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THE MEETING
BY JEFF STETSON
DIRECTED BY BARON KELLY
MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2023
FORGE THEATER | MOSCOW, IDAHO

Funding provided by IRT Endowment and the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences
Co-sponsored by the Black/African American Cultural Center, Africana Studies Program and the Department of History
NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

IN “THE MEETING,” the defining personalities of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King are put center stage and at the heart of the Black freedom struggle during the height of its revolutionary expression in American history. Each man was bigger than the sum of his competing symbolic parts.

By showing how Malcolm and Martin start the play as adversaries and compatriots in a tiny hotel room, we see how the one-dimensional views of their ideological conflicts reveal them to share commonalities of heart.

--Baron Kelly, Director

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LOVE
THE SHOW? TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

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JAMES STRINGER, JR., (Malcom X) is a 3rd Year MFA candidate in Acting at the University of Virginia. Some of his most recent credits from UVA include “Sense and Sensibility,” “How to Live on Earth,” “Death of the Author” (UVA Drama); “Little Women” (Virginia Theatre Festival). Some of his favorite credits include “Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley,” “A Christmas Carol” (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); “Julius Caesar,” “Richard II,” “Much Ado About Nothing” (Kentucky Shakespeare); “Fences,” “Baltimore,” “King Lear,” and “The Meeting” (University of Louisville).

E.M. HARRIS (Rashad) is an actor, director, and teaching artist from Baltimore, Maryland. He was last seen as CJ in the StageOne production of “Last Stop on Market Street.” Other credits include: Speed in “The Odd Couple” at American Stage, King Hedley II in “King Hedley II” (Belknap Playhouse.) Martin Luther King Jr., in “The Mountaintop” (National Black Theatre Fest.) Harris was a lead in a limited series, “The Pact” as Micah (Telly Award Recipient) and an independent film, “Eraceing” as Edwin which was shown in The Louisville International Film Fest, Toronto Black Film Fest and San Diego Black Film Fest. He was the runner-up in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition for Region Four in 2020. He was also an acting apprentice at Actors Theatre of Louisville 2020-2021. He has his MFA from The University of Louisville and his BFA from North Carolina A&T State University. He enjoys creating content on Instagram and TikTok. Follow him @xaviermikalh

Very Special Thanks:
Brindle Brundage, poster design
Janis Johnson, Africana Studies Program
Mario Pile, Office of Equity & Diversity
Rebecca Scofield, Department of History
Black/African American Cultural Center
Dean Sean Quinlan, College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences
ARTISTIC TEAM

Director.................................................... BARON KELLY
Lighting & Sound Design............... DAVID HARLAN
Technical Director........................... MICHAEL BRANDT
IRT Executive Producer .................... ROBERT CAISLEY

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

CAST

Martin Luther King, Jr...............................TYLER MADDEN
Malcolm X.............................................JAMES STRINGER, JR.
Rashad....................................................E.M. HARRIS

BIOS

BARON KELLY (Director) Dr. Kelly is a four-time Fulbright Scholar and the Vilas Distinguished Professor of Theatre and Drama Department at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Baron has performed internationally for the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada; National Theatre of Norway; Yermelova Theatre, Moscow, Russia; Constans Theatre, Athens, Greece, Academy Theatre Dublin; Edinburgh Theatre Festival; Bargello, Florence, Italy; among others. Broadway: credits include Salome and Electra. Numerous classical and contemporary roles for over 30 of America’s leading regional theatres including the Oregon, Utah, Dallas Fort Worth, and Southern California Shakespeare Festivals; Yale Repertory; The Guthrie; Shakespeare Theatre Washington; among others. Dr. Kelly’s work has been published in Theatre Journal; Journal of American Drama and Theatre; African American National Biography; American Theatre; Stage Directors and Choreographers Journal; Cambridge Scholars Publishing; Peter Lang Publishers; Journal of the institute of African Studies; among others. He serves on the Fulbright Review Panel; International Institute of Education China-U.S. Scholars Review Panel; and boards of the Arden Shakespeare Series (Advisory Editorial Board), Lagos Notes and Records (Editorial Advisory Board), Harold Pinter Review (Editorial Advisory Board), Comparative Drama Conference (Editorial Board), Stanislavsky Institute Advisory Board, National Theatre Conference (Executive Committee), and the American Society for Theatre Research (Executive Committee). In 2022, Baron was invested as a Fellow in the College of Fellows of the American Theatre. His book, titled “An Actor’s Task: Engaging the Senses,” is available from Hackett Publishing Company. His new book, “Building Embodiment: Integrating Acting, Voice and Movement to Illuminate Poetic Text,” co-edited/co-authored with Karen Kopryanski, will be released Spring 2023.

TYLER MADDEN (Martin Luther King, Jr.) is a film and stage actor out of North Carolina, where he works as an acting professor at his alma mater, North Carolina A&T State. He has been acting professionally approximately 12 years. Half of his career was spent in Louisville, KY where he earned his MFA at the University of Louisville. He has a plethora of acting credits including Lorraine Hansberry “Raisin in The Sun,” August Wilson “Fences,” Lynn Nottage “Fabulation or the Re-education of Undine.” His most recent work is in Robert O’Hara’s “Barbecue,” for the inaugural season of Common Thread Theatre Collective (CTTC), a new and up and coming company Charlotte, NC area. He is thrilled to be a part of this production, here in Idaho.