



November 11, 2024  
For Immediate Release  
Contact: [Steven Padla](#) / Director of Communications  
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## THE QUEEN IS CENTER STAGE.

**Yale Repertory Theatre**  
**Presents the Philadelphia Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company,**  
**and Brooklyn Academy of Music Production of**

### ***MACBETH IN STRIDE***

**Written and performed by Whitney White**  
**Directed by Taibi Magar and Tyler Dobrowsky**  
**Choreographed by Raja Feather Kelly**

**10 Performances Only!**  
**December 5–14**

**Yale Repertory Theatre** (James Bundy, Artistic Director; Florie Seery, Managing Director) presents the **Philadelphia Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company, and Brooklyn Academy of Music** production of ***Macbeth in Stride***. Written and performed by 2024 Tony Award nominee **Whitney White**, directed by **Taibi Magar** and **Tyler Dobrowsky**, and choreographed by **Raja Feather Kelly**, ***Macbeth in Stride*** will play a strictly limited engagement of 10 performances only, December 5–14, at the University Theatre (222 York Street). Opening Night is Saturday, December 7.

***Macbeth in Stride*** features music direction by **Nygel D. Robinson**, scenic design by **Daniel Soule**, costume design by **Queen Jean**, lighting by **Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew**, sound by **Nick Kourtides**, hair and wig design by **Rachel Padula-Shufelt**, technical direction by **Costanza Etchechury López**, vocal coaching by **Grace Zandarski**, casting by **Taylor Williams**, and stage management by **Zachry J. Bailey**.

Joining **Whitney White** (Woman) in the cast are **Phoenix Best** (Second Witch), **Holli' Conway** (First Witch), **Ciara Alyse Harris** (Third Witch), and **Charlie Thurston** (Man).

### **About *Macbeth in Stride***

The Queen is center stage. In a stacked setlist of original pop, rock, gospel, and R&B bangers, OBIE Award winner Whitney White subverts one of Shakespeare's most iconic tales. The arc of Lady Macbeth is reimagined as the story of an ambitious Black woman, told through her own contemporary perspective of femininity, desire, and power with a capital P. Dazzlingly theatrical, *Macbeth in Stride* brings Lady M's herstory into the 21st century with energy, humor, and swagger to spare.

Production support for *Macbeth in Stride* is provided by Yale's Binger Center for New Theatre.

Yale Rep's 2024–25 WILL POWER! education program will include a 10AM performance of *Macbeth in Stride* on December 12 for high school students from New Haven Public Schools. This performance is currently sold out, but interested educators can contact the box office about group sales for any other performances in the run. Education materials about the production are available by contacting Amy Boratko at [amy.boratko@yale.edu](mailto:amy.boratko@yale.edu).

### **Ticket Information and Performance Calendar**

Tickets are \$15 and \$35 (all previews), \$15 and \$50 (weeknights), and \$15 and \$65 (weekends and matinees). Student tickets are \$15 for all performances. Tickets are available online at [yalerep.org](http://yalerep.org), by calling (203) 432-1234, and in person at the Yale Rep Box Office (1120 Chapel Street).

Thursday, December 5	8PM	Preview
Friday, December 6	8PM	Preview, Post-Show Discussion
Saturday, December 7	8PM	Opening Night
Tuesday, December 10	8PM	
Wednesday, December 11	2PM	Pre-performance Discussion
Wednesday, December 11	8PM	
Thursday, December 12	8PM	
Friday, December 13	8PM	Open Captioning in Spanish
Saturday, December 14	2PM	Touch Tour, Audio Description, Open Captioning, Talk Back
Saturday, December 14	8PM	ASL

### **About the Creative Team**

**Whitney White** (Author, "Woman") Broadway: *Jaja's African Hair Braiding* (Tony Award nomination, Best Direction). London: *The Secret Life of Bees* (The Almeida). Off- Broadway: *Walden* (Second Stage), *Soft* (MCC Theater), *On Sugarland* (New York Theatre Workshop), *What*

*to Send Up When It Goes Down* (The Public Theater, ART, Woolly Mammoth, *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord* (Second Stage/WP Theatre), *For All the Women Who Thought They Were Mad* (Soho Rep), *A Human Being of a Sort* (Williamsburg). Writing and composition: *Macbeth in Stride* (American Repertory Theater, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company), *Semblance* (NYTW). Awards: Herb Alpert, Jerome Fellowship, Rolex Arts Initiative. Television writing: *Boots Riley's I'm A Virgo* (Amazon, Media Res). Whitney is an Associate Artist at Roundabout Theatre and Associate Director at Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, D.C. Later this season, she will direct the musical *The Last Five Years* on Broadway.

