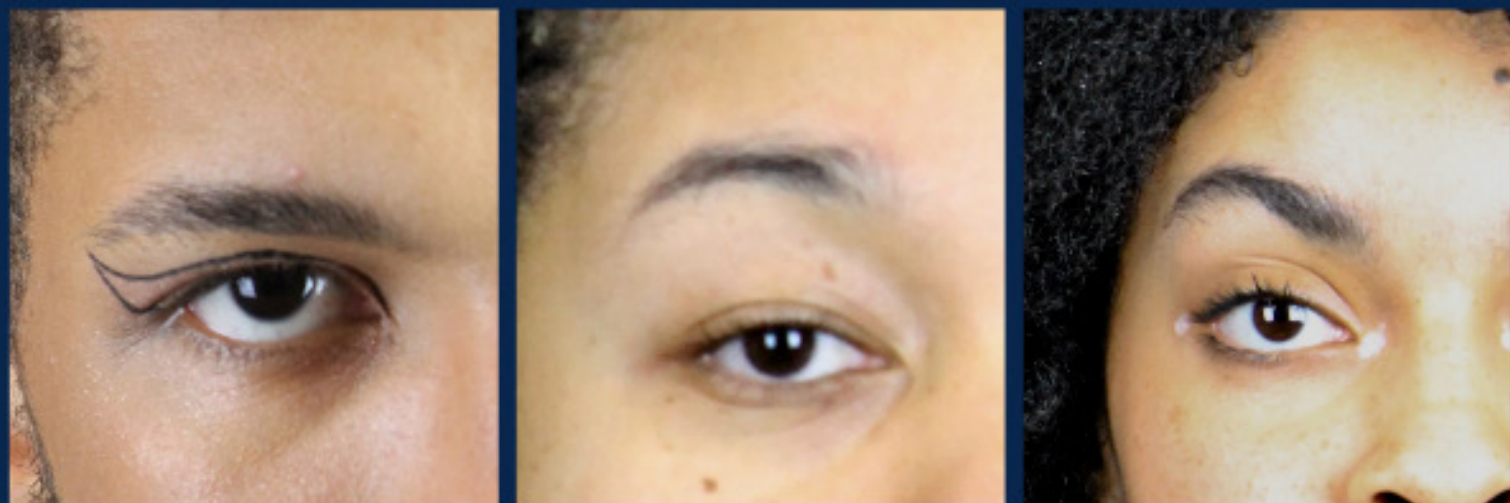
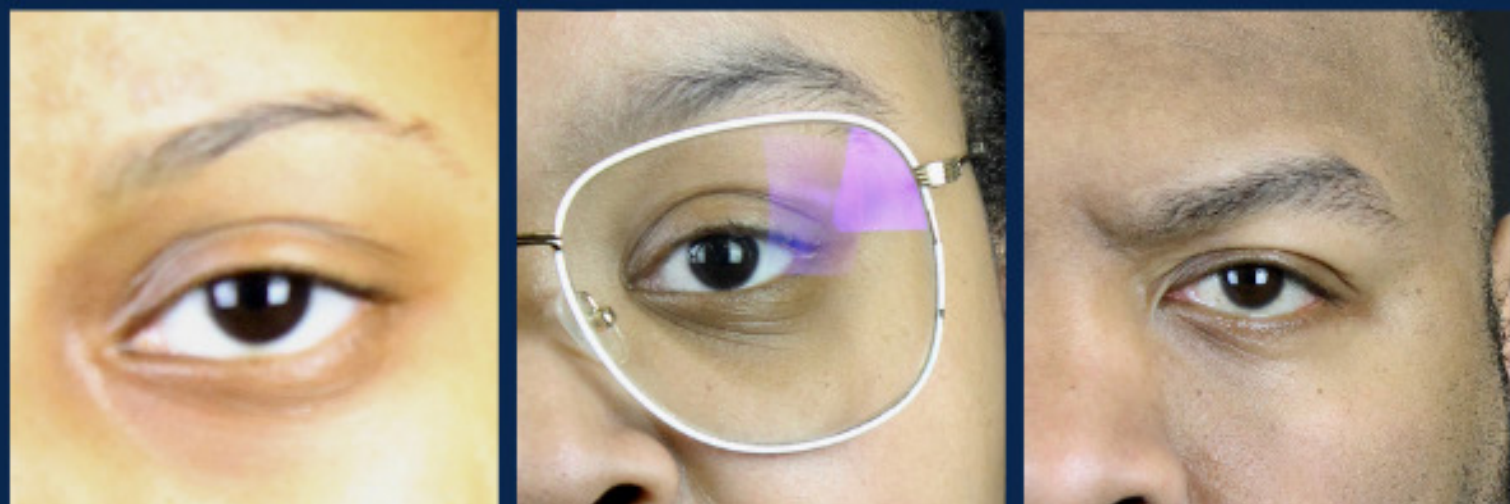


