SINGLE TICKETS FOR STUDIO THEATRE’S 2019-2020 SEASON ON SALE TODAY

- Early access to *Fun Home* reserved exclusively for subscribers; single tickets available to all other productions in the 2019-2020 Season
- John Patrick Shanley’s Pulitzer Prize-winning moral drama *Doubt: A Parable*, starring Studio mainstay Sarah Marshall, opens the season
- Artistic Director David Muse directs *Fun Home*, Studio’s first Main Series musical in more than a decade
- US premiere of *White Pearl* by Thai-Australian writer Anchuli Felicia King
- World premiere of *Aspen Ideas* by Abe Koogler, directed by Les Waters

Single tickets to Studio Theatre’s 2019-2020 Season are on sale to the public beginning at noon today (Tuesday, July 23, 2019). Early access to Jeanine Tesori and Lisa Kron’s smash hit musical *Fun Home* is being reserved exclusively for subscribers at this time; single tickets to all other productions are available. Other Main Series productions in Studio’s 41st season include *Doubt: A Parable*, an incisive look at abuse and authority in the Catholic Church by John Patrick Shanley and starring DC theatre treasure Sarah Marshall; the US premiere of ascendant playwright Anchuli Felicia King’s caustic corporate comedy *White Pearl*; the return of playwright Dominique Morisseau with *Pipeline*, her referendum on a failing education system; and Antoinette Nwandu’s *Pass Over*, the provocative Lucille Lortel Award-winning play about young Black men trapped in a cycle of violence.

The season also includes cult-favorite monologist Daniel Kitson and the Studio-commissioned world premiere of Abe Koogler’s *Aspen Ideas*, both Studio X productions.

For more information visit [www.studiotheatre.org](http://www.studiotheatre.org).

2019-2020 SEASON

*Doubt: A Parable*
By John Patrick Shanley
Directed by Studio Theatre Associate Artistic Director Matt Torney
(2005 Pulitzer Prize for Drama; Tony Award for Best New Play)
September 4 – October 6, 2019
Metheny Theatre
Tickets $60-$90

“A lean, potent drama…passionate, exquisite, important and engrossing.”
—Newsday

The Bronx, 1964. Suspicions surface at a parochial school about a charismatic young priest’s interest in a Catholic school’s first and only Black student. Absent hard proof, Sister Aloysius, the school’s starched and self-assured principal, tries to protect the innocent—but is she doing God’s work or is her certitude actually pride? A searing masterwork by John Patrick Shanley about faith, ambiguity, and the price of moral conviction.

White Pearl
By Anchuli Felicia King
Directed by Desdemona Chiang
(US Premiere)
November 6 – December 8, 2019
Milton Theatre
Tickets $60-$90

Clearday is a cosmetics company on the rise: Based in Singapore, launching a global skincare line, and bringing a start-up mentality to the big leagues. But a draft ad for their latest skin whitening cream surfaces on YouTube, gathering views and outrage. As morning nears in the US market—19,643 views. 467,327. 654,398.—Clearday’s all-female team hustles to contain the damage before Buzzfeed weighs in. Someone’s definitely getting fired. A comedy from rising Thai-Australian writer Anchuli Felicia King about toxic corporate culture, selling whiteness, and shame as both a cultural commodity and canny marketing strategy.

Keep.
Written and performed by Daniel Kitson
November 19 – December 1, 2019
Mead Theatre
Tickets $25

“Monologist extraordinaire—unconditionally engaged and engaging”
—New York Times

From the artist: A new show about how much past the present can usefully contain. About rigor and generosity. About postcards and hair pins and a certificate from Harry Ramsden’s in Blackpool. About how long it takes to stop noticing where you are. About the compromise of a full life and the burden of a full heart and how it’s impossible to know where looking back will lead. About the task of being who we are without denying who we’ve been. About the importance of regret and the possibility of hope and the delusional idea of starting again. About all the books I’ve never read and all the jam I’ve ever eaten and the bags of torn tickets and the drawers of empty pens and the inevitable sadness of ever holding on to anything.
About, in short, the stuff in my house and the thoughts in my head.

