

Presents

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Written by
Laura Bowman

(A Staged Reading)

Directed by
Janet Mitchell



FEATURING
Wadiah Brown
Ayisha Etan
Edythe Jason
Rick Reid
Constance Thompson
Kim Yancey

Sunday, December 22, 2024 at 3:00 pm

THE NEW BASEMENT OF DREAMS

130 Malcolm X Blvd. (116th and Lenox Ave), New York, NY 10026

TICKETS \$25 for All

(Light Refreshments to Follow Performance)

(SEATING LIMITED) TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE BOX OFFICE



AGM Theater Company's production of "THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING" by Laura Bowman, is made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and individual contributions from people like you.

SYNOPSIS

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year – or is it?

For Tomika Davidson, a rich, beautiful, intelligent woman, this Christmas gifts her with unbearable pain, and her family an unspeakable tragedy that morphs into . . .

"THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING"

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



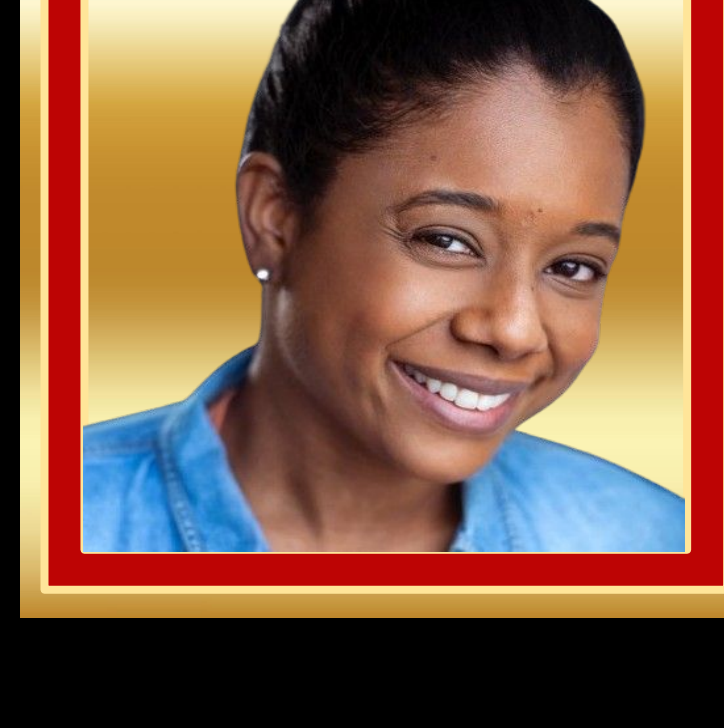
Laura Bowman is a writer, actress, singer, storyteller and drama/writing coach. She has a B.A. in Theatre, and a Master's Degree in Creative Writing from City College. She has been coached by George C. Wolfe, Earle Hyman, and Barbara Ann Teer. She has appeared in Long Day's Journey into Night, The Tempest, Fences, Ain't Misbehavin', The Wiz, The Amen Corner, Home, Tambourines to Glory, Wine in the Wilderness, Waiting For Lefty, The Owl Killer, The Laying On of Hands (in sign language), just to name a few. Her children's book, Corner of the Sky made its debut at the United Nations. As a storyteller she has performed her children's stories (with original songs) at the U.N. and on her show "Griot Tales," on WHCR Radio. She thanks the Godhead for the gift of 34 children and young adult story/books, in addition to 47 plays and performance pieces for adults, children and young adults and countless poems.

CAST (ALPHABETICAL)



WADIA BROWN - (MAKEBA JACKSON)

Wadiah is an Actor/writer from Newark, NJ. Theater credits include The Black Narrative - Billie Holiday Theatre, Yellow Butterfly- Jamaica Performing Arts Center, Zooman and The Sign -The Negro Ensemble Company, What -Black Lady Theatre, In The Middle Of The Mess -Yendor Theater Company, and In Between Time- Newark Symphony Hall. Most recent film credits include Gazer which just premiered at Cannes! She is excited to be working with AGM!! Training: Marishka Phillips, Charles Weldon, Arthur French, Anthony Abeson, and Petronia Paley.



AYISHA ETAN - (TOMIKA DAVIDSON)

Ayisha is a Florida native. She has been in productions like, John Cariani's, Almost Maine as Genette and Gayle, and a modern spin on Tennessee Williams', the Glass Menagerie as Laura Winfield. Ayisha has written and performed her own material as a student at New Federal Theatre. When she is not acting, she is taking dance classes and traveling. Ayisha is excited to continue to explore her craft and the world of the arts.



