

The Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company proudly presents

JOHN
BALL'S

IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT

ADAPTED BY
MATT PELFREY

DIRECTED BY
MONTEZE FREELAND

BASED ON
THE NOVEL BY
JOHN BALL

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT
WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC



FEB 2ND-

MARCH 11TH

WELCOME



Welcome to the Pittsburgh Playwrights Theater. We're pleased to present Matt Pelfrey's adaptation of John Ball's *In the Heat of the Night*. Oh I wish my late father was here to see this!

I can remember sitting around our floor model TV with the round screen watching Sidney Poitier movies with my dad. *In the Heat of the Night* was one of those movies.

When I found out that it had been adapted to a stage play, and the playwright Matt Pelfrey was now a Pittsburgher, I knew it would be a great opportunity for our city's pool of talented actors as well as a nice fit for our season.

I hope you enjoy this Pittsburgh premiere directed by Monteze Freeland in our first-ever alley stage setup. I thank you for your support by being in the house. Please spread the word.

Mark Clayton Southers
Founder & Producing Artistic Director

John Ball's *In the Heat of the Night* is set in 1962, Argo, Alabama. The play runs approximately 90 minutes.

ABOUT THE PLAY

John Ball's IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT

Adapted by Matt Pelfrey
Based on the novel by John Ball
Directed by Monteze Freeland

SAM WOOD	Jonathan Visser*
MELANIE TATUM/NOREEN PURDY	Jenny Malarkey
CHIEF GILLESPIE	Daniel Pivovar
PETE/KLAN 3	Tal Kroser
CHARLES TATUM/PURDY/KLAN 1	Brett Sullivan Santry
CORONER/OBERST/RALPH/ERIC KAUFMAN/KLAN 2/JENNINGS	Adam Seligson
VIRGIL TIBBS	Kevin H. Moore
ENDICOTT/FRANK SCHUBERT	Arthur Peden

*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

JOHN BALL'S *IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT* is produced by exclusive arrangement with Dominick Abel Literary Agency Inc., 146 West 82nd St., #1B, New York, NY 10024

JOHN BALL'S *IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT* was commissioned by Godlight Theatre Company, New York, NY. Joe Tantalo, Artistic Director, www.godlighttheatrecompany.org

SPECIAL THANKS

THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS

Howard Heinz Endowment • Vira I. Heinz Endowment

Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh

GREATER PITTSBURGH
ARTS COUNCIL



Arts loud and clear



Allegheny Regional Asset District



THE
PITTSBURGH
FOUNDATION

Heinz Small Arts Initiative ★ Champion Lumber ★ Spotlight Costumes
University of Pittsburgh ★ Point Park University

SPECIAL THANKS 2017 DONORS

Barbara Abramovitz	Marvin Fein	Randolph Matuscak	Daniel Resnick	Eileen Weiner
Andrew Ade	Bryan Fischer	Susan McGregor-Laine	Jo Riley	Bob and Arlene
LL Altes	Mark Freeman	Christy L. McGuire	Jan Ripper	Weiner
Teresa M Augello	Leon and Ann Haley	Kenneth McCrory	Barbara Russell	Peggy Whitehurst
Shirley Biggs	Joanne Hallock	Rachel Meyers	Mary Russell	Tiffany Wilhelm
Richard Chesnik	Charlet Holley	Mary Morton	Karen Scansaroli	Edwin Woll
Rosemary K Coffey	Sherdina Jones	Mary Moses	Sharon Simpson	Eileen/Kipp Yacknin/
Margaret Collins	Chris Josephs	Jonathan Nadle	Christine Smith	Dawson
Patrick W. Conner	Janet Kafka	Katherine Nelson	W Henry Snyder	John Yarbrough
Peter Cooke	Richard Kenzie	Hannah Nielsen-Jones	Robert Squires	Rita M. Yeasted
David Crawford	Hazel Leroy	Mel Packer	Judith Starr	
Thomas Dean	David Longstreet	Charmaine Page	Jane Steineck	
June Pickett Dowdy	Stephanie Lonsinger	Joni Rabinowitz	Irene Surmik	
Jeanne Drennan	Christopher Mark &	Barbara J Rainard	Carol Sutton	
Donnella Drewery	Mary Denison	Michael Ramsay	Michele Sweeney	
Howard Elson	Marc Matthews	Lillian Reese-McGhee	Gary & Debbie Truitt	

BIOGRAPHIES



PLAYWRIGHT | MATT PELFREY is a theatre, film and television writer. His plays have been produced around the country and overseas and include *Cockroach Nation*, *Terminus Americana*, *An Impending Rupture of the Belly*, *Pure Shock Value*, *Freak Storm* and recently the stage adaption of *In the Heat of the Night*.

