



Presents

ECLIPSED

by Danai Gurira

Directed by Producing Artistic Director ILesa Duncan

Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. New York

Scenic Design
Jacqueline Penrod, USAA

Costume Design
Owé Engobor

Stage Manager
Justine B. Palmisano

Lighting Design
Megan Turnquist

Properties
Amanda Caputi

Technical Director
Bobby Huggins

Sound Design
Tony Bruno

Production Manager
Jennifer McClendon

Master Electrician
Becs Bartle

Eclipsed opened on Broadway at the Golden Theatre on March 6, 2016, Produced by Stephen C. Byrd, Alia Jones-Harvey, Paula Marie Black, Carole Shorenstein Hays, Alani Lala Anthony, Michael Magers, Kenny Ozoude, WilletteKlausner, Davelle, Dominion Pictures, Emanon Productions, FG Productions, The Forstalls and MA Theatricals.

Eclipsed was produced in October 2015 by The Public Theater, New York, NY
(Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director; Patrick Willingham, Executive Director)

Eclipsed was produced in October 2009 by Yale Repertory Company, New Haven, CT
(James Bundy, Artistic Director; Victoria Nolan, Managing Director)

Eclipsed was produced in September 2009 by Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, CA
(Michael Ritchie, Artistic Director; Charles Dillingham, Managing Director)

ECLIPSED was originally produced in August 2009 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington D.C.,
(Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Jeffrey Herrmann, Managing Director).

ECLIPSED was developed with the support of McCarter Theater, Princeton, NJ (Emily Mann, Artistic Director)
and developed by the Ojai Playwrights Conference (Robert Egan, Artistic Director).

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Press Opening Monday, October 8, 2018

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*Produced in association with Chicago Dramatists
where Pegasus is a resident theatre company*

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

#1/Helena.....	Maya V. Prentiss
#3/Bessie.....	Aja Singletary
#4/The Girl.....	Sola Thompson
#2/Maima.....	Adhana Reid
Rita.....	Morayo Orija

Understudies

Bessie.....	Koshie Mills
Helena & Rita.....	Elaine C. Bell
Maima & The Girl.....	Alexandra M. Hunter

There will be one ten-minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....	Ilesa Duncan
Scenic Designer.....	Jacqueline Penrod
Lighting Designer.....	Megan Turnquist
Sound Designer.....	Tony Bruno
Costume Designer.....	Owé Engobor
Acapella Music.....	Shawn Wallace
Properties.....	Amanda Caputi
Production Manager.....	Jennifer McClendon
Technical Director.....	Bobby Huggins
Master Electrician.....	Becs Bartle
Assistant Director.....	Quenna Lené
Scenic Charge.....	Kevin Rolfs
Stage Manager.....	Justine B. Palmisano
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Talia Duran
Casting Services.....	Tamara Sibley/TMS Casting

BIOGRAPHIES



MORAYO ORIJA (Rita) is a recent transplant, whose Chicago credits include Gertrude in *Hamlet* (Midsommer Flight). Regional credits include Los Angeles: *Almost, Maine*

(Cobblestone Theatre), *The Comedy of Errors* and *The Laramie Project* (at Stella Adler Theatre); North Carolina: *A Raisin In The Sun* (Theatre Charlotte), *Patron Saint of Losing Sleep* (Actor's Theatre of Charlotte), *The Colored Museum* (CAST), and *Miss Julie* (Dilworth Production). Her television

credits include TV One's series *FATAL ATTRACTION* and *FEEDBACK LIVE* on UNC student television as series co-host. She studied acting at Stella Adler Academy and Theatre - Los Angeles and political science at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. Morayo is also a writer and director.



MAYA V. PRENTISS (Helena) Chicago Credits include *An Octoroon* (Definition Theatre), *How to Catch Creation* (reading, Goodman Theatre), and

Milton, MI (reading, Teatro Vista). She is a recent MFA Acting graduate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where her theatre credits include *Twelfth Night, In the Blood, Romeo and Juliet, the Next Room/ The Vibrator Play, Henry V, and Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea*. She is originally from Richmond, VA and received her B.A. from Spelman College.



ADHANA REID (Maima) is a recent graduate of Northwestern University. Most recently, she's performed in *Big River* (Theatre at the Center), *Spring Awakening*

(Marriott Theatre), and *Stick Fly, Sweet Charity and Hair* (Northwestern University). She is thrilled to be making her debut at Pegasus Theatre with this talented cast and crew.