_Note 1_

_Pipeline_
By **Dominique Morisseau**
Directed by **Awoye Timpo**
January 15 – February 16, 2020
Mead Theatre
Tickets $60-$90

“An ethically ambiguous drama that raises barbed questions about class, race, parental duty, and the state of American education.”

— *Variety*

Nya is a single mom and dedicated teacher at a high-poverty city school, determined to give her teenaged son Omari opportunities that her students will never have. When an altercation with a teacher at his private school threatens Omari’s future, Nya has to fight a system that’s against him in any environment. A searing, eloquent, and deeply compassionate look at a broken education system, the moments we are pushed to our limits, and the ferocity of one parent’s love.

_Note 2_

_Pass Over_
By **Antoinette Nwandu**
Directed by **Psalmayene 24**
March 4 – April 5, 2020
Milton Theatre
Tickets $60-$90

“Searing, daring, blazingly theatrical, and thrillingly tense.”

— *New York Times* (Best Plays of 2018)

Kitch and Moses seem stuck on their street corner, but it don’t matter. They joke, dream, and throw down about the promised land they’re heading to just as soon as they get up off the block—what they’ll eat, who they’ll see, whether today’s the day they’ll pass over. Allegorical and immediate, humorous and chilling, Nwandu’s collision of the Exodus saga and *Waiting for Godot* probes the forces that have marooned these young Black men, and the power and limitations of their personal resilience.

_Note 3_

_Fun Home_
Music by **Jeanine Tesori**
Book and lyrics by **Lisa Kron**
Based on the graphic novel by **Alison Bechdel**
Directed by **Davis Muse**
(2015 Tony Award for Best New Musical)
May 13 – June 14, 2020
Mead Theatre
Tickets (only available to subscribers at this time)
“A rare beauty, extraordinary and heart-gripping.”
—New York Times

Alison is 9, begging her father to play with her. She is 19, overcome by the aching and joyous pain of first love. She is 43, an out lesbian hunting for the truth of her brilliant, volatile, and closeted father’s life and death. She is all three at once, trying to untangle the central mystery of her childhood: How did she survive their shared hometown, when her father could not? With a score that ranges from exuberant ’70s pop to aching melodies and dissonant harmonies of characters longing to be known, Fun Home is the award-winning story of a daughter and father, of coming out and coming to terms with a life shaped by a family’s secrets.

Aspen Ideas
By Abe Koogler
Directed by Les Waters
World Premiere
June 24 – July 19, 2020
Milton Theatre
Tickets $45-$55
Supported by Studio R&D, Studio Theatre’s new works initiative

“Mr. Koogler observes the nuances of unequal relationship[s] with delicacy… never strikes a false or strained note.”
—New York Times (about Kill Floor)

Anne and Rob struggled through their artistic 20s, inherited wealth in their 30s, and are spending their affluent late-40s in a life of parties and philanthropy and ideas. Irresistible, paradigm-shaping ideas. So when they meet a mysterious young couple promising a grand theory that will explain all the world’s problems, Anne and Rob don’t ask many questions—they just want to continue the conversation, all the way to the cliffs of the Colorado mountains. This Studio commission is a fast-paced and darkly comedic thriller about the poisonous appeal of believing that the best ideas win, and that winners know best.

