



BLACK THEATRE TROUPE
OF UPSTATE NY

MAY 29–JUNE 8 2025

THURS & FRI @ 7:30 PM

SAT & SUN @ 4:00 PM

PERFORMANCES AT THEREP

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251 N PEARL ST ALBANY, NY 12207

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ECLIPSED

BY DANAI GURIRA

DIRECTED BY JEAN-REMY MONNAY

at **theREP**★

ECLIPSED IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH BROADWAY LICENSING, LLC, SERVICING THE DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE COLLECTION. (WWW.DRAMATISTS.COM)

at **theREP**★

Directed by Jean-Remy Monnay

The Lauren and Harold Iselin Studio

theREP, 251 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207

May 29 - June 8, 2025

Thursdays & Fridays @ 7:30 PM

Saturdays & Sundays @ 4 PM

ECLIPSED is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

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).

**Any video and/or audio recording of this
production is strictly prohibited.**

Content Warning: this show contains strong language as well as conversation about war, violence, and sexual violence.

Production Warning: this show contains sounds of gunshots and strobe-like lighting effects.

Cast:

THE GIRL (#4)

Deasia Clarke

HELENA (#1)

Angelique Powell

BESSIE (#3)

Alanna Aleece

MAIMA (#2)

Zilpa Oduor

RITA

Monet Thompson-Young

Time & Place:

**Liberia: Bomi County, a LURD Rebel Army Camp,
2003**

There is one 15-minute intermission.

Artistic Team and Crew:

Director; Producer: Jean-Remy Monnay

Stage Manager: Diana Chabai-Booker

Assistant Director: Jocelyn Khoury

Assistant Producer: Mariah Sanford-White

Set Designer: D. Colin

Costume, Hair, and Makeup Designer; Set Decorator and Props:

Sheilah London-Miller

Lighting Designer: Laura Darling

Sound Designer; Sound Board Operator: Jacqui Anscombe-Waring

Light Board Operator; Photographer: Willie David Short V

Run Crew: Dawn Harris, Kendra Neal, Regina Robinson

Set Construction and Assistance: D. Colin, Jean-Remy Monnay,

Jennifer Patterson, Chris Lisio, Obadiah Savage, Proctors

Collaborative Scene Shop

Technical Staff for theREP: Brandon Curry, Luke Krauss, Stephen

Pelletier

Website and Social Media: Taylor MacDougall

Lead House Manager; Liaison to theREP: Diaka Kaba Hill

2024-2025 Season Graphics: Lake Graphics/Michael A. Lake



Cast Bios:



Alanna Aleece (Bessie) is thrilled to collaborate once again with Black Theatre Troupe on another exciting project. Most recently, she appeared as a Storyteller/Grandehomme in *Once on This Island*. She also served as Stage Manager for *Violet* with SLOC and portrayed Marie in *Barbecue* with Black Theatre Troupe. Active in community theatre both in her hometown of

White Plains, NY, and the Albany area, Alanna's past credits include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Porgy & Bess*, *Hairspray*, and many more. She is grateful to be back with Black Theatre Troupe and deeply appreciates the cast and crew for their dedication and hard work.



Deasia Clarke (The Girl) is thrilled to convey The Girl in the Black Theatre Troupe's third production of *Eclipsed*. They have been a part of numerous productions such as, "New Play Arena: Josephine", "Before War", "Rent", "What's Professor Davis Up To?", "Clyde's", "The Taming of the Shrew", and "Once on This Island". Deasia loves the performance arts and originally began

her career in the fifth grade as an instrumentalist; She has been playing the saxophone ever since! Deasia would like to thank everyone who has supported them thus far and sends a round of applause to her cast and crew.



Zilpa Oduor (Maima) is honored to make her community theater debut as Maima in *Eclipsed*. Originally from Kenya, East Africa, she is thrilled to bring this powerful African story to the stage. With a background in global health and international development, Zilpa brings a deep commitment to storytelling that uplifts African voices and lived experiences. Her interests include playing African drums, dancing salsa and kizomba, and supporting her favorite soccer team, Manchester United. She serves on the board of directors of RISSE (Refugee and Immigrant Support Services of Emmaus) in Albany and is passionate about building inclusive communities through art, music, and advocacy. Zilpa holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations–Economics and Africana Studies from Wellesley College. She is grateful to the cast, crew, and community for the opportunity to help bring this vital story to life.



