

WACO THEATER CENTER + WATTS VILLAGE THEATER COMPANY

PRESENT

MARTY AND THE HANDS THAT COULD

written by **JOSH WILDER** directed by **LARRY POWELL**

WORLD PREMIERE
April 28 - May 21

WATTS LABOR COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE
10950 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA

*Pretty much all
my adult life
I've been a
broke man
Pretty much all
my adult life I've
been a broke man
Pretty much all my
adult life I've been a
broke man
Pretty much all my
adult life I've been a
broke man*





WELCOME TO WATTS

Dear Guests,

WACO Theater Center and Watts Village Theater Company proudly present the world premiere of *Marty and the Hands that Could*.

Your support today directly benefits the artists, young people and community members that WACO and WTVTC serve across Los Angeles and beyond.

The arts provide a gateway to the stories and histories of our communities. They allow us to laugh, cry, reflect and heal. We know the power of art and will continue to invest in education programs and world class productions.

As leaders of two Black-led and Black-serving arts organizations, we all know how vital it is for creative collaborations like this one.

Enjoy yourself. We look forward to seeing you again at the theater, and invite you to join us, as we celebrate our journey into the future.

Together—we look to deepen our commitment, and expand our footprint to reach more artists and young people who we know will change the world.

Tina Knowles Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director
WACO Theater Center

Bruce Lemon
Artistic Director
Watts Village Theater Company

Richard Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director
WACO Theater Center

Donna Simone Johnson
Artistic Director
Watts Village Theater Company

Founded in 2017 by Richard and Tina Knowles Lawson, WACO (Where Art Can Occur) Theater Center is located in the burgeoning North Hollywood Arts District of Los Angeles and is one of the few cultural institutions in the country providing contemporary performing and visual arts of the African Diaspora.

Board of Directors

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Ralph Farquar, *Board Member*
Glynn Turnman, *Board Member*
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Advisory Board

Beyoncé Knowles-Carter
Solange Knowles
Kelly Rowland

Mission Statement

WACO Theater Center is a performing and visual arts organization dedicated to the empowerment of Los Angeles artists, young people and stories of the African diaspora.

We present, commission and develop artistic works to provide artists and young people a platform and voice to showcase their creativity.

Values Statement

WACO's artistic and education programs are driven by four values. We create work that unapologetically:

- **Centers Black art and culture** from a diasporic lens and voice.
- **Incubates and launches new creative ideas** to memorialize the past and envision the future of Black life.
- **Is collaborative and leads with an Ubuntu mindset**, "I am, because we are."
- **Serves the needs of the community** including the social, economic and civic priorities of our neighbors and Black Los Angeles.



wattsvillage.org

ABOUT WATTS VILLAGE THEATER COMPANY

WATTS VILLAGE THEATER COMPANY (WVTC) nurtures and produces works of theater and educational programming that inspire action and dialogue about contemporary social issues to honor the rich history, cultural diversity and under-served populations of South Los Angeles.

WVTC serves the Watts and South LA population providing arts and arts-education to a population with little or no other access to live theater.

WVTC was founded in 1996 by actor and Watts community activist, **Quentin Drew**, and actor/playwright, **Lynn Manning**, as an outgrowth of Cornerstone Theater Company's residency in Watts. WVTC's earliest endeavor was to conduct acting and performance workshops for at-risk youth in Watts' housing projects, culminating in public talent shows. Eventually WVTC started producing original full-length productions which received critical acclaim for examining cross-cultural relations between Latinos and African-Americans in Watts. Recognizing its commitment to developing work by emerging LA-based playwrights of color, WVTC began "Black Words on White" pages in 2006. A development process involving collaboration between a playwright, director and actors and culminating in public readings, the series continues twice annually.

WVTC continues to be one of the largest arts providers to the Watts/South LA communities.