**Taibi Magar** (Director) New York/Off-Broadway: *We Live in Cairo* (NYTW), *The Half-God of Rainfall* (New York Theatre Workshop); *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* (Signature Theatre, Lucille Lortel Award for Best Revival); *Capsule* (The Public Theater); *Claudia Rankine's Help* (The Shed); *Blue Ridge, The Great Leap* (Atlantic Theater Company); *Is God Is* (Soho Rep.); *Master* (The Foundry, New York Times Critic's Pick); *Underground Railroad Game* (Ars Nova, NYT Critic's Pick). International: Hamburg Festival, Edinburgh Festival, Malthouse Theatre (Melbourne), Soho Theatre (London). Selected regional: Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Alley Theatre, The Guthrie Theater, Seattle Rep. Awards: 2018 OBIE Award, 2019 SDC Breakout, Lucille Lortel nomination, 2022 Stephen Sondheim Fellowship, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Fellowship, The Public Theater Shakespeare Fellowship. Taibi serves as one of the Artistic Directors of Philadelphia Theatre Company. Training: M.F.A., Brown University; Lincoln Center Directors Lab; NYTW Usual Suspect.

**Tyler Dobrowsky** (Director) New York/Off-Broadway: The Public Theater. Regional: American Repertory Theater, Asolo Repertory Theatre, The Gamm Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, Philadelphia Theatre Company, PlayMakers Repertory Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Trinity Repertory Company. Tyler currently serves as one of the Artistic Directors of Philadelphia Theatre Company. Previously served as Artistic Associate Director and Director of New Play Development at Trinity Repertory Company and Practitioner in Residence at the Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University. Teaching: Brown, NYU, Rhode Island College, UPenn.

**Raja Feather Kelly** (Choreographer) is a choreographer and director, and the artistic director of the dance-theatre-media company the feath3r theory, for which he has created 18 premieres, most recently *Ugly Part 3: Blue* (Chelsea Factory) and *The Absolute Future* (NYU Skirball). Kelly's work appears on stages across the country, including *Girls* at Yale Rep, *Bunny Bunny* at UC San Diego, and most recently, *Teeth* at Playwrights Horizons. His choreography was seen in *White Girl in Danger* at Second Stage Theater. He choreographed the Broadway musicals *Lempicka* and *A Strange Loop* (premiered Off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizon), winner of two Tony Awards, including Best Musical. His Off-Broadway collaborators include Lileana Blain-Cruz, Sarah Benson, and Michael R. Jackson. His work has been seen at Playwrights Horizon, New York Theatre Workshop, The Public Theater, La Jolla Playhouse, Soho Rep and New York Live Arts, among many other venues. He's worked on two Pulitzer Prize-winning productions and has received a Princeton Arts speaker Fellowship, three Princess Grace Awards, an OBIE Award, an Outer Critics Circle honor, and many others. Upcoming: *The Fires* at Soho Rep.

**Nygel D. Robinson** (Music Director) is an artist based in Chicago. Select theater credits include playing Brother Davis and serving as Music Director in *The Amen Corner* (Shakespeare Theatre Company), Jimmy Powers in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* (Mercury Theater), and actor/musician in *The All Night Strut* (Milwaukee Rep). Nygel has his hands in many other projects as a composer/lyricist, music director, music producer, and educator. Nygel is the co-creator of and performer in the new live-looped musical *Mexodus*, which started development at New York Stage and Film in early 2020, had its world premiere at Baltimore Center Stage and Mosaic Theatre in Washington D.C., and recently finished a run at Berkeley Rep.

