



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Seattle Children's Theatre unveils powerful *And in this Corner: Cassius Clay*, written by NEA award-winning playwright Idris Goodwin

(Seattle, Wash.) Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) is proud to present the timely production of *And in this Corner: Cassius Clay*, written by NEA award-winning playwright Idris Goodwin and directed by Malika Oyetimein, who is nominated for Best Director in the upcoming Gregory Awards for *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* at Book-It Repertory Theatre. Based on the early boyhood of Muhammad Ali, this powerful staging chronicling the future heavyweight champion's upbringing in Louisville, Kentucky is recommended for audiences aged nine and older. *Cassius Clay* is on stage at SCT's Eve Alvord Theatre October 11 – November 25, 2018.

Long before he was Muhammad Ali, 12-year-old Cassius Clay knew he would be a hero someday, no matter what anyone else had to say. In the nation's dark time of Jim Crow racism and violence, Cassius – with the support of his family, training from Officer Joe Martin, and his own hard work – fought his way onto the gold-medal stand and into the history books.

Director Malika Oyetimein reflects on the timely nature of the play: "In this production we aim to hold up a mirror to society. And it's going to be a grotesque, bizarro mirror. Because what it's going to reflect is that 2018 is just like 1954. The same ugly racism, but they've just taken the signs down. Children need to understand that racism is not just a thing of the past." Adding: "What we need to ask ourselves with this play is: How do we build community amidst danger? How do we hold our communities and ourselves accountable?"

Tackling the sensitive subject matter of America's history with racial struggles is of great importance to Seattle Children's Theatre. SCT's Artistic Director, Courtney Sale: "As theatre makers for young audiences, it is our responsibility to provide a safe space to examine a scary world. We strive to teach our young people to be kind, empathetic, and fair."

[THE DETAILS](#)

What: *And in this Corner: Cassius Clay*

Where: Seattle Children's Theatre, 201 Thomas Street

Tickets start at \$20 and can be purchased online or by calling the Ticket Office at 206.441.3322.

Dates & Times: October 11 – November 25, 2018. Thursdays and Fridays at 7 pm; Saturdays & Sundays at 1 pm and 4:30 pm.

Content Advisory: We are honored to produce Idris Goodwin's *And In This Corner: Cassius Clay* as part of our 2018-2019 season at Seattle Children's Theatre. The play explores the early life of Muhammad Ali and his trajectory toward activism despite growing up in a time of Jim Crow racism and violence.

As theatre makers for young audiences, it is our responsibility to provide a safe space to examine a scary world. *And In This Corner* contains sensitive material including an offensive racial slur. Our Active Audience Guide will be available online with a complete synopsis and further contextualizing.

We strive to teach our young people to be kind, empathetic, and fair. The use of harmful language shows how unfair and damaging racial discrimination can be, and with your assistance, we hope to guide our young audience to understand that this kind of behavior is never acceptable – not then, not now.

Respectfully,

Courtney Sale

Artistic Director, Seattle Children's Theatre

[VIEW THE CALENDAR](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

***And in this Corner: Cassius Clay*, Opening Night | October 12, 2018, Seattle Children's Theatre, Eve Alvord Theatre, 7 pm**

The public is invited to a post-show reception with family-friendly activities.

Seattle Boxing Gym pre-show patron experience | Saturday & Sunday, October 13 & 14, 4 pm
Boxer Richard Vanisclen is onsite for exclusive boxing demos.

KUOW Front Row Center Talkback | Sunday, October 21, 2018, after the 4:30 p.m. performance

KUOW's Marcie Sillman and Lisa Wang takes the stage with *And in this Corner: Cassius Clay* playwright Idris Goodwin and actor Andre G. Brown (Cassius Clay) for an exclusive talkback about the work happening on and off the stage. The talkback takes place following the 4:30 p.m. performance and lasts approximately 40 minutes.

Sensory Friendly Performance: *And in this Corner: Cassius Clay*, November 11, 1 pm at Seattle Children's Theatre, Eve Alvord Theatre.

CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

The cast includes **Sydney Andrews (Ringside Announcer/Ensemble)**, **Andre G. Brown (Cassius/Narrator Cassius)**, **Andrew Lee Creech (Corky/ Ensemble)**, **Brace Evans (Cash/Fred Stoner/Ensemble)**, **Bria Samone Henderson (Odessa/Ensemble)**, **Lamar Legend (Eddie/Sugar Ray Robinson/Ensemble)**, **Charles Leggett (Joe Martin)**, **Cobey Mandarin (Zbigniew Pietrzykowski/Ensemble)**, **Chip Sherman (Rudy/Reporter #2)**. The understudies are **Conner Neddersen**, **Jason Sanford** and **Porscha Shaw**.

The creative team includes **Idris Goodwin** (Playwright), **Malika Oyetimein** (Director), **Adrienne Mendoza** (Stage Manager), **Geof Alm** (Fight Choreographer), **Shawn Ketchum Johnson** (Scenic Designer), **Matt Webb** (Lighting Designer), **Samantha Jones** (Costume Designer), **Michael Keck** (Composer & Sound Designer), **Alyssa Keene** (Dialect Coach) and **Quy Ton** (Production Assistant).

MEDIA ASSETS

SCT is proud to offer discounted tickets for TeenTix members, military families, foster children and families receiving state food assistance. Tickets and information on all of SCT's access programming can be found [online](#).

The 2018-2019 season is sponsored by Microsoft, Shubert Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and ArtsFund.

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Seattle Children's Theatre, which celebrates its 44th season in 2018-2019, is internationally recognized as a leading producer of professional theatre, educational programs and new works for young audiences. At the close of 2018, SCT will have produced 269 plays, 115 of which are world premieres, entertaining, inspiring and educating over 4 million children. SCT's School Children Access Program provides \$1.3 million in significantly reduced or complimentary tickets for schools and community organizations in the Puget Sound area.