Establishing in-school residencies, after-school courses in theatre and the recently instituted Quentin Drew Memorial Internship Program, which hires at-risk youth from Watts to assist in the production of WVTC's shows, receiving training in various aspects of theater production.

In 2011, WVTC received the "American Theatre Wing National Theatre Company Award" as one of the top 10 most promising small theatre companies in the country. WVTC has also received the Second District Human Relations Award for nearly 15 years of mounting productions that focus on inter-group conflict and inter-group relations.

2023 brings a year of stronger accessibility of our programs to the community we serve.

New Watts Village, New Partnership, New Stories.

wattsvillage.org / [@wattvillage96](https://twitter.com/wattvillage96)





wlcac.org

ABOUT WATTS LABOR COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

"Don't Move... Improve"

– Ted Watkins
1922-1993

**The WLCAC mission is to improve the quality of life
for the residents of Watts and neighboring communities**

Ted Watkins, Sr. born in Mississippi in the 1920's, moved to California at the age of 13 on his own. He settled in Watts, married and raised six children Tamlin, Theodore Jr., Teryl, Lyssa, Timothy, and Tom. As longtime member of the United Auto Worker's Union, faced with the seemingly insurmountable injustices of labor discrimination against members of the Watts community, he organized and founded the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) in 1965, just months before the Watts rebellion.

He built WLCAC to improve the quality of life in Watts: and that's what it has done ever since. After the riots Ted organized the youth of Watts to clean up blighted vacant lots, plant grass and flowers and turn them into vest-pocket parks, one of which remains erected in his name to this day. He brought medical services to Watts in his work to get the Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Center built. He provided housing building more than ten different apartment complexes in Watts.

He was a part of dozens of initiatives that helped bring public transportation, a freeway, thousands of jobs, and some of the nation's first programs serving our elders in their homes when they have no loved ones to care for them. In the early 1980's, Ted worried the community was being starved for resources again and another rebellion would take place: In 1992 it happened. Despite the WLCAC being targeted and burned to the ground, destroying more than twenty years of work, Ted led the rebuilding of the WLCAC, overseeing the reconstruction of the first building in Watts to rise again, just one year after the '92 rebellion. Ted passed away less than a year later, having laid the unshakeable foundation for stabilization of Watts and having created a legacy that lives on in WLCAC, his family, and throughout the Watts community.

[View the documentary "A Practical Man"](#), a 15-minute documentary about Ted Watkins leadership and the work of WLCAC.



CAST & COMPANY MEMBERS

MARTY AND THE HANDS THAT COULD

written by **JOSH WILDER** directed by **LARRY POWELL**

cast

AARON SHAW
JUNIOR
AKILAH AK WALKER*
ANGEL
BERNADETTE SPEAKES
NEET
CAMDEN COLEY
LIL' MAR
JOSHUA R. LAMONT*
NICK
JOY DEMICHELLE*
TAN
MONTAE RUSSELL*
MIKE MONEY
MATTHEW ELAM
MARTY

artist covers

ADRIANNE EMBRY
ANGEL
DESSALINE ETIENNE
MARTY / JUNIOR
NETFA PERRY
TAN / NEET
ROBERT LEE HARDY
NICK / MIKE MONEY

*MEMBER OF ACTORS EQUITY

design

ALEXIS TONGUE
SOUND DESIGN
JO SIRI
PROPS DESIGN
MICHÉAL D. RICKS
LIGHTING DESIGN
SANKARA MCCAIN
COSTUME DESIGN
TERRELL BRIM
ASSISTANT SCENIC ARTIST
YOHANNES YAMASSE
SCENIC DESIGN / SCENIC ARTIST

production

CARLOS FLORES
LEAD CARPENTER
CHELS MORGAN
INTIMACY & FIGHT DIRECTOR
EBONIE DURHAM
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
JESSICA MONEÁ EVANS
STAGE MANAGER
JOSH WILDER
PLAYWRIGHT
KEITH FOREST
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR
LARRY POWELL
DIRECTOR
DR. MARCUS NORRIS
COMPOSER
MICHEAL PLEAS
LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR
WESLEY T. JONES
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