Los Angeles Theatre Works produced an audio version of *In the Heat of the Night*, which aired nationally on National Public Radio. A live version of the LATW production toured the U.S. and played over twenty venues. His work is available from Broadway Play Publishing, Original Works Publishing, and Samuel French.

He is the winner of the Actors Theater of Louisville's Heideman Award, a Back Stage Garland Award for playwriting, and was nominated for an LA WEEKLY playwriting award and a Los Angeles Ovation award.

NOVELIST | JOHN BALL was born in Schenectady, New York, grew up in Milwaukee, and attended Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The son of a scientist, he subsequently worked as a science staff writer for *Fortune*, a feature writer for the *Brooklyn Eagle*, a daily columnist on the *New York World-Telegram & Sun*, and a broadcaster for a Washington, D.C., radio station. His *In the Heat of the Night* (1965) – in which he introduced his best-known character, Virgil Tibbs, a detective in the Pasadena police department, memorably played by Sidney Poitier in the movie of the same name -- was awarded the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Award for Best First Mystery Novel. It was followed by six more mysteries featuring Virgil Tibbs. In addition, John Ball wrote many other adult and young adult novels.

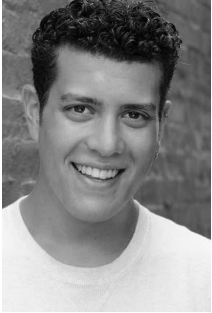
BIOGRAPHIES



DIRECTOR | MONTEZE FREELAND is a Baltimore native who has made Pittsburgh his artistic home, and was named the 2017 Pittsburgh Post Gazette's Performer of the Year. As artistic associate for Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company he has directed *Poe's Last Night*, *Sold*, *Christmas Star*, and *Miss Julie*, *Clarissa and John*, which traveled to the National Black Theatre Festival and the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Additional credits include The LAB Project: *The Gospel Singer*; ACH Clear Pathways: *The Wiz*, *Caps for Sale* and *The Children of August*; Kuntu Rep: *Harriet Tubman Loved Somebody*; Pittsburgh New Works Festival (PNWF): *Reservations Cancelled*; Pride One Act Festival: *Is That a Gun in Your Pocket?* Coming up: *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* for Prime Stage. Many thanks to the PPTCO family!

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR | a.k. payne is a junior at Yale University double majoring in English and African-American Studies with a concentration in playwriting. Her people are rooted in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is a two-time participant in Pittsburgh Playwrights' Theater Festival in Black and White. She is the 2017 winner of the Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition, a 2016 YoungArts Winner in Playwriting, and a 2016 semifinalist for Quick Silver Theater Company's Playwrights of Color Summit and the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. She owes all to God, her parents, and her many many mentors.

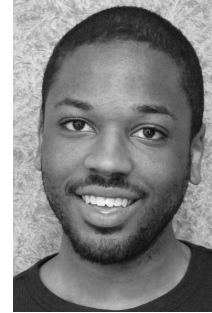
BIOGRAPHIES



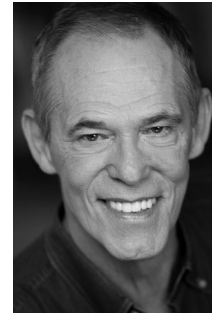
PETE, KLAN 3 | TAL KROSER Tal is a Pittsburgh native. He trained at Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12 and is a recent graduate of Point Park University where he earned a B.F.A. in Acting and founded his own student theatre company, Lost Boys Productions. Favorite credits from PPU include Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Vic in *Our Lady of 121st Street*. Since school he has appeared with Prime Stage, the Strand Theater, and most recently with Bricolage in their large scale immersive *DODO*. Grateful to be a part of Pittsburgh Playwrights for the first time, he is hoping that everyone can walk away with something powerful and positive from this poignant piece of theatre/literature.