MONÉT NOELLE MARSHALL'S



RAISSONNEUR



THEATRE
& **DANCE**
at **WAYNE**

Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance
College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts
WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance presents

Raisonneur

By **MONET NOELLE MARSHALL**

This production of *Raisonneur* contains gunshots, flashing lights, adult language, adult situations, and violence

Venue: Underground Theatre

Runtime: 90 minutes with no intermission

Scenic Designer
JOSHUA PRIM

Costume Designers
MATÉO DAVIS
SKYLER DEMING

Lighting Designer
TALIA BOWES

Sound Editing
LARAISHA DIEVELYN DIONNE
LINDSEY SIGLER

Properties Master
JOSHUA PRIM

Stage Manager
LINDSEY SIGLER

Directed by **MORGAN LISTENBEE**
Assistant Directed by **JESSICA ANNUNZIATA**

CAST

Mama.....	DEENA ALLEN BRE BROWN (U/S)
Diva La Flair.....	MATÉO DAVIS
Offstage Announcer	
Playwright.....	LARAISHA DIEVELYN DIONNE
Sunshyne	SHAN DINGLE
Big Black	TAUREAN HOGAN
Kid.....	LAILA JACKSON TRINITY MCKAY (U/S)
Professor	ALEXIS PRIMUS ANDRE MIXON (U/S)
Robyn.....	NICOLE TURNER

PRODUCTION STAFF

Faculty Advisor	BILLICIA CHARNELLE HINES
Assistant Stage Manager	HAILEY JOACIM
Production Manager	CJ CALDWELL
Intimacy/Fight Coordinator	RYAN BERNIER
Marketing Lead	KAYLA SMITH
Marketing Team	JOSHUA POPPINK
Marketing and Media Production Mentor	ALESYN MCCALL

PRODUCTION CREW

Light Board Operator	LINDSEY SIGLER
Sound Board Operator.....	LARAISHA EVELYN DIONNE, LINDSEY SIGLER
Backstage Crew.....	JOSHUA PRIM, HAILEY JOACIM
Rehearsal Stage Manager.....	JOHN PIERRE
Marketing and Social Media Liason.....	KYMBERLI SKYE

This Production contains strobe effects

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

WAYNE STATE UNDERGROUND THEATRE

FAMILY TREE | 2022 - 2023 SEASON

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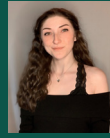
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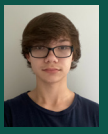
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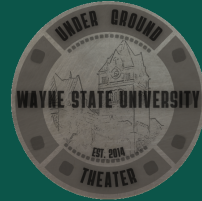
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HAILEY JOACIM
BOARD MEMBER
SHE/HER
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2022 - 2023 Season for The Underground Company

Fall Semester 2022

The End of a Society

November 4th - 5th
Underground at the Hilberry

The People Vs. Friar Laurence

November 18th - 19th
Underground at the Hilberry

Winter Semester 2023

The Yellow Wallpaper

February 3rd - 4th
Allesee Dance Theatre

She Kills Monsters

April 14th - 15th
Allesee Dance Theatre

For accessibility information for The Underground Theatre at the Hilberry, please call the box office at [313-577-2972](tel:313-577-2972).

*All play titles, dates, times, and spaces are subject to change.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



I honestly don't know where to start with the director's note... First off, I do want to thank Monè Noelle Marshall, the playwright, for letting me and the entire *Raisonneur* cast & crew give life to this amazing play! I received *Raisonneur* from my faculty advisor/mentor, Billicia Charnelle Hines, March of 2021, and I was immediately hooked! I couldn't put the script down! Something was telling me that I HAD to direct this play, and this was the right time to do so...