AARON SHAW

JUNIOR



Aaron Grady Shaw is a Baltimore based Actor and alumn of the BFA Acting program at California Institute of the Arts. Past credits include Law & Order, A string of Nick @ Night commercials, as well as appearing as a series regular on Season 2 of HBO's Intreatment. He's also appeared on Season 3 of Starz "Power" and most recently can be seen as a guest star on HBO's We Own The City. He is incredibly excited to be making his Los Angelous theater debut. Please feel free to reach out to his instagram for inquires. @AaronGradyShaw_

ADRIANNE EMBRY

ANGEL (COVER)



Bio coming soon!

AKILAH AK WALKER*

ANGEL



Akilah "AK" Walker is an actress, director, writer and creative producer fascinated by the performative, the magical and the absurd—especially as it relates to people of the African diaspora. Akilah was named 'Best First Time Director (Female)' by The Independent Shorts Awards in October of 2021 for her directorial debut short film 'Ivar Tunnel: Shook Ones' (IT:SO) which gained distribution and made its television debut on the REVOLT channel in July 2022. Akilah was selected as a Directing Fellow by NALIP/Netflix Latino Lens Women of color Narrative Short Film Incubator and her latest short film 'Pedacito de Carne' and will premiere at LALIFF in June 2023.] Akilah holds an MFA in acting from American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco as well as a BA in Acting from Fordham University. Akilah has been seen on stage at Classical Theatre of Harlem, New York Stage & Film and Berkeley Repertory Theatre to name a few. On film, she can be seen in 'Under The Lantern Lit Sky' from Emmy-nominated director Jaclyn Bethany and 'Sorry To Bother You' helmed by the legendary Boots Riley. Originally an Atlanta native, she now proudly calls Los Angeles home. Follow her journey @Akweway on Instagram, Tik Tok & Twitter!

BERNADETTE SPEAKES

NEET



Bernadette Speakes is a celebrated actress, widely recognized for her mesmerizing performances on stage and screen. Her impressive acting credits include notable roles in Tiny Beautiful Things, First Kill, Heroes, Parenthood, and as a recurring guest star in CW's All American. Bernadette's iconic portrayal of Sheila in the film Love Jones has solidified her status as a seasoned actress in the industry. In addition to her acting, Bernadette has made her mark as a director in both theatre and film. Her theatrical productions include the highly successful and sold-out six-week run of The Bluest Eye, The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963, as well as Antaeus Theater, Los Angeles - Radio Plays, Season 1 & 2. Her cinematic work has also earned her critical acclaim, with her award-winning short narratives spanning across genres such as drama, psychological thrillers, and horror. Her most recent psychological thriller, Imaginist, took home the title of "Best Production" at the Black August Film Festival and is now being sought after by film festivals in Berlin and Nepal in 2023.

CAMDEN COLEY

LIL'MAR



Camden Coley is a multi-talented 12-year-old performer from Baltimore, MD, who is excited to be making his theatrical debut. He is a professional actor, dancer, singer, model, voice actor and published author whose name is becoming synonymous with black boy joy and unbridled creativity. Camden is a series regular on Netflix's "Karma's World" and has a recurring role on ABC's "Abbott Elementary," showcasing his acting talents. He's also been featured in several music videos, national commercials, print ads, fashion shows and global campaigns by Amazon, Samsung, Abercrombie & Fitch Kids, Old Navy and Nike. When he's not performing or writing, Camden can be found honing his craft at Debbie Allen Middle School, where he studies ballet, hip-hop, modern, contemporary, jazz, tap and African dance. While known for his ability to become any character, he is most proud of his role as a big brother.

DESSALINE ETIENNE

JUNIOR/MARTY (COVER)



Bio coming soon!

