

atplay

Announcing



DPS Classics is a new imprint that presents classic world dramas translated and adapted by the brightest writers for the theater today. Our Classics Acting Editions are set in a lovely new format for ease of use in production as well as for pleasure of reading—and they look pretty attractive on a shelf.

Peruse the current selection of DPS Classics and find an old favorite by a new writer, or pick up a play you've never heard of by the forebearers of your favorite contemporary DPS plays. This brand-new imprint is growing fast, so sign up for our Now Published eblast to be alerted of DPS Classics as we release them.

What makes a play a classic?

It's an eternal question whose only answer is: time. What makes a play a classic is its ability to inspire future generations of writers, and to endure in relevance for future generations of audiences. Shakespeare, Ibsen, Lope de Vega, Chekhov, Molière... theater would not be what it is today without these timeless playwrights. And today's playwrights continue to find inspiration in their plays.

INSIDE: **rising** > > >
meet the class of 2017-2018
16 bold playwrights new to the
Play Service catalogue **stars**



Jocelyn Bioh

NOLLYWOOD DREAMS

It's the nineties and in Lagos, Nigeria, the "Nollywood" film industry is exploding. Ayamma dreams of leaving her job at her parents' travel agency and becoming a star. When she auditions for a new film by Nigeria's hottest director, tension flares with his former leading lady—as sparks fly with Nollywood's biggest heartthrob. (*2 men, 4 women*) Also by Bioh: *SCHOOL GIRLS; OR, THE AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY*

Gino Dilorio

SAM AND DEDE OR MY DINNER WITH ANDRÉ THE GIANT

True story: 12-year-old André the Giant didn't fit on the school bus. André's neighbor, feeling sorry for the boy, offered to drive him to school in his truck. The neighbor was Samuel Beckett. Out of that bit of trivia comes a play imagining a number of scenes between a giant who cannot hide, and a writer obsessed with silence. (*2 men*)



Philip Dawkins

CHARM

When Mama Darleena Andrews—a 67-year-old, black transgender woman—takes it upon herself to teach an etiquette class at a Chicago LGBTQ community center, the idealistic teachings of Emily Post clash with the very real challenges of identity, poverty, and prejudice faced by her students. (*flexible casting*)

Jiréh Breon Holder

TOO HEAVY FOR YOUR POCKET

In 1961, the Freedom Riders are embarking on a courageous journey into the Deep South. When 20-year-old Bowzie Brandon gives up a life-changing college scholarship to join the movement, he'll have to convince his loved ones—and himself—that shaping his country's future might be worth jeopardizing his own. (*2 men, 2 women*)



Mashuq Mushtaq Deen

DRAW THE CIRCLE

In a story about family and love and the things we do to be together, one immigrant family must come to terms with a child who defies their most basic expectations of what it means to have a daughter...and one daughter will redefine the limits of unconditional love. This unique play compassionately brings to life the often hidden struggle that a family goes through when their child transitions from one gender to another. (*flexible casting*)

Chisa Hutchinson

SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER

Alex is a 15-year-old Asian-American girl going to extremes to get her own mother to notice her. As three generations of women find their identity in question, each needs to decide who makes the rules and what happens when you break them. (*3 men, 3 women*)



Sean Devine

DAISY

Based on true events, *DAISY* explores the moment in television history that launched the age of negative advertising, and forever changed how we elect our leaders. War was the objective. Peace was the bait. Everyone got duped. (*5 men, 1 woman*)

James Ijames

THE MOST SPECTACULARLY LAMENTABLE TRIAL OF MIZ MARTHA WASHINGTON

The recently widowed "Mother of America" lies helpless in her Mount Vernon bed, ravaged by illness and cared for by the very slaves that will be free the moment she dies. As she begins to slip away, she falls deep into a fever dream of terrifying theatricality that investigates everything from her family to her historical legacy. (*2 men, 4 women, 1 child*) Also by Ijames: *WHITE, MOON MAN WALK*





Lucy Kirkwood THE CHILDREN

Two retired nuclear scientists reside in an isolated cottage by the sea as the world around them crumbles. Together they are going to live forever on yogurt and yoga, until an old friend arrives with a frightening request. (1 man, 2 women) Also by Kirkwood: CHIMERICA, MOSQUITOES



Melinda Lopez MALA

A one-woman tour-de-force for a powerful actress, MALA is a darkly funny tale about what it means to put our loved ones first, right to the very end, and what happens when we strive to be good but don't always succeed. (1 woman)



Isley Lynn SKIN A CAT

With a kaleidoscope of off-kilter characters, SKIN A CAT follows Alana on an awkward sexual odyssey: from getting her first period at nine years old and freaking out, to watching bad porn at a house party, to a painful examination by an overly cheery gynecologist—all in the pursuit of losing her virginity and finally becoming a woman. (1 man, 2 women)



Caroline V. McGraw ULTIMATE BEAUTY BIBLE

When workaholic Danielle is forