



NEW STAGE *Theatre*

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New Stage Unframed Series presents *Fairview* by Jackie Sibblies Drury

Jackson, Mississippi – The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre presents *Fairview* by Jackie Sibblies Drury on January 24th and 25th at 7:30pm and January 26th at 2pm.. Tickets may be purchased online at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until January 24th at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$15 one hour before each show. The performances are staged at New Stage’s Warehouse Theatre, which is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. *Fairview* contains adult content and language and is recommended for mature audiences only.

Fairview, directed by Tatiana Grace, is a provocative play that challenges the complexities of race, privilege, and surveillance in contemporary society. The story follows a black family preparing for the celebration of a birthday, only to have their lives interrupted by increasingly invasive and unsettling forces. Through its layered narrative and bold theatrical techniques, the play explores how systems of power control and dehumanize marginalized communities. Drury uses *Fairview* to question the ways in which individuals are objectified, forcing the audience to confront their own roles in perpetuating these dynamics.

Jackie Sibblies Drury is known for her powerful plays, including *We Are Proud to Present a Presentation...*, *Social Creatures*, and *Illinoise*. Her work often explores themes of race, identity, and societal structures. Drury won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama for *Fairview* and has received a Susan Smith Blackburn Prize for *We Are Proud to Present...* Her writing has been recognized for its boldness and ability to provoke important conversations in contemporary theater.

Francine Reynolds, New Stage Artistic Director, says, “*Fairview* is the type of bold, thought-provoking work that inspired the development of the Unframed Series more than a decade ago. Breaking the fourth wall, this 2019 Pulitzer Prize winning play offers a powerful commentary on race and identity, as it challenges the audience to reflect on, and see their own role, in the story.”

The cast of *Fairview* includes DeShadrian Hopkins (Beverly), Rashundra “Shunn JoLee” Powell (Jasmine), Madison Upendo (Dayton), Tiara Jackson (Keisha), Hannah Beth Rollman (Suze), Jacob Heuer (Jimbo), Michael “Monte” Montgomery (Mack), and Ashlyn Pinkerton (Bets).

Tatiana Grace, the Director, expressed, "*Fairview* is one of those plays where you discover new things each time you read it. It is such an important story to tell and how it is written is so unique and bold. Truly a great story."

Created in 2006, The Unframed at New Stage Theatre series provides a distinctive theatre experience to the community. The focus is on producing new works and contemporary drama as an alternative to the traditional New Stage subscription series. Unframed at New Stage provides artistic opportunities to emerging artists allowing them to get more experience working with a professional theatre company and on fresh, exciting material that's not typically produced on the main stage. In the past the series has produced works such as *Is God Is*, *Race*, *The Pillowman*, *Stop Kiss*, *Steal Away!*, and *The Laramie Project*. New Stage is excited to start Season 16 with a program full of intriguing new drama that is equal parts entertaining, thought provoking, and hilarious.

Fairview opens Friday, January 24th at 7:30pm. Following performances are Saturday, January 25th at 7:30pm and Sunday, January 26th at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online in advance at newstagetheatre.com for \$10 until January 24th at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for \$15 up until one hour before each show. *Fairview* contains adult content and language and is recommended for mature audiences only. The performances are staged at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre. The theatre is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. Unframed at New Stage Theatre is sponsored by Jackson Free Press. For more information on The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre, find us on Facebook or Instagram at Unframed at New Stage Theatre or call 601.948.3533 (ex. 223.)