JOSHUA R. LAMONT*

NICK



Joshua R. Lamont is an actor, writer, director and producer from Maryland (the DMV). He has worked and collaborated with such artists and groups like Michael John Garcés and Cornerstone Theater Company, Tim Robbins and The Actors' Gang, Ben Guillory and The Robey Theatre, Walter Dallas, Oliver Mayer, Scot Reese, Leigh Smiley, Gina Belafonte, Blair Thomas and the Chicago Puppet Theater, and the all deaf rock band, Beethoven's Nightmare. He has performed in 3 countries including The Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy. As a teaching artist, Joshua has taught inside California state prisons, youth facilities and with at-risk youth in continuation high schools. Joshua has produced several plays including the nationwide Every 28 Hours, which looked at the statistic that every 28 hours a Black man, woman or child is killed by someone employed by the US government. He is most interested in using art for social change and healing. He was a 2020 Arts Delegate with Arts For LA and a 2021 Emerging Arts Leader with EALLA. He was also recognized as a 2021 Individual Artist Fellow with the California Arts Council. @JoshuaRLamont. www.joshuarlamont.com

JOY DEMICHELE*

TAN



Joy DeMichelle is thrilled to perform at WACO and WATTS VILLAGE THEATER COMPANY. Recent Regional Credits: US premier of NINE NIGHT at (Round House Theatre), SWEAT (BCT), AUBERGINE (South Coast Repertory), A RAISIN IN THE SUN (Actors Theatre of Louisville), SEVEN GUITARS and BLUES FOR AN ALABAMA SKY (Denver Center Theatre), PIANO LESSON, SPIRIT NORTH and HARRIET'S RETURN (Crossroads Theatre), Mark Taper Forum, American Place Theatre and others. Select television credits include: MIKE (Mike Tyson story on HULU), SNOWFALL, The L WORD: GENERATION Q, CRIMINAL MINDS, LIE TO ME, OUTLAW, and AMERICAN GUN. Joy is a MFA graduate of Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University (Bettenbender Award Outstanding Performance), BFA from North Carolina A & T State University. In addition to acting, Joy is an Intimacy Director/Coordinator, Sensitivity Specialist and educator/coach. Instagram: @actingwithjoy. www.JoyDeMichelle.com

MATTHEW ELAM

MARTY



Matthew Elam is grateful to join the family at WACT Theater Center and Watts Village Theater Company in the World Premiere of Marty and the Hands that Could. He's a BFA graduate at DePaul's "The Theatre School" in Chicago. His recent credits include "Ace of Spades" (Hoodoo Love, Raven Theatre), "Omari" (Pipeline, Victory Gardens Theatre) "Curtis" (Late Company, Cor Theatre) and "Lemuel" in FX's "Fargo" season 4. He is repped by Seven Summits Management.

MONTAE RUSSELL*

MIKE MONEY



Montae Russel's Los Angeles theatre credits include Between Riverside and Crazy (Fountain Theatre), Two Trains Running, (Matrix Theatre), District Merchants (South Coast Rep), Water by the Spoonful (Mark Taper), Bird Lives (as Charlie "Bird" Parker/Matrix Theatre). Broadway credits are King Hedley II, Prelude to a Kiss, A Few Good Men. Regional credits include performing in all 10 plays in the August Wilson Canon, including originating the role of Youngblood in the original production of Jitney in Pittsburgh; as well as 150+ performances of the one man show, Thurgood. His many television credits include recent appearances on Bosch Spinoff, #Matter, NCIS, as well as several seasons on ER, as well as other guest star appearances. Film credits include The Players' Club, Black Boy Joy, Laurel Avenue, Lily in Winter. Montae has an MFA from Mason Gross School of the Arts/Rutgers University. Member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. @MontaeRussell on Instagram.