SEASON ARTIST BIOS

Desdemona Chiang is a stage director based in Seattle, WA and Ashland, OR, and is co-founder of Azeotrope (Seattle). Her directing credits include the Guthrie Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Baltimore Center Stage, California Shakespeare Theater, Seattle Rep, PlayMakers Repertory Company, Long Wharf Theatre, Seattle Children’s Theatre, ACT Theatre, American Shakespeare Center, Seattle Shakespeare Company, Heritage Theatre Festival, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Aurora Theatre Company, Seattle Public Theater, Shotgun Players, Crowded Fire Theater, Azeotrope, Impact Theatre Company, Playwrights Foundation, Golden Thread Productions, Washington Ensemble Theatre, One Minute Play Festival, Ohio Northern University, University of Washington, and Cornish College of the Arts. Her assistant directing and dramaturgy credits include work at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, PlayMakers Repertory Company, ACT Theatre, California Shakespeare Theater, Arizona Theatre Company, Intiman Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Magic Theatre, TheatreWorks, and Rattlestick Playwrights
Anchuli Felicia King is a multidisciplinary artist of Australian-Thai descent who works primarily in live theatre. Felicia will have her professional playwriting debut with two world premiere plays in 2019, White Pearl to be performed at London’s renowned Royal Court Theatre in May, directed by Nana Dakin. White Pearl will have its Australian debut at Sydney Theatre Company in October 2019 and its US premiere at Studio Theatre. Felicia’s play Golden Shield will premiere in August at Melbourne Theatre Company. Her play Slaughterhouse was selected as part of Melbourne Theatre Company’s Cyber Electric 2018 readings. Currently based in New York, Felicia has worked as a writer, dramaturg, sound designer, projection designer, and creative consultant with a wide range of companies, including Punchdrunk, PlayCo, Roundabout Theatre, 59E59, Ars Nova, the Obie Awards, The Builders Association, Ensemble Studio Theatre (EST), and Red Bull Theater. Felicia explores linguistic hybrids, digital cultures, and issues of global urgency, and is a member of EST’s Youngblood Group, Ars Nova’s Play Group, and Roundabout’s Space Jam Program. Areas of interest include emerging technologies, 2D animation, VFX and projection design, music production, and writing for performance. Felicia works globally with companies such as Playwriting Australia (Sydney), Yellow Earth Theatre (London), House of North (Berlin), and SHIFT Festival (Shanghai).

Daniel Kitson is a stand-up comedian and “monologist extraordinaire” (New York Times). He has written and performed numerous works for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, including Something, which received the Perrier Comedy Award; Stories for the Wobbly Hearted, which received the Scotsman Fringe First Award; and C-90, for which he was awarded The Stage Acting Award for Best Solo Show and a Fringe First Award. His shows C-90, It’s the Fireworks Talking, Daniel Kitson Will Be Drinking Tea and Blowing Minds, Where Once Was Wonder, and After the Beginning Before the End have toured Europe and Australia. In Australia, he received the Barry Award for It’s the Fireworks Talking and the Argus Angel Award for C-90. Daniel has brought several shows to St. Ann’s Warehouse in the US, including The Interminable Suicide of Gregory Church in 2011; It’s Always Right Now, Until it’s Later in 2012; Analog.Ue in 2013; and Mouse in 2016. His first and only DC performance to date was at Studio Theatre.

Playwright Abe Kooberger’s plays include Kill Floor, which premiered at Lincoln Center Theatre; Fulfillment Center, which premiered at Manhattan Theatre Club; Blue Skies Process; and Advance Man. Abe received a 2018 Obie Award for Playwriting, the Kennedy Center’s Paula Vogel Award, and the Williamstown Theatre Festival’s Weissberger New Play Award. He was a Michener Fellow at the University of Texas at Austin and is an alum of Juilliard’s Playwrights Program. He teaches playwriting workshops at Primary Stages.
Lisa Kron is a writer and performer whose work has been widely produced in New York, regionally, and internationally. Her plays include Well, 2.5 Minute Ride, and The Ver**zon Play. She wrote the book and lyrics for the musical Fun Home (with music by composer Jeanine Tesori), winner of five Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Lisa and Jeanine were the first all-woman team to ever receive a Tony for best score. As an actor, Lisa was most recently seen as Mrs. Mi-Tzu and Mrs. Yang in The Foundry Theatre’s acclaimed production of Good Person of Szechuan (Lortel Award, Outstanding Featured Actress). Honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Doris Duke Performing Artists Award, and the Cal Arts/Alpert Award. She is a proud founding member of the Obie- and Bessie Award-winning collaborative theater company The Five Lesbian Brothers. Lisa currently serves as Secretary of the Dramatists Guild Council and on the boards of the MacDowell Colony and The Lilly Awards.

