

USC School of Dramatic Arts  
McClintock Theatre  
March 2–7, 2017



**THE  
KENTUCKY  
CYCLE**

**BY ROBERT SCHENKKAN**

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USC School of Dramatic Arts

PRESENTS

THE KENTUCKY CYCLE

By Robert Schenkkan

WITH (in alphabetical order)

Yelena Akopian Haley Spence Brown Reed Campbell  
Antonio Chicco Justin Chien Dominique Corona  
Samantha Dammeyer Bella DeLong David Phillip Fishman  
Wells Rhodes Hacker Marc Hills Ali Gallo Troy Guthrie  
Alison Jaye Horowitz Parker Huseby Kyra-Michelle Jacobs  
Joelle Jacoby Camron Jones Michael Kaczkowski Taylor Kass  
Henry A. Reed Aubrey Rhodes Sydney Skidmore Andrew Jacob Teplitz  
Graham Vines Patrick Wallace Brandon Warfield  
Isabelle Yamin Eva Zakula

SCENIC DESIGN

Don Llewellyn and Jess Peeters

LIGHTING DESIGN

Derek Christiansen

COSTUME DESIGN

Colette Adatto and JiWon Shin

SOUND DESIGN

Alysha Bermudez and Ethan Zeitman

STAGE MANAGER

Taylor Anne Cullen

DIRECTED BY

Stephanie Shroyer

McClintock Theatre | March 2–7, 2017

*The Kentucky Cycle* is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York. • *The Kentucky Cycle* was produced on Broadway by David Richenthal, Gene R. Korf, Roger L. Stevens, Jennifer Manocherian, Annette Niemtzw, Mark Taper Forum/Intiman Theatre Company, and The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, in association with Benjamin Mordecai, at the Royale Theatre in New York City, on November 14, 1993. • The World Premiere of *The Kentucky Cycle* was produced by Intiman Theatre Company, Seattle, Washington, Elizabeth Huddle, Artistic Director, and subsequently co-produced in Los Angeles by Center Theatre Group/Mark Taper Forum, Gordon Davidson, Artistic Director/Producer. • *The Kentucky Cycle* was originally developed in the Taper Lab New Work Festival Center Theatre Group/Mark Taper Forum. The play was further developed at the Sundance Institute. • The Intiman Company's production of this play was awarded a major grant from The Fund for New American Plays, a project of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with support from American Express in cooperation with the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

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*The Kentucky Cycle*

PART ONE

*Masters of the Trade* 1775

Early morning, an hour before daybreak. Somewhere in Eastern Kentucky.

**Earl Tod, a Scottish trapper**

Troy Guthrie

**Michael Rowen, age thirty-four,  
an Irish indentured servant**

Wells Rhodes Hacker (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Marc Hills (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Sam, a Virginia farmer**

Graham Vines

**Taskwan, a Cherokee**

Antonio Chicco

**Dragging Canoe, a Cherokee**

Justin Chien

**Cherokee Warriors**

Henry A. Reed,

Andrew Jacob Teplitz

*"It was here on the frontier of the middle and upper South that the Indian Wars rose to their fiercest and cruelest pitch. Here the savage was taught his lessons in perfidy by masters of the trade."*

—H. Caudill

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*The Courtship of Morning Star* 1776

Summer. A cabin in Eastern Kentucky.

**Michael Rowen, age thirty-five**

Wells Rhodes Hacker (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Marc Hills (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Morning Star, age sixteen, a Cherokee**

Isabelle Yamin (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Samantha Dammeyer (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Double for Morning Star**

Isabelle Yamin (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Samantha Dammeyer (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

*"The Conqueror's threats weave a whole universe, of resistances; holding out against his means keeping up an atmosphere of an armed truce. In his presence, the Occupied learns to Dissemble, to resort to trickery... For every contact Between them is a falsehood."*

—Frantz Fanon

*"War even to the knife."*

—Palafox

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*The Homecoming* 1792

SCENE ONE: Late morning. A ridge overlooking a vast expanse of mountains and valleys in Eastern Kentucky.

SCENE TWO: Dusk. The front yard of the Rowen house.

**Patrick Rowen, age sixteen, Michael's son**  
Brandon Warfield

**Rebecca Talbert, age sixteen, a neighbor**  
Ali Gallo (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Aubrey Rhodes (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Star Rowen, age thirty-two**  
Isabelle Yamin (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Samantha Dammeyer (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Michael Rowen, age fifty-one**  
Wells Rhodes Hacker (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Marc Hills (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Joe Talbert, age forty-seven, Rebecca's father**  
Andrew Jacob Teplitz

**Sallie, age twenty-two, a slave**  
Dominique Corona

*"This thing shall be done with speed.  
The hand gropes now, and the other hand follows in turn."  
—Aeschylus*

.....  
INTERMISSION  
.....

*Ties that Bind* 1819

Summer. The Rowen homestead.