AJA SINGLETARY (Bessie) Recent theatre credits include *The Deckchairs* (The Conspirators); *As You Like It* (Eclectic Full Contact Theatre); and *American Revolution* (Theatre Unspeakable).

Aja is a graduate of the BA Theatre Program at Fordham University and is represented by Actors Talent Group. She is also a dancer and choreographer who is grateful for her family, friends and cast for their warm support!



SOLA THOMPSON (The Girl) makes her Chicago debut in Pegasus's *Eclipsed*. She recently completed a MFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

There, she was fortunate to play the title roles in the world premiere of Ike Holter's *The Night Runner, Eurydice* and Greer in *Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New*

England, amongst others. She is grateful to her brilliant circle of family and friends for their constant love and support. Sola is represented by Grossman and Jack Talent.



ELAINE C. BELL (u/s Helena & Rita) is happy to make her debut with Pegasus Theatre. Recent theatre credits include *Refrigerator* (First Floor Theater), *Frankenstein* (Bower

Theatre Ensemble) and *Mavis; or a voyeurs comedy* (The Residents). They have also worked with Sideshow Theatre Company, eta Creative Arts, LiveWire Chicago and Polarity Ensemble Theatre, just to name a few. www.elainecbell.com



ALEXANDRA M. HUNTER (u/s The Girl & Maima) is a Chicago-native and a graduate of Grand Valley State University and the University of Chicago where she earned a B.A. in Film

and Video Production. Alexandra trained at the British American Drama Academy's Midsummer in Oxford Program in association with Yale School of Drama.



KOSHIE MILLS (u/s Bessie) is a recent graduate of Columbia College Chicago with a BA in Acting. Most recent theatre credits include *Take 'Em Down* (Waltzing Mechanics

Documentary Play Festival) and *Conference of the Birds* (Columbia College Theatre).

DANAI GURIRA (Playwright) is an American actress and playwright of Zimbabwean origin who is best known for her roles as "Michonne" on the AMC horror drama series "The Walking Dead" and as "Okoye" in the Marvel Universe movies "Black Panther"

and “Avengers: Infinity War.” She began her career on stage and has written critically acclaimed and award-winning plays such as *In the Continuum*, which won her an Obie Award, an Outer Critics Award and a Helen Hayes Award for Best Lead Actress; *Eclipsed*, was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Play and won for Best Costume Design in a play; *The Convert* and *Familiar*, the last of which was commissioned by Yale Repertory Theatre. Among her other notable movies is “Mother of George,” in which she played the lead role of a Nigerian woman. She has also made guest appearances on several television shows including “Life on Mars,” “Law & Order” and “American Experience.” According to her, being “brought up by a scientist and a librarian”, she is “an academic at heart”, which helps her do the exhaustive research she needs to write her plays. Gurira, who feels that stories of African women are told very rarely, considers her three plays *In the Continuum*, *The Convert*, and *Familiar* as “parts of a trilogy on Zimbabwe’s coming of age from a feminine perspective.”

ILESIA DUNCAN (Director) is the executive/artistic director at Pegasus Theatre. Her recent directing work at Pegasus includes the Jeff-Recommended, sold-out *Shakin the Mess Outta Misery*, the world premiere of Jeff-Recommended *Rutherford’s Travels* and *For Her as a Piano*. Other recent credits include *Neverwhere* at Lifeline Theatre (Jeff-Recommended), *Broken Fences* at 16th Street Theater, Jeff Award-nominated *The Nativity* with Congo Square and the Jeff Award-winning *Jar the Floor* at ETA Creative Arts. Duncan has also worked with The Goodman, Writers Theatre, Victory Gardens Theater, Rivendell Theatre Ensemble, Lifeline Theater, Stage Left and Chicago Dramatists, as well as Contemporary American Theatre Company (Ohio), The Alliance Theatre (Atlanta), Arena Stage (Washington DC) and Lincoln Center Theater (New York). Duncan’s creative nonfiction short stories have been published (Columbia College Chicago) and she’s written poems and screenplays.

For the stage, she co-adapted *Rutherford’s Travels* from the National Book Award-winning novel *Middle Passage*, co-wrote and directed *Blakk Love: Stoeetz of A Darker Hue* and facilitated the devised project *Do You See What I’m Saying* for Chameleon. Ilesia is a member of the Lincoln Center Theatre Director’s Lab, a NEA/TCG Directing Fellow, and an Associate Artist at Chicago Dramatists.

