

THE 5 & DIME
Jacksonville's newest theatre company
presents

SPUNK

THREE TALES BY **ZORA NEALE HURSTON**

adapted by GEORGE C WOLFE
music by CHIC STREET MAN

directed by LEE HAMBY
musical direction and choreography by
ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ

MARCH 22-25 & 31, 2012

ZORA NEALE HURSTON



Before Oprah, before Rosa Parks, and before Maya Angelou, there was Zora Neale Hurston, Florida-born author, folklorist and anthropologist and a legendary figure in the Harlem Renaissance. Like so many writers, she was ahead of her time and not fully appreciated by her contemporaries. Now she is considered one of the most important African-American women of the Twentieth Century. Her novel, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* is considered an American Classic.

Hurston was a collector and relentless reporter of indigenous speech and in SPUNK, the black English of the urban and rural America of her time has been preserved. Listen and watch as stories of a master storyteller and life observer come alive..

A SAMPLE OF HARLEM SLANG

ASTORPERIOUS | haughty, biggety

BEATIN' UP YOUR GUMS | talking to no purpose

BELUTHSHATCHIE | next station beyond Hell

BULL-SKATING | bragging

COLLAR A NOD | sleep

COLLAR A HOT | eat a meal

DITTY-WAH-DITTY | a far place, a measure of distance; OR a suburb of Hell, built since way before Hell wasn't no bigger than Baltimore. The folks in Hell go there for a big time

DOWN IN 'BAM | down South

GRANNY GRUNT | mythical character to whom most questions may be referred

JELLY | sex

JUMP SALTY | get angry

PIANO ON A PLATTER | spareribs (white rib bones suggest piano keys)

RUSSIAN | a Southern negro up North. "Rushed up here", hence a Russian

SCRAP IRON | cheap liquor

SUGAR HILL | Northwest sector of Harlem, near Washington Heights; site of the newest apartment houses, mostly occupied by professional people

THOUSAND ON A PLATE | beans

DID YOU KNOW...

In 1904, when she was 13, and two weeks after her mother's death, Zora Neale Hurston was sent to live in Jacksonville, where she joined her sister and brother who were attending school at Florida Baptist Academy.

THE 5 & DIME

presents

SPUNK

Three Tales by Zora Neale Hurston

adapted by GEORGE C. WOLFE • music by CHIC STREET MAN

The Time: "Round about long 'go"

The Place: "O, way down nearby"

The Tales

SWEAT • STORY IN HARLEM SLANG • THE GILDED SIX BITS

The Characters

GUITAR MAN CJ Fluharty
BLUES SPEAK WOMAN Tarra Conner Jones
DELIA, GIRL, MISSIE MAE Chelsea Love Hunt
SYKES, JELLY, MAN, SLEMMONS Anthony Mincey, Jr
MAN 1, SWEET BACK, JOE David Girard
MAN 2, SLANG TALK MAN, BOY, CLERK Frank L Humphrey, III

Production Team

Director Lee Hamby
Musical Director / Choreographer Alejandro Rodriguez
Stage Manager Shannon Jones
Asst. Stage Manager Abigail Saenz
Production Manager / Set & Costume Design Lee Hamby
Set Carpenters Michael Schnepf, Bobby & Betty Hamby
Marketing Coordinator Zeina Salame
Website & Poster Design Caryl Butterley
Educational Research and Outreach Sandra Dunnivant
Photographer Maya Adkins
Videographer Susan J Roche

THERE WILL BE ONE 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service
originally developed at the Mark Taper Forum, Los Angeles, California
originally produced at Crossroads Theatre Company, New Brunswick, New Jersey
original New York production by New York Shakespeare Festival, Joseph Papp, Producer

THE CAST



CJ FLUHARTY (GUITAR MAN) 's extensive theater experience consists of Mandarin High School's production of *Once Upon a Mattress* in 1992. Seriously, that's it. He is, however, an accomplished singer-songwriter and performer who has released 3 independent albums, *Sons and Daughters*, *Like the Morning*, and *Old, New, Borrowed, and Blue*. He and his wife of 15 years are the proud parents of 4 daughters. CJ is happily employed full time as the Minister of Students and Worship at Southside Baptist Church.



