

history theatre

RAW STAGES
NEW WORKS FESTIVAL

ROLLICKING! A WINTER CARNIVAL MUSICAL OCT 25, 7:30 PM

book & co-lyrics by Rachel Teagle
music & co-lyrics by Keith Hovis
directed by Richard D. Thompson
music directed by Joshua Burniece
dramaturgy by Alayna Jacqueline
stage managed by Jaya Robillard

SO HELP ME GOD

OCT 26, 1:00 PM

by Lester Mayers
directed by Vanessa Brooke Agnes
dramaturgy by Vinecia Coleman
stage managed by Keara Lavandowska

HUNGRY LIKE THE WOLF

OCT 26, 7:00 PM

by Sandra Struthers
directed by Laura Leffler
dramaturgy by Cat Hammond
stage managed by Katie Cornish

DON'T MISS DORIS HINES

OCT 27, 2:30 PM

by TyLie Shider
directed by Aaron Todd Douglas
dramaturgy by Faye Price
stage managed by Lee Johnson*

Artistic Director Richard D. Thompson
Festival Producer Laura Leffler



Laura Leffler

Welcome to the third decade of History Theatre's Raw Stages: New Works Festival!

This year we have kicked the festival up a notch: new easier-to-get-to dates in October, new timing condensing all the presentations into a single 3-day weekend, new elements including two salons and an all-festival bash. It's all the new work goodness you've come to love at History Theatre paired with exciting new ways to engage **EVEN MORE** with the work.

If you love new work at History Theatre, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to ensure that together we can continue to build a contemporary canon of stories about us. Scan QR code to donate today!



We've printed the scripts and new pages of revisions, we've rehearsed and interrogated the scripts, we've done the historical research, we've ordered the catering and the merch. Now we just have to add our final collaborators - that's you! Whether you can only squeeze in one reading, or if you're here all weekend with an all-festival pass (now with fun new merch) you are key to helping these stories make their way next door onto our main stage in full productions. We want to know what you think and how the readings move you.

Please stay after each reading for a conversation with the creators. Also fill out the post-reading survey for each reading you attend. We spend a lot of time in the weeks after the festival pouring over the surveys, figuring out the questions and ideas you have, and how to implement them into our work.

Enjoy the festival!

Laura

MISSION

History Theatre entertains, educates, and engages audiences by creating, developing, and producing new and existing works that explore Minnesota's past and the diverse American experience.

PLAYWRIGHTS ON NEW PLAYS AND HISTORY PLAYS

Saturday, Oct 26, 4:00 pm

moderated by Richard D. Thompson

Learn about the secrets of some of History Theatre's favorite playwrights and their writing process. Discover how writing a history play differs from fiction and get a chance to ask questions directly to the writers.

The panel will feature playwrights and composers:

Jeffrey Hatcher, Alayna Jacqueline, Laurie Flanigan Hegge, Josef Evans and Denise Prosek.

FESTIVAL BASH

Saturday, Oct 26

Following Hungry Like the Wolf reading

Raise a glass with us to celebrate the readings, the artists, new work, the History Theatre, and YOU, our patrons. Snacks and a champagne toast plus a cash bar.

SUPPORTING THE NEW PLAY ENVIRONMENT

Sunday, Oct 27, 1:00 pm

moderated by Laura Leffler

Wondering what you can do to help even more new work get made at History Theatre and in the Twin Cities? Listen as new work leaders from the community discuss what exactly is needed to help new plays thrive.

The panel will feature:

Christopher Bineham, Director of Advancement, The Playwrights' Center
Tyler Michaels-King, Artistic Director, Trademark Theatre

Rick Shiomi, Co-founder of Mu Performing Arts and Full Circle Theater
Nicole A. Watson, Producing Artistic Director, The Playwrights' Center

Free refreshments from Yellowbird Coffee Bar.

ROLLICKING! A WINTER CARNIVAL MUSICAL

book & co-lyrics by Rachel Teagle

music & co-lyrics by Keith Hovis

directed by Richard D. Thompson

music directed by Joshua Burniece | dramaturgy by Alayna Jacqueline

stage managed by Jaya Robillard | intern/assistant director Lillian Jones

Cap	Benjamin Bailey
Viola	Zola Lee*
Chancellor	Ben Dutcher*
Vulcanus	Randy Schmeling*
Kate	Abilene Olson
Ensemble, Winuna	Adrienne Zimiga-January
Ensemble	Abby Magalee*
Ensemble	Kyle Weiler*
Ensemble	Anna Hashizume*
Swings	Erin Capello, Cameron Reeves, Leslie Vincent



Rachel Teagle



Keith Hovis



Richard D. Thompson

When St. Paul city architect Clarence “Cap” Wigington is tasked with designing a glorious ice palace for the Winter Carnival, he and his wife Viola get much more than they bargained for when the magic of the Carnival enters their lives.

