

Thurgood

August 13 - 22, 2021



Chautauqua Theater Company Presents

THURGOOD

by **George Stevens Jr.**

Directed by **Steve H. Broadnax III**

"Sometimes history takes things into its own hands!"

In this tour-de-force compelling portrait of the first African-American to serve as a justice on the United States Supreme Court, Thurgood Marshall masterfully guides us from his childhood in Baltimore to his role in the civil rights movement, to his historic victory in *Brown vs. Board of Education*, and his ultimate appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court. Introducing us to the people that influenced him along the way, *Thurgood* is a one-man show about how it takes a village to change the world.

First performed at Westport Country Playhouse and subsequently on Broadway

THURGOOD is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc, NYC

www.broadwayplaypub.com

Run Time: 90 minutes

Letter from Leadership at CTC

In one of her reflective essays written during the time of COVID the writer Zadie Smith shares that art and the creation of art at its core is just "something to do."

During this last year and a half of "the global humbling" as Smith calls it, the theater world was at 94% unemployment, and we were simply unable to do the something that we do.

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Whether driven by the maxim “The show must go on!” or from the fear that an artist who ceases to create is like a shark who stops swimming and will die, most of us did our best to continue to work in some way. And though we learned a great deal about our art form -and about how much Zoom we could and could not bare-these efforts, though creative, often amplified the isolation we all had from one another. In the best of circumstances, we were together, alone.

As we created films, Zoom readings, cleaned the garage, reorganized the bookshelves, sent more emails than any humans should have to type and, oh yes, planned, replanned, and re-replanned seasons and scenarios trying to hit the ever-moving target of what might be possible to stage, Richard II’s 400-year-old reprimand pinged pointedly in our heads, “I’ve wasted time, and now does time waste me.” We were working, spending time doing the something that we do, why was it so unsatisfying?

Because for us, theater is something that we do *together*. We do it and we share it with each other and with you the audience. As we land back on grounds, in person, and in many ways return to our roots of performances under a tent by the lake, as we awaken to a world that is inequitable and fragile, we are finally here again with “something to do.”

And even though as this is being written we may not be able to see your smiling faces from that required social distance, we return with open eyes, relief and gratitude that we can come together, share space, take stock, cry, laugh, spend time and convene with you.

Thanks so much for being here, we’ve missed you, let’s do something.

Andrew, Sarah Clare, & Stori

Cast, Creative & Production

Cast

Thurgood Marshall – Brian Marable

Creative Team

Director – Steve H. Broadnax III
Scenic Designer – Efen Delgadillo Jr.
Costume Designer – Erin Barnett
Lighting Designer – Annie Garrett-Larsen
Sound Designer – Meghan Roche
Projection Designer – Omkar Purandare
Production Stage Manager – Katherine Nelson*
Assistant Stage Manager – Kacey Gritters*
Properties Director – Cooper Nickels

Production Team

Technical Director – John P. Woodley
Head Carpenter – Jim Jones
Head Electrician – Jeff Emory
Head Audio – Graham Riggle
Head Audio & Video – John Oberg
Head of Properties – Kevin Kyser
Wardrobe Supervisor – Jaylene Ogle
Audio Engineer for the Performance Pavilion – E.M. Gimenez



*The noted Actors & Stage Manager are members of the Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

**The noted designers are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

*Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, is more than 49,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote, and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org.