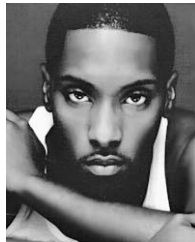
DAVID GIRARD (MAN 1, SWEET BACK, JOE) In 1998 David Girard emerged as a creative writing force on the spoken word scene. Reciting his pieces earned him a recurring spot on the SLAM circuit. In 2000, he wrote and starred in his first venture as a playwright with *Cross Examination*. Shortly after, David wrote and directed *Conversations with the Devil*, which was extremely well received in Jacksonville, Florida. Following the success of *Conversations*, David went back to his love of poetry and wrote two chapbooks, **The Ramblings of a Sinnerman* and *The Abstract Essences of Verbal*

Physics and Pyrrhic Lyrics. David, along with Larry Knight Jr., then produced a CD entitled *Mental Notes*, a collection of poetry set to music.

David's creative journey continued as he collaborated with Al Letson (host of NPR's State of the Re:Union) and Larry Knight to form Griot3. The group's initial project was *Griot: He Who Speaks the Sweet Word*, a "choreopoem" that traces the art of story telling from the shores of West Africa to the birth of Hip Hop. *Griot* was then accepted into the International Fringe Festival in New York and received rave reviews. For his performance in *Griot*, he received Best Male Actor from Players By The Sea in Jacksonville, Florida.

David has added to his credits by opening for Nikki Giovanni with Griot3, performing at the Nuyorican Poets Café, The Baruch Performing Arts Center and Lincoln Center in New York City. From *The Exonerated*, *Julius X*, *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992*, *Crumbs*, *The Full Monty*, *Gem of the Ocean*, and his one-man show, *Starring Me*, he continues to grace the stage.

David is extremely happy to be part of a Zora Neal Hurston piece. He would like to extend his heartfelt thanks to Lee Hamby and the rest of the SPUNK cast and crew for allowing him to continue to follow his dream. In addition, David would like to thank his amazing wife Natasha, his two daughters, and his new son Liam for always supporting him in every endeavor he pursues.



FRANK L HUMPHREY, III (MAN 2, SLANG TALK MAN, BOY, CLERK) is a native of Jacksonville, FL, where he is now attending College in the city. He is a Graduate of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Class of 2011. Mr. Humphrey is the Male 2011 (Florida) Grady-Rayam Prize Winner and Ambassador. He made his World Premiere Gala Debut with Female 2011 (Florida) Winner Whitley Lacy and World-Renowned Soprano Lisa Daltirus. He also is the First Place Regional Finalist of the NAACP Act-So Competition in Classical Voice earning him the privilege of competing nationally in Los Angeles, CA. He is training extensively with Megan Frieze in Classical Voice. At the

Invitation of Mrs. Patricia Mica wife of Florida's District 7 U.S. Congressional Representative Hon. John L. Mica and our United States of America First Lady Michelle Obama he was

asked to sing at the First Lady's Luncheon in Washington D.C., Headlining the show with Grammy Award Winning Singer-Songwriter Gloria Estefan. Frank's favorite quote is "Success isn't an option or dream it's a Demand!"- Jessye Norman



CHELSEA LOVE HUNT (DELIA, GIRL, MISSIE MAE) was born and raised in Jacksonville, FL. A well-rounded individual, Chelsea embodies the old image of the preacher's kid. She is the daughter of Archbishop Leonard and Bishop Carolyn Love, pastors of Truth for Living Ministries. Aside from singing and dancing, she LOVES spending time with her husband Lance and their three children, Latonia, Caleb and Charity.

Chelsea's stage history showcased her as the lead character, "Dorothy" in *The Wiz*. She appeared as "The Lady In Yellow", in multiple runs of *For Colored Girls*. Chelsea brought an unprecedented level of enthusiasm and talent to both roles during off Broadway productions in Jacksonville, FL. She has extensive training and experience in music and dance.