MELANIE TATUM, NOREEN PURDY | JENNY MALARKEY is thrilled to be back with Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre. You may have seen her last year as Nadine in the world premiere of *Lights Out*. A Pittsburgh native, she received her theatre training from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. While down south she worked for both The North Carolina Shakespeare Company and The Virginia Shakespeare Company. Since returning back to the Steel City, Jenny has performed with such companies as: Saint Vincent Summer Theatre, Pittsburgh Musical Theatre, Throughline Theatre, Cup-a-Jo Productions, Point Park University, Prime Stage, CMU, Unseam'd Shakespeare Company, The NRTC, Gemini Theatre, and Little Lake Theatre. When not on stage, Jenny can be found teaching for the Pittsburgh Public Theatre. As always, thank you to her friends and family for their continued love and encouragement, and a big thank you to Monteze and Nik for their invaluable support and guidance. This cast and crew includes both new friends and old, and Jenny couldn't be more inspired by all of their amazing talent. Thank you to all involved for making this such an incredible experience!



VIRGIL TIBBS | KEVIN H. MOORE, from Aliquippa, PA, is beyond grateful to be once again joining the Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company. After studying theatre at Slippery Rock University, he relocated to Pittsburgh where he appeared in productions with Throughline Theatre, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre, Saltworks, Pittsburgh Classic Players, and Little Lake, among others. He'd love to thank Monteze, Nik, Alexis, and the cast and crew at the Playwrights for a supportive and lovely experience. Lastly, all gratitude to his family and friends for their love and encouragement.



ENDICOTT, FRANK SCHUBERT | ARTHUR PEDEN is delighted to be making his inaugural appearance with Pittsburgh Playwrights. Having recently moved here from Minneapolis with his wife Paula, a native Pittsburgher, he recently performed in PICT Classic Theatre's production of *Romeo and Juliet*. He has been working in theatre for more than 50 years throughout the U.S. and Europe as an actor, director, stage manager, artistic director, and designer and has appeared in more than 300 productions. He is a co-founder of the American Theatre Company in Frankfurt, Germany and Not Another Theatre in San Antonio, TX. Roles of note include: Big Daddy (*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*); Claudius (*Hamlet*); Feynman (*Q.E.D.*); Salieri (*Amadeus*); Curate (*The Curate Shakespeare As You Like It* world premiere); Furtwangler (*Taking Sides*); Norman (*On Golden Pond*); and the third shepherd in the Sandborn Methodist Church Christmas pageant, which started this whole decline into debauchery. Thank you to Monteze and the cast for making me feel welcome.



CHIEF GILLESPIE | DANIEL PIVOVAR Pittsburgh Playwrights debut. Pittsburgh credits: ¡Arriba!¡Arriba! and *STEEL* with the Pittsburgh CLO Gallery of Heroes, *Violet* with Front Porch Theatricals, *Romeo and Juliet* with PICT and *Avenue Q* with PMT coming this May. Off-Broadway: *Falsettos*, *The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told*. Regional: *The Full Monty*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Assassins*, *Les Miserables*. TV: Late Night with Jimmy Fallon. Much love to Mom, Dad, Britt and Wallace. <https://danielpivovar.wixsite.com/actor>



CHARLES TATUM, PURDY, KLAN 1 | BRETT SULLIVAN SANTRY A Pittsburgh native, Brett lived and worked in NYC as an actor, director, and playwright before taking on the position of Theatre Program Director at Stuart Hall School in Staunton, VA, where he taught until 2011. Since relocating back to Pittsburgh in 2012, he has worked variously as an actor, director, teaching artist, and dramaturg for City Theatre, PICT Classic Theatre, Unseam'd Shakespeare, Pittsburgh Classic Players, The Pittsburgh Fringe Festival, 12 Peers Theater, the Pittsburgh New Works Festival, and is happy to be making his debut with Pittsburgh Playwrights. He holds MFA and MLitt degrees from Mary Baldwin College's Shakespeare in Performance program, in association with the American Shakespeare Center, as well as a BA in Playwriting and Directing from Goddard College. His most cherished roles, however, are those of father to Ivy and husband to Holly. Love.



CORONER, OBERST, RALPH, ERIC | ADAM SELIGSON is really excited to be making his debut performance with Pittsburgh Playwrights in this immensely powerful show. Recent credits include *A Christmas Story* at the Bricolage Theater, *All Quiet On The Western Front* with Prime Stage Theatre, and *Living On Love* at South Park Theatre, to name a few. A huge thanks to our director for the opportunity to be involved in the show, to our crew without whom we'd be thoroughly lost, and to the beautiful cast Adam is so fortunate to share a stage with.



