

**CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR
LINCOLN CENTER THEATER'S
UPCOMING PRODUCTION OF**

“THE BLOOD QUILT”

BY KATORI HALL

DIRECTED BY LILEANA BLAIN-CRUZ

CAST TO FEATURE

**CRYSTAL DICKINSON, MIRIRAI, ADRIENNE C. MOORE,
ARSEMA THOMAS, SUSAN KELECHI WATSON**

**PREVIEWS BEGIN WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024
OPENING NIGHT IS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024
AT THE MITZI E. NEWHOUSE THEATER**

Lincoln Center Theater (under the direction of André Bishop) is pleased to announce casting for its upcoming production of ***THE BLOOD QUILT***, by Katori Hall, directed by Lileana Blain-Cruz. The cast will feature Crystal Dickinson, Mirirai, Adrienne C. Moore, Arsema Thomas, and Susan Kelechi Watson.

THE BLOOD QUILT will begin previews Wednesday, October 30, 2024, and open on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater (150 West 65 Street).

Gathering at their childhood island home off the coast of Georgia, four sisters meet to create a family quilt to honor their recently deceased mother. When their reunion turns into a reading of their mother's will, everyone must grapple with a troubling inheritance. Stitched with history, ritual, laughter and tears, will their “blood quilt” bind the family together or tear them apart forever? ***THE BLOOD QUILT*** had its premiere at Arena Stage in Washington, DC.

THE BLOOD QUILT will have sets by Adam Rigg, costumes by Montana Levi Blanco, lighting by Jiyoun Chang, sound by Palmer Hefferan, and projections by Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew. Theresa Flanagan will be the Stage Manager.

In addition to ***THE BLOOD QUILT***, Lincoln Center Theater's current 40th Anniversary season includes *McNeal*, a new play by Ayad Akhtar, directed by Bartlett Sher, which is currently in previews ahead of a Thursday, September 30 opening night at the Vivian Beaumont Theater; Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts*, featuring a new version by Mark O'Rowe and directed by Jack O'Brien, which will begin previews on Thursday, February 13 ahead of an opening night on Monday, March 10 at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater; *Floyd Collins*, featuring music and lyrics by Adam Guettel and book, additional lyrics and direction by Tina Landau, which will begin previews on Thursday, March 27 ahead of an opening night on Monday, April 21 at the Vivian Beaumont Theater; as well as an additional LCT3 production to be announced.

THE BLOOD QUILT is made possible with support from the Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation and The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust. This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. 40th Anniversary Season support is generously provided by Denise Littlefield Sobel, Northern Trust, and American Airlines.

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KATORI HALL is an acclaimed writer and director of stage and screen. Her most recent play, *The Hot Wing King*, won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Katori also wrote the book for the Olivier-nominated, West End smash, *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*. The Tony-winning Broadway transfer of the music legends' story garnered Katori two Tony nominations for her work as both book writer and producer. Katori made her London debut in 2009 with *The Mountaintop*, which went on to win the Olivier Award for Best New play. Her other notable works include *Hurt Village*, *Our Lady of Kibeho*, *Children of Killers*, *Saturday Night/Sunday Morning* and *Hoodoo Love*. Katori is currently the Showrunner and Executive Producer of "P-Valley," the critically acclaimed television series adapted from her stage play *Pussy Valley*. The series has won four NAACP Image Awards, including the 2023 prize for Outstanding Drama, and has been nominated for multiple Emmy, Gotham, Independent Spirit, and GLAAD Media honors. Katori is the proud recipient of the Susan Smith Blackburn Award, the Lark Play Development Center's Playwrights of New York (PONY) Fellowship, two Lecompte du Nouy Prizes from Lincoln Center, the Fellowship of Southern Writers Bryan Family Award in Drama, the NYFA Fellowship, the Columbia University John Jay Award for Distinguished Professional Achievement, the National Black Theatre's August Wilson Playwriting Award, and the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award. She is also an alumna of Sundance's Episodic and Screenwriting Labs, and Ryan Murphy's Half Foundation Directing Program.