JACQUELINE PENROD (*Scenic Design*) Jacqueline is very happy to once again be working with longtime collaborator Ilesia Duncan, continuing her long connection with Pegasus Theatre. Her award-winning design work has been seen locally and regionally. Some of her recent designs include: *The Book of Will*, *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, and *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Northlight), *The Legend of Georgia McBride* and *Westside Story* (Cardinal Stage), *Richard III* (The Gift Theater produced at Steppenwolf Theatre; *Miracle of 34th St.*, *It’s a Wonderful Life*, *Nice Work if you Can Get It*, *Big Fish*, *All Shook Up* and *A Christmas Carol* (Theatre at the Center); *Stick Fly* (Windy City Playhouse); *Hank Williams: Lost Highway* (American Blues Theater); *Welcome Home Jenny Sutter* (Next Theatre); *Pygmalion*, *Love and Information*, *Northanger Abby* and *The Importance Of Being Earnest* (Remy Bumpo); and *Around the World in 80 Days* (Lookingglass). She has received many nominations and awards for her design work. Jacqueline is a member of United Scenic Artists.

MEGAN TURNQUIST (Lighting Designer) Design credits in Chicagoland include Bohemian Theatre Ensemble (*Veronica’s Room*, *Amadeus*, *Myths and Hymns*), Promethean Theatre Ensemble (*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*), and Wheaton College (*Mentor Project*, *Julius Caesar*). Megan is excited to debut with Pegasus Theatre on *Eclipsed*. She recently completed an assistantship at Oregon Shakespeare Festival and a design internship at San Francisco

Opera. In addition, she was awarded the lighting fellowship at Chautauqua Theatre Company in New York and has designed at the Arkansas Shakespeare Festival (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*). She holds an MFA from Purdue University.

OWÉ PREYE ENGOBOR (*Costume Designer*) is a recent grad of The Theatre School at DePaul University. *Eclipsed* is their first Chicago credit and they are excited to be a part of the team. Their work as a costume designer understands outfit as an environment and seeks to explore the ways that costume allows us to inhabit, explore, and communicate about different dimensions of ourselves.

TONY BRUNO (Sound Designer) is a Chicago native, Company Manager for UrbanTheater Company, and a part of the Latinx Theater Commons steering committee. He specializes in sound design and production management and has worked with Adventure Stage Chicago, Strangeloop Theater, Chicago Dramatist, New Colony, Collectivo El Poso, University of Illinois in Chicago, Chicago Latino Theater Alliance, 48 hour Film Festival, and Dreamworks Films. This is Tony's first production with Pegasus and is humbled to be part of such an amazing crew telling such a powerful story.

AMANDA CAPUTI (Properties) Amanda recently graduated from Augustana College, where she propped a number of productions including: *In the Next Room*, *The Mad Woman of Chailot*, as well as assisted on Marlowe Middle Schools production of *Alice in Wonderland*.

CARRIE HARDIN (Dialect Coach) is a voice & dialect coach based in Chicago. You may have heard some of her work around town with Lifeline, Babes with Blades, CityLit, Red Twist, Loyola University Chicago, AstonRep, and Prologue Theatre, of which she was a founding member. Thanks to everyone for all their work, and to Brett.

TANUJA JAGERNAUTH (Dramaturg) is a playwright and dramaturg who believes in the necessity of creation during times of destruction. Recent dramaturgical credits include Sideshow's *Freshness Initiative* workshop and staged reading of *Pro-Am* by Brynne Frauenhoffer, Stage Left's production of Robert Schenkkan's *Building The Wall*, Pegasus Theatre's *The Green Book*, and *Another Jungle* by Kristin Idaszak (Cloudgate Theatre). Her play, *Battleground* was part of Revolutionary Acts, the 6th National Asian American Theater Conference & Festival. *Skin*, was recently part of the Our Perspective: Asian American Play Readings at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago and workshopped by The Pulp Stage in Portland, OR.

R&D CHOREOGRAPHY (Violence Design) is Victor Bayona (he/him) and Rick Gilbert (he/him), We are epically jazzed to be back at Pegasus! R&D was founded in 1997 for the purpose of improving the power and effectiveness of Chicago area theatre through the art of violence design – choreographing better fights for better shows! We have designed violence and/or intimacy for over three hundred productions and films. Our work has been seen at dozens of Chicago area theatres, including 16th Street, Akvavit, ATC, Chimera, Factory, Lifeline, Oak Park Festival, The Paramount, Piven, Steep, Strawdog, and Theo Ubique.