Directing *Raisonneur* was extremely challenging, but rewarding! This experience has taught me so many things: to trust your instinct, to make effective decisions, and most importantly, to love and be proud of your work and to be collaborative with your cast and creative team. Art is collaboration!!! So, when you watch *Raisonneur*, it's not just my work you're seeing. You're seeing the assistant director's work, the cast's work, the stage manager's work, the designers' work, the playwright's work, and everyone involved in this production's work. We are one. We are collaboration. We are family! So, enjoy watching *Raisonneur*! I hope you take away something from this production and I hope you enjoy and love it, as much as I did :)

Sincerely,
Morgan Listenbee

Maggie Allesee Our Namesake



In recognition and appreciation of Maggie Allesee's history of generous support of the arts at Wayne State University and of theatre and dance in particular, the WSU Board of Governors approved the renaming of the theatre and dance department in 2012. They had originally named it the Maggie Allesee Department of Dance in 2000 when Dance and Theatre were separate departments.

Maggie's contributions as a volunteer, philanthropist, and community and civic leader have been vast and varied. An avid supporter of the arts, she has served as a board member for the Cranbrook Academy of Arts, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Detroit Metropolitan Dance Project, Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, Meadow Brook Theatre, Michigan Opera Theatre, Music Hall, Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Oakland University Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, Kendall College of Art and Design, the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, Wayne State Hilberry Understudies, and many more.

In addition to donating her time, talents, and knowledge, she also a generous financial contributor to many organizations, particularly in arts and education. She has given individual gifts of \$1 million or more to The Parade Company, Oakland University for the Maggie Allesee School of Nursing to establish a Chair in Gerontology, WSU for the Bob Allesee (Allison) Endowed Chair in Media Studies, Detroit Historical Museum, Music Hall and \$2 million plus gifts to WSU for the Dance Department, Florida State University for a major statue and the establishment of the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, and Michigan Opera Theatre for the reception room and library. Mrs. Allesee was recognized for her \$3 million gift to Hospice of Michigan with the unveiling of the Maggie Allesee Center for Quality of Life. She has received four Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Kendall College of Art and Design, Wayne State University, Oakland University, and Florida State University.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



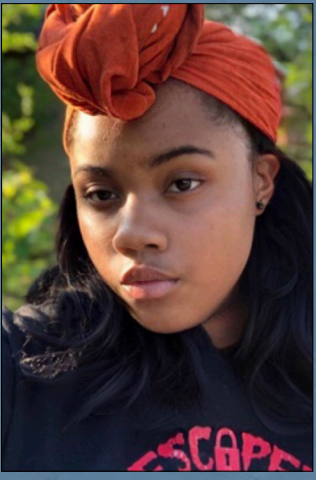
Monèt Noelle Marshall is an artist and cultural organizer. She centers Black trans, queer folks and women in her work and defines her artistic practice as “rehearsal for the relationship’. She is the founder and Chief Visionary Officer for Marshall Art & Consulting and the founding Artistic Director of MOJOAA Performing Arts Company. MOJOAA is a Black theater company in the Triangle region of North Carolina that centers Black playwrights of the South.

Her work has been experienced in St. Ann’s Warehouse, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, Open Eye Figure Theatre, Northstar Church of the Arts, Manbites Dog Theatre and Mordecai Historic Park. Most recently she has collaborated with African American Policy Forum on Gucci’s Chime for Change zine, Scalawag Magazine, NC Museum of Art, Historic Stagville, City of Raleigh and Columbia University.

Land Acknowledgment

Wayne State University rests on Waawiyaataanong, also referred to as Detroit, the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy. These sovereign lands were granted by the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations, in 1807, through the Treaty of Detroit. Wayne State University affirms Indigenous sovereignty and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. With our Native neighbors, WSU can advance educational equity and promote a better future for the earth and all people.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM



Deena Allen [she/her] (Mama) is a Sophomore performing arts major at Wayne State University. She aspires to be a voice actress and content creator. Although she performed few roles in high school, she has been performing all her life. She hopes to not only have an impact on the community, but also help create more representation for people of color.



Jessica Annunziata [she/they] (Assistant Director) holds a B.F.A. from NYU Tisch and has also studied at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting and the Wits School of the Arts in Johannesburg, South Africa. She has created and performed at HERE Arts Center and the Public Theatre's Under the Radar Festival. Jessica is also a teaching artist who has worked with people of all ages. She was most recently seen as Bets in Wayne's production of *Fairview*. It has been an honor working with the incomparable Morgan Listenbee and this incredible cast to bring Monét Noelle Marshall's beautiful script to life.