Angelique Powell (Helena) is honored to return to the Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY stage in *Eclipsed*. A passionate actor and community organizer, Powell uses theatre as a powerful tool to amplify underrepresented voices, foster healing, and inspire change. Some of her past performances include *Where There's Smoke: Ilium Burns*, *A Deed Without a Name*, and *Models of Perfection* (Troy Foundry Theatre), *The Mountaintop* (BTTUNY), *Turn of the Screw* (Creative License), *School for Lies* (Schenectady Civic Playhouse), *Doubt* (Schenectady Civic), and *Clybourne Park* (Schenectady Civic Players). By day, Powell serves as the Director of Community Animation at The Blake Annex, a nonprofit coworking hub powered by United Way of the Greater Capital Region

in Albany, where she champions equity, accessibility, and collaboration across the Capital Region. She was named one of the Albany Business Review's "Women on the Rise" (2022) and "40 Under 40" (2023), and received the "Impact Award" from AFP-NY's Hudson-Mohawk Chapter for her dedication to inclusion, diversity, and community impact. This performance is dedicated to those whose stories are too often left untold—and to the power of theatre to bring them forward.



Monet Thompson-Young (Rita) is excited to return to the stage with Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate New York, having previously appeared in *The Niceties* and *Barbecue*. Other credits include *Well*, *The Revolutionists*, and *The Cake* with Schenectady Civic Players; *Jump* at Albany Civic Theater; and *In The Blood*, *Mrs. Packard*, *The Christians*, and *Into the Breeches*

with Harbinger Theatre. She is grateful for this opportunity and sends love to her son Kaeden and husband Kenzie for their unwavering support.

Artistic Team and Crew Bios:



Jean-Remy Monnay (Director and

Producer) grew up in Haiti and has been acting since he was about 8 years old in French and Creole. He moved to New York in the 1980s and continued performing in his native language with a Haitian troupe until 1997. He then moved to the Capital Region and has been performing

since in various theatres in the community. He directed many plays including *Valley Song*, *The Niceties*; *Fences*; *Flyin' West*; *The Light*; *Dead and Breathing*; *Yours, for the Oppressed*; *Eclipsed*; *Intimate Apparel*; *The Mountaintop*; *The Piano Lesson*; *Slow Dance On The Killing Ground*; *I Just Stopped By To See The Man*; *A Lesson Before Dying*; *Reunion In Barbersville*; *Wedding Band*; *Camp Logan*; *Hoodoo Love*, *Back to the Past*, and more... Film credits include The History Channel's *The Revolution*; *Rachael's Ward*, 2007 Edwood Film Festival; *Night Of Autumn*; *Blood Conscious*; *Time Crunch*. Remy is the Founder and Artistic Director of Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY (BTTUNY).

Jacqui Anscombe-Waring (Sound Designer; Sound Board Operator)

received her Bachelor of Technology Degree in Entertainment Technology from The New York City College of Technology, Brooklyn, NY in June 2013 (Cum Laude) and was awarded the Meyer Sound Scholarship to Broadway Sound Master Classes at NYU. Sound Design credits: *Valley Song* with Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY; *Staxx Cordero's Spring Forward Theatre Festival of Short Plays*; *Matters Of The Heart* with Her Temple Monologues; *70 Year Old Bride* and *Train* with Midtown International Theatre Festival; *Trifles* and *Plumes* with Borough of Manhattan Community College; *Clever Little Lies* and *Glen Gary Glen Ross* with Curtain Call Theatre; *Black Wall Street*, *Whistle In Mississippi*, and

The Meeting with Shades of Truth Theatre; Ugly Is A Hard Pill with Theatre for The New City. Jacqui was nominated for the 2014 AUDELCO Award for Best Sound Design for her very first project, UGLY IS A HARD PILL. The highlight of Jacqui's career was being the Company Sound Designer for the 50th Anniversary Season of The Negro Ensemble Company, Inc. in NYC from Dec 2016-Feb 2018; Day Of Absence, Rosalee Pritchett and The Perry's Mission, Daughters Of The Mock, The Cost, and A Soldier's Play. Jacqui is gratefully celebrating one year of working with the BTTUNY family.

Diana Chabai-Booker (Stage Manager) is excited to be making her BTTUNY debut with this show. SM credits include *Spring Awakening*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Mean Girls* (SLOC), *Love, Loss and What I Wore* (Theater Voices), and *The Pillowman* (ACT). By day, Diana works for Proctors Collaborative in programming. She also hosts a theatre-centric podcast called Two Show Day (available wherever you like to listen). Big thanks to Remy and the team for this opportunity!

D. Colin (Set Designer) is a muralist, collage artist, and painter whose work explores identity, healing, and cultural memory. She is a board member of Black Dimensions in Art, Inc., and currently has work on view at the Tang Teaching Museum. Her art has also been exhibited at Albany Center Gallery, Spring Street Gallery, The Underground Railroad Education Center, and the Henry and Miriam Butzel Art Gallery, among others. D. Colin is also a poet, playwright, actor, and teaching artist in her multi-hyphenate world. Having previously performed in this production as Maima aka Wife #2, she is thrilled to return in a new role as set designer. To learn more about her work, go to dcolin.com.

Laura Darling (Lighting Designer) Laura walked onto a Sesame Street Live stage at 3 years old and decided never to leave. In her spare time, she practices law to feed her theater habit. She is a playwright, actress, director, props, costume and light designer.

Recent credits include Light Designer of "Peter and the Starcatcher" at SLOC, "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern" at ACT, "Oklahoma" at HMT and "Sweeny Todd" at Fort Salem. Thank you so much to Joe for his love and support, and to the hard working cast and crew for their work on this show. Support the arts in all its forms!

Dawn Harris (Run Crew) I have always been passionate about the arts. I have acted in "Soup Kitchen Saintz," "Raisin in the Sun", "Auntie Mame", and the infamous "Fate" in a Changing Spaces play. I currently reside in Clifton Park, where I am an activist and entrepreneur. I can be spotted participating in nostalgic karaoke.

Jocelyn Khoury (Assistant Director) is a transplant from Washington Heights, NYC, living in Wilton with her spouse and their three boys. She is grateful to be working with Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY on this poignant project. She is an actor in the capital region. A few of her favorite roles include (Sabrina/Masaai Angel) *Black Superhero Magic Mama*, (Deirdre Blake) *The Humans*, (Nina DuBois) *Knock Me A Kiss*, (Truvy Jones) *Steel Magnolias*, (Mrs. Van Dann) *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Sheilah London Miller (Costume, Hair, and Makeup Designer; Set Decorator and Props) Aka Ms. Sheilah is a multi-talented creative artist whose skills encompass stage and film acting, voice acting, writing, singing, MCing, producing, assistant directing, set decoration, production support, and costume and makeup design. She has performed across the Capital Region, New York State, New England, and Massachusetts, showcasing her deep love for theatre on stage and behind the scenes. Theatre credits include work with Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY, Capital Repertory Theatre, Proctors Mainstage, The Barn, MOPCO Improv, Cafe Lena, ESP Media, PJ Productions, Steamer 10 Theatre, and the Schenectady Civic Players. Sheilah is a proud member of the Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA) and the Voices of Praise

Traveling Choir, which performs throughout the USA. Sheilah is grateful, humbled, and excited to collaborate with this large, diverse group of talented cast and crew. This unified family of gifted creatives truly brings this beautiful story to life! She is also honored to serve as the Board President of Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY (BTTUNY).

Kendra Neal (Run Crew) began her career on stage at the age of 5, starting with tap, jazz, and ballet. She then ventured into musicals and classical music becoming a 1st string violinist at the age of 10. She joined the Black Theatre Troupe in 2016 performing in *Eclipsed* and again in 2022 *Flyin' West*. When not on stage, Kendra is behind the scenes as a Production Assistant, Assistant Director, and more.

Regina Robinson (Run Crew) a born and raised native of Albany, is excited to be a part of ECLIPSED with the Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate New York as a part of the Production Crew. Regina is an alumnus of BTTUNY with credits both on and off stage as an actress, production, and stage crew. Regina recently performed on stage as Erzulie (Once On This Island/2025) and Faye (Skeleton Crew/2023). Regina is an avid lover of the arts, enjoys sharing with others what brings her joy through self & life expression in her poetry writings, singing, and dance (liturgical and contemporary).