**Daniel Soule** (Scenic Designer) is a scenic and production designer based in lower Manhattan. Recent productions include *Roméo et Juliette* at the Washington National Opera and *King Lear* at the Shakespeare Theatre Company. Dan also teaches design at the NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Many thanks to Whitney, Yale Rep, and the creative team. [danielsouledesign.com](http://danielsouledesign.com)

**Qween Jean** (Costume Designer) is a New York-based stage and film costume designer. They have worked at the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Signature Theatre, and Santa Fe Opera. She is a native of South Florida and began her theater career at Florida School of the Arts. Qween has earned a bachelor's degree in business communications at the University of North Carolina and costume studies at Greensboro College. She has an M.F.A. in design from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Qween has designed costumes for over 80 productions, works freelance throughout the year, and is the Assistant Costume Shop Manager at the Chautauqua Theater Company. Her shows include *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord*, *One in Two*, *Siblings Play*, *Amen Corner*, *Rags Parkland*, *Good Grief*, *Othello*, *Wig Out!*, *Playboy of the West Indies*, *A Doll's House*, and highly acclaimed *What to Send Up When it Goes Down* by Aleshea Harris.

**Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew** (Lighting Designer) is an award-winning designer for theater, dance, opera, musicals, music performances, and large-scale immersive installation. *The New York Times* described her designs as "clever" and "inventive." She is excited to bring *Macbeth in Stride* to Yale Rep. Broadway: *Kimberly Akimbo* and *The Thanksgiving Play*. Off-Broadway: *The Connector* (MCC Theater); *Golden Shield* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *cullud wattah*, *Manahatta* (The Public); *The Nosebleed*, *Your Own Personal Exegesis* (LCT3); *american (tele)visions* (New York Theatre Workshop); *Snow in Midsummer* (Classis Stage Company). Regional: *King Lear* (Shakespeare Theatre Company), *WILD: A Musical Becoming* (A.R.T.), *Walden* (TheaterWorks Hartford). Other: *Oratorio for Living Things* (Ars Nova), *Theatre of the Mind* with David Byrne. [jeanetteyew.com](http://jeanetteyew.com)

**Nick Kourtides** (Sound Designer) is the global sound designer for *Magic Mike Live* in Las Vegas, London, Berlin, and Australia. Recent theater: *Three Houses* (Signature), *The Keep Going Songs* (LCT3), *Travels* (Ars Nova), Heather Christian's *TERCE* (Prototype). Other Off-Broadway: *Oratorio for Living Things* (Ars Nova), *Blacklight* (Greenwich House), *The Lucky Ones* (Ars Nova), *Object Lesson* (NYTW, BAM), *Elephant Room* (St. Ann's), Carson McCullers *Talks About Love* (Rattlestick), and *Jomama Jones: Radiate* (Soho Rep). Regional: Shakespeare Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cleveland Playhouse, New York Stage

and Film, McCarter, Center Theatre Group, Geffen, Folger, Studio, Milwaukee Rep, the Wilma, the Arden, Philadelphia Theatre Company, Prince Music Theater, La Jolla Playhouse, and Pig Iron Theatre Company. Nick has taught Sound Design for Live Performance at Drexel University and Swarthmore College. He has received an Obie, Lucille Lortel, Bessie, and Barrymore awards. [nickkourtides.com](http://nickkourtides.com)

**Rachel Padula-Shufelt** (Hair and Wig Designer) Broadway credits include *The Glass Menagerie* and *Waitress*. At American Repertory Theatre: *Becoming a Man*, *Life of Pi*, *Macbeth in Stride*, *Black Clown*, *Waitress*, *Marie Antoinette*, *Crossing*; and three Elliot Norton award winners for Best Design: *Moby Dick*, *Fingersmith*, *Natasha*, *Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*. Huntington Theatre Company: *John Proctor is the Villain*, *The Band's Visit*, *The Heart Sellers*, *Joy and Pandemic*, *The Colored Museum*. Rachel is the hair and makeup supervisor for Boston Ballet and the resident hair and wig designer for North Shore Music Theatre.