NETFA PERRY

NEET/TAN (COVER)



A native New Yorker, **Netfa Perry** fell in love with theater at a young age, having been exposed to the arts throughout her childhood. Netfa's passion for the stage led her to pursue formal training at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and the Neighborhood Playhouse School of Theatre. She studied dance at The Joffrey Ballet School and Alvin Ailey, ultimately honing her craft at the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. Netfa's early career saw her starring off-Broadway in several Afrikan Women's Repertory Company productions, including White Comedy, Mother, Tomorrow, and Three Letters. She played Sara on the Steve Harvey Show. Netfa continues to make a name for herself in the entertainment industry, with appearances on several Emmy-award-winning television shows and in feature films such as Free of Eden with the late Sidney Poitier. Netfa is thrilled to be part of the cast and creative team of Marty and the Hands that Could. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with such a fantastic group of artists.

ROBERT LEE HARDY

NICK/MIKE MONEY (COVER)



Robert Lee Hardy was born and raised in Baltimore, MD. He is graduate of SUNY Purchase, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Acting. His recent stage credits include This Is Modern Art, A Time To Kill, The Snowy Day and Home. Hardy's film & TV credits include, Jazz in the Diamond District, Jamesy Boy and HBO's The Wire. Hardy has conducted workshops for the Baltimore Juvenile Justice System, as well as drug addiction programs. He has performed for and enlightened inmates at the Maryland and Jessup Correctional Institutes. Mr. Hardy has written and performed two one man shows "Me, Myself and Us" and "I Carry My Own Spotlight".

ALEXIS TONGUE

SOUND DESIGN

Alexis Tongue is a Sound Designer and Editor living in Los Angeles. Coming from UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television, she works in a variety of genres and styles, using music as a significant component of her designs. She is passionate about acquiring new skills and techniques in the evolving world of picture and sound. Alexis comes from a diverse range of experience from short films to plays to music videos. Her goal when approaching each project is to understand the narrative in order to create tailored sounds aimed to engulf each person into the narrative and evoke emotions and memories.

CHELS MORGAN

INTIMACY & FIGHT DIRECTOR

My name is Chels and my pronouns are they / them and xe / xem. It's a pleasure to meet you. I am an Afro-Latinx, Autistic, pansexual, polyamorous, and non-binary writer, sexuality educator and intimacy coordinator focused on curating justice-centered, emboldening spaces guided by the intersectional, disability justice and transformative justice frameworks, developed by the black women and the black trans scholars who have come before me. I reside in Los Angeles, CA on the native land of the Kizh, the Tongva and the Chumash. I practice trauma responsive, inclusive sex, kink and identity education, mental health advocacy, intimacy direction for theater and intimacy coordination for film and television, with emphasis on scenes of BDSM and Kink, LGBTQ+ populations, Non-monogamy and scenes of non-consent.

JESSICA MONEÀ EVANS

STAGE MANAGER

Jessica Moneà Evans is a multifaceted artist and manager from North Carolina. She studied Acting to complement her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Professional Theatre at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (NC A&T) and received her Master of Fine Arts from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) in Theatre Management. Evans has a huge passion for inspiring people to think outside the box and provide the support needed to create anything you put your mind to! Throughout her career, Jessica has traveled the world managing a variety of dance and theater productions, artists, concerts, and comedy shows at organizations such as CBS, Universal Studios, Disney Concert Hall and Sundance Theater Lab to name a few. In addition, to management, Jessica Moneà facilitates wellness and dance fitness workshops that infuses the modalities of Afrofunk Dance Fitness's message in movement, some credits include California Institution for Women, Everybody Dance LA, University of Ghana, Hathaway-Sycamores Altadena Children's Center and the Capital Jazz Cruise.