SHAWN WALLACE (Acapella Music) is a keyboardist, composer and music director. Last year, he music directed *Rutherford's Travels* at Pegasus (Jeff Nomination) and has music directed and composed for such theatres as MPAACT, Chicago Theatre Company and DanzTheatre Chicago. He has worked with luminary artists such as Common, Ice Cube, Bobby Brown, Dwele, Johnny Gill, Jon B., Bilal, Estelle, Rakim, Eric Roberson, Maggie Brown, Ugochi and Cherisse Scott. Shawn studied Music Theory and Composition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and currently serves as Musical Director/Composer for Storycatchers Theatre.

JENNIFER McCLENDON (Production Manager) is a native Chicago theatre artist who received her BFA in Stage Management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A former Steppenwolf Multicultural Fellow and Production Management Apprentice, Jennifer has worked primarily as a Production Manager since 2012. She has worked with various companies, such as Steppenwolf, Remy Bumppo, The Hypocrites, Mary Arrchie, Definition Theatre, and Prologue Theatre Company. Jennifer has been the resident Production Manager at Lifeline Theatre since 2016 and she is thrilled to be working with Pegasus for the first time.

JUSTINE B. PALMISANO (Stage Manager) is a freelance stage manager originally from Chicago and graduate of Bradley University. Recent work: *The Displaced* (Haven Theatre), *Can't Look Back/Must Look Back* (Pivot Arts), *A Wrinkle in Time* (Lifeline Theatre) and *Open Season* (The Gift: 4802).

She is the Co-Company Manager for The Hypocrites (*Aristophanesathon*, *You On The Moors Now*, *Adding Machine: A Musical*, *All Our Tragic*, *Endgame*, *Into the Woods*, *12 Nights*, *Ivywild*, *Pirates of Penzance/The Mikado*, *The Fall of the House of Usher*, *Romeo Juliet*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Sophocles Seven Sicknesses*) and Collective Member of The Ruffians (*Ivywild*, *Burning Bluebeard*). By day she is a Physical Instructor for the Chicago Park District.

BECS BARTLE (Master Electrician) is a Chicago-based lighting designer and master electrician. She is currently a Company Member at 20 % Theatre Company. Ms. Bartle credits include 20% Theatre Company, Brown Paper Box Co., Highland Park Players, Urban Theatre Company, Fremont Street Theatre, Interrobang Theatre Project, Commission Theatre, Babes with Blades, Flying Elephant Productions, Pride Arts Center, and Saltbox Theatre Collective.

2018-19 SEASON

PEGASUS THEATRE CHICAGO's season honors the strength and resilience of women/femme struggling with sexual harassment, abuse, abduction, and discrimination. Programming demonstrates how theatre and new work celebrates history and makes connections to contemporary society and current issues. We strive to develop a more sustainable infrastructure for our theatre practice connecting production with our overall vision of inclusion and social equity. We conduct readings, open rehearsals and panel discussions to explore the creative process, social justice, humanity and other issues to engage with audiences. Moving forward, we will pursue a quest to innovate ways to develop and process the making of theatre; how to seed it, create it and produce it; with engaged communities and audiences. Our culture is richer for every opportunity to connect in discussions with artists, thinkers, and never least, our audiences. Join Us As Our Quest Evolves!

Illesa Duncan, Executive/Producing Director

ABOUT PEGASUS THEATRE CHICAGO

PEGASUS THEATRE CHICAGO's mission is to produce boldly imaginative theatre, champion new and authentic voices and illuminate the human journey.

Our Core Values:

Community Engagement - We build community through respect, honesty and trust, ensuring connection and accessibility for all.

Social Relevance – We reflect social issues through creative and fearless storytelling.

Audacious Boldness - We reserve the right to rock the boat in a purposeful and imaginative way.

Adventure – We will explore the new, the extraordinary, or the unusual to give our audiences an exciting experience.

Excellence – We choose important stories to tell, and with great attention to our theatrical artistry, create memorable experiences for our artists and our supporters.

From 1984-2010, the founding company was in residence at the O'Rourke Center for the Performing Arts at Truman College in the heart of Uptown. Pegasus' has received 79 Non-Equity Jeff Awards and countless nominations. Currently in residence at Chicago Dramatists in West Town, the new Pegasus Theatre Chicago is *Where Epic Stories Take Flight*.

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