

SDA PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE 2020/21

May 22, 2021

SDA Virtual Stage

USC School of Dramatic Arts

presents

New Works Festival Year 3

Presented in Association with the Pasadena Playhouse

Aunt Katrina

By Amanda Black

Directed by Larry Powell

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Kacie Rogers*

Audrey

Byron Coolie

Assistant Kevan

Justin Sams

Bobbi

Amber Chardae Robinson

Pat Hanes

Marcel Spears*

Jacob Hanes

John Stephens

Stage Directions

**Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

This production uses the Artist Engagement Services of the University Resident Theatre Association. We wish to express our gratitude to Actor's Equity Association for permitting the Artists to appear on this program.

WARNING

Use of strong and racially sensitive language.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Velina Hasu Houston

FESTIVAL SUPERVISOR

Domenica Diaz

FESTIVAL SUPERVISOR MENTOR

Alex Rehberger

PRODUCERS, PASADENA PLAYHOUSE

Danny Feldman, Kristen Hammack

PRODUCER, USC

Elsbeth M. Collins

CASTING

Raul C. Staggs

VIRTUAL TECH LEAD

Joe Shea

PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTE

When the house that raised me is vacant, empty, and just sitting. I pull over, get out of my rental and retrace pre-teen steps all the way to the front door window. Cupping both hands around my eyes, I peer in. The floors are different. I twist the dusty chrome knob. It's locked. Dammit. Back in the car, I can see a younger self sprinting into the living room to call dibs on the remote. The house is in my rearview now. But in the moments where I'm just sitting, thinking, and vacant, I imagine that home... sitting, thinking, and waiting for me to come back.

PLAYWRIGHT'S BIO

Amanda Black is a playwright originally from New Orleans Louisiana. She has received a Bachelors of Arts in Theatre, from Columbus State University. While in undergraduate studies, her focus was Playwriting and Creative Writing. Her full-length plays often wander in the realms of surrealism. She likes to explore the humor, and violence that exists with in the black woman's identity in America, while playing with the myth and magic of her southern roots. Amanda is currently in her third year of graduate school pursuing a M.F.A in Dramatic Writing at the University of Southern California.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Larry Powell is a true artist born and raised in South Central LA. He is the recipient of the 2021 IAMA Theatre Company Shonda Rhimes Unsung Voices Playwriting Award. He wrote the play *The Gaze*, a 2021 O'Neill NPC finalist, and adapted it into a New Media Series during the pandemic. *The Gaze Series* is a 2021 Webby Award Honoree and the 2021 Micheaux Film Festival's Best Comedic Digital Series Winner. He also Wrote/Directed/Starred In/Produced his debut feature film project *Mother's Milk: A Film Quilt* (2021 Seattle International Film Festival's New American Cinema Special Jury Prize). Larry has directed stellar productions of *The Brothers Size* and *Pipeline* at USC. He is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama and Founder of Free The Arts.

SPECIAL THANKS

Our Professional Responders: Hana Sharif (Artistic Director, St. Louis Repertory Theatre), Gabriel Greene (Director of Artistic Development, La Jolla Playhouse), Danny Feldman (Artistic Director, Pasadena Playhouse), Oliver Mayer, Paula Cizmar, Rodney To, Boni Alvarez, Tony Hagopian, Albert Geana-Bastare.