

DISCOGRAPHY

“Natural Blues” –Moby
“Everything is Everything” –Lauryn Hill
“Ain’t it a Shame” –Fats Domino
“The Way You Do the Things You Do” –The Temptations
“Say it Loud” –James Brown
“I Want You Back” –Jackson 5
“One Nation Under a Groove” –Funkadelic
“Strange Fruit” –Billie Holiday
“Fight the Power” –Isley Brothers
“Howlin’ for My Darlin’” –Howlin’ Wolf
“Love Come Down” –Eve Gallagher
“Incubus” –The Electric Hellfire Club
“Respect” –Aretha Franklin
“Don Juan Op. 20” –Richard Strauss
“Summertime” –Preservation Hall Jazz Band
“Walk Him Up the Stairs” –*Purlie*
“Colored Spade” –*Hair*
“Notre Dame De Paris” –Edith Piaf
“Belleville Jungle” –Chet Doxas, *Triplets of Belleville*
“My Girl” –The Temptations
“Shackles (Praise You)” –Mary Mary

QUOTATIONS

"Please check the overhead before exiting as any baggage you don't claim, we trash." Miss Pat

"Being Black is too emotionally taxing; therefore I will be Black only on weekends and holidays." The Woman

"Snap for everytime you walk passed someone lying in the street, smelling like frozen piss and shit and you don't see it." Miss Roj

"Don't you dare talk about nobody coming from a 'fo' real place, Miss Made in Taiwan!" LaWanda

"If only he were born into a world better than this. a world where there are no well-worn couches and no well-worn Mamas and nobody ever over emotes." Mama

The Colored Museum

By George C. Wolfe



In Celebration of Black History Month

Caution: A strobe light will be used during this performance.

CAST

Laurie Adamson
Andrea Brown
Rachel Chen
Eve Crusto
Chenai Gondo

CREW

Aida Mbowa.....Director
W. Rochelle Calhoun.....Director
Michelle Spafford.....Stage Manager
Courtnee Crystal.....Assist. Director and Assist. Stage Manager
Marty Seeger.....Costume & Makeup Designer
Laura Blaguszewski.....Projections Specialist
Bacca Harrison.....Technical Director, Set and Light Designer
Emily Freeman.....Sound Director
Lauren S. Curry.....Choreographer
Kylie McCormick.....Dramaturg
Althea L Greenstone.....Costume Mistress
Melanie S Zaryckyj.....Sound Board Operator
Caitlin Morse.....Projections Operator
Anjuli I Gunartne.....Costume Runner

Set & Light Prep Crew Members:

Troy Mercier (Umass)
Lauren Curry
Jen Garner
Jim Harrington (Hampshire)
Christy Matero
Caitlin Morse
Eva Schneckenburger
Shelley Smith
Michelle Spafford
Melanie Zaryckyj

Janice Acevedo
Peg Duffy
Anjuli Gunaratne
Jane Jones (Smith)
Kylie McCormick
Wendy Parkis
Marty Seeger
Becca Stein
Christina Vierra

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The cast and crew wishes to thank the following people for their support of this production. The Mount Holyoke College Theatre Department, Black History Month Committee, Dean of the College Office, Free Theatre, The Five College Multicultural Theater Committee, Julia Whitworth, Roger Babb, Barbara Bunyan, Laura Dubin, Suzanne Hayden, the Marks House for graciously allowing us to use their space for rehearsal.

**TALK BACKS WILL BE HELD AFTER
THE SHOW ON FRIDAY, MARCH 3rd**

DIRECTORS' NOTES

Frank Rich, in his New York Times review of the Colored Museum, asked his readers, "How can American black men and women at once honor and escape the legacy of suffering that is the baggage of their past?" George C. Wolfe, in his satirical look at what it means to be Black in America, attempts to take us on a journey that answers that question. Cleverly creating a play that is meant to both embrace and challenge stereotypes, Wolfe crafts a complex dialogue between the characters and the audience. This dialogue, designed as both intra- and inter- group, is useful in helping us examine what meaning we give to the images that we see. The Black History Month theme, Blacks in the Media, frames another poignant question---"Do you see me?". If the media informs our understanding of who we are and who others are-how well do we see each other and ourselves? This production, with an infusion of media images, seeks to present the complexity of identities, images, and stereotypes.