JOSH WILDER

PLAYWRIGHT

Josh Wilder is a playwright and producer from Philadelphia. His work has been developed; commissioned; and produced at various regional theaters and festivals across the country including The Fire This Time Festival, Classical Theatre of Harlem, New York Theatre Workshop, True Colors Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 2015 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, PlayPenn, Company One, InterAct Theatre Company, and Yale Rep. Past awards include the Holland New Voices Award, The Lorraine Hansberry Award, The Rosa Parks Award, and The ASCAP Cole Porter Prize. Josh is a former Jerome Fellow and the first national recipient of the Jerome Many Voices Fellowship at The Playwrights' Center. He has been in residence at The Royal Court Theatre ; Sundance at UCross; and served as Co-Artistic Director at The Yale Cabaret for its 50th season and Co- Founder/Producer of the New Griots Black Arts Festival in The Twin Cities with Jamil Jude. Currently, he's stationed in Los Angeles leading the next generation of emerging writers at The Playwrights Workshop. MFA: Yale School of Drama. BFA: Carnegie Mellon.

CARLOS FLORES

HEAD CARPENTER

Bio coming soon!

EBONIE DURHAM

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Ebonie Durham is a Graduating senior at CSU Dominguez Hills. She will receive her BA in Theater Arts this Spring semester May 19th. This is her first production with WACO x Watts Village Theater Company. She would like to thank her father who is her #1 fan and her friends for their continued support of her dreams. This is her second Assistant Stage Management production but her first time working on an All-Black Production which is groundbreaking! She's excited and wants to thank you all for coming out to see the show. Enjoy!

JO SIRI

PROPS DESIGN

Jo Siri is a Multi-disciplinary Artist and Production Designer originating from Las Vegas, Nevada. There she attended the Las Vegas Academy of the Arts, fabricating over 30+ theatrical productions in the span of 4 years. She is a recent graduate of the California Institute of the Arts, earning her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Scene Design. In her time at the institute, she curated art galleries, designed for theatre and film, and produced countless community events. As well as design, Jo works in mediums such as ceramics, digital illustration, and collage. Raised by a community of artists and activists, community advocacy has always been at the forefront of her design methodology. Jo uses world-building as a means to visualize a more equitable future.

LARRY POWELL

DIRECTOR

Larry Powell is a true multi-hyphenate artist born and raised in South Central LA. As an Award-Winning Actor he has premiered some of the most exciting New American Plays of the past decade including The Christians by Lucas Hnath, The Legend of Georgia McBride by Matthew Lopez, Father Comes Home From The Wars by Suzan Lori Parks to name a few. As a Writer, he is the recipient of the 2021 IAMA Theatre Company Shonda Rhimes Unsung Voices Playwriting Award, 2020 Cornelia Street Playwriting Award, and is an inaugural 2021 Circle of Confusion Writers Discovery Fellow. His play "The Gaze", a 2021 O'Neill NPC finalist, is also an award-winning digital series. "The Gaze Series" is a two-time 2021 Daytime EMMY Award Nominee, 2021 Webby Award Honoree and 2021 Micheaux Film Festival's Best Comedic Digital Series Winner. Proud Adjunct Lecturer at USC's School of Dramatic Arts, Graduate of Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama and Founder of FreeTheArts.org. Stay tuned for upcoming works @thepowelloflove on IG.

DR. MARCUS NORRIS

COMPOSER

Dr. Marcus Norris's childhood foray into music came through producing rap beats on pirated software, installed on a Windows 98 computer that he Macgyvered together from spare parts. He came to composing concert music later and transferred that same imagination to writing music of all kinds. Miss Tina Knowles-Lawson chose Marcus as Music Director for the 2022 Wearable Art Gala, with South Side Symphony accompanying Chloe & Halle Bailey and Andra Day. Marcus founded South Side Symphony in 2020, which he describes as "like a younger, more ratchet version of The Roots, plus lush live strings & horns." As a film composer, the Boston Herald praised his "impressively orchestral score" for the 2022 film "Honk for Jesus." starring Regina Hall & Sterling K. Brown. Norris was commissioned by the Atlanta Opera in 2023 and made his Disney Concert Hall debut in 2022 as part of the LA Phil's National Composers Intensive.