Ryan Bernier [he/him] (Intimacy/Stage Combat Coordinator) is a second year M.F.A. Acting candidate coming to you all the way from Florida! His previous credits include Mack (*Fairview*/Hilberry Theatre), and Bob Cratchit and others (*A Christmas Carol*/Tipping Point Theatre). He has previously served as the artistic director for ThinkTank Theatre in Tampa as well as the head writer for sketch collective Some Sort of Show! He would like to thank his friends, family, and cat for their unending support.



Talia Bowes [she/her] (Lighting Designer) is a sophomore B.F.A. Theatre Design & Technology student here at Wayne State and is focusing on Lighting. She is so excited to be a part of this wonderful production as Lighting Designer, and for *Raisonneur* to be her first theatrical lighting design project here at Wayne State. You may have seen Talia's work in *Making Our Mark*, the Dance Capstone performance, as well as in this year's Spring Dance Concert. Talia would like to thank her friends and family for being her greatest supporters and she hopes you enjoy the show!

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM



Bre Brown (She/Her) (Mama Understudy), is a second-year undergrad student. With a Communication Studies Major and a double Minor in Theatre and Dance, she loves staying busy and has a passion in the arts. She aspires to become a voice actress, writer, and choreographer and to lead by example as the first in her family to go to college and finish with the hope of also showing that no matter what walk of life you come from, you can be successful and be happy doing it no matter what trials and tribulations are thrown your way.



Matéo Davis [he/him] (Diva La Flair, Co-Costume Designer) is a Sophomore B.F.A. Acting major playing the role of Diva La Flair. He is so excited to be performing in his first Wayne State production and hopes you enjoy the show. All of you.



Skylar Deming [she/they] (Co-Costume Designer) is a sophomore B.F.A. acting major, and is absolutely thrilled to be a part of such an amazing show! They have recently been seen in *Fairview* here at Wayne State, and they will be co-directing *Burn This* in the Underground season this summer. They also wanted to thank Morgan Listenbee for giving them the opportunity to work with such a wonderful cast and crew!



LaRaisha DiEvelyn Dionne [she/her] (Playwright; Co-Sound Editor) is a second year M.F.A. Acting Student. Playing the role of the playwright, she is thrilled to participate in this production under the fine direction of her friend, colleague, and sister-in-love, Morgan Listenbee. To quote the brilliant playwright, Monet: "I am not an artist cuz I do, I'm an artist cuz I be." Love to her partner in life, C. Lee and her two babies... Schmoop and Bubba.



Shan Dingle [she/her] (Sunshyne) is a second year B.F.A. actor here at Wayne State. This show has been a great challenge to be a part of, and the depth of the show has really given her a chance to play.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM



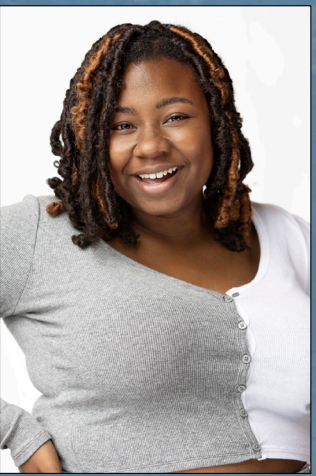
Taurean Hogan [he/him] (Big Black) is a graduate of Wayne State University with his B.A. in Theater and studied at NIDA in Sydney, Australia. He has been seen on the Bonstelle stage in *Hairspray*, *The Full Monty*, *Ragtime*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Zora Is My Name*, *Pippin*, and *Black Nativity* just to name a few. He has also performed at Detroit's own Music Hall in *Ain't Misbehavin'* and has performed with The Milwaukee Repertory Theater in *A Christmas Carol* and *The Color Purple*. He was also seen in *Mitch Albom's Hockey: The Musical* at the City Theater, *Ruined* with Plowshares Theater, *Dreamgirls* and *Broke-ology* with the DATC. He was last seen playing Usher/God/Understanding in *Everybody* and Dayton in *Fairview* at the Hilberry Theater.



Laila Jackson [she/her] (Kid) is a first year B.A. theatre major.



Hailey Joacim [she/her] (Assistant Stage Manager) is a third year B.F.A. Stage Management student. Some previous credits with Wayne State include: *Tracks* (Director/Costume Design), *The Snow Queen* (Assistant Stage Manager) and *Vigilant* (Stage Manager).