SAM WOOD | JONATHAN VISSER* is a proud graduate of the Masters program at the University of Tennessee, and the Bachelors program of Southern Methodist University. He has taught Acting, Audition Technique, Movement and Stage Combat at The University of Tennessee, The CLO Academy, Point Park University and PMT. Local Theatre Credits: Quantum, The City Theater, Pittsburgh Musical Theatre, The Rep, PICT, Bricolage, TACT, Pittsburgh's CLO, and, Front Porch Theatricals. Regional Credits: The Dallas Theater Center, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Casa Manana, Clarence Brown Theater, Hope Summer Rep, and PCPA. Film Credits: *The Last Witch Hunter* 2015, *Into the Dark* 2014, *5th Dimension* 2012. Television Credits: *Banshee* 4th season, ep.4.

*Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

LIGHTING DESIGN | PIPER CLEMENT is a senior at Point Park University, where he studies Technical Theatre. His recent credits include: *Shrek Jr.* (JCC of Greater Pittsburgh), *The Scottsboro Boys*, *Wig Out!* (The REP), The Raymond Laine One Acts Festival, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Boyfriend* (Pittsburgh Playhouse), and the Pittsburgh Festival Opera's 2017 Season. He would like to thank the cast and production team for the opportunity to be a part of this great production.

COSTUME & MAKEUP DESIGN | CHERYL EL-WALKER is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist and Pittsburgh native. Cheryl's directing credits include Ray Werner's *Stay*, Lissa Brennan's *And To All A Good Night* and Kim El's *Straightening Combs* (Pittsburgh Hill House and D.C. Black Theatre Festival). Her creative work has been seen in nine of August Wilson's plays. She has earned many Onyx Awards from the the African American Council of the Arts including Best Make-up Artist, Best Costume for a Musical, Best Leading Actress, Best Costume Design for a Play (four times), plus the PPTCO 2012 Legacy Award. Her stage direction of *And To All A Good Night* in 2013 received five more awards, including Best Director. In addition to stage work, Cheryl is also the facilitator for her quarterly make-up workshop series, "About Face." Cheryl is married with a teenage son. She is an alumna of Point Park University.

SOUND DESIGN | WAYNE GAINES was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Wayne is a skilled designer/technician with 23 years of experience in audio/visual design and production for television programs, commercials, radio, theatres, feature films, documentaries, arenas/ auditoriums and churches. He began his career in sound design and technology with Braddock Films in Pittsburgh, PA. Among his credits is the award-winning documentary *Struggles in Steel*. He is also the 2006 Onyx Award winner for his sound design for *Seven Guitars*, the 2007 winner for *Sarafina* and the 2008 winner for *Good Black Don't Crack*, all productions staged by Kuntu Repertory Theatre of Pittsburgh. Having last worked with Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre in 2014 on *Ubuntu Holiday*, Wayne is pleased to be working with us again.

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER | RANDY KOVITZ has staged fights for hundreds of stage, film and television productions around the country. His work has been seen in theaters on and off Broadway, and at numerous regional theaters. Career highlights include the world premiere productions of *Angels in America* and *Burn This*, and the Broadway production of *The Kentucky Cycle*.

SCENIC PAINTER | DIANE MELCHITZKY has designed and built Pittsburgh Playwrights sets since our 2003 debut. She recently worked as a carpenter on the movie *Fences* directed by Denzel Washington. Most recent projects include set design for the Gateway High School and various exhibits at the Clemente Museum and the August Wilson Center.

BIOGRAPHIES

STAGE MANAGER | NIK NEMEC is a freelance stage manager and a playwright. His latest play *Home Again, Home Again* won the Audience Favorite in the 2016 Black and White Festival at Pittsburgh Playwrights. Some favorites include: *August: Osage County* (The REP), *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches/Perestroika* (Throughline Theatre), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Stage 62), *Hecuba* (Point Park), *Chicago, Shrek, Aida*, and *Annie* (Pittsburgh CLO), and five seasons of *The Nutcracker* with Pittsburgh Ballet. Up Next: Nik will be directing *Big Fish* at Palisade Playhouse and then two weeks at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.

SOUND TECHNICIAN, D.I.A.P. | ASHLEY SOUTHERS is a D.I.A.P. (Do-it-all-person) in training at the Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company. She has worked in the box office, as a lighting tech, costume assistant, house manager, stage manager, assistant stage manager as well as directed for the Theatre Festival in Black & White. She is currently a Senior at Point Park University majoring in creative writing.