EDYTHE JASON - (VOICE OF MOTHER DEAR)

Edythe Jason has appeared as an actor in many stage productions in the New York are as well as many other parts of the country over the years.

Her most recent work has been on film and television which include, "BROS", "New Amsterdam", "Awkwafina Is Nora from Queens", "Random Acts of Flyness", the short film "Playing with Matches" with Dominic Chianese and will be seen in the soon to be released TV Series "Fallout"

She is a member of ACTORS EQUITY and SAG-AFTRA. Thanks AGM! NMRK!

Tracy Eggers Entertainment 818.355.9600



RICK REID - (ISAAC DAVIDSON)

Rick Reid is a New York based actor. He is one of the original members of Marvin Felix Camilo's Repertory Company La Familia which produced 'Short Eyes' and an original cast member. His most recent credits are "Once in El Barrio", "Bonhoeffer -Last Days", "Julia De Burgos Child of Water", "Small Talk", "The Owl Maker", a project in development "One Way In No Way Out". The Christmas Blessing is Rick's third production with AGM Theater Company. He was last seen in their productions of "The Winter View" by Martha J. Thomas and "Beginning Again . . . Again" by Jeannette Hill.

I take pleasure in working with Janet Mitchell and cast on this wonderful play.



CONSTANCE SADIE THOMPSON - (APRIL JONES)

Constance's credits include ZOOMAN AND THE SIGN (Negro Ensemble Theater) TONI STONE (Playhouse on Park), DEFIANCE OF DANDELIONS (No Voice Deferred), THE FAMILY LINE (Goat in the Road Productions) and A RAISIN IN THE SUN (Voices in the Dark Play). She is a 2024 Audelco Award nominee and two time Big Easy Award nominee, 2020 "Best Supporting Actress" A Raisin in the Sun, and 2023 "Best Performance in a Play" The Family Line, as well as 2023 award winner "Best Play" The Family Line.



KIM YANCEY - (LOTTIE DAVIDSON)

Kim Yancey-Moore is a veteran of NYC stages. Kim was recently seen as Audrey in the Off-Broadway production of "According to the Chorus" at the 59 E. 59 St. Theatres. She can be heard as "Wanda" in the IHeart podcast series "Supreme".

STAFF & CREW



JANET MITCHELL - DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Janet Mitchell's work in the theater community spans four decades, she is an Actor, Producer, Director, and Playwright. Janet's career in theater began at the age of fourteen when she joined the "Little Theater" at the famed Harlem YMCA, and she continues to work in the theater. At nineteen, Janet produced her first theater project, Gertrude Greenidge's "The Gift from Saturday" with her parents, Clarence and Adrian Mitchell serving as their Executive Producers. In 1986, Janet joined The Hadley Players where she appeared in several of their productions. At the Hadley Player, Janet served as a Board Member, Treasurer, Business Manager, and CEO. In 2014, Ms. Mitchell, founded, Mitchell Entertainment Group, LLC, a production company based in New York City. Under her leadership, Mitchell Entertainment Group, LLC has produced Marjorie Eliot's "African Life on This American Soil", "An Evening with Langston Hughes", "We Love You Shirley", a one woman play that celebrates the life of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, and "An Afternoon of Poetry and Jazz". In Addition, Ms. Mitchell is the Executive Producer and Creator of "Inspire!", an interview of poetry presentation focusing on African American Artist sharing their extraordinary journey in the arts. Some of Janet's directing credits include, "An Evening With Langston Hughes", "Election 2020", "I Remember Harlem When", "Ain't I A Woman, Black Women Speaking Truth To Power", "Fire Can't Kill A Soul", and "Black Women In Motion".

In 2017, Janet Mitchell founded AGM (Adrian Graham Mitchell) Theater Company with Ka'ran Bridges. Our vision is to provide opportunities for women of color to develop professional experience in performance, writing, directing, and technical positions.

Janet is a graduate of Marymount Manhattan College and holds a master's in social work Degree from Yeshiva University.



KA'RAN BRIDGES - PRODUCER / FLYER & POSTCARD DESIGN

Ms. Bridges has been active in the Theatre Community for over 40 years. She is an Actress who has also donned the hats of Stage Manager/Lighting Designer/Costume Designer/ and Voice-over Artist, for numerous theatrical companies, both in and out of New York. She wrote, choreographed, and directed a Children's Theatre Musical called "ROADS" for the Santa Barbara Children's Theatre. Her most noted honors include the "First Place Award" in the California Regional Competition of the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NASDA) for which she had the honor of studying with the late Dame Judith Anderson, and winning the 1995 AUDELCO Judy Dearing Costume Design Award for the AUDELCO nominated Play "In Pursuit of Justice." She is a member of SAG-AFTRA and holds a B.A. and M.A. in Theatre from Lincoln University and the University of California, Santa Barbara, respectively. She studied Acting at Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York City with Alan Langdon, Jackie Brooks and Teri Hayden, and is a Founding Member of the AGM (Adrian Graham Mitchell) Theater Company.



