

For immediate release

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Hi-resolution photos are available on request.

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PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE ANNOUNCES 28TH MAINSTAGE SEASON

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—Pillsbury House Theatre announces its 2019 season, including the world premiere of *She Persists: The Great Divide III*; Athol Fugard's masterful work *Blood Knot*; and the regional premiere of Talvin Wilks's new work, *Jimmy and Lorraine: A Musing*. Though they differ greatly in place and time, the plays of our 2019 season find common ground at the place where art, politics, and humanity collide.

SHE PERSISTS: THE GREAT DIVIDE III

Five short plays by Cristina Florencia Castro, Casey Llewellyn, Oya Mae Duchess-Davis, Philana

Omorotionmwan & Aamera Siddiqui

Directed by Noël Raymond

TWO WEEKS ONLY: March 13 - 24

Wednesdays – Saturdays at 7:30 PM

Sundays at 3 PM

In 2018, Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed to the Supreme Court amid allegations of sexual assault. For the first time in years, *Roe v. Wade* fell into constitutional danger. At the same time, the #metoo movement sparked a national dialogue around power and consent, and record numbers of women ran for public office. In a country continuing to fracture along political fault lines, women were on the frontlines of the divide. Following the tradition of *The Great Divide I & II*, Pillsbury House Theatre has commissioned five short plays on the state of women in the current political climate. Featuring all-women playwrights, actresses, and production staff, *She Persists: The Great Divide III* is a theatrical experience by, for, and about women.

BLOOD KNOT

By Athol Fugard

Directed by Marion McClinton

May 17 – June 16

Wednesdays – Saturdays at 7:30 PM

Sundays at 3 PM

Athol Fugard's early masterpiece *Blood Knot* is an unflinching exploration of race, apartheid and the complicated nature of family. At the time of its 1961 premiere, *Blood Knot* was the first South African play to be produced with an interracial cast. The play follows Morris and Zachariah, brothers divided by skin color but bound by blood, as

they navigate poverty, love, and their complicated relationship. Featuring James A. Williams and Stephen Yoakam, two of the Twin Cities' most beloved actors, *Blood Knot* is a tour de force of raw and honest emotion. Masterfully written and powerfully acted, *Blood Knot* turns an unblinking eye on the underbelly of our humanity.

JIMMY AND LORRAINE: A MUSING

Written and Adapted by Talvin Wilks

Directed by Brian Jennings

September 18 – October 14

Wednesdays – Saturdays at 7:30 PM

Sundays at 3 PM

Jimmy and Lorraine: A Musing is a meditation on the American political climate of the late 50's and early 60's through the eyes of two of the most significant artists of the time, James Baldwin and Lorraine Hansberry. Using text from journals, letters, interviews, and more, Wilks brings Baldwin and Hansberry to life through their own words, deftly weaving their art, relationships, politics and identities into the tapestry of the play. The result is a captivating and intimate journey into the stories of two radical artists, friends, and revolutionaries. A foundational new work, *Jimmy and Lorraine* holds a mirror to the history of race, art and politics in America.

TICKET INFORMATION

Pillsbury House Theatre continues to offer pick-your-own-price tickets for all of its Mainstage productions.

Season passes and single tickets are on sale now: purchase at pillsburyhousetheatre.org or by calling 612-825-0459. For information about group sales, call 612-787-3622.

ALSO IN THE 2019 SEASON

Chicago Avenue Project

Fortune Favors the Bold: April 22 & 23, 2019

The Best Thing Since Sliced Bread: December 8 & 9, 2019

Free & Family Friendly

Drag Story Hour

February 16, March 23, May 19, & June 22

Varying Locations

Free & Family Friendly

Naked Stages

January 16 - 25, 2020

Pick-Your-Price Tickets

Visit pillsburyhousetheatre.org for more information.

ABOUT PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE

From the Mainstage series to Chicago Avenue Project and Naked Stages to the Power of Our Voices teen

ensemble, **PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE** brings audiences closer—to the edge, to the actors, to affordable, adventurous theatre, to fellow audience members, and to a strong community. Now in its 28th year, the theatre continues to inspire choice, change, and connection through raw, intimate drama. Pillsbury House Theatre is proud to be a professional theatre unlike any other. An integral part of Pillsbury United Communities, one of the largest human services organizations in the state, Pillsbury House Theatre demonstrates that the highest quality art is an integral part of all healthy communities, winning awards for theatre across the metro while also inspiring enduring change toward a just society. www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org.

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