

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 22, 2019

August Wilson's *Fences* Kicks Off New Black Box Theater

CONCORD, MA—Following the spectacular season opener *42nd Street* in its mainstage, The Umbrella Stage Company will break in its newly constructed black box with an intimate and moving American classic, **August Wilson's *Fences***. (Nov. 1-23).

"I am excited to direct this masterpiece by August Wilson, part of his canon 'American Century Cycle,'" says director **Michelle Aguilon**. "Wilson explores the heritage and experience of Black Americans, decade by decade, over the course of the 20th century is considered to be one of the monumental feats in the history of American theatre. I am thrilled that Brian Boruta, Producing Artistic Director, wanted *Fences* to be the inaugural production in The Umbrella Stage Company's new Black Box Theater."

Winner of both the Pulitzer and the Tony Award, August Wilson's *Fences* is a true American masterpiece. Deeply affecting and a profound theatrical experience, *Fences* focuses on Troy Maxson, a former star of the Negro baseball leagues who now works as a garbage man. Excluded as a black man from the major leagues, his bitterness takes its toll on his relationships with his wife and his son, who now wants his own chance to play ball.

"With one of the greatest roles ever written for the stage, *Fences* is a perfect way to introduce audiences to our flexible new Black Box," says **Brian Boruta**.

The show features Damon Singletary* as Troy Maxson, Daniel Rios, Jr.* as Lyons, Dwayne P. Mitchell* as Cory, as well as Shani Farrell as Rose, Arthur Williams, III as Jim Bono, Dominic Carter as Gabriel, and Valentina Garcia-Joseph as Raynell, with Scenic Design by Dan Daly, Sound Design by Aubrey Dube, Costume Design by Jeanne McPartland Keenan, Dramaturgy and props by Susan Harrington, Set Dressing by Sarajane Mullins.

More About Michelle Aguilon & The Umbrella Stage Company

For The Umbrella, Aguilon also directed *Joy Luck Club*, *Disgraced*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *True West*, which earned DASH Awards for Best Production (Play). Last season, she also starred as Beatrice in The Umbrella's production of *A View from the Bridge*, and directed *Vietgone* (Company One), *Augusta and Noble* (Emerson Stage) and *Sylvia* (Theater Uncorked). She studied at San Francisco State University, California State University at Long Beach, and The National Theater in London, and has acted, directed, and produced in the Boston area for over 20 years with theaters including Hovey Players, Nora Theatre Company, Vokes Theater, Metro Stage Company, Turtle Lane Playhouse, and others.

The Umbrella Stage Company is part of the expansive Umbrella Arts Center (formerly Emerson Umbrella), a multifunction 501(c)3 nonprofit arts organization founded in 1983 in Concord, MA. Its expanded, six-show season ranges from high-kicking spectacle to punk rock musical to socially urgent drama, and is the first season staged in the brand-new, state-of-the-art performing arts facilities at 40 Stow Street. Season, Flex Pass, Group and Individual tickets are available at **TheUmbrellaStage.org** .

CALENDAR LISTING & PRESS OPENING DETAILS

Theatre | Performing Arts | Drama

WHAT

August Wilson's *Fences*

WHO

Directed by Michelle Aguillon for The Umbrella Stage Company. Featuring Damon Singletary*, Daniel Rios, Jr.*, Dwayne P. Mitchell*, Shani Farrell, Arthur Williams, III, Dominic Carter, and Valentina Garcia-Joseph

WHEN

RUN: Nov. 1-23, 2019

PRESS OPENING: Nov. 2, 2019, at 8:00pm

[\[Complete Schedule of Dates with Showtimes\]](#)

WHERE

The Umbrella Black Box, 40 Stow Street, Concord, MA 01742

ABOUT SUMMARY

Winner of both the Pulitzer and the Tony Award, August Wilson's *FENCES* is a true American masterpiece. Deeply affecting and a profound theatrical experience, *FENCES* focuses on Troy Maxon, a former star of the Negro baseball leagues who now works as a garbage man. Excluded as a black man from the major leagues, his bitterness takes its toll on his relationships with his wife and his son, who now wants his own chance to play ball. With one of the greatest roles ever written for the stage, it is the inaugural production of The Umbrella Stage Company in its brand-new black box theater.

Tickets \$19-\$49

Discounts for students, military families, groups available.

Group Discounts: Groups of 10 – 14 save 10%; groups of 15 and up save 15%. Contact the Box Office for more details.

Press Photos available from Stewart@TheUmbrellaArts.org or 978-371-0820, or [download here](#).

ACCESS

The Umbrella Main Stage is wheelchair accessible. Large Print playbills and Assistive Listening Devices are available by advance request to Cregan@TheUmbrellaArts.org or 978-371-0820

CONTACT

Cregan@TheUmbrellaArts.org | info@theumbrellaarts.org | 978-371-0820

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The Umbrella Stage Company

August Wilson's *Fences* Performance Dates & Times

11/01/2019 - 8:00pm

11/02/2019 - 8:00pm (Press Opening)

11/03/2019 - 3:00pm

11/07/2019 - 7:30pm

11/08/2019 - 8:00pm

11/09/2019 - 8:00pm

11/10/2019 - 3:00pm

11/14/2019 - 7:30pm

11/15/2019 - 8:00pm

11/16/2019 - 8:00pm

11/17/2019 - 3:00pm

11/21/2019 - 7:30pm

11/22/2019 - 8:00pm

11/23/2019 - 8:00pm