**Patrick Rowen, age forty-three**  
Brandon Warfield

**Ezekiel (Zeke) Rowen, age nineteen, his son**  
Michael Kaczkowski

**Zachariah (Zach) Rowen, age seventeen, his son**  
Graham Vines

**Sallie Biggs, age forty-nine, a slave**  
Dominique Corona

**Jessie Biggs, age twenty-six, Sallie's on, also a slave**  
Camron Jones

**Judge Jim Goddard, circuit court judge**  
Troy Guthrie

**Deputy Grey, court deputy**  
Reed Campbell

**Deputy O'Sullivan, court deputy**  
David Phillip Fishman

**Jeremiah, age forty-five**  
Parker Huseby

**Star, age fifty-nine**  
Isabelle Yamin (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Samantha Dammeyer (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

*"Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love."  
—Traditional Hymn*

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*God's Great Supper* 1861

Early Summer. The Rowen cabin, then various places throughout the Border states during the Civil War.

**Jed Rowen, age twenty-eight**  
Patrick Wallace

**Ezekiel Rowen, age sixty-one, Jed's father**  
Michael Kaczkowski

**Patrick Rowen, age eighty-five,  
Jed's grandfather**  
Brandon Warfield

**Joleen Rowen, age fifty-five, Jed's mother**  
Yelena Akopian (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Alison Jaye Horowitz (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Richard Talbert, age thirty-nine, landowner,  
son of Jeremiah Talbert**  
David Phillip Fishman

**Randal Talbert (boy), age ten,  
Richard's only son**  
Alison Jaye Horowitz (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Yelena Akopian (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Rose Anne Talbert, Richard's daughter**  
Ali Gallo

**Julia Anne Talbert, Richard's daughter**  
Aubrey Rhodes

**First Sharecropper, Boatman #1, Carl Dawkins**  
Justin Chien

**Second Sharecropper, Boatman #2**  
Andrew Jacob Teplitz

**Union Colonel, Tommy Nolan**  
Reed Campbell

**Gus Slocum**  
Joelle Jacoby (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Sydney Skidmore (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Sam Jackson**  
Andrew Jacob Teplitz

**Isaac Gaitlin**  
Marc Hills (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Wells Rhodes Hacker (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Josh Gaitlin**  
Troy Guthrie

**Edward Hayes**  
Parker Huseby

**William Clarke Quantrill**  
Henry A. Reed

**First Union Solider**  
Wells Rhodes Hacker

**Second Union Soldier**  
Taylor Kass

**Church Choir, Mourners at Graveside,  
Ensemble, Chorus**  
Haley Brown, Antonio Chicco,  
Dominique Corona, Samantha  
Dammeyer, Bella DeLong,  
Kyra-Michelle Jacobs, Camron Jones,  
Graham Vines, Isabelle Yamin,  
Eva Zakula

*"In the desert I saw a creature, naked, bestial,  
Who squatting upon the ground. Held his heart  
in his hands. And ate of it. I said, 'Is it good,  
friend?' 'It is bitter-bitter,' he answered;  
'But I like it because it is bitter,  
And because it is my heart.'"  
—Stephen Crane*

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END OF PART ONE  
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## PART TWO

### *Tall Tales* 1885

SCENE ONE: The hills of Eastern Kentucky, in Howsen County, near the Shilling Creek.

SCENE TWO: The Rowen house.

**Mary Anne Rowen, age fourteen**

Alison Jaye Horowitz (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Yelena Akopian (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Adult Mary Anne Rowen, age forty-nine**

Haley Spence Brown

**JT Wells, a storyteller**

Graham Vines

**Tommy Jackson, age fifteen, a neighbor**

Troy Guthrie

**Jed Rowen, age fifty-two, Mary Anne's father**

Patrick Wallace

**Lallie Rowen, age forty-seven, Mary Anne's mother**

Sydney Skidmore (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Joelle Jacoby (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

*"Some men rob you with a sixgun, Some with a fountain pen."*—Woody Guthrie

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### *Fire in the Hole* 1920

The Blue Star Coal Camp, mine and environs in Howsen County.

**Mary Anne Rowen Jackson, age forty-nine**

Haley Spence Brown

**Joshua Rowen Jackson, age ten, Mary Anne's son**

Samantha Dammeyer (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Isabelle Yamin (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Tommy Jackson, age fifty, Joshua's father**

Troy Guthrie

**Doctor**

Henry A. Reed

**Mackie, a miner**

Brandon Warfield

**Andrew Talbert Winston, a mine boss**

Marc Hills (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Wells Rhodes Hacker (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Silus, a miner**

Graham Vines

**Abe Steinmen, a union organizer**

Justin Chien

**Mother Jones, a union organizer**

Bella DeLong

**Cassius Biggs, a miner and bootlegger**

Camron Jones

**Sureta Biggs, Cassius's wife**

Dominique Corona

**Preacher**

Parker Huseby

**Lucy, a miner's wife**

Eva Zakula (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)

Kyra Michelle Jones

(3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**A Man in the forest**

Andrew Jacob Teplitz

**Miners, Townspeople, etc**

Yelena Akopian, Reed Campbell, Antonio Chicco, David Phillip Fishman, Ali Gallo, Alison Jaye Horowitz, Joelle Jacoby, Michael Kaczkowski, Taylor Kass, Aubrey Rhodes, Sydney Skidmore, Patrick Wallace

*"Watch the rocks, they're fallin' daily  
Careless miners always fail  
Keep your hand upon the dollar  
And your eye upon the scale."*

—A Miner's Life

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## INTERMISSION

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### *Which Side Are You On?* 1954

Early winter. Various locations in Howsen County, Eastern Kentucky, including the Rowen home, a bar and the UMW District #16 Meeting Hall, near the Blue Star Mine.

