



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *AUGUST 20, 2018*

Contact: Jennifer Rice; (206) 450-7054; rice1234@yahoo.com

More Info & Tickets: mirrorstage.org

Mirror Stage's First Show for the 2018-19 Season. Expand Upon: INCARCERATION

University District

October 6 at 8:00pm - Ethnic Cultural Theatre*

October 7 at 2:00 pm - Ethnic Cultural Theatre

Columbia City

October 13 at 8:00pm - Southside Commons

October 14 at 2:00 pm - Southside Commons*

**Dr. Dan Berger, UW Bothell delivers a brief lecture on the history of mass incarceration in the U.S: 7pm on 10/6 & 1pm on 10/7.*

SEATTLE, WA — On the heels of the successful 2017 debut of the **Expand Upon** staged reading series, **Mirror Stage** proudly announces **Expand Upon: INCARCERATION** as the first show of the 2018-2019 Season. For each new **Expand Upon** in the series, the community selects a theme, and **Mirror Stage** commissions two local playwrights to develop 30-60 minute plays, using the same multi-generational, multi-racial cast. For the second **Expand Upon** staged reading, the community chose the theme of Incarceration, and **Mirror Stage** commissioned *The Assailant* by **Alma Davenport**, and *The Swimming Pool* by **Stacy D. Flood**.

The two new plays will be presented in tandem as simply staged readings without costumes or sets, with a moderated discussion following every performance so the community can explore the issues in more depth. One hour prior to the October 6th and October 14th performances, **Dr. Dan Berger** of UW Bothell will present a brief lecture on the history of mass incarceration in the United States.

The United States has the largest prison population in the world and the second highest per-capita incarceration rate. To read up on incarceration from a national and local level [click here](#) for the most recent report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and [click here](#) for the monthly reports on King County's adult and juvenile detention statistics.

Expand Upon: INCARCERATION is directed by Mirror Stage's managing artistic director **Suzanne M. Cohen** and features local actors: **Rick Dupree**, **Anasofia Gallegos**, **Adria LaMorticella**, **Pablo Lopez**, **Corey Spruill**, and **Benjamin Symons**.

The Ethnic Cultural Theatre is in Seattle's University District at 3940 Brooklyn Ave NE. The Southside Commons is at 3518 S Edmunds St in South Seattle's Columbia City neighborhood. General Admission tickets are \$15 and on sale now at mirrorstage.org. Students and seniors pay only \$10 and a limited number of Pay-What-You-Can tickets are available.

About Alma Davenport – *The Assailant*

Seattle-based Alma Davenport has roots in Washington DC and NY. She is the Founder and Producing and Artistic Director of Brown Soul Productions, an organization committed to developing and producing new work by women of color. Her body of work includes: *The Tenant*, winner of the Lorraine Hansberry and Goldberg awards, *Champagne James*, winner of the Horowitz Playwriting Award, and *Capital Punishment*, winner of the Gwendolyn Brooks poetry award. Davenport graduated from the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and earned a BFA from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in Dramatic Writing. She is currently pursuing an MFA in Arts Leadership at Seattle University. She spends her summers helping DC-area teens create musicals based on their life stories with City at Peace and the Atlas Theatre. Davenport serves on the board of directors for Northwest Family Life, which provides safe temporary housing and counseling for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

About Stacy D. Flood - *The Swimming Pool*

Stacy D. Flood was a finalist in the Ashland New Play Festival, and an artist-in-residence at the Haut de Fee Centre in France, La Serrania in Mallorca, DISQUIET in Lisbon, and The Millay Colony of the Arts in New York. Locally, his work has appeared at ACT, Ghost Light Theatricals, Theatre Battery, Theater Schmeater, the Akropolis Performance Lab's New Year/New Play salon, Playlist Seattle, the Adaptive Arts Theatre Company's Night of New Works, Macha Monkey's Distillery series and FUSION Theatre Company's 'The Seven' Short Works Festival. Pieces of his appeared in SOMA Magazine, Seattle Weekly and Starbucks' "The Way I See It" campaign. Flood holds an MA in English, an MFA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University, where he also served as a lecturer and was awarded a Clark/Gross Novel Writing Award. He was awarded a Getty Fellowship to the Squaw Valley Community of Writers and a Gregory Capasso Award in Fiction from the University at Buffalo.

About Dan Berger – Guest Lecturer Oct 6 & 14

Dan Berger is an Associate Professor of Comparative Ethnic Studies in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at University of Washington, Bothell, and an Adjunct Associate Professor of History at University of Washington, Seattle. His research focuses on Black Studies, social movements, racism, and the carceral state in U.S. history. He is the author or editor of six books, including *Captive Nation: Black Prison Organizing in the Civil Rights Era* (winner of the 2015 James A. Rawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians) and *Rethinking the American Prison Movement*. He blogs regularly for Black Perspectives and his pieces have appeared in The Seattle Times, Truthout and The Washington Post. Berger is currently developing the Washington Prison History Project, an online archive on the history of mass incarceration in the state. Berger graduated summa cum laude from the University of Florida in 2003 and received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 2010.

Mirror Stage

Originally founded in 1991, Mirror Stage is a small professional theatre company reflecting the diversity of the community on stage in high quality, progressive, thought-provoking productions that play it smart without always playing it safe. The mission of Mirror Stage is to use the power of theatre to challenge

assumptions, bias and prejudice, while encouraging more thoughtful reflection on today's issues. They nurture unique artistic voices while providing opportunities for newly emerging artists to work alongside more seasoned professionals. More at www.mirrorstage.org

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Mirror Stage gratefully acknowledges the support of 4Culture, ArtsWA, The City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Humanities Washington and the Posner-Wallace Foundation.