With a gust of icy wind, of King Boreas and find

they are whisked away to the realm themselves at the center of the epic myth that drives the festival. In this magical land of the North Wind, historical figures from the Carnival’s long and storied history are seeking a new King and see in Cap’s brilliance the leader they’ve been hoping for. Meanwhile, jealous Fire Lord Vulcanus and his right-hand woman Klondike Kate see in Viola an opportunity to disrupt the winter king and end the festival once and for all. A journey through myth and history, they meet Minnesota figures from 19th-century amateur poets to champion snowmobile racers, all of whom helped make the Winter Carnival a lasting and marvelous tradition.



FILL OUT SURVEY! SCAN QR CODE

SO HELP ME GOD

by Lester Mayers

directed by Vanessa Brooke Agnes

dramaturgy by Vinecia Coleman

stage managed by Keara Lavandowska

Lena O. Smith	Dana Lee Thompson
Edith Lee	Valencia Proctor
Mary Lee	Idman Adan
Mrs. Pearl	Cherene Snow*
Arthur Lee	Peyton Dixon*
Walter	Josh Simpson
Robert	Justin Michael Cooke*
Interviewer	Sean Dillon
Swing	Erin Farsté



Lester Mayers



Vanessa Brooks Agnes

So Help Me God is a powerful depiction of Lena O. Smith's extraordinary life, showcasing her journey as the first Black woman lawyer and President of the NAACP in the 1920s. The play explores her personal growth, triumphs, and legal battles, focusing on a landmark case where she represented an African American family facing racial violence in an all-white neighborhood. As "the negotiator" and "Fearless and from the West," Smith fearlessly confronted systemic obstacles

to African American rights during a time of rampant violence. The production also sheds light on the suppression of women, offering an empowering portrayal of a trailblazing woman ahead of her time.

* denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association

+ denotes a member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society



National
New Play
Network

FILL OUT SURVEY! SCAN QR CODE



HUNGRY LIKE THE WOLF

by **Sandra Struthers**
directed by **Laura Leffler**
dramaturgy by Cat Hammond
stage managed by Katie Cornish

Sandra Addie Phelps*
Mom/Lee Angela Timberman*
Irene/Simon Allison Vincent
Young Woman Tracey Maloney*
Man Luverne Seifert*
Swing Kathryn Fumie



Sandra Struthers



Laura Leffler

Hungry Like the Wolf is a fast-paced, irreverent comedy exploring the first American bank strike and fight for women's labor rights, an '80s tv-movie flop, a starlet's battle with McCarthyism, and a young woman's obsession with Duran Duran. In this coming-of-age story, audiences will learn about the Willmar Eight – the eight local women who led the famous 1977 strike, the film made about them, and Lee Grant – the fascinating actress-turned-director who told their story.

Hungry Like the Wolf blends personal narrative storytelling, sketch comedy, an off-kilter game show, and totally tubular 80's hits! While playful and humorous, this show invites audiences to ask: how do we fight for justice in the face of inequity, what do we do when our heroes fail us, and how can we draw upon humor and fellowship to dream of a better tomorrow?

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DON'T MISS DORIS HINES

by TyLie Shider

directed by Aaron Todd Douglas

dramaturgy by Faye Price

stage managed by Lee Johnson*

Doris Hines	Comfort Dolo*
Edward 'Big Ed' Hines.....	Kelechi Jaavaid
Camel Hines	Ashwanti Sakina Ford
Jerry Mayeron	Paul LaNave
Grace/Ella Fitzgerald	Erin Farsté



TyLie Shider



Aaron Todd Douglas

When Doris Hines, a promising nightclub singer, moves to Minneapolis from Yonkers, NY, her young marriage is on the rocks, but she is determined to establish a career in show business to raise her six children in a post-WWII society still gripped by the horrors of racism. Reputedly, Nat King Cole told Ella Fitzgerald, "Do NOT miss Doris Hines!" and she didn't. This quote encompasses Doris' career in show business and playwright TyLie Shider's interest in adapting her relatively unsung story for the stage.

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thank you



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Special thanks for use of the auditorium



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HOTEL + BAR

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THANK YOU for helping make these plays a success through your feedback and support!

Your contributions allow History Theatre to commission and develop new work for the stage. Truly, we could not do this work without the support of our loyal patrons.

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