LILEANA BLAIN-CRUZ is a director from New York City and Miami. As Resident Director of Lincoln Center Theater her credits include Candrice Jones' *Flex*, Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth* (Tony nomination), *Pipeline* and the LCT3 productions of *Marys Seacole* (Obie Award) and *War* (also Yale Rep). Recent projects include: *El Niño* (Met Opera), *Stranger Love* (LA Philharmonic); *White Girl in Danger* (Vineyard/Second Stage); *The Listeners* (Opera Norway/Opera Philadelphia); *Dreaming Zenzile* (NYTW/National Black Theatre); *Create Dangerously* (Miami New Drama); Wayne Shorter and esperanza spalding's ... (*Iphigenia*) (MASS MoCA, Arts Emerson, The Kennedy Center); *Hansel and Gretel* (a film for Houston Grand Opera); *Afrofemmonomy* (PSNY); *Anatomy of a Suicide* (Atlantic); *Fefu and Her Friends* (TFANA); *Girls* (Yale Rep.); *Faust* (Opera Omaha); *Fabulation, Or the Reeducation of Undine* (Signature); *Thunderbodies, Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.* (Soho Rep.); *The House That Will Not Stand, Red Speedo* (NYTW); *Water by the Spoonful* (Mark Taper Forum/CTG); *The Death of the Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World AKA The Negro Book of the Dead* (Signature, Obie Award); *Henry IV, Part One* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); *The Bluest Eye* (The Guthrie); *Salome* (JACK); *Hollow Roots* (the Under the Radar Festival at The Public). She is the recipient of the Drama League's 2022 Founders Award for Excellence in Directing. Lileana was named a 2021 Doris Duke Artist, a 2020 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist, and a 2018 United States Artists Fellow. Upcoming: *Purple Rain* on Broadway.

CRYSTAL DICKINSON. LCT: *Chybourne Park*, *Broke-ology*. Broadway: *You Can't Take It With You*. Recent off-Broadway and regional theater includes *Covenant* (Roundabout); *The Trees* (Playwrights Horizons); *Lessons in Survival:1971* (Vineyard); *Cullud Wattab* (The Public); *Wine in the Wilderness*, *Gem of the Ocean* (Two River); *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (McCarter); as well as productions at Signature and The Atlantic. TV includes recurring roles on “The CHI” and “For Life.”

MIRIRAI. LCT debut. Theater includes *Autumn's Harvest*, *The Death of The Last Black Man in the Whole Entire World* (Signature), *The Homecoming Queen* (Atlantic) *School Girls; or The African Mean Girls Play* (MCC; Lortel Award for Best Featured Actress, Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble) and *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be A Mubfucka* (Chita Rivera Outstanding Ensemble Award nomination). TV includes “Russian Doll,” “Master of None,” “Black Mirror” (Netflix); “The Affair” (Showtime); “Broad City” (Comedy Central).

ADRIENNE C. MOORE. LCT debut. Theater includes *Black Odyssey* (dir. Stevie Walker-Webb, CSC); the award-winning revival of Ntozake Shange's *for colored girls...* (dir. Leah Gardiner), *The Taming of the Shrew* (dir. Phyllida Lloyd), *365 Plays/365 Days* (dir. Suzan-Lori Parks) all at The Public; *Milk Like Sugar* (dir. Rebecca Taichman; La Jolla, Playwrights Horizons). Selected TV, film and animation credits include Black Cindy on Netflix's "Orange Is the New Black," (three SAG awards, NAACP Image Award nomination), "30 Rock," "Homeland," "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," "Law and Order SVU," "Pretty Hard Cases," "Search Party," "Bupkis," "Poker Face," "Shaft," *Wonder Woman: Bloodlines* (DC Comics, Etta Candy), *We Lost Our Human* (Netflix Interactive, Human) and *Curious George: Royal Monkey*. Additionally, Adrienne can be seen in Clint Eastwood's upcoming film *Juror #2*.

ARSEMA THOMAS. LCT debut. Arsema combines a rich educational background and deep commitment to storytelling to the stage. They hold degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and Yale University and refined their acting skills at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). Noteworthy performances include Young Lady Danbury in “Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story” as well as Hulu’s *She Taught Love*. Fluent in English, French, Spanish, Yoruba, and Amharic, Arsema's work spans stage and screen, underpinned by a deep commitment to cultural storytelling and philanthropy.

SUSAN KELECHI WATSON. she/her. LCT debut. Theater includes *Good Bones*, *Merry Wives* (The Public); *Eureka Day* (Old Vic); *Marley*; *Core Values*; *A Raisin in The Sun*; *Twelfth Night*; and *The Story*. TV: Beth Pearson on NBC’s multiple SAG and AFI award-winning drama “This is Us,” amongst others. Upcoming: “The Residence” (Shondaland/Netflix). Film: *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, *Between the World and Me* (actor/ producer, HBO), *Premature* (producer, Hulu).