CYNTHIA KITT - PRODUCTION MANAGER

Cynthia Kitt (Production Manager) is currently the Operations Manager for Woodie King, Jr.'s New Federal Theatre. She served as Company Manager and Associate Producer from 2019 – 2022 for The Negro Ensemble Company, Inc. Some of her credits while working with The Negro Ensemble Company, Inc. include - Producer, Lambs to Slaughter by Khalil Kain; Associate Producer for The NECCEP Emerging Playwrights Competition, The Making of Lambs to Slaughter by Khalil Kain, The Making of The Root Woman by Michael Bradford, NEC's 10 Minute Play Competition, NEC's 5 Minute Play Competition, NEC's Poetry Slam, Grandma's Quilt by Karen Brown, and a photograph: lovers in motion by Ntozake Shange. Cynthia joined AGM Theater Company as Production Manager in 2019 and has served as Associate Producer for Elizabeth Van Dyke's Going to The River Women's Writing Series, produced by Woodie King, Jr.'s New Federal Theatre.



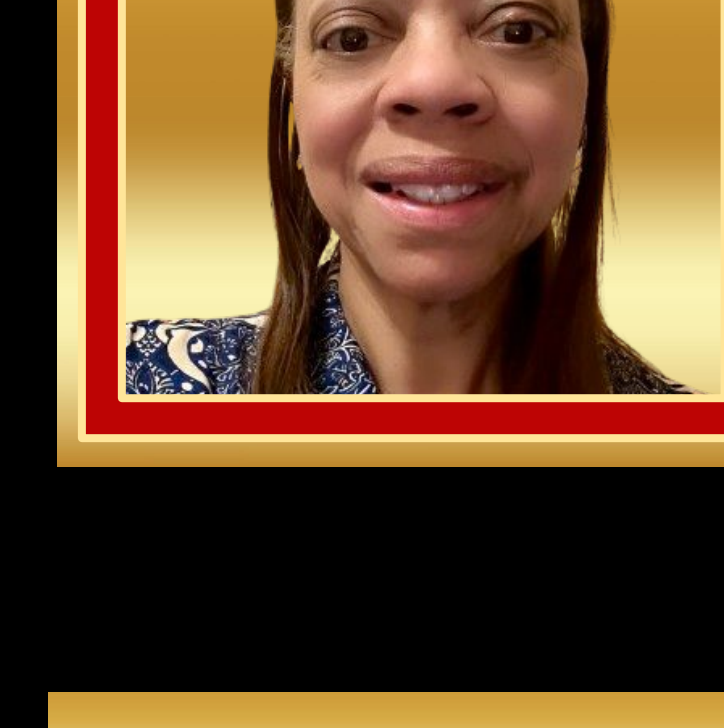
DAVID WRIGHT - (SOUND DESIGNER/TECHNICIAN)

David D Wright (SOUND DESIGNER), has garnered 11 Vivian Robinson AUDELCO AWARDS in Sound Design and Musical Direction. He takes this opportunity to acknowledge this amazing group of Creators for their love and support, during this process. David, contributes his success to Oludumare, Gbogbo Egun and Gbogbo Orisa. He can be reached at osunjumi@gmail.com or 917.497.1505.



KEITH A BROWN - PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Keith A. Brown is an Actor and proud member of the AGM Theater Company Family.



LUCY MONGES - (VOLUNTEER PRODUCTION ASSISTANT)

Lucy Monges is discovering the world of Theater and loving it. This is Lucy's second production with AGM Theater Company and we love having her as part of the AGM Theater Company Family. Lucy is also a World Traveller and loves to go on Cruises! She Loves Music and Loves to Dance!! But most importantly, she loves spending time with her Family - her daughter, her grandson, and all of Loved Ones.

This production is dedicated to the memory of our Treasured Production Manager Cynthia Kitt whose light will shine forever in our hearts. Rest in Power My Dear Beautiful Sister Kitt.

With Eternal Love,

Janet and Ka'ran
and
The Entire AGM Theater Company Family

"Please Support AGM Theater Company by Making A Donation"