In addition to her stage experience, Chelsea has numerous performances and credits to her name. She has shared the stage with gospel greats such as; Cece Winans, Beverly Crawford and VaShawn Mitchell. Chelsea participated in the Grand Opening of the Ritz Theatre and Lavilla Museum, and the Five-Year Anniversary of the Jacksonville Children's Commission in Jacksonville, Florida. Her church musical and arts activities include the Truth For Living Ministries Praise & Worship Team and the Truth For Living Ministries Fine Arts Department.

Chelsea Love Hunt has studied music, theatre and dance at the Northside Center of the Arts and Truth & Love Fine Arts Academy.



TARRA CONNER JONES (BLUES SPEAK WOMAN) is a gifted musician and stage actress. Over the years she has performed in such shows as: *Ain't Misbehavin*, *Mama I Want To Sing*, *Black Nativity*, *Sinner Man*, *Porgy And Bess*, and *Dreamgirls*, just to name a few.

Additionally, Tarra is an ordained Elder, and active member at Truth For Living Ministries in Jacksonville, Florida where she serves in the capacity of Psalmist to her leaders. Ms. Jones has proclaimed the gospel of Jesus Christ in Word and song throughout the United States of America, the Bahamas and London, England.

Secularly trained in the field of education, Tarra received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Edward Waters College. Currently, she is a professional development facilitator with the Duval County Public School System.

Tarra is the owner of Wrapped In Worship Publishing and overseer of Tarra F. Jones Ministries. Her mantra in this season is: Moving Forward produces Forward Movement. Tarra is grateful for her mother and biggest supporter, Ms. Chonita Conner.



ANTHONY MINCEY, JR (SYKES, JELLY, MAN, SLEMMONS) was born in Jacksonville, FL. He is a graduate of Mandarin Senior High School and Florida A&M University. He is a member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated. Anthony currently works as a mortgage underwriter for Bank of America, however, he aspires to be the next big thing in the entertainment industry. He has learned to live each day to the fullest and firmly believes that DREAMS DO COME TRUE.

PRODUCTION TEAM

LEE HAMBY (Director) wears many hats in this business we call Theatre. Designer, director, choreographer, actor, volunteer and social butterfly just to name a few. A Jacksonville native and a graduate of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts majoring in Vocal Music/Musical Theatre. Lee went on to study Musical Theatre at The Broadway Theatre Project and The American Musical and Dramatic Academy under the direction of such greats as Gregory Hines, Tommy Tune, Ann Reinking, Jules Styne, Chita Rivera and Patricia Birch. Working as a professional actor for almost 2 decades, Lee has traveled the US and Europe performing in national tours, regional theatres, amusement parks and dinner theatres in a vast array of musicals, plays and revues. Residing in Jacksonville once again he is currently very active in the local arts community serving on boards and repertory committees as well as performing, designing, teaching and directing. On a very rare occasion when he's not inside a theatre, Lee works as a freelance interior/event designer and stylist.

ALEX RODRIGUEZ (Musical Director / Choreographer) is thrilled to serve as Music Director and Choreographer for this production of *Spunk*. Alejandro holds a degree in Musical Theater from the Florida School of The Arts and is currently working on his BFA degree at Jacksonville University. Although he loves performing his true passion is seeing his imagination and creativity come to life through the work of talented actors like the ones you will see tonight. He teaches dance and voice at Mia Bella Academy of Dance in Palm Coast, FL and enjoys creating art with his students. Recent directing and choreographic credits include assistant music director for *Holy Ghost*, assistant director for *Superior Donuts* and *Kindertransport*, as well as choreography for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!*, *A Cabaret Showcase*, *Winter Wonderland*, *This is The Moment*, *Welcome to The Jungle*, and three competition seasons with Mia Bella Academy of Dance. Alejandro is an Equity Membership Candidate and spent the summer of 2009 working professionally at the Flat Rock Playhouse. Recent Jacksonville performances include *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Chicago*, *ILYYPNC*, and *Little Women*. Upcoming engagements include "Luiz" in *The Gondoliers* at Jacksonville University and Choreography for *Reefer Madness* at Players by The Sea. He wants to thank this wonderful cast and their fearless leader Lee Hamby for believing in him.