**Costanza Etchechury López** (Technical Director) is a second-year M.F.A. candidate at David Geffen School of Drama.

**Grace Zandarski** (Vocal Coach) is Associate Chair of the Acting program and Head of Voice and Text at David Geffen School of Drama, where she has taught Voice since 2002. She has coached numerous productions at Yale Rep and the Geffen School including *The Brightest Thing in the World*, *An Enemy of the People*, *Hamlet*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, and *Between Two Knees*. New York coaching credits include the Mike Nichols productions of *Death of a Salesman* and *Betrayal* (Broadway), *The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide...* (The Public Theater), and *Homebody/Kabul* (BAM). She was named Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework in 1998. Grace is a member and Board Chair of The Actors Center Workshop Company, a member of Pantheatre (Paris), SAG-AFTRA, AEA, and VASTA. Acting credits include McCarter Theatre, OSF Ashland, Wilma Theatre, and ACT. Directing credits include the *Peer Gynt Project* and *Chekhov Shorts*. M.F.A., American Conservatory Theater; B.A., Princeton University.

**Taylor Williams** (Casting Director) is an Artios Award-winning casting director. Film: *Good One* (Sundance 2024, Cannes Director's Fortnight); *The Front Room* (A24, 2am Films, Two & Two Pictures); *Omni Loop* (2am Films); *Rocky's Deli* (Ben Cohen, Patrick Donovan, Grant Curatola); *What the Constitution Means to Me* (Amazon Prime). Broadway: the current *Romeo and Juliet*; *Stereophonic*; *An Enemy of the People*; *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* (also at BAM); *POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive*; *Slave Play*; *Is This a Room*, *Dana H.*, *What the Constitution Means to Me* (NYTW, Barrow Street, Broadway, National Tour). New media: amfAR's *The Great Work Begins* featuring scenes from Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* and *Ratatouille: the TikTok Musical* benefit for the Actors Fund. She has worked also at New York Theatre Workshop, The Mercury Store, The Perelman Arts Center, Soho Rep, Rattlestick, Theatre for a New Audience, Two River Theater, Fisher Center at Bard, Shakespeare Theatre, Studio Theatre, Arena Stage, Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Williamstown Theatre Festival, New York Stage and Film, among others. She is the resident casting director for Page 73 Productions. Upcoming: *Purple Rain* the musical.

**Zachry J. Bailey** *he/him* (Stage Manager) Zack is honored to return to Yale Rep and champion their season. Thank you to those who have filled my life with light and joy. Love to Isuri. Tours: *Hadestown* (First National). Off-Broadway: *Cats: The Jellicle Ball* (PAC NYC). Select Regional: *Memnon* (Classical Theatre of Harlem); *A Raisin in the Sun* (canceled due to COVID), *The Plot, Twelfth Night* (Yale Rep); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Connecticut Repertory); *Broadway for Biden*. Film: *CRAM* (Radical Rhinoceros Pictures), *Overlook* (Two + Eight Productions), and *The Promotion* (C1 Media). @zachrybailey

### **About the Cast**

**Phoenix Best** (Second Witch) is so excited to be rejoining this show! Her Broadway credits include *Dear Evan Hansen* (Alana Beck) and the revival of *The Color Purple* (swing). She also played Eponine in the 2017 North American Tour of *Les Misérables*. Other theater credits include Mary in the world premiere of *A.D. 16* at Olney Theatre Center, Deena Jones in *Dreamgirls* at TUTS, and Witch in *Macbeth in Stride* at A.R.T. Television and film: *The Best Man: The Final Chapters* (Nicole), *Twisted Assistant* (Stella), *Love Life* (Ogechi), *Estella Scrooge* (Mercy and Charity), *From Sea to Rising Sea* (Lu).

