FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Williams Project

The Williams Project Announces Complete Ensemble Casting For Its Developmental Production Of Federico García Lorca’s Blood Wedding

August 2-4, 2018 at Equinox Studios in Georgetown

Seattle, WASH. (June 26, 2018) – The William’s Project today announced the full ensemble cast of its explosive, original developmental production of Federico García Lorca’s Blood Wedding, in a translation by famed American poet Langston Hughes. In this Andalusian tale, a bride’s ex-lover pays her a visit on her wedding day, sparking a sequence of events that will shock the whole town. Blood Wedding will run for one weekend only, August 2-4, 2018 at Equinox Studios in Georgetown, and tickets are on sale now online at TheWilliamsProject.org.

Complete casting for Blood Wedding includes Brittain Ashford (Wife and Ensemble), Mia Ellis (Bride and Ensemble), Rebecca Gibel (Death, Servant, and Ensemble), Leicester Landon (Bridegroom and Ensemble), Tangela Large (Mother and Ensemble), Max Rosenak (Neighbor, Father, and Ensemble), David Samuel (Leonardo and Ensemble), and Reggie D. White (Moon, Mother-in-Law, and Ensemble).

"When casting a Williams Project show, I rarely think about who ‘fits’ each role,” Artistic Director Ryan Guzzo Purcell said. “Especially for a developmental process like Blood Wedding, I just want to work with a group of artists with huge hearts and huge talent, who are willing to put themselves on the line and command your attention. The thing these eight actors have in common is that they all go for broke. Lorca and Langston Hughes leave you nowhere to hide. And I’m so excited to watch these actors tackle this story."

ABOUT THE CAST

Broadway actor and graduate of Seattle’s Roosevelt High School Brittain Ashford makes her Williams Project debut in Blood Wedding. She starred in the 2017 Broadway hit Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812 as well as the tour of Dave Malloy’s Off-Broadway song-cycle, Ghost Quartet, which played at the Erickson Theatre Off Broadway in Seattle (2018). Seattle may remember Mia Ellis from her turn as Ruth Younger in Seattle Rep’s critically acclaimed production of A Raisin in the Sun (2016). Blood Wedding marks her first production with The Williams Project. As a current member of the Resident Acting Company at Trinity Rep, she has performed in productions of Ragtime, The Mountaintop, and more, and has many New York and regional credits on stages including Joe’s Pub/The Public Theater, Santa Cruz Shakespeare, and The Bushwick Starr. Her film/TV credits include “Person of Interest,” “Elementary,” “The Good Fight,” and many others. Rebecca Gibel is a returning company member of the Williams Project, following her performance in Orpheus Descending (2015). She also is a member of the Resident Acting Company at Trinity Rep and has regional performance credits at Huntington Theatre Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Cleveland Play House, and Arden Theatre Company,
among others. She has collaborated on the development of new work with various regional theatre companies including Intiman Theatre and has TV credits on CBS’s “Blue Bloods” and Hulu’s “Castle Rock.” **Leicester Landon** returns to The Williams Project after performances in both *The Glass Menagerie* (2016) and *Blues for Mister Charlie* (2017). His New York and regional credits include turns with New Orleans Shakespeare Festival, Dixon Place, Theater for the New City, and more. He also was seen with Jinkx Monsoon and Peaches Christ in *Return to Grey Gardens* at Seattle’s Egyptian Theatre (2016). Award-winning actor **Tangela Large** is a returning company member of The Williams Project, last seen in the company’s first season workshop. Her regional credits include work with Playmakers Rep, Shakespeare and Company, Chautauqua Theater Company, Long Wharf Theater, and Trinity Rep, among others. Seattle audiences will remember Max Rosenak’s “stirring” (*The Seattle Times*) performance in *Blues For Mister Charlie*; he also returns as a Williams Project company member. His past regional credits include performances with Pittsburgh Public Theater, Marin Theatre Company, American Conservatory Theater, Huntington Theatre Company, The Olney Theatre Center, and 59E59 Theaters, among others. His film/TV credits include *La Mission* (Sundance 2009), *The Last Summer, Laurence, Seducing Charlie Barker*, and “Tosh.0”. **David Samuel** makes his Williams Project debut with *Blood Wedding*. His Off-Broadway credits include *As You Like It* with Ellen Burstyn and *Twelfth Night* with Fiasco Theater (Classic Stage), with regional credits at Kansas City Rep, Crossroads Theatre, Chautauqua Theater Company, Arena Stage, and Trinity Rep. His film credits include *Killing Ruby* and *The Red Sea Diving Resort*. **Reggie White** returns to the Williams Project Company after his acclaimed 2017 performance in *Blues For Mister Charlie*. His Off-Broadway credits include *Hundred Days* (New York Theatre Workshop, The Public Theater - Under the Radar), *I & You* (59E59 Theaters), and *For The Last Time* (Clurman Theatre); his regional credits include performances with Arden Theatre Company, The Movement Theatre Company, People’s Light, La Jolla Playhouse, and Berkeley Rep, among others. His film/TV credits include “Gotham,” “Blindspot,” *Buzzer*, and *Stranger in Blood*, among others. Reggie is a Barrymore and NAACP Award Nominee and a recipient of the TCG Fox Fellowship.