Dominique Morisseau is the author of The Detroit Project (A 3-Play Cycle), Skeleton Crew (Atlantic Theater Company), Paradise Blue (Signature Theatre), and Detroit ‘67 (Public Theater, Classical Theatre of Harlem, and the National Black Theatre). Additional plays include Pipeline (Lincoln Center Theater), Sunset Baby (LAByrinth Theatre), Blood at the Root (National Black Theatre), and Follow Me to Nellie’s (Premiere Stages). She is also the book writer on the new musical Ain’t Too Proud – The Life and Times of the Temptations (Broadway/Berkeley Repertory Theatre). Dominique is an alumna of The Public Theater Emerging Writer’s Group, Women’s Project Lab, and Lark Playwrights Workshop, and has developed work at Sundance Lab, Willaimstown Theatre Festival, and the Eugene O’Neill Playwrights Conference. Her work has been commissioned by Steppenwolf Theatre, Women’s Project, South Coast Repertory, People’s Light and Theatre, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival/Penumbra Theatre. She most recently served as Co-Producer on the Showtime series Shameless. Awards include the Spirit of Detroit Award, PoNY Fellowship, Sky-Cooper Prize, TEER Trailblazer Award, Steinberg Playwright Award, Audelco Awards, NBFT August Wilson Playwriting Award, Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama, Obie Award, Ford Foundation Art of Change Fellowship, and being named one of Variety’s Women of Impact (2017-18).

David Muse is soon to be in his tenth season as Artistic Director of Studio Theatre, where he has directed The Children, The Remains, The Effect, The Father, Constellations, Chimerica, Murder Ballad, Belleville, Cock, Tribes, The Real Thing, An Iliad, Dirt, Bachelorette, The Habit of Art, Venus in Fur, Circle Mirror Transformation, reasons to be pretty, Blackbird, Frozen, and The Intelligent Design of Jenny Show. Previously, he was Associate Artistic Director of the Shakespeare Theatre Company, where he directed seven productions, including Henry V, Julius Caesar, Coriolanus, King Charles III (a co-production with ACT Theatre and Seattle Rep), and Richard III. Other directing projects include Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune (Arena Stage), The Bluest Eye (Theatre Alliance), and Patrick Page’s Swansong (New York Summer Play Festival). He has helped to develop new work at numerous theatres, including New York Theatre Workshop, Geva Theatre Center, Arena Stage, New Dramatists, and the Kennedy Center. David has taught acting and directing at Georgetown, Yale, and the Shakespeare Theatre Company’s Academy of Classical Acting. A nine-time Helen Hayes Award nominee for Outstanding Direction, he is a recipient of the DC Mayor’s Arts Award for Outstanding Emerging Artist and the National Theatre Conference Emerging Artist Award. David is a graduate of Yale University and the Yale School of Drama.
Antoinette Nwandu is a New York-based playwright, who was born and raised in Los Angeles. Her play Pass Over received its New York debut at LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater. A filmed version of the Jeff Award-winning Steppenwolf Theatre production, directed by Spike Lee, premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival and at SXSW, and is currently streaming on Amazon Prime. Victory Gardens produced the world premiere of her play Breach: a manifesto on race in america through the eyes of a black girl recovering from self-hate in February 2018. Antoinette is a MacDowell Fellow, a Dramatists Guild Fellow, and an Ars Nova Play Group alum. Honors include the 2018 Whiting Award, the 2017 Paula Vogel Playwriting Award, the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, the Negro Ensemble Company’s Douglas Turner Ward Prize, a Literary Fellowship at the Eugene O’Neill National Playwrights Conference, and spots on the 2016 and 2017 Kilroys lists. Her work has been supported by the Sundance Theatre Lab, Space on Ryder Farm, Ignition Fest, the Cherry Lane Mentor Project, the Kennedy Center, Page73, PlayPenn, Southern Rep Theatre, The Flea Theater, Naked Angels, Fire This Time, and The Movement Theatre Company. Antoinette has a bachelor’s degree in English, magna cum laude, from Harvard College; an MS from The University of Edinburgh; and an MFA from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. Antoinette is a writer on the second season of Spike Lee’s She’s Gotta Have It for Netflix, and is under commission from Echo Theater Company, Colt Coeur, Ars Nova, and Audible.

