peter Gallagher, Kevin Spacey), The Kennedy Center Honors (1978 – 2007), The American Film Institute Life Achievement Awards (1973 – 1998), America’s Millennium, D-Day to Berlin. Alfred A. Knopf recently published his book, Conversations With the Great Moviemakers of Hollywood’s Golden Age. Awards include eight awards from the Writers Guild of America, two George Foster Peabody Awards, and two Emmys.

JERRELL L. HENDERSON (Director) is a director, puppeteer, and an Assistant Professor of Performance Studies at Chicago State University. Recent directing credits include The River with BoHo Theatre, Something Like A War: A New Musical with 11th Hour Theatre, and Untitled with Inis Nua Theatre. Other credits include Salt Pepper Ketchup with Passage at InterAct Theatre. Upcoming productions include Mlima’s Tale by Lynn Nottage with Griffin Theatre. His shadow play adaptation, 3 American Myths: A Riff in Shadow & Light in 3 Rhythmic Movements was a finalist for a 2019 Jim Henson Foundation Grant. As an assistant director, Jerrell has worked with The Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, and Lookingglass Theatre. He received a BA in Theatre Arts from The Pennsylvania State University, an MFA in Directing from Northwestern University, is a member of the Lincoln Center Directors Lab (2012), and is an Artistic Associate of Black Lives Black Words. Thanks, Ricky. Love U. jerrell-henderson.com


LEVONNE LINDSAY (Costume Design) is the Costume Shop Manager and Adjunct Assistant Professor at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Education: B.S. in Fashion Design from Philadelphia University, M.F.A in Costume Design from the University of Maryland, College Park. Recent work: Ragtime, Gem of the Ocean (Arden Theater); Sweat (Philadelphia Theater Company); Kill, Move, Paradise (Wilma Theater). Awards/ Honors: Barrymore Award for Outstanding Costume Design (2019), Allen Lee Hughes Fellow at Arena Stage (2001-2003).

J. DOMINIC CHACON (Lighting Design) Dominic is an Adjunct Professor at Drexel University, the Lighting Coordinator for the Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College, as well as a Freelance Lighting Designer. Thanks to Jerrell and the entire team at WST. It is always a pleasure to work with such talented people. Favorites: Peter and the Starcatcher, Red (WST); Ordinary Days (11th Hour); Dave and Aaron Go to Work (1812);
WHO’S WHO

Proof, Beautiful Boy, The Rise and Fall of Little Voice (Walnut’s Studio 3).

DAMIEN FIGUERAS (Sound Design) is a two-time Barrymore nominated Sound Designer. Recent credits include: Party Face (Off-Broadway, New York City Center), Into the Woods (Resident Theatre Company), The Cake (Lake Dillon Theatre Company), Warplay (Azuka Theatre), Three Sisters (Curio Theatre), Meteor Shower (Walnut Street Theatre), Don’t Dress for Dinner (Lantern Theatre Company). He is a proud member of the TSDCA. As always, he would like to dedicate his work to the memory of his mother. Dfigueras.com

KELLY L. SCHWARTZ (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be in Independence Studio on 3 for her second season at the Walnut Street Theatre. Kelly holds a BA in theatre from Butler University. She spent seven years as WST’s national touring stage manager. All my love to Dave and Aidan for their constant laughter and support.

SIOBHÁN RUANE (Director of Production) This is Siobhán’s seventh season at the Walnut. With almost 20 years in the business, Siobhán has worked internationally as a Production Manager and Stage Manager. Previously, Siobhán held the faculty position of Stage Management Advisor at Florida State University’s School of Theatre. Additional credits include Cirque du Soleil, Norwegian Cruise Line, Cirque Productions, and various regional theatres. Siobhán holds an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University, an MFA from the University of Delaware, and is (prudently!) originally from the Jersey Shore.

MARK D. SYLVESTER (Managing Director) Mark is proud to be celebrating his 26th season at the Walnut. His extensive career has spanned Summer Stock to Broadway as an actor, stage manager, box office treasurer, theatre manager, marketing and public relations director and general manager. After several years working with commercial theatre he has devoted his career to non-profit theatre companies since 1987. To date, Mark has been associated with more than 450 stage productions. An avid collector of musical theatre recordings, his collection contains over 3,000 cast albums from around the world. Widely regarded as a theatrical marketing expert, Mark lectures and consults with organizations internationally. He has served on several boards including seven years with the National Alliance for Musical Theatre where he now holds the honorary position of Board Emeritus and the Advisory Committee of Samuel French, the international play publisher and licensing company. With Bernard Havard he co-authored the book Walnut Street Theatre. Since he joined the Walnut in 1994 it has become the most subscribed theatre company in the world.

BERNARD HAVARD (President and Producing Artistic Director) Vox Populi (The Voice of the People) was written on the Walnut Playbills in the 1800s. Whenever the Walnut has strayed from a populist program, the theatre has gone bankrupt. When I came here 37 years ago, we had no programs and no audience. Today we enjoy the largest subscription of any theatre in the world. So, my thanks to our loyal audience and a warm welcome to newcomers who enjoy and believe in what we do. I have tremendous admiration for the artists who have dedicated their lives to the theatre and the Walnut, in particular. Our theatre is a non-profit 501-C3 institution and we rely on contributed income to extend our reach into the community. Last season we reached more than 172,000 students in our city schools. We have 30 trustees who give their time, wisdom and contributions to help guide this historical treasure. I came to the Walnut in 1982, and I am as excited now about our future as I was in the beginning. My heartfelt thanks to all who enter this theatre. For my biography, go to AboutUs on our web site at WalnutStreetTheatre.org.
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AT THIS THEATRE!

MAINSTAGE
• A Woman of No Importance
  (January 14 – March 1)
• The Best Man
• The Bodyguard

INDEPENDENCE STUDIO ON 3
Intimate Stories in an Intimate Space
• Popcorn Falls
  (February 25 – March 29)
• Edward Albee’s A Delicate Balance

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