MAGNOLIA
BY REGINA TAYLOR
PRESENTS
McClintock Theatre
November 17–20, 2016

MAGNOLIA
By Regina Taylor

WITH (in alphabetical order)
Carol Antoinette  Fallon Boles  Bayley Ellenburg
Miles Fowler  Alexandra Hensley  Michael Iluma
Michael Kaczkowski  Camille Langston  Quincy Nkwonta
Harrison Poe  Chevaughan St. Clare  Jens Sweaney

CAST OF CHARACTERS (in order of appearance)

Maya
Camille Langston

Lily
Alexandra Hensley

Thomas
Michael Iluma

William
Harrison Poe

Meshach
Chevaughan St. Clare

Beau
Jens Sweaney

Carlotta
Carol Antoinette

Anna
Bayley Ellenburg

Cain
Miles Fowler

Ariel
Fallon Boles

Samuel
Quincy Nkwonta

Paul
Michael Kaczkowski

TIME: 1963
PLACE: Atlanta, Georgia

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF
FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER  Edgar Landa  |  VOCAL DIRECTOR  Anne Burk
ASST. STAGE MANAGER  Layla Shahabi  |  ASST. TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  Carla Rubio
SCENIC PAINTER  Bessie M. Lebeda  |  COSTUME DESIGN PA  Derek Christiansen
CREW  Tyler Ellis, Taylor Kass, Evan Macedo, Ellen Murray, Christina Oti, Sabrina Sawyer, Alexander Walter, Milan Williams

SCENIC DESIGN
Kaitlin Chang

COSTUME DESIGN
Julie Gongwer

LIGHTING DESIGN
Abby Light

SOUND DESIGN
Ethan Zeitman

STAGE MANAGER
Simon Chau

DIRECTED BY
Khanisha Foster

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DIRECTOR’S NOTE

Do you float up in the air or stay firmly planted into the ground? Perhaps you are like me, and you work to find your way in the in-between. Perhaps you are like our characters and you’re holding on for dear life. *Magnolia* is an adaptation of Anton Chekov’s *The Cherry Orchard*. Playwright Regina Taylor brings the story of the early 20th Century Russian classic into Atlanta, Georgia, 1963, amidst the Civil Rights Movement in America. Taking the class themes that were so imbedded in Chekov’s work, Taylor breaks them open as the Forrest Family is about to lose their family estate to foreclosure, an estate embedded with the haunting memories of slave ownership. It highlights the roots and truths of cultural collisions and human heartbreaking.

The play takes a deep look at how we face our own realities; and asks the question, what are the consequences if we do nothing? Embedded with music and joyful exploration Taylor’s play ignites us to face the past and the present, and to take actions towards the future. Thank you dearly for joining us. Stop me after to tell me if you’re a dreamer, a realist, or somewhere in between. Enjoy the show.

SPECIAL THANKS

My thank you is simple. Thank you to this warm and inspiring department and all of the people in it. The miraculous generosity and presence of mind of the students, the gifted and caring staff and faculty, and the creative fire that meets in-between. I was moved to tears during student orientation when I saw how truly dedicated each and every one of you are to each other and to the work. That belief was strengthened everyday with our incredible *Magnolia* team. Thank you with everything I have to give. — Khanisha Foster

Additional thanks to Ross Weiner and Regina Taylor

DIRECTOR’S BIO

Khanisha Foster is a mixed race writer, performer, director, the Associate Artistic Director of 2nd Story, ensemble member of Teatro Vista, a TCG Young Leader of Color, a Resident Teaching Artist at Center Theatre Group, and has collaborated with the Citizens Theatre in Scotland. She has directed Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*, the adaption of *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner*, and will be directing *Intimate Apparel* in the spring. Her writing can be found in the anthologies *Briefly Knocked Unconscious By A Low Flying Duck* and *A Mixtape of Words*; the latter, she chronicles an attempt to learn all of Beyoncé’s dances. She was also a featured storyteller on NPR’s *The Dinner Party Download*. She is currently working on a show called Code Switching which focuses on women who write and hosts the podcast How I Wrote That