This play was made possible by Broadway Publishing, Inc.

Laurie Adamson makes her second appearance on Rooke Stage after having been Kelpie in the *Skriker*. She is passionate about theater and African American studies and delights at this opportunity to explore them simultaneously. She would like to thank all, both inside and outside of the production, who have supported her.

Andrea Brown makes her debut on Rooke stage. She is a senior, double majoring in English and African American studies. Her other activities include being the co-chair of the black alumni conference.

Rachel Chen is a first year from Jamaica making her debut in Rooke Theater. She will appear again in *Sweet Maladies* as Mary. She attended St. Andrew's School, where she was involved in two musicals - both of which she landed lead roles. She loves to do studio art and to run.

Eve Crusto is happily returning to her Thespian roots by participating in *The Colored Museum*, her first college theatre production. She is an English major and is a member of the Chorale and Vocal Jazz Ensemble. In addition to acting and singing, she enjoys playwriting and loves to sleep during her free time.

Chenai Gondo is making her debut on Rooke Stage. Although she is a Chemistry and German Studies double major, Chenai loves being on stage and wishes she had more time to get involved with theater.

W. Rochelle Calhoun graduated from Mount Holyoke College as a theatre/politics double major in the class of 1983. She continued her theatre studies at Columbia University where she received her MFA in directing. Returning to the "happy valley", Rochelle has working at Mount Holyoke College for almost 20 years in a variety of administrative roles--including Ombudsperson, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Dean of Students, acting Dean of the College and currently Executive Director of the Alumnae Association. She is happy to be working in Rooke Theatre again--and with such a talent cast and crew.

Courtnee Crystal is making her assistant directorial/assistant stage managerial/completer-of-miscellaneous-theatrical-tasks debut in Rooke Theatre. She is a Romance Languages & Linguistics major and she enjoys fine dining. Her previous theatre experience includes Roger Babb's introduction to performance class of fall 2005.

Lauren Curry is a junior at Mount Holyoke College. She enjoys both technical and performance aspects of theater and dance. She is delighted to be part of this wonderful production!

Emily Freeman is a junior Critical Social Thought major and a theatre enthusiast. This is her second time working in Rooke Theatre where she helped with lighting design for *Top Girls* and she stage managed *All Boxed In* in the Black Box Theatre.

Barbara Harrison is a Biology and Theatre double major. Previous design credits include lighting in *Genie* and sets in *Flying Lessons*. She was also Technical Director of *Flying Lessons* and *The Vagina Monologues* ('05/'06) and Assistant TD of *A Portrait of Dora* and *Jaques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*.

Aida Mbow is a junior with a self-designed major called Performance and Identity Studies. This is Aida's directorial debut; however she is no stranger to the Rooke stage. She was last seen in *A Murder of Crows* as Georgia, other previous roles at Mount Holyoke include the lead roles in *Venus* and in *Top Girls*. She shall be returning to the stage as Polly in the spring production of *Sweet Maladies*, and is off to The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts next fall. She has loved every moment of working on the *Colored Museum*, and feels truly blessed and grateful for having had such a diligent production team, enthusiastic cast and very supportive department.

Kylie McCormick is making her dramaturgical debut, but she has worked on other productions at Mount Holyoke college, including *The Vagina Monologues* (2005 & 2006) and *Flying Lessons*. She is a double major in computer science and theater arts and focuses on directing.

Marty Seeger is a senior Theatre Arts and Psychology major, and is honored to have been involved in such a creative, collaborative, and meaningful Black History month event.

Michelle Spafford has been stage managing productions at Mount Holyoke for the past two years. Her experience includes being the ASM for *Falling Bodies*, Fall '04, as well as ASM for *Prison of Women*, Spring '05. She also stage managed *Murder of Crows*, Fall '05. Michelle, an English major and a theater minor, will be graduating this May.