Psalmayene 24 is an award-winning director, playwright, and actor. Directing credits include Native Son by Nambi E. Kelley at Mosaic Theater Company, Words Become Flesh (recipient of five 2017 Helen Hayes Awards, including Outstanding Direction of a Play) by Marc Bamuthi Joseph at Theater Alliance, and The Shipment by Young Jean Lee at Forum Theatre. He has received commissions from the African Continuum Theatre Company, Arena Stage, Imagination Stage, the Kennedy Center, Theater Alliance, Solas Nua, and Mosaic Theater Company. His one-man play, Free Jujube Brown!, is published in the anthology, Plays from the Boom Box Galaxy: Theater from the Hip-Hop Generation (TCG).

Playwright, screenwriter, and director John Patrick Shanley is from the Bronx. His plays include The Portuguese Kid, Prodigal Son, Outside Mullingar (Tony Award nomination), Danny and the Deep Blue Sea, Savage in Limbo, Four Dogs and a Bone, Dirty Story, and Beggars in the House of Plenty. His theatrical work is performed extensively around the world. For his play Doubt: A Parable, he received both the Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize. In the arena of screenwriting he has nine films to his credit, most recently Doubt with Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams, and Viola Davis. Doubt, directed by John, was nominated for five Academy Awards, including Best Adapted Screenplay. Other films include Five Corners (Special Jury Prize, Barcelona), Alive, Joe Versus the Volcano (which he also directed), and Live from Baghdad for HBO (Emmy nomination). For his script of Moonstruck, he received both the Writers Guild of America Award and an Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay. In 2009, The Writers Guild of America awarded him the Lifetime Achievement in Writing.

Jeanine Tesori has written a diverse catalog of music for Broadway, opera, film, and television. Her Broadway musicals include Fun Home (2015 Tony Award Winner, Pulitzer Prize finalist); Violet; Caroline, or Change; Shrek the Musical; Thoroughly Modern Millie; Twelfth Night (LCT); and John Guare’s A Free Man of Color. Her Off Broadway credits include Mother Courage (starring Meryl Streep) at The Public Theater/Shakespeare in the Park. She has received
five Tony nominations, three Obie Awards, and three Drama Desk Awards. The hallmarks of her work have been described as “close-to-the-surface emotion, structural rigor and rhythmic drive.” Her operas include The Lion, the Unicorn and Me; Blizzard on Marblehead Neck (MET/LCT Opera/Theater and Glimmerglass opera commission); and her upcoming collaboration with Tazewell Thompson, Blue, which was commissioned for The Glimmerglass Festival and will premiere there next season. She wrote the musical featured in the 2016 revival of Gilmore Girls and has also written special material for artists, such as “The Girl in 14G” for Kristin Chenoweth. She has been featured in the documentaries Show Business and Theater of War. Jeanine became the founding Artistic Director of a new concert series at New York City Center called Encores! Off-Center, for which she has helmed seasons joined by artists such as Stephen Sondheim, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Randy Newman, William Finn, Alan Menken, Renée Elise Goldsberry, Sutton Foster, and Jonathan Groff. After producing four seasons of Off-Center concerts, she took one of those concerts, Sunday in the Park with George (starring Jake Gyllenhaal), to Broadway where she produced the 2017 revival, with Ambassador Theater Group and Riva Marker. She was the recording producer for Sunday as well as the Original Cast Recordings of Violet; Caroline, or Change; Shrek; and Twelfth Night. A lecturer in music at Yale and on faculty at Columbia University, Jeanine has spoken and taught at universities and programs all over the country. She is the founding Creative Director of the non-profit A BroaderWay, an arts empowerment program for young women. She was given the Einhorn Mentorship Award by Primary Stages for her exceptional work with young artists.