**ABOUT RYAN GUZZO PURCELL (DIRECTOR)**

Ryan Guzzo Purcell is the founding artistic director of The Williams Project, where he has directed *Orpheus Descending* (with Intiman Theatre, 2015), *The Glass Menagerie* (with Café Nordo, 2016), and the company’s critically acclaimed *Blues for Mister Charlie* (2017). From 2013 to 2015, he served as the Associate Artistic Director of Magic Theatre in San Francisco, where he has directed Mfoniso Udofia’s *Sojourners*, Joshua Harmon’s *Bad Jews*, and the world premiere of Christina Anderson’s *pen/man/ship*. His most recent local credits include *Every Five Minutes* at Washington Ensemble Theatre (2017) and *How I Learned to Drive* at Strawberry Theatre Workshop (2018). Other directing work has been seen at Intiman Theatre, The Hangar Theater, LaMaMa ETC, Brown Playwrights Rep, The National New Play Network Showcase, The Village Gate, The Olney Theatre Center, FringeNYC, and the Kennedy Center as part of the American College Theatre Festival. He is a Fulbright Scholar, a Princess Grace Award-winning, and a Drama League Directing Fellow. He holds an MFA in directing from Brown University/Trinity Rep and a BFA from Boston University in Theatre Studies.

**COMPLETE CREATIVE TEAM**

The creative team includes Ryan Guzzo Purcell (director); An-Lin Dauber (design); Shenandoah Davis (composer/musician); and Julianna Brei-Crawley (stage manager).
FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

WHAT:
Blood Wedding - a developmental production
By Federico García Lorca
Translated by Langston Hughes
Directed by Ryan Guzzo Purcell

In an isolated village, a bride is visited on her wedding day by her former lover. This act of rebellion sparks a sequence of events that will shock everyone, from the flower girls to the vengeful Moon above. In a translation by famed American poet Langston Hughes, Federico García Lorca’s iconic Andalusian tale explodes notions of violence, desire, shared history, and community – reminding us that the only undeniable truths are love, death, and change.

Incorporating live music, dance, and art installation from a host of creative collaborators, The Williams Project's Blood Wedding is not just a piece of theatre. It's a play, a block party, a communal meal, a concert, a gathering space for friends and strangers. In other words, everyone is invited to the wedding!

Arrive at 7:00 p.m. to wander the pre-show festival; food and drinks will be available for purchase. The play itself will begin at 8:00 p.m. and take place in Equinox’s outdoor courtyards. Dress comfortably, in anticipation of the elements and moving multiple times throughout the performance.

WHERE:
Equinox Studios
6555 5th Avenue S
Seattle Washington 98108

WHEN:
August 2-4, 2018
Thursday-Saturday
Pre-show festival (doors open) 7:00 p.m. / show begins 8:00 p.m.

TICKETS:
$0-$50 - ON SALE NOW

All seating is general admission. Learn more about The Williams Project's inclusive approach to ticket pricing here: http://www.thewilliamsproject.org/box-office

About The Williams Project
The Williams Project is a theatre ensemble that strives to make theatrical excellence accessible to diverse and engaged audiences, while paying our artists a living wage. The writing of Tennessee Williams shapes our vision of theatrical excellence, so we strive, like him, to create theatre that is:

- Entertaining enough to make everyone feel welcome and a part of the community;
- Ambitious enough to risk humiliating failure;
• Powerful enough to move people to love each other more, even in the face of the temporary nature of theatre and life.

The Williams Project strives to make theatre in a manner consistent with our belief that professional artists are vital to our culture, and that such artists deserve to be compensated in a way that recognizes their value. Great theatre artists sacrifice greatly to make important work, and we pay our artists a living wage in order to support that work.

For more information:
Michelle S. Leyva, Michelle Sanders Communications
(206) 595-1151
michelle@michellesanderspr.com

# # #