

**The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**

Announces the World Premiere of



By Idris Goodwin

Directed by Douglas Irvine

**Friday, March 10 – Sunday, March 12, 2017**

**At the Kennedy Center Family Theater**

(WASHINGTON)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts presents *From the Mouths of Monsters*, a contemporary, highly theatrical world premiere commission that plunges audiences headfirst into the complex world of adolescence, where speaking out can have astounding consequences. A new and inspired riff on Mary Shelley’s writing of the classic monster tale *Frankenstein*, *From the Mouths of Monsters* is presented as a part of the Kennedy Center’s Theater for Young Audiences 2016–2017 season. The production will run at the Kennedy Center Family Theater March 10-12, and is most appropriate for patrons age 12 and up.

In this powerful two-actor play starring **Shannon Dorsey** (2017 Helen Hayes Award nominee for *An Octoroon* at Woolly Mammoth) and **Tia Shearer** (Second City's *Twist Your Dickens* at the Kennedy Center), teenager Michelle's shyness hides intense thoughts that pace in her mind and flow from her pen. She wishes she could say her truth aloud, but can't seem to set free what's waiting to burst out. That dream comes true with some supernatural help, but it soon descends into nightmare in a frightening journey of self-discovery that transforms her from a timid teen to a poet with the power to overthrow her foes and even raise the dead.

In celebration of the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's enduring classic, *Frankenstein*, award-winning playwright and BreakBeat poet **Idris Goodwin** along with acclaimed director **Douglas Irvine** (the Kennedy Center's *Jason and the Argonauts* and *The Adventures of Robin Hood*) use the novel as a jumping-off point to examine the monstrous power of words and those who wield them.

*From the Mouths of Monsters* features set design by **Luciana Stecconi**, lighting design by **C.C. Gould**, costume design by **Debra Kim Sivigny**, sound design by **Christopher Baine**, and properties by **Jacy Barber**.

### **Ticket Information**

*From the Mouths of Monsters* will be performed on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Tickets for the performance are \$20 and are currently on sale. For more information please visit the Kennedy Center website, in-person at the Kennedy Center box office, or call (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324.

### **Funding Credits**

***Bank of America*** is the Presenting Sponsor of Performances for Young Audiences.

***Additional support for From the Mouths of Monsters is provided by The Clark Charitable Foundation; The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation; Paul M. Angell Family Foundation; and the U.S. Department of Education.***

***Major support for educational programs at the Kennedy Center is provided by David and Alice Rubenstein through the Rubenstein Arts Access Program.***

***Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.***

### **About Education At the Kennedy Center**

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### **TICKETS & INFORMATION**

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