SHANNON JONES (Stage Manager) is a graduate of UCF Conservatory Theatre with a BFA in Stage Management. Shannon is currently the Assistant Technical Director at Theatre Jacksonville. Some of her production credits include: *The Pajama Game*, *Into the Woods*, *Hair*, and *The Compleat Wrks abridged*, among others. She is pleased to work with the fabulous members of The 5 & Dime and the cast and production team of *Spunk!* Enjoy the show!

ABIGAIL SAENZ (Asst. Stage Manager) While no stranger to the Jacksonville community theatre scene, Abigail is very excited to be working with The 5 & Dime for the first time. Her passion for all things production related have led her to study Media Production at Florida State in Tallahassee, work on a couple of PBS documentaries in New York City, and, now, work as a Production Assistant at CBS47/FOX30 right here in The River City. She would like to give a great big "THANKS!" to Lee Hamby for not only giving her the opportunity to help out with this amazing show, but also for teaching her about the dangers of wearing blue eyeshadow with red lipstick.

THE 5 & DIME is pleased to announce the addition of five new members to our board:
Krysten Bennett • Sandra Dunnivant • Dana Price • Kim Schnepf • Troy Winn



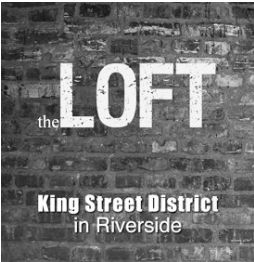
A group of artists and friends came together with a common goal: to make a change in the Jacksonville cultural arts community. From this, THE 5 & DIME, A Theatre Company was born. Founded with the hope of facilitating diverse opportunities and a supportive environment for collaboration, board president Staci Cobb explains of the organization, “THE 5 & DIME is a group of passionate theatre artists who’ve come together in the urban core to develop a place where all kinds of art happens.” Founding members and current board of directors include:

Caryl Butterley, Staci Cobb, Evan Gould, Judy Gould, Lee Hamby, Craig Leavitt, Joshua Taylor, Zeina Salame, and Josh Waller. Their broad backgrounds and experiences each contribute to a unique perspective on the possibilities of the arts in this community.

THE 5 & DIME will soon be announcing future collaborations. We offer an invitation to all Jacksonville artists to join in the mission to stimulate this city’s potential for the rich culture local audiences and art lovers have been craving and deserve. We started with a simple question, ‘Why not us?’ And so we offer this: why not YOU?

www.The5andDime.org

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION SPONSORED BY
Theresa McDonald Imbach and Kim Schnepf



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THANK YOU

THE 5 & DIME would first and foremost like to thank THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD and the VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION of Green Cove Springs

The following people and organizations helped in ways both large and small, but each has made a significant impact in the quality of this production experience – for the performers, production team, as well as for the audience. To them we offer our most sincere thanks.

Theresa McDonald Imbach, Mark & Cheryl O'Connor, Bob & Carolyn Strong

Alhambra Dinner Theatre | www.AlhambraJax.com

Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre | www.ABETtheatre.org

Travis Cagle & Fast Signs | www.FastSigns.com/299

Stephen Dare and Metro Jacksonville | www.metrojacksonville.com

Laura Peden | www.LauraPeden.com

Southside Baptist Church | www.SSBC.org

Theatre Jacksonville | www.TheatreJax.com

Three Layers Cafe | www.ThreeLayersaCoffeehouse.com

and a special thank you to Dave Davis for sponsoring our poster printing costs

Congratulations to his friends Tarra, Anthony
and the rest of the cast of SPUNK from ...



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With a vast array of entertainment and educational opportunities for art lovers and audiences, community members may take great pride in this city's flourishing presence on the map of places in which the cultural arts community is busy making change. Ask yourself what you can do to help support the arts — then do it.