

ALLEY THEATRE

FOR RELEASE
January 30, 2017

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Playwrights, Directors and Actors Sync Up for Second Alley All New Festival

Festival playwrights and directors join the Alley Resident Company and visiting artists including Tony Award winner Faith Prince for seven new plays February 2-12.

HOUSTON, TX— The Alley Theatre's Alley All New Festival, February 2 - February 12, features seven playwrights and more than 30 actors from the Alley and around the country presenting new work through a series of readings and workshop performances, and a premiere production. Actors Faith Prince (Tony Award-winner) and Brandon Potter (Alley: *All the Way*) join members of the Alley Resident Company for the festival. As a centerpiece of the festival, NSangou Njikam's **Syncing Ink** premieres. Tickets to **Syncing Ink** and advance festival reservations can be made now at alleytheatre.org or by calling the Box Office at 713-220-5700. All workshop performances and readings are free and open to the public.

Alley Resident Company members participating in the festival include Jeffrey Bean, James Black, Elizabeth Bunch, Josie de Guzman, Chris Hutchison, Melissa Pritchett, Jay Sullivan, Emily Trask, and Todd Waite. Many will be acting in multiple presentations in the festival.

Visiting actors include Tony Award winner Faith Prince (Broadway: *Disaster!*, *Guys and Dolls*, ABC's *Modern Family*), Libya V. Pugh (Off-Broadway: *Dot*, *Ethel Sings*), Guy Lockard (FOX's *Gotham*, BET's *Teen Summit*) and Brandon Potter (Alley: *All the Way*).

Alley regulars in this year's festival include John Felch (*Dry Powder*), Julia Krohn (*A Christmas Carol*), David Matranga (*A Christmas Carol*), Dylan Godwin (*Miller, Mississippi*), Brooke Wilson (*All the Way*), and Michelle Elaine (*All the Way*).

Grammy Award-winning singer/songwriter Suzanne Vega returns with her new musical in progress, **Lover, Beloved: An Evening with Carson McCullers**, which was presented at the Alley in August as a workshop performance.

Directors on the Alley staff will also participate in this year's festival will also participate in this year's festival. Alley Artistic Director Gregory Boyd will direct **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**, Associate Director James Black directs Robert Askin's **The Carpenter** and Resident Assistant Director Brandon Weinbrenner directs **Roan @ The Gates**. Visiting director Giovanna Sardelli directs the **Describe The Night** and **The Cake**.

A full list of festival casting is below:

WORKSHOP PERFORMANCES

The Carpenter by Robert Askins

Directed by James Black

Jeffrey Bean

Michelle Elaine

Nick Farco

Julia Krohn

David Matranga

Brandon Potter
Melissa Pritchett
Anne Quackenbush
Brooke Wilson

Workshop Performances: February 2 & 12 (7:30 p.m.); February 4, 10 & 11 (8:00 p.m.)

Roan @ The Gates by Christina Gorman

Directed by Brandon Weinbrenner

Libya V. Pugh

Emily Trask

Workshop Performances: February 4, 5, 11 & 12 (2:30 p.m.); February 10 (4:30 p.m.)

READINGS

The Cake by Bekah Brunstetter

Directed by Giovanna Sardelli

Readings: February 11 (4:00 p.m.); February 12 (2:30 p.m.)

James Black

Julia Krohn

David Matranga

Faith Prince

Melissa Pritchett

Describe the Night by Rajiv Joseph

Directed by Giovanna Sardelli

Reading: February 11 (10:00 a.m.)

Jeffrey Bean

James Black

Elizabeth Bunch

Josie de Guzman

Dylan Godwin

Melissa Pritchett

Jay Sullivan

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Kenneth Lin

Adapted from the novel by Mark Twain

Directed by Gregory Boyd

Readings: February 10 (1:00 p.m.); 12 (10:00 a.m.)

Jeffrey Bean

Michelle Elaine

John Feltch

Luke Hamilton

Chris Hutchison

Guy Lockard

Melissa Molano

Anne Quackenbush

Jay Sullivan

Todd Waite

Brooke Wilson

Late Night Preview

Lover, Beloved: An Evening With Carson McCullers Written and Performed by Suzanne Vega

Songs by Suzanne Vega and Duncan Sheik

Event Date: February 11 (10:30 p.m.)

Syncing Ink by NSangou Njikam

Directed by Niegel Smith

Previews begin Friday, February 3 and opens Wednesday, February 8 and runs through March 5

McKenzie Frye

Nuri Hazzard

Elisha Lawson

NSangou Njikam

Adesola A. Osakalumi
Robyn "DJ Reborn" Rodgers
Kara Young

FULL FESTIVAL CALENDAR

RESERVATIONS: Alley All New Festival presentations, workshop performances and readings are free and open to the public. Advance reservations are recommended and will be available now at alleytheatre.org/allnew, by phone at 713-220-5700 or in person at the Alley Theatre Box Office, 615 Texas Avenue.

WEEKEND PACKAGES: A Weekend Package for February 10-12, 2017, includes reserved seating at all presentations, exclusive artist access and meals between performances. Packages are \$210 and are on sale now at alleytheatre.org/allnew, by phone at 713-220-5700 or in person at the Alley Theatre Box Office, 615 Texas Avenue.

PRESS: All workshop performances and readings at the Alley All New Festival are works in progress and not available for review.

Press photos from last season's Alley All New Festival can be found at <https://www.alleytheatre.org/press/alley-all-new-rehearsal-photos->

ALLEY ALL NEW: Alley All New is comprised of a variety of public and in-house programs designed to support playwrights and cater to the needs of each new project. Through this initiative led by Director of New Work Elizabeth Frankel and Literary Manager Skyler Gray, the Alley plans to produce more world premieres, commission new plays, and engage and support playwrights year round. Join the Alley Insider Group by emailing alleyinsider@alleytheatre.org and learn more about new work in development and be the first to hear about Alley All New events. More information and updates can be found on alleytheatre.org/allnew, on Facebook and #AlleyAllNew.

SPONSORS: Alley All New Festival is sponsored by C. Howard Pieper Foundation, Inc., The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Sally J. Langston, and Edgerton Foundation New Play Award. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2016-2017 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre.

ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Artistic Director Gregory Boyd and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. The Alley produces up to 16 plays each year in its newly renovated theatre, ranging from the best current work, to re-invigorated classic plays, to new plays by contemporary writers. The Alley is home to a Resident Company of actors. In addition, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as Visiting Artists.

After a year-long, \$46.5 million renovation during the 2014-15 season, the Alley Theatre now possesses the most technically advanced stage facilities of any non-profit theater in the country. The renovation of the Hubbard Theatre at the Alley was completed in October 2015 – and created a new 774 seat state-of-the-art performance venue. Matched with the 310-seat Neuhaus Theatre, the Alley offers nearly 500 performances each season. The Company reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance and education programs. Its audience enrichment programs include pre-show and post-performance talks, events, and workshops for audience members of all ages.

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