

ERIC RUFFIN Director) Holds an MFA in Directing From Rutgers University and a BFA in Acting from Howard University . His most recent credits include the critically acclaimed My Children! My Africa! By Athol Fugard at Luna Stage and S.M. Shepard Massat's for the Black Theatre Troupe (Phoenix, AZ). He's directed off Broadway in Regional Theaters, and For Universities Around the country. Mr. Ruffin has been awarded a Drama League Fellowship for Directing a Shakespeare Theatre Fellowship for Acting and a Princess Grace Grant for Dance.

DUAYNE BRYAN MAYNARD (Stage Manager) is right at home here at the African Globe Theater. In the 1999 season he portrayed Bono in "Fences" and Walter Lee in the 1998 production of "A Raisin in the Sun". He opened the 2000 Season Directing "A Soldier's Play". His other acting credits include: "Five on the Black Hand Side", "Walter Burrow", "Harvey", "Play It Again Sam" and "The Black Western Experience". He also produced and directed for Glory Productions and for The Phoenix Ensemble. Duayne's other directorial credits include "Is Jesus Here Yet??" "Steal Away", "Godspell", and "The Miracle Worker". He has worked with the acclaimed Liberty Cart Professional Theater Company for two seasons in North Carolina and has performed independently for AT&T and The Alliance. Mr. Maynard, is a native of Pittsburgh and a former Manager at AT&T. He is currently (2001-2002) Master of Ceremonies for the Alliance National Professional Development Conference.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

SHAWN COOK (Assistant Stage Manager) is a 15 year old junior attending St. Benedict's Prep School. After making his acting debut here at African Globe Summer Works, he decided to explore other areas of theater. He has been a set designer for the play "3 Faces", and is now the Assistant Stage Manager for our professional production, "The Piano Lesson". In the future Shawn plans on going to college to major in drama and minor in law.

LOU ALBRUZZESE (Sound Design), is originally from Parsippany, NJ. He is currently finishing his fifth year at the Mason Gross School of the Arts. Previous credits include sound design for "My Children, My Africa" at Luna Stage, "Twilight; 1992" at Baruch College and several Stage Director and Technical Director credits at Mason Gross.

SHAKIK MONTAGUE (Assistant Stage Manager) is 16 years old at Weequahic High School in Newark, NJ. This is my first year working with African Globe Theater. Although I love to work and being on stage, I will be looking forward to accomplishing more in the future with my singing and acting career. My Dream College would be Virginia State My Major would be Education Music.

AMY RITCHINGS (Costume Design) Recently received her MFA from Rutgers University where she designed productions of The Three Penny Opera, Les Liaisons Dangerous and The Fox. She has also spent her past two summers designing The Hamptons Shakespeare Festival's Much Ado About Nothing and Twelfth Night.

THE CAST

Boy Willie EGAN PAUL DAVSON
 Avery RODNEY GILBERT *
 Grace KEISHER GLYMPH *
 Berniece DONNA HOLMES
 C. F. JARMON
 Maretha NAJAH A. JOHNSON
 Lymon JEFF LAMBERT *
 Whining Boy PENROD PARKER *



Set in the 1930's, it opens with the arrival of Boy Willie at his sister Berniece's house. Willie dreams of buying the same Mississippi land that his ancestors once worked as slaves, but in order to raise the capital for the purchase, he must convince his sister to part with a family heirloom, a piano that is both a reminder of the family's enslaved past and a tribute to their survival. *The Piano Lesson* was named Best Play of the Year by the New York Drama Critics Circle. It also earned August Wilson his 2nd Pulitzer Prize for Drama, as well as a Drama Desk Award.



*(Member of Actors Equity Association)