**Joshua Rowen, age forty-four, president of United Mine Workers, District 16**  
Antonio Chicco

**Margaret Rowen, Joshua's wife**  
Bella DeLong

**Scotty Rowen, Joshua's son**  
Reed Campbell

**James Talbert Winston, age forty-three, owner of Blue Star Mining Company**  
David Phillip Fishman

**Franklin Biggs, age forty-four, a successful businessman, owner of Biggs & Son Liquor**  
Camron Jones

**Lana Toller, Joshua's secretary**  
Kyra Michelle Jones (3/2, 3/3, 3/5)  
Eva Zakula (3/4, 3/6, 3/7)

**Stucky, head of security, District 16**  
Andrew Jacob Teplitz

**Ray Blanko, sheriff of Howsen County**  
Michael Kaczkowski

**Calvin Hayes, a District #16 Local President**  
Parker Huseby

*"Which side are you on, brother, which side are you on?"*—Florence Reese

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### *The War on Poverty* 1975

Early spring. The original Rowen homestead, near the stump of the Treaty Oak.

**Steve**  
Troy Guthrie

**Frank**  
Henry A. Reed

**James Talbert Winston, age sixty-four**  
David Phillip Fishman

**Joshua Rowen, age sixty-five**  
Antonio Chicco

**Franklin Biggs, age sixty-five**  
Camron Jones

*"I sat upon the shore  
Fishing with the arid plain behind me  
Shall I at least set my lands in order?"*  
—T.S. Elliot

There will be one 10-minute intermission.

**WARNING** Please be advised that this production contains theatrical fog and haze, mature languages and themes, and gun shots.

## The Kentucky Cycle

### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

One moment of decision changes lives forever.  
Then, one day, those decisions become our history.

—Stephanie Shroyer

### DIRECTOR'S BIO

**Stephanie Shroyer** has directed and/or choreographed at the American Conservatory Theatre, the Denver Center, the Getty, Malibu, the Pacific Conservatory of Performing Arts, Berkeley Shakespeare Festival, The Pasadena Playhouse, the Matrix, the Pacific Resident Theatre, Antaeus, A Noise Within, the Laguna Playhouse, the Odyssey, Stages, Alliance Rep., and Cal Arts. She is a two-time recipient of the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award. Other directorial recognition includes Ovation and LA Weekly nominations, six Drama-Logue Awards and a Garland Award. She is the Associate Artistic Director and an Associate Professor of Theatre Practice at the USC School of Dramatic Arts.

### SPECIAL THANKS

Dan Bayer executive director, Language Center, USC Dornsife College; Tok Thompson Associate Professor of Anthropology and Communication, USC Dornsife College; Bobbie Gail Smith, Cherokee Language Coach; Judith Shahn of University of Washington, Cherokee Interview; Maura Dhu Studi, Board of Directors, Indigenous Language Institute; Mary-Joan Negro, Head of Undergraduate Acting; Howard Schmitt, Costume Shop Manager

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# USC School of Dramatic Arts *2016/17 Season of Plays*

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## **A Lie of the Mind**

By Sam Shepard  
Directed by Alan Freeman  
SDT Sept 29 — Oct 2, 2016

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## **Mockingbird**

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

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## **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Jeanette Harrison  
BT Oct 6-9, 2016

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## **Escape from Happiness**

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

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## **Side Show**

Book and Lyrics by Bill Russell  
Music and Lyrics by  
Henry Krieger  
Directed by VP Boyle  
MT Oct 27-30, 2016

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## **Romeo and Juliet**

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

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## **Magnolia**

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

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## **Middletown**

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

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## **MFA Acting Repertory**

SDT Feb 3-Mar 5, 2017

### **Uncle Vanya**

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

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### **Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches**

By Tony Kushner  
Directed by John Rubinstein

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### **Antigone X**

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

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## **The Rivals**

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

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## **The Kentucky Cycle**

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

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## **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

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## **Evita**

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

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## **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

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## **Spring Awakening**

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

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## **New Works Festivals**

### **YEAR 1**

#### **New Play Readings**

Parkside International  
Residential College,  
Room 1016 | May 1, 2017

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### **YEAR 2**

#### **Playwrights Workshop**

Massman Theatre  
Apr 7-23, 2017

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### **YEAR 3**

#### **Play Project**

Carrie Hamilton Theatre  
at The Pasadena Playhouse  
May 19-20, 2017

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

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### **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](http://dramaticarts.usc.edu)



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