**Holli' Conway** (First Witch) is overjoyed to be a part of this incredible work! Credits include the Broadway productions of *Six*, *Lempicka*, and *Tina*; and most recently, the role of Lorraine in the Papermill Playhouse production of *Jersey Boys*. Holli' was Miss Louisiana 2018. Thank you to 44 West Entertainment, DGRW, and Taylor Williams Casting! To my circle. For my family. All glory to God! @Welcometo\_holliwood

**Ciara Alyse Harris** (Third Witch) is overjoyed to be a part of this production at Yale Rep! Her credits include *Dear Evan Hansen* (Broadway) and *White Girl in Danger* (Second Stage). Tour: The First National Tour of *Dear Evan Hansen*. Regional: *All Shook Up*, *Gypsy* (The Muny); *Spring Awakening* (The 5th Avenue Theatre); *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Cape Playhouse). B.F.A., CCM. When not performing, she's working on her podcast *Queen Made of Light* to help others find the light within themselves. She is so grateful to be a part of this incredible company and team! @ciaraalyse

**Charlie Thurston** ("Man") is an actor and playwright and is making his Yale Rep debut. He co-wrote *Someone Will Remember Us* with Deborah Salem Smith which will premiere at Trinity Rep in Providence, Rhode Island, in January 2025. Off-Broadway: *Here There Are Blueberries* (New York Theatre Workshop) and *The Wedge Horse* (Fault Line). Selected Regional: *Macbeth in Stride* (Shakespeare Theatre Company, Philadelphia Theatre Company, A.R.T.); *Here There are Blueberries* (La Jolla, Shakespeare Theatre Company); *Prince of Providence*, *The Song of Summer* (Trinity Rep); *Three Sisters* (Arden); *Completely Fictional—Utterly True—Final Strange Tale of Edgar Allan Poe* (Baltimore Center Stage). Selected film and television: *Finestkind*, *Boston Strangler*, *Life Itself*, *Julia*, *Dexter*, *SVU*. He has narrated a bunch of audiobooks, including the Pulitzer Prize winner *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. Training: Brown/Trinity Rep. charliethurston.net

**Whitney White** (Author, “Woman”) See above in “About the Creative Team.”

### **About the Producing Theaters**

Founded in 1974, **Philadelphia Theatre Company (PTC)** is a vital civic institution dedicated to the creation of extraordinary theatrical experiences that reflect the essential issues and ideas of our time, and which foster connection, understanding, and transformation. PTC has presented over 150 world and Philadelphia premieres, more than half of which moved on to New York or other major cities, helping Philadelphia to earn a national reputation as a hub for new play development. PTC is led by Artistic Directors Taibi Magar and Tyler Dobrowsky, alongside Managing Director Margo Moskowitz.

For over 35 years, the Tony Award-winning **Shakespeare Theatre Company** has been recognized as the nation’s premier classical theatre. STC tells vital stories in audacious forms, stories that are Shakespearean in the deepest sense, even if they are not written by Shakespeare. We stage epic stories in exhilarating style.

**Brooklyn Academy of Music.** BAM is the home for curious people and adventurous ideas. We support artistic experimentation and champion inclusion and accessibility throughout the arts as presenter, activator, and connector. [bam.org](http://bam.org)

### **About Yale Repertory Theatre**

**Yale Repertory Theatre**, the internationally celebrated professional theatre in residence at David Geffen School of Drama, has championed new work since 1966, producing well over 100 premieres—including two Pulitzer Prize winners and four other nominated finalists—by emerging and established playwrights. Seventeen Yale Rep productions have advanced to Broadway, garnering more than 40 Tony Award nominations and ten Tony Awards. Yale Rep is also the recipient of the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre. Established in 2008, Yale’s **Binger Center for New Theatre** has distinguished itself as one of the nation’s most robust and innovative new play programs. To date, the Binger Center has supported the work of more than 70 commissioned artists and underwritten the world premieres and subsequent productions of nearly 40 new plays and musicals at Yale Rep and theaters across the country—including this season’s *falcon girls* by Hilary Bettis; Nikolai Gogol’s *The Inspector*, newly adapted by Yura Kordonsky; and *Notes on Killing Seven Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Board Members* by Mara Veléz Meléndez.

Yale Repertory Theatre is supported by CT Humanities, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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