

FAMILY RIOTS

BY GIDEON JEPH WABVUTA

DIRECTED BY ELINA DE SANTOS

NEW WORK FESTIVAL

MFA DRAMATIC WRITING YEAR 2

Playwrights Workshop

MASSMAN THEATRE APRIL 6-8, 2018

NW F
Y2

USC School of Dramatic Arts

PRESENTS

FAMILY RIOTS

By Gideon Jeph Wabvuta

WITH

Dominic Bournes Marissa Chisolm
Briyana Guadalupe Laura Obiorah
Bukola Ogunmola Rickey Orr

SCENIC DESIGN

Cynthia Liang

COSTUME DESIGN

Sonia Mendez

LIGHTING DESIGN

Jeff Flowers

SOUND DESIGN

Alma Reyes-Thomas

STAGE MANAGER

Mimi Bower

DIRECTED BY

Elina de Santos

NEW WORK FESTIVAL

MFA Dramatic Writing Year 2 | Playwrights Workshop

Massman Theatre

April 6-8, 2018

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Primrose

Laura Obiorah

Tabie

Marissa Chisolm

Sidney

Dominic Bournes

Prince

Rickey Orr

Bibo

Bukola Ogunmola

Sabina

Briyana Guadalupe

TIME: January 1998.

PLACE: Zimbabwe, Africa.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Duncan Mohoney | ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Jordan Fox

DRAMATURG Rose Portillo | DIALECT COACH Lauren Murphy-Yeoman

SCENIC ARTIST Bessie M. Lebeda | FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER Edgar Landa

CREW Samantha Berger, Angela Chapman, Allie Rones, Dolores Rodriguez,
Chloe Gonzalez

WARNING Please be advised that this production contains mature language.

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

The process of creation is one of the most frustrating and satisfying experiences ever. You go through mood swings and the whole process becomes a never ending emotional roller coaster. That's what this play has been for me, countless times I have thought about throwing the 'damn couch' play out of the window but I stuck with it. I feel so lucky to have written a play that will hopefully take you back in time to Zimbabwe 1998, when I was only ten and obsessed with power rangers so much that it took everything within me not to have every character dress up as a power ranger! That boy is what I tried to bring to this play and I hope you get to see it all through his eyes. Mum and Dad this crazy thing I've penned, is for you, 30 years and you still stare at each other like teenagers, it's gross but cool.

BIOGRAPHIES

Gideon Jeph Wabvuta is a playwright who was born and raised in Harare, Zimbabwe. He has always been an artist, starting out as a performer and then moving to playwrighting. He believes that the second greatest crime that was ever committed on the continent of Africa was the genocide of culture thus he is on a mission to reclaim and tell unapologetic black African stories. He is the second ever recipient of the Walter Mparutsa Fellowship presented by Almasi Alliance, an organization that deals with arts education in Zimbabwe and the US. He is also one of the inaugural ten members of the Georgetown University Lab for global performance and politics. He is a graduate of the university of Zimbabwe Theater Department and a University of Southern California MFA dramatic writing candidate. His work has been produced, in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Zambia and the USA.

Elina de Santos Co-Artistic Director Rogue Machine: 5 World premieres; *In the Valley of The Shadow*, Katherine Cortez, *Dirty Filthy Love Story*, Rob Mersola, *Nice Things*, Vince Melocchi, *Yard Sale Signs*, Jennie Webb. American Premiere, Oliver Cotton's *Daytona*. West Coast Premieres: *Bhutan*, Daisy Foote, *Stop Kiss*, Diana Son, and *Falling*, Deanna Jent. PRT: *Orpheus Descending*, *A Delicate Balance* (LA Premiere), *Rocket To The Moon*, *Death of A Salesman*. Skylight Theatre: 3 World Premieres, *Hostage* by Michelle Kohlos Brooks (May 2018), *Church & State* by Jason Williams, *The Sexual Lives of Savages* by Ian McDonald. WCJT: *New Jerusalem*, *Broken Glass*. Pasadena Playhouse; WCP of *Vincent in Brixton*, *Odyssey: Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Speed The Plow* (LA Premiere), *Awake & Sing!*, *All My Sons*. Regional credits: *Orphans* by Lyle Kessler (ICT), *Romeo & Juliet: Circus Verona*, (DWT), *Awake & Sing!*, BTF & PPT. Recipient of the LADCC Distinguished Achievement in directing, 2012. Member: Actor's Studio Directors unit and SDC serving on 2 committees.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Megan Wright, Chimwemwe Rufaro Chipidza, Tafadzwa Bob Mutumbi, Musa Saruro, Kudzai Sevenzo, Chidochashe Tenga, Shelby Ncube for their contributions to this production.