PROFESSORS

Meling Cheng (Director of Critical Studies)
Madeleine Puzo

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Luis Alfaro

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

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Takeshi Kata
Tom Ontiveros (Director of BA Dramatic Arts)
Sibyl Wickersheimer

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Andrei Belgrader
Natsuko Ohama
Andrew J. Robinson

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Stephanie Shroyer (Associate Artistic Director)
Eric Trules
David Warshofsky (Director of MFA Acting)

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS OF THEATRE PRACTICE

Kathleen Dunn-Muzingo
Laura Flanagan
Melinda C. Finberg
Randle Mell

ADJUNCT/PART-TIME FACULTY OF THEATRE PRACTICE


Courtesy Joint Appointments: Thomas G. Cummings, Larry E. Greiner (Emeritus), Bruce Smith

Emeritus Faculty: Don Llewellyn, Eve Roberts, Robert R. Scales, James Wilson
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A Lie of the Mind
By Sam Shepard
Directed by Alan Freeman
SDT Sept 29 — Oct 2, 2016

Mockingbird
By Julie Jensen
Directed by Andi Chapman
MT Sept 29 — Oct 2, 2016

A Midsummer Night’s Dream
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Jeanette Harrison
BT Oct 6-9, 2016

Escape from Happiness
By George F. Walker
Directed by Christopher Shaw
SDT Oct 20-23, 2016

Side Show
Book and Lyrics by Bill Russell
Music and Lyrics by Henry Krieger
Directed by VP Boyle

Romeo and Juliet
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Kelly Ward
BT Nov 3-6, 2016

Magnolia
By Regina Taylor
Directed by Khanisha Foster
MT Nov 17-20, 2016

Middletown
By Will Eno
Directed by Andrei Belgrader
SDT Nov 17-20, 2016

MFA Acting Repertory
SDT Feb 3-Mar 5, 2017

Uncle Vanya
By Anton Chekhov
Translated by Sharon Marie Carnicke
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel

Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches
By Tony Kushner
Directed by John Rubenstein

Antigone X
By Paula Cizmar
Based on the play by Sophocles
Directed by Anita Dashiell-Sparks

The Rivals
By Richard Brinsley Sheridan
Directed by Andy Robinson
BT Feb 23-26, 2017

The Kentucky Cycle
By Robert Schenkkan
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer
MT Mar 2-7, 2017

Facing Our Truth: Ten Minute Plays on Trayvon, Race and Privilege
By A. Rey Pamatmat, Dan O’Brien, Dominique Morisseau, Mona Mansour, Winter Miller, Marcus Gardley, Tala Manassah, Quetzal Flores
Directed by Shirley Jo Finney
SDT March 30-April 2, 2017

Evita
Lyrics by Tim Rice
Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Directed by Tim Dang
BT March 30- April 9, 2017

Mr. Burns, a post-electric play
By Anne Washburn
Score by Michael Friedman
Lyrics by Anne Washburn
Directed by John DeMita
SDT April 20-23, 2017

Spring Awakening
By Frank Wedekind
Translated by Edward Bond
Directed by Laura Flanagan
MT April 20-23, 2017

New Works Festivals

YEAR 1
New Play Readings
Parkside International Residential College,
Room 1016 | May 1, 2017

YEAR 2
Playwrights Workshop
Massman Theatre
Apr 7–23, 2017

YEAR 3
Play Project
Carrie Hamilton Theatre
at The Pasadena Playhouse
May 19-20, 2017

KEY: SDT = Scene Dock Theatre  BT = Bing Theatre  MT = McClintock Theatre

TICKET PRICES
General $10, Seniors or Faculty/Staff $8, Students $5
MUSICALS: General $15, Seniors or Faculty/Staff $10, Students $6

PERFORMANCES
Thurs & Fri at 7 p.m., Sat at 2:30 & 8 p.m.
and Sun at 2:30 p.m. (Unless noted otherwise)

For more information about our shows, visit
dramaticarts.usc.edu