Morgan Listenbee [she/her] (Director) is very excited to have her first in-person directing debut!!! She directed *Company Fresh* (2020)'s ... *And Justice For All*. She would love to thank her *Raisonneur* cast & crew and Monét Noelle Marshall for making her dreams come true and giving her something to look forward to everyday. Morgan would also love to thank her family and friends for supporting her every step of the way! Thank you so much to those who have helped put Morgan in the position she is in right now :)



Trinity McKay [she/her] (Kid U/S) is a freshman theatre major with a focus in acting. She is enthusiastic about her role as the understudy for the Kid, and the entire show as a whole. Participating in more future WSU shows is what she looks forward to the most in her college experience.

CAST & CREATIVE TEAM



Andre Mixon [he/him] (Professor u/s) is a sophomore B.F.A. Acting student and is excited to be working with such an amazing cast on a piece so rich in its message!



Joshua Prim [he/him] (Set Designer; Props Master) is a second-year B.F.A. Scenic Design Student and designed the set and props for this show. His intention with the set is to invoke his favorite aspect of theatre, which is the coming together of so many different areas. He is so excited for you to see this show, and to see the amazing talent in this cast!



Alexis Primus [she/they] (Professor) is a second-year graduate student at Wayne and is excited to be a part of this cast. They were previously seen as an Actor in *La Boheme*, Actor 1 in *A Christmas Carol* at Tipping Point Theatre, and understudied Somebody in *Everybody* here at Wayne State, where they went on for two performances. She is grateful for the opportunity to discover a new character, and to learn what is next in store for her.



Lindsey Sigler [she/her] (Stage Manager; Co-Sound Editor) Lindsey holds a B.F.A. in stage management from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She has stage managed for numerous companies such as The Gateway, Piedmont Opera, Open Dream Ensemble, The Mad Cow, The Young Company, and the Boston Conservatory. She served as a project manager for Stage Rigging Services, a theatrical rigging company that installs fly systems and spent 2 years teaching technical theatre to high school students in Birmingham, AL. She spent summers working with youth at French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts and does outreach and workshops for high school theatre programs.



Nicole Turner [she/her] (Robyn) is a third-year B.A. Theatre who is playing Robyn in *Raisonneur*. She has spent her time at Theatre and Dance at Wayne learning about the skills and knowledge throughout her college career to prepare for this role. She is grateful to be a part of this cast and crew and is excited to be a part of the process.

SUMMER

IN THE UNDERGROUND THEATRE
AT THE HILBERRY

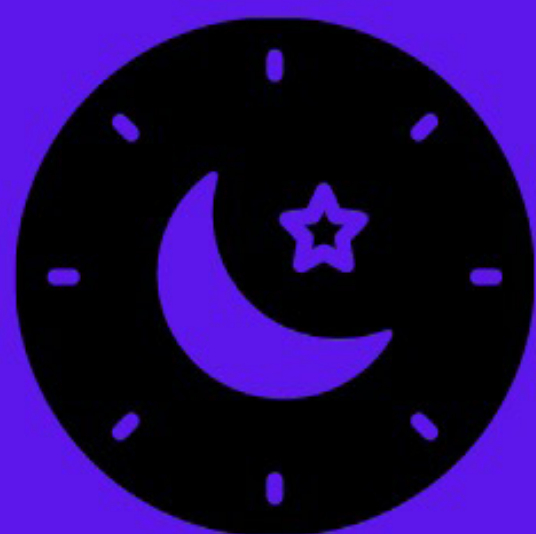
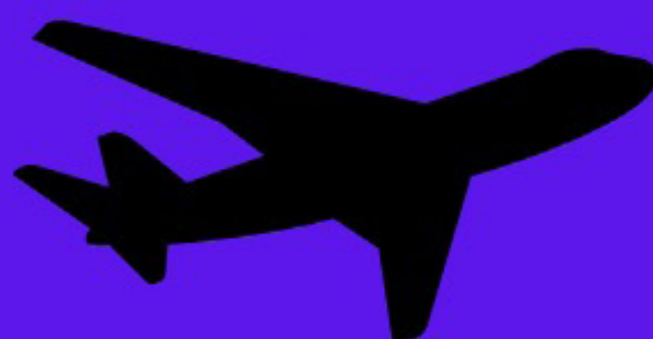


BURN THIS

LANFORD WILSON
JUNE 24-25, 29-30

BOEING BOEING

MARC CAMOLETTI
JULY 8-9, 14-15



FLY BY NIGHT

WILL CONNOLLY, MICHAEL
MITNICK & KIM
ROSENSTOCK
JULY 22-23, 28-29

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2022-2023 Season

**titles subject to change*

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The Yellow Wallpaper

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Everybody, 2021-2022
Chuk Nowak Photography