Leadership & Staff

Artistic Director - Andrew Borba

Managing Director - Sarah Clare Corporandy

Associate Artistic Director - Stori Ayers

Arts Marketing Specialist - Makayla Santiago-Froebel

Co-Company Manager - Sam Wong

Co-Company Manager - Logan McDonald

Production & Facilities Manager - Sarah Penland

Associate Production & Facilities Manager - Wayne Ogle

Arts Marketing Associate - Gabrielle Ghaderi

Costume Supervisor - Cece Hill

Cutter, Drapper, Stitcher - Sophie Millar

Covid Safety Specialist - Stacy McQueen

Business Manager - Liz Ellis

Cast Bios

Chautauqua Institution



Brian Marable

Thurgood

Detroit, MI • CTC: First Season

Brian Marable is currently the Artistic Director of Clubhouse Theater in Detroit. Regional: *Detroit '67*, *Skeleton Crew*, *Pipeline* (Detroit Public Theatre); *Detroit '67* (Baltimore Center Stage); *Skeleton Crew* (The Old Globe and People's Light Theater); *The Mountaintop* (Martin Luther King, Jr.), *The Piano Lesson* (Boy Willie) (Performance Network); *Superior Donuts* (Franco) (Purple Rose Theatre Company). Film/ TV: *Have a Little Faith* (Hallmark Movie); *The Citizen* (2012, Monterey Media); *Low Winter Sun* (AMC); *Standing in the Shadows of Motown* (James Jamerson). Education: Howard University, Wayne State University. Brian is currently exploring writing for the stage in a collaborative play titled *Grow*, which looks at marijuana law and property rights, with 4Theatrsake, a Detroit-based theater company. Life credits include father, son, brother, Detroiter.

Creative Team Bios

George Stevens, Jr.

Playwright

George Stevens, Jr. is a writer, director, producer, and founder of the American Film Institute. He has received fifteen Emmys, two Peabody Awards, the Humanitas Prize, and eight Writers Guild Awards for his productions, including the annual *Kennedy Center Honors*, *Separate but Equal*, *The Murder of Mary Phagan*, and *We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration at the Lincoln Memorial*. His production *The Thin Red Line* was nominated for seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture. In 2009 President Obama named him co-chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. Stevens started out working with his father, George Stevens, on *Shane*, *Giant*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank* and in 1962 was named head of the United States Information Agency's motion picture division by Edward R. Murrow. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Steve H. Broadnax III

Director

Little Rock, AR • CTC: Second Season

Regional and Tour: *The Hip Hop Project*, an award-winning, full-length original play directed, choreographed, and conceived by Steve (Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival). Writing: *American Taboo*, *Smash/Hit*, *Hard To Say I Love You*, *Sex Love*, *And Everything In Between*. Directing: Classical Theatre of Harlem, National Black Theatre, The Black Theatre Troupe, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Moore Theatre, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, National Arts Festival (South Africa). Acting: *Dreamgirls* (Arkansas Repertory); R.L. at the Crossroads; Pennsylvania Centre Stage; St. Louis Black Rep; St. Louis Repertory Theatre; St. Louis Muny; Lincoln Amphitheatre; Westport Playhouse; Ozark Actors Theatre. Professional: Head Graduate Directing at Penn State University. Education: MFA in Acting: Penn State. BFA in Musical Theatre: Webster University in St. Louis.

www.stevebroadnax.com

Efren Delgadillo Jr.

Chautauqua Institution

Scenic Designer

Los Angeles, CA • CTC: First Season

New York: *The Three Musketeers* (The Acting Company); *Mycenaean* (BAM, Brooklyn Academy of Music). Notable Regional Theatre: *American Mariachi* (South Coast Rep., Arizona Theatre Company); *Romeo and Juliet* (Oregon Shakespeare Company); *BLKS* (Woolly Mammoth); *Bordertown Now* (Pasadena Playhouse); *Smart People, Indecent* (Denver Center for the Performing Arts); *Othello* (Hartford Stage); *Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles* (The Getty Villa/Boston Court); *Prometheus Bound* (The Getty Villa/Center for New Performance).

MFA: California Institute of the Arts. BFA in Studio Arts from University of California, Irvine. Efen is an Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at UC Irvine. www.efrendelgadillojr.com/

Erin Barnett

Costume Designer

Marietta, GA • CTC: First Season

Regional: *Footloose*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Jenny Wiley Theatre); *The Gondoliers* (GLOW Lyric Theatre). Educational: *Little Women*, *Bonnets: (How Ladies of Good Breeding Are Induced to Murder)*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *By the Bog of Cats*, *Only Child* (World Premiere). MFA: Indiana University. BA: Furman University. www.erin-barnett.com.

Annie Garrett-Larsen

Lighting Designer

Brooklyn, NY • CTC: First Season

Regional: *The Seagull* (Cleveland Play House/CWRU); *Hi, Are You Single?* (Cleveland Play House/New Ground Theatre Festival). New York: *Virgin* (Ars Nova); *Shared Evening of Dance* (HERE Arts Center); *Quilt, a Musical Celebration* (Judson Memorial Church); *The Séance Machine* (The Tank), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Spring Awakening*, *Assassins* (The Secret Theater); *Cabaret* (Gallery Players). BA: Bard College. www.anniegarrett-larsen.com.