LIGHTING DESIGN | BOB STEINECK is currently resident lighting designer for Texture Contemporary Ballet, Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre, Mercyhurst Univ. Dance Dept., Rennie Harris' PureMovement and RHAW, Pittsburgh Festival Opera and Raphael Xavier Company. Mr. Steineck has toured throughout the US and abroad with both Rennie Harris companies, Reed Dance, Squonk Opera, the Lyon Opera Ballet, Sankai Juku, Phoenix Dance Company, Kirov Ballet Academy and the "America Tour" for Stars on Ice. Television/Video/DVD credits include *A Gathering of Sons* for Pittsburgh Festival Opera, the Dizzy Gillespie All Star Big Band for A&E Cable, the Spyro Gyra concert for PBS, and Johnny A Trio by Warner Bros. Publications. He has designed for several corporate events including Mon Valley Sizzles at the historic Carrie Furnace. His most recent lighting designs include *A Gathering of Sons* (world premiere) commissioned by Pittsburgh Festival Opera, and two nationally touring productions: *Point of Interest* for Raphael Xavier and *Lifted* for Rennie Harris PureMovement. Other designs include *Boundless* for Texture Contemporary Ballet, *In the Company of Ghosts* for Adrienne Wehr & Frank Ferraro, *Xerxes* and *Sweeney Todd* for Pittsburgh Festival Opera.

STAFF

PLAYWRIGHT	Matt Pelfrey
DIRECTOR	Monteze Freeland
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Alexis Payne
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Monteze Freeland
STAGE MANAGER	Nik Nemec
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Tashia Scott el-Terry
SCENIC DESIGNER	Mark C. Southers
SOUND DESIGNER	Wayne Gaines
LIGHTING DESIGNERS	Bob Steineck, Piper Clement
COSTUME DESIGNER	Cheryl El-Walker
HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER	Cheryl El-Walker
FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER	Randy Kovitz
SCENIC PAINTING	Diane Melchitzky
LIGHTING TECHNICIAN	Nik Nemec
SOUND TECHNICIAN	Ashley Southers
SCENIC CONSTRUCTION	Mark C. Southers, David Powdrill
WARDROBE	Ariona Sherwood
PROPS	Austin Sills

Pittsburgh Playwrights Staff & Board

ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Mark Clayton Southers
ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE	Monteze Freeland
WEBSITE MANAGER & PROOFREADER	Steven Doerfler
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Denise Johnson
BOX OFFICE MANAGER	Carl R. Southers III
CONCESSIONS	Tonda Crawford
HOUSE MANAGER	Dennis Robinson
GRAPHIC DESIGN & PROGRAM COVER	Eric A. Donaldson
PROGRAM DESIGN/EDITING	Michelle Belan
BOARD PRESIDENT	Dr. Michael Ramsay
BOARD TREASURER	Jamar White
BOARD SECRETARY	Lorille "Neicy" Readie
BOARD MEMBERS	
Don Bell ★ Janis Burley Wilson ★ Donna Drewery	
Tawnya Farris-Redwood ★ Mark A. Freeman ★ Lynne Hayes-Freeland	
Carlton Heywood ★ Nikki Jackson ★ Susan McGregor-Laine ★ Elizabeth Reiss	
Ryan Scott ★ Eric A. Smith ★ Delores Southers	

Pittsburgh Playwrights THEATRE COMPANY

Don't miss the rest of our season!

King Hedley II



(Artwork: Pittsburgh Memory by Romare Bearden, Theatre Communications Group, 2005)

by **August Wilson**
Directed by **Mark C. Southers**

*Presented outdoors at the
historic August Wilson House.*

APRIL 27 - JUNE 3, 2018

Peddling stolen refrigerators in the feeble hope of making enough money to open a video store, King Hedley, a man whose self worth is built on self delusion, is scraping in the dirt of an urban backyard trying to plant seeds where nothing will grow. Getting,

spending, killing and dying in a world where getting is hard and killing is commonplace are threads woven into this 1980's installment in the author's renowned cycle of plays about the black experience in America. Drawing on characters established in *Seven Guitars*, *King Hedley II* shows the shadows of the past reaching into the present as King seeks retribution for a lie perpetrated by his mother regarding the identity of his father. (Samuel French)

ALSO COMING IN 2018...



13th Annual THEATRE FESTIVAL IN BLACK & WHITE

MAY 31-JUNE 10, 2018

Festival Coordinator Cheryl El-Walker

Our signature one-act theatre festival returns for its thirteenth year with another selection of entertaining short plays.

We hope you enjoyed this production of *In the Heat of the Night*. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to support our mission. **Thank you for your support.**

Visit our website at pghplaywrights.org/donations or mail your check made out to **Pittsburgh Playwrights** to The Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company, 3515 Iowa Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219