



PRESS RELEASE – March 2018

TheatreSouth Atlanta, Inc. dba Herman LeVern Jones' TheatreSouth and Ebenezer's Entertainment, LLC are thrilled to announce performances of "A *Class Act*" written by Norman Shabel this April and May 2018. The play had its world premiere at The Playroom Theater in New York City (151 West 46th Street - just east of Broadway) and will now have its Florida premiere at the brand new Pompano Beach Cultural Center!



Photo credit: Carol Rosegg

In "A *Class Act*", when a major chemical company pours cancer-causing waste into the water supply, a high-powered law firm brings a class action lawsuit on behalf of the thousands of people injured by or dying from the poisonous water consumption. Who wins? Who loses? Who makes millions whether they win or lose? Which lawyers battle the best... or the worst? Does the ordinary person ever realize justice in the end?

"Almost every day I read on the front page of the major newspapers stories that are exactly parallel to A Class Act. The world of industrial America is poisoning our world. And it is the powerless individual who is rarely able to find justice. I am afraid that all too often, Lady Justice really is blind."

– Playwright Norman Shabel

TheatreSouth Atlanta, Inc. dba Herman LeVern Jones' TheatreSouth (TSA or TheatreSouth) was founded in 2007 as a Georgia Non-Profit in Atlanta, GA. TSA's mission is to educate, enlighten, strengthen, and enhance the local talents through theatre arts. The company's motto is "Healthy theatre for your heart and soul!"

TSA permanently relocated to South Florida in 2014 and has since cultivated a variety of projects in partnership with Brigitte Keane and Jeff Tucker of EarthSave Miami, Inc. such as the I Have A Dream Musical on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. starring Broadway's Jahi Kearse (Florida International University, South Miami

Dade Cultural Arts Center, the Coral Springs Center for the Arts, the Phichol Williams Center and the Pompano Beach Cultural Center), *The Eve of Jackie* starring Broadway's Chester Gregory (**Adrienne Arsht Center**), *The Colored Museum* written by renowned playwright George C Wolfe (**The Deering Estate and Pompano Beach Cultural Center**), *The Phantom of the Old Opera House* written by Joseph George Caruso (**Phichol Williams Center**), *A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration* written by Pulitzer Prize winner Paula Vogel (**Pompano Beach Cultural Center**).

All of TSA's projects are family oriented and for all ages of men, women, and children who look to be entertained and educated through the arts. As we continue to build a stronger brand in our community, we also hope to build a community brand that illustrates to the world, art lives in South Florida! For more information, visit www.theatresouth.net.

Ebenezer's Entertainment, LLC is a production company that started when its principal, Norman Shabel, opened several French cafes several years ago that included live musical entertainment for its' patrons. The cafes are gone but the entertainment magic that evolved from the café's stages lives on. The company is known for several stage plays such as *Are the Lights Still On in Paris?*, *Marty's Back in Town*, and *A Class Act*. Be on the lookout for more riveting plays from **Ebenezer's Entertainment!**

About the Cultural Alliance

The Cultural Alliance is comprised of highly regarded performing arts organizations based in South Florida. The 11 resident companies of the Pompano Beach Cultural Center offer exciting individual performances, while also collaborating on special events and education programming. For more information, www.ccpompano.org.



**POMPANO BEACH
CULTURAL CENTER**

About the Artistic Director



Artistic Director Herman LeVern Jones

Herman LeVern Jones is a 45-year theatre veteran who has started theatre companies all over the United States, toured internationally and received a Master of Fine Arts in Acting from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Mr. Jones has worked closely with many influential figures such as Denzel Washington, Oprah Winfrey, Samuel L Jackson, Dr. Maya Angelou, James Earl Jones, Ruby Dee, Ossie Davis, Esther Rolle and others. Mr. Jones' biggest contribution to theatre to date is his design of the National Black Theatre Festival, a bi-annual event held in Winston-Salem, North Carolina that attracts 60,000 attendees and has generated over \$700 million for the city.

The Cast

The production will be headlined by New York City Actress Bianca LaVerne Jones in the role of Dorothy Pilsner. Bianca Laverne Jones has an extensive list of accomplishments and credentials. Ms. Jones has studied at prestigious schools such as the North Carolina School of the Arts, Purchase State College, and Yale School of Drama. She recently received a Master's in Directing from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). Ms. Jones has carried many of TheatreSouth's productions through various lead roles, most notably as Coretta Scott King in "I Have A Dream" Gospel Musical on Martin Luther King, Jr. She has helped many of TheatreSouth's actors improve in the areas of speech, movement and dance. Ms. Jones' most recent role is in the movie *Ocean's 8* starring Sandra Bullock, Anne Hathaway and Cate Blanchett.



Bianca LaVerne Jones

South Florida actors AJ Dheaytelli, Anton Zherelgen, Allen Socher, Michael McKenzie, Murphy Hayes, Daniel Carballeira, Robert Bouffier, Karl Zoisl, Jr., Aaron Glickman and Michael Cartwright will play alongside Ms. Jones in this twisty legal drama.

About the Playwright



Norman Shabel

NORMAN SHABEL (*Playwright*) graduated from Rutgers University Law School in 1969. For over forty years, Mr. Shabel vigorously pursued the rights of his clients on major legal issues involving murder, fraud and national class actions, representing thousands of ordinary people all over the United States. A long time NJ resident, Mr. Shabel has taken his forty-six years' experience as a trial and class action lawyer and transformed it into an exciting dramatic production entitled *A Class Act*. Mr. Shabel has also written five other plays, two of which have been produced in Philadelphia, and has written nine novels, his two newest released earlier this year.

Performance Dates and Times:

Opening night – Wednesday April 18: 10 am, 1 pm, and 7 pm

Thursday April 19: 10 am and 7 pm

Friday April 20: 1 pm and 7 pm

Saturday April 21: 2 pm and 7 pm

Sunday April 22: 3 pm and 7 pm

Wednesday May 9: 7 pm

Thursday May 10: 2 pm and 7 pm

Friday May 11: 2 pm and 7 pm

Saturday May 12: 2 pm and 7 pm

Sunday May 13: 3 pm and 7 pm

Location: 50 W Atlantic Blvd, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Tickets:

\$16.50 - Students

\$21.50 - Seniors

\$25.50 – General

To purchase a ticket: visit ccpompano.org or call 954-545-7800

For questions about the production and performance times: email info@theatre.net and/or call 305.924.3003.