SANKARA MCCAIN

COSTUME DESIGN

Bio coming soon!

YOHANNES YAMASSEE

SCENIC DESIGN / SCENIC ARTIST

Yohannes Yamassee, is a Set and Production Designer, Animator, Concept Architect, and multidisciplinary artist. He has worked with companies like Disney, Marvel, Alliance Theater, CBS and more as an ADG 800 Art Director, Set Designer and Architect. A graduate of UCLA film school's Master of Fine Arts program in Set and Production Design, specializing in concept ideation and entertainment design. His motivation to be on this mission began as a kid growing up on the Southside of Chicago. In order to truly accept where he was and where he needed to go, he learned he had to surrender to a greater cause, knowing that he could achieve his goals if he focused on helping the next generation. Hailing from Ethiopian & Native Indigenous Roots, Yamassee is inspired by the works of Maya Angelou, Muhammed Ali, Harlem Renaissance, Floyd Norman and the deep history of Ethiopian and Native identity. Integrating mixed-media philosophy into animation, architecture, film & television, and beyond. By creating a team at his company; Yohannes Studios of like-minded visionaries with the talent, experience, and ambition to transform any concept. For inquiries, contact yohannes@yohannesstudios.com

MICHÉAL D. RICKS

LIGHTING DESIGN

Bio coming soon!

WESLEY T. JONES

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Wesley T. Jones, is a Detroit native actor/director/writer out of Carnegie Mellon University's Drama Conservatory Program where he received his BFA in Acting. Since, Jones has gone on to work in countless staged works regionally and off-broadway, simultaneously working as a film, television, and voice-over actor, and music supervisor. Jones feels blessed to assist Larry on the World Premiere of Josh Wilder's *Marty* and the *Hands That Could* - a story that is quite close to home, and universal to the many black families in our communities all over the country. Many thanks to WACO and Watts Village Theater Company for this opportunity.

BRUCE LEMON

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR (WVTC)

Bruce Lemon is a storyteller born and raised in Watts, CA. As a child, his father made him write stories and read them aloud in the hallway as punishment for lies and mischief. He's still in trouble. Co-Artistic Director of Watts Village. Associate Artistic Director/Ensemble with Cornerstone Theater Company. Host of 89.3 KPCC In-Persons UnheardLA. 2016 Princess Grace. 2014 BroadwayWorld LA. BruceALemonJr.com @BALemonJr



THEATER STAFF

Thank you to WACO Theater Center

Richard Lawson, *Artistic Director*

Tina Knowles Lawson, *Artistic Director*

Shay Wafer, *Executive Director*

Alex Kalognomos, *Special Events Producer*

Anis Taylor, *House Manager*

Bria Williams, *Senior Executive Assistant*

Carolyn Gage, *Technical Manager*

Cornelius Humphries, *Special Events Coordinator*

Dwayne Davis, *Intern*

Isreal Spencer, *Mentor*

Jasmine Gipson, *Communications & Strategy Fellow*

Kasiopia Moore-Watts, *Interim Education Director*

Kobe Lamaur, *Administrative & Operations Assistant*

Lachelle Metcalf, *Director of Education*

Lanae Wilks, *House Manager*

Malaiye Evans, *Executive Assistant & Mentor*

Nijeul X, *Director of Communications & Strategy*

Nia Miranda, *Senior Executive Assistant*

Steven Foley, *Director of Operations & Production*

Terrence Terrell, *Mentor*

Tocarra Cash, *Education Coordinator & Mentor*

Thank you to Watts Village Theater Company

Bruce A. Lemon, Jr., *Artistic Director*

Donna Simone Johnson, *Artistic Director*

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Now - May 27



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*Production Grant for
MARTY AND THE HANDS THAT COULD*



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