Meghan Roche

Sound Designer

Seattle, WA • CTC: Second Season

Regional: *CAUGHT*, *Bootycandy* (Intiman Theatre); *Richard III*, *Pericles*, *Twelfth Night*, *House of Sueños* (Seattle Shakespeare Company); *63 Trillion* (Sandbox Radio); *Dry Land* (Seattle Public Theatre); *Pageant* (ACTLab); *Happy, Happy, Happy* (Macha Theatre Works); *Sex with Strangers* (ReACT Theatre); *The Twilight Zone: Live!* (Theater Schmeater); *3 Americans: Voices of Hope* (West of Lenin); *Twelfth Night*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Twisp Merc Theatre). Educational: *Living Out* (UC Irvine); *Snow Angel*, *Radio Play Disaster* (South Coast Rep. Conservatory); *Picnic*, *House of Sueños*, *12 Ophelias: A Play with Broken Songs* (Seattle University). MFA Candidate: UC Irvine. BA: Seattle University.

Omkar Purandare

Projection Designer

Pune, India • CTC: First Season

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Film: *America 2AM*, *Black Joy*, *2020 Vision* (People's Light); *Suna Ansuna Sessions*, *Delta Sleep - US Tour 2018*, *TV Dinners - "Train Going Nowhere II"* (YouTube). India: *Parlour*, or *it all started with hair* (World Premiere), *Coming Out* (World Premiere). Educational: *#Heretoo* (World Premiere). BS: Pennsylvania State University.
omkarpurandare.com

Katherine Nelson

Production Stage Manager

Detroit, MI • CTC: Second Season

Chautauqua Theater Company: *No Child...* (filmed for PBS). Regional: fifteen productions with Detroit Public Theatre, including *Birthday Candles*, *Murder Ballad*, *No Child...*, *Paradise Blue*, *Pipeline*; *Detroit '67* (Baltimore Center Stage and Detroit Public Theatre); *The Garden of Joy*, *The Shape of a Girl* - multiple tours, *Lungs*, *Thrill Me* (Wharton Center for the Performing Arts); *Among the Darkest Shadows* (Inlet Dance Theatre and Wharton Center for the Performing Arts; tour); *Miles and Ellie*, *Superior Donuts*, *White Buffalo* (Purple Rose Theatre Company); *Evil Dead: the Musical* (CATCO). Additional Costume Design credits, Off-Broadway: *Riddle of the Trilobites* (The New Victory); Regional: Tipping Point Theatre, Detroit Public Theatre, Purple Rose Theatre Company, Flint Repertory Theatre, Flint Youth Theatre. Proud AEA member and National Councilor; core member of #FairWage.
www.knelsondesigns.com

Kacey Gritters

Assistant Stage Manager

New York, New York • CTC: First Season

Off Broadway: *Paris* (Atlantic Theater Company), *NASSIM* (Barrow Street Theatricals), *Love's Labour's Lost* (Shake & Bake), *Sweeney Todd* (Barrow Street Theatricals), *Lonely Planet* (Keen Company), *Dot* (Vineyard Theatre), *The Pavilion* (The Barrow Group). Regional: *Working: A Musical* (Berkshire Theatre Group), *Other Desert Cities*, *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Bucks County Playhouse & The Kimmel Center). International Tours: *NASSIM* (Nassim Soleimanpour Productions). National Tours: *Henry & Mudge*, *Seussical*, *Skippyjon Jones*; *Snow What?!* (TheaterworksUSA). Educational: *Songs for a New World* (Long Island University), *Watson the Musical* (King's Players). Special thanks to Karie and Hank.

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Founded in 1994, Friends of Chautauqua Theater is dedicated to ensuring that theater remains a powerful pillar of the arts community at Chautauqua by working to enhance appreciation and engagement with the theater and the institution. Your membership supports new theater initiatives and helps us to enhance the experience of our company members through various events connections. Benefits include invitations to members-only live and virtual programming to enhance your theater experience prior to performances, and our annual "Meet the Company" event.

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