



Obsidian Theatre Announces 2018 - 2019 Season

OTC has programmed the biggest season since its founding in 2000, featuring historic partnerships that reach across Canada.

July 10th 2018: Coming off of a successful 2017/18 season which saw Obsidian partner with Cahoots Theatre for the World Premiere of ***Other Side of the Game*** by Amanda Parris, and a compelling Canadian Premiere of ***hang*** by debbie tucker green, the company surges forward into its most ambitious season yet.

Obsidian kicks things off in the fall with a rejuvenation of ***Oratorio: A Theatrical Mixtape*** written by Motion, one of our Playwrights Unit alumni, and presented by Soulpepper Theatre Company. The piece is performed by Motion alongside DJ L'oqenz, the show's composer. It is part poetry slam, part house party – a coming of age story like no other. The production will be directed by Mumbi Tindyebwa Otu, one of our Mentor/Apprentice Program alumni.

October 2nd-October 20th, 2018 – Young Centre for the Performing Arts, 50 Tank House Lane, Distillery Historic District, Toronto

Click [HERE](#) for tickets, or call 416.866.8666

The Obsidian Theatre *Darktown* Director's Initiative has its inaugural production supporting BDB Productions and emerging director Leighton Alexander Williams with a presentation of ***Judas Noir***, an adaptation of Stephen Adly Guirgis' play "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot". This story follows the court trial of Judas Iscariot, the disciple notoriously known for betraying Jesus Christ. While this case gets unraveled, parallels are drawn between the persecution of the Jewish people (during this archaic time), and Black citizens of today.

October 9th-20th, 2018 – Crow's Scotiabank Community Studio, 345 Carlaw Avenue, Toronto

Click [HERE](#) for tickets, or call 647.341.7390

Also under the *Darktown* banner, Obsidian will bring back the popular **Black Ties** event once again. The evening's goal is to bring together young-in-craft and professional Black theatre artists from across the nation to chat, and engage with each other.

October 29th, 2018 – Buddies in Bad Times Cabaret, 12 Alexander Street, Toronto

Over on the East Coast Obsidian will be joining with 2b theatre and Neptune Theatre in the World Premiere of ***The Bridge*** by Shauntay Grant. The play is set in a rural Nova Scotian Black community and examines the relationship between two brothers over 20 years of secrecy, sin, and shame. It will be directed by Anthony Black.

January 22nd-February 10th, 2019 – Fountain Hall, Neptune Theatre, 1593 Argyle Street, Halifax

Click [HERE](#) for tickets, or call 902.429.7070

In Spring 2019 Obsidian will be reigniting a successful history of working with Nightwood Theatre. Past partnerships include the World Premieres of Djanet Sears's *Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God*, and Lisa Codrington's *Cast Iron*, along with the Canadian Premiere of *Ruined* by Lynn Nottage. We are excited to be bringing to Toronto the Canadian Premiere of ***School Girls; or, the African Mean Girls Play*** by Jocelyn Bioh, fresh off of an extended run at the MCC Theatre in New York. The production will be directed by Nina Lee Aquino. This will also mark the first time Obsidian produces in the world's longest-running and largest queer theatre, Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.

Paulina, the reigning Queen Bee at Ghana's most exclusive boarding school, has her sights set on the Miss Universe pageant. But the mid-year arrival of Ericka, a new student with undeniable talent and beauty, captures the attention of the pageant recruiter — and Paulina's hive-minded friends. Jocelyn Bioh's buoyant and biting comedy explores the universal similarities (and glaring differences) facing teenage girls across the globe. How far would you go to be Queen Bee?

March 5th-24th, 2019 – Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander Street, Toronto
Click [HERE](#) for tickets, or call 416.975.8555

One week after the curtains close at Buddies they'll open again at Factory Theatre, as Obsidian Co-presents with Factory Theatre the award-winning Black Theatre Workshop and Tableau D'Hôte Theatre co-production of ***Angélique*** by Lorena Gale. The late Lorena Gale's award-winning 1998 classic play draws a line from Canada's oft-ignored history of slavery to contemporary struggles with systemic racism and oppression. The production is directed by Mike Payette, Geordie Theatre's Artistic Director.

April 2nd-21st, 2019 – Factory Theatre Mainspace, 125 Bathurst Street, Toronto
Click [HERE](#) for tickets, or call 416.504.9971

Obsidian will wrap up a historic season, as we always do, with our **Playwrights Unit Showcase in June 2019**, celebrating the hard work of our Playwrights Unit for the 2018-2019 season.

Thanks to the wonderful increase in support from the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts, Obsidian's 18-19 Season will be our largest one yet. Join us for a rich, full, wide ranging year of exciting Black theatre.

OTC – The Company

Obsidian is Canada's leading culturally specific theatre company. Our threefold mission is to produce plays, to develop playwrights and to train emerging theatre professionals. Obsidian is passionately dedicated to the exploration, development, and production of the Black voice.

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