

PRESENTS

# THE BITTER GAME

**CREATED, WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY**

Keith A. Wallace

**CO-CREATED BY**

Deborah Stein

**COSTUME DESIGN**

Melissa Ng

**LIGHTING DESIGN**

Bo Tindell

**SOUND DESIGN**

Mikaal Sulaiman

**AUDIO ENGINEERING**

Helena McGill & Anna Wozniewicz

**COSTUME ART DIRECTION**

Walter Myrick

**SIGNED ENGLISH PERFORMER**

Keisha A. Wallace

**STAGE MANAGER**

Plato Seto

**DIRECTED BY**

Malika Oyetimein

**NOVEMBER 14-17, 2018**

Promenade Terrace

1 hour with no intermission.

*THE BITTER GAME* was a commission of the La Jolla Playhouse's 2015 International WoW Festival.

**KEITH A. WALLACE** (Creator, Writer, Performer) is a playwright, actor, filmmaker, and self-proclaimed 'actorvist.' As an actor he has appeared in *JUNK: The Golden Age of Debt*, *Blueprints to Freedom*, *Movers + Shakers*, *Death of a Driver*, *Venus*, *In the Crowding Darkness*, and more. Select directing credits include: *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* and *The Brothers Size* (Theatre Bay Area Award for Outstanding Production). Following its 2015 premiere in the international WoW Festival at La Jolla Playhouse, *THE BITTER GAME* was a semi-finalist in the 2016 Sundance Theater Lab and the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference. Since, Keith has toured the show nationally and abroad including Under The Radar Festival at The Public Theater, The Kennedy Center, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, The American Repertory Theater, The Dublin Theater Festival among others. Keith is also a recipient of the 2016 Princess Grace Theater Award, United Solo Festival Avant Garde Award and a San Diego Critics Award nominee for Outstanding Solo Performance. Education: MFA in Acting, UC San Diego; BA in Drama, Morehouse College.

**DEBORAH STEIN** (Co-Creator) is a playwright, director, and collaborative theatre maker. Her play *Marginal Loss* recently premiered at the Actors Theatre of Louisville Humana Festival. Other recent projects include *The Wholehearted* (world premiere at the Kirk Douglas/Center Theatre Group and La Jolla Playhouse) and *Chimera* (Under the Radar; Gate Theatre in London; Drama Desk nominee for Best Solo Performance). Deborah's other plays include *God Save Gertrude* (Theatre @ Boston Court, Workhaus Collective), *Wallflower* (Stages Rep), and *Bone Portraits* (Walkerspace, Live Girls!). She has worked extensively with some of the country's leading devised theatre makers including Joseph Chaikin, Dominique Serrand, Lear deBessonet, and most frequently the Pig Iron Theatre Company, with whom she created six original plays. Her writing has been published in *Theatre Forum*, *Play: A Journal of Plays*, and *The Best American Poetry*. Currently on faculty at UC San Diego, Deborah has also taught writing and collaboration at Yale School of Drama, NYU/Tisch, Princeton, Northeastern, St. Olaf, Parsons, and Brown (where she received her MFA, advised by Paula Vogel). An alumna of New Dramatists, other grants and awards include NEFA National Theatre Project, New York State Council for the Arts, Bush Artist Fellowship, two Jerome Fellowships and a McKnight Advancement Grant at the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis. Stein teaches at UC San Diego, where her collaboration with Wallace began.

**MALIKA OYETIMEIN** (Director) recently completed her MFA at the University of Washington's School of Drama and is a member of the Directors Lab at Lincoln Center Theater. In Seattle, she was featured in *City Art Magazine's* 2016 Future List and her productions (*Bootycandy* 2016) & (*Hoodoo Love* 2017) have been nominated for Gregory Awards: Best Production. She recently was the co adapter and director of Dr. Maya Angelou's "I Know why the Caged Bird Sings." Select directing credits: The world premiere of *WHITE* (Theatre Horizon) *Milk Like Sugar* (Artswest Playhouse and Gallery) *Barbecue*, *Bootycandy* (Intiman Theatre Festival) *Goin' Someplace Special* (Book-It Theatre Co.) *Fucking A*, *Force Continuum* (University of Washington) *Hoodoo Love* (Sound Theatre Company, Yancy Girl Productions & Ademide Theatre Ensemble), *Young Voices* (InterAct Theatre Co. & Philadelphia Young Playwrights), and *Topdog/Underdog* (GoKash Productions). Select Assistant Director credits: *The Bitter Game* (Public Theatre/Under the Radar festival), *Threepenny Opera*, *Blue Door* (Arden Theatre Co.), and *A View from the Bridge* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival).

As a professional teaching artist, Malika has worked with: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Philadelphia Young Playwrights, Arden Theatre Co., Mural Arts: Project Home, & Theatre Horizon's Autism Drama Program.

**PLATO SETO** (Stage Manager) Broadway: *Saint Joan*, *The Children*, *Prince of Broadway*. Off-Broadway: *Sugar in Our Wounds*, *In the Body of the World*, *The Portuguese Kid*. Other New York: *Pick a Color* (Dixon Place), *Nan and the Lower Body: The Pap Smear Play* (MTC). Regional: *Beetlejuice* (National Theatre, Pre-Broadway Engagement), *THE BITTER GAME* (Skirball Cultural Center & La Jolla Playhouse: WOW Presentation '16 & WOW Festival '15), *Blurred Borders Dance Festival #17* (Rincon Dance Collective), *John Leguizamo: Latin History for Morons* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Lilith* (Calit2 Theater), *Broadway in Your Backyard* (La Jolla Playhouse), *In Your Arms* (The Old Globe), *Up Here* (La Jolla Playhouse), and various corporate events. Plato has been a part of *THE BITTER GAME's* journey since its beginning and is excited share it with the audiences at The Wallis. She holds a BA in Theatre from the University of California, San Diego.

**KEISHA A. WALLACE** (Signed English Performer) is a Philadelphia native and first year ASL/English Interpreting student at The Community College of Philadelphia. She has received a Dual Baccalaureate Degree in Special Education/Elementary Education with a Minor in Deaf Studies. Her passion deeply resides in communicating with the Deaf Community and working to effectively break the communication barriers between both the hearing and Deaf Community. Keisha has been actively involved within the Deaf Community and Deaf Culture through in various ways including local events within the city of Philadelphia and surrounding counties as well as continual volunteerism with The Annual Philadelphia AIDS Walk, Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD), and Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre (DHCC). She especially enjoys meeting up with local residents of the Deaf Community at local coffee shops every Wednesday and Saturday for casual conversation. Wallace is truly honored to be here for this opportunity and humbly welcomes feedback from the performance immediately following the show.