Mariah Sanford-White (Assistant Producer) now resides in Albany after teaching theatre and yoga in NYC for many years. Locally, she has taught, directed, and performed with The Theatre Company at Hubbard Hall, directed for BTTUNY, and performed with Theater Voices. Mariah currently works at Emma Willard School and assists BTTUNY with all of their productions in some capacity. Love and gratitude to Remy and to the entire BTTUNY family!

Willie David Short, V (Light Board Operator; Photographer) is a freelance photographer, videographer, and certified FAA drone pilot. His love for capturing key moments started with taking photos and then transitioned into video. As any photographer or videographer can attest, one major aspect of both crafts is lighting, so becoming a part of the lighting design team for theatrical performances made the most sense. As he progresses in his career he hopes to capture moments that are both creative and memorable.





The work that we do is made possible in part by a grant from NYSCA-A.R.T./New York Creative Opportunity Fund (A Statewide Theatre Regrant Program)

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In memoriam: Nicolas Nealon, for his boundless energy, humor, and dedication to the Arts.

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Is happy to support BTTUNY's production of
Eclipsed with the donation of set pieces from the home of
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Please visit our website (above) to see our short documentary **Struggle. Triumph. Repeat...** It won 'Best Short Documentary Film at the 2023 Albany Film Festival sponsored by NYS Writers Institute and honors past and present civil rights activists in the Capital District. Kudos to artists and activists!



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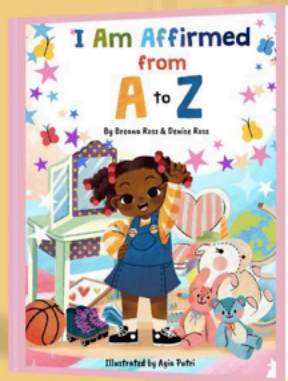
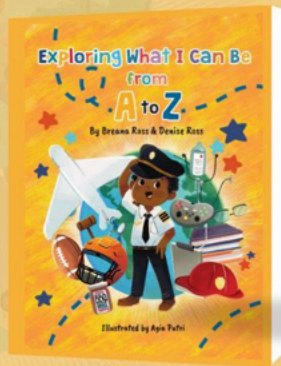
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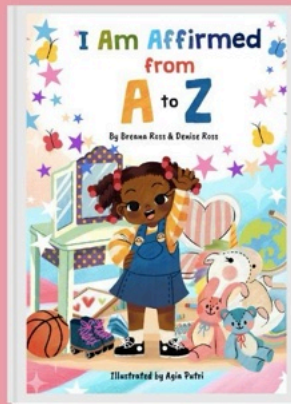


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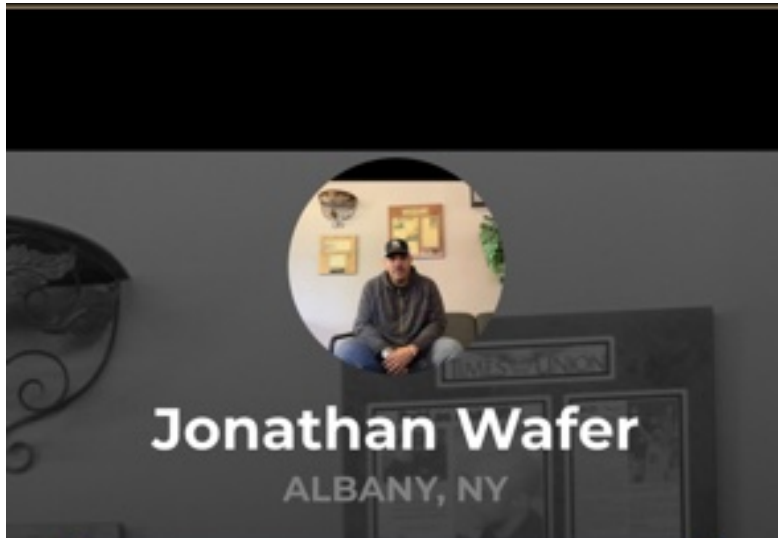
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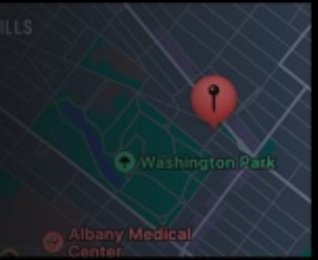
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