Director Awoye Timpo’s Off Broadway credits include Good Grief at Vineyard Theatre, The Revolving Cycles Truly and Steadily Roll’d at The Playwrights Realm, and The Homecoming Queen at Atlantic Theater Company. Regionally she has directed Everybody Black at Actors Theatre of Louisville and Paradise Blue at Long Wharf Theatre. Additional credits include Carnaval at the National Black Theater; Sister Son/ji at the Billie Holiday Theatre; The Vanished (site-specific); Skeleton Crew at Chester Theatre Company; and Ndebele Funeral at 59E59, Edinburgh Festival/Summerhall, and South African tour. She is a producer for CLASSIX, a series exploring classic plays by Black playwrights.

The 2019-2020 season will be Matt Torney’s fourth as Associate Artistic Director at Studio Theatre, where he has previously directed If I Forget, Translations, The Hard Problem, MotherStruck!, Hedda Gabler, Jumpers for Goalposts (nominated for two Helen Hayes Awards, including Best Ensemble), The New Electric Ballroom, and The Walworth Farce (nominated for two Helen Hayes Awards). Prior to his work at Studio, Matt served as the Director of Programming for Origin Theatre in New York, an Off Broadway company that specializes in European new writing. His New York credits include Stop the Tempo and Tiny Dynamite (Origin Theatre, Drama Desk Award nominee), The Twelfth Labor (Loading Dock), The Dudleys (Theatre for the New City), The Angel of History (HERE Arts), and Three Sisters and A Bright Room Called Day (Atlantic Theatre School). Regional credits include Sherlock Holmes and the Crucifer of Blood and Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme (Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre), and Improbable Frequency (Solas Nua, Helen Hayes Award nominee for Best Choreography). International credits include Digging for Fire and Plaza Suite (Rough Magic, National Tour), Angola (workshop at the Abbey Theatre), Paisley and Me (Grand Opera House, Belfast), The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Making Strange, Irish Theatre Award
nominee for Best Director), and Woyzeck (Rough Magic, Best Production nominee at the Dublin Fringe Festival). Originally from Belfast, Matt holds an MFA from Columbia University.

Obie Award winner Les Waters has directed Anne Washburn and Dave Malloy’s Little Bunny Foo Foo, Jorge Ignacio Cortiñas’s Recent Alien Abductions, William Shakespeare’s Macbeth, Sarah Ruhl’s For Peter Pan on Her 70th Birthday, Anne Washburn’s 10 Out Of 12, Charles Mee’s The Glory of the World, Rebecca Gilman’s Luna Gale, Naomi Iizuka’s At the Vanishing Point, Lucas Hnath’s The Christians, Thornton Wilder’s Our Town, Will Eno’s Gnit, Todd Almond’s Girlfriend, and Eugene O’Neill’s Long Day’s Journey into the Night. Waters also previously directed Big Love by Charles Mee at the Humana Festival in 2000, and the site-specific production of Naomi Iizuka’s At the Vanishing Point at the 2004 Humana Festival. From 2003 to 2011, he served as associate artistic director at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. In the last 10 years, his shows have ranked among the year’s best in The New Yorker, The New York Times, Time Out New York, Time Magazine, The Guardian, and USA Today. His productions have been seen in New York at Playwrights Horizons, Signature Theatre Company, The Public Theater, Second Stage Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, Connelly Theater, Clubbed Thumb, and Soho Rep., and regionally at theatres such as the Mark Taper Forum, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, the Goodman Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theater, La Jolla Playhouse, and American Repertory Theater. In 2009, he made his Broadway debut with In The Next Room (or The Vibrator Play). He led the MFA directing program at University of California, San Diego from 1995 to 2003.

STUDIO THEATRE

Studio Theatre is Washington’s premier venue for contemporary theatre, “where local audiences will find today’s edgiest playwrights” (Variety). One of the most respected midsized theatres in the country, Studio produces exceptional contemporary drama in deliberately intimate spaces. Drawing inspiration from great ensembles—where people work together with a spirit of generosity and professional rigor—Studio brings characteristic thoughtfulness and daring to its work onstage and off, through its new work incubator and engagement, education, and workforce training initiatives. Studio serves nearly 75,000 people each year, including more than 1,000 youth and young adults through community engagement initiatives. Founded in 1978, the quality of Studio’s work has been recognized by sustained community support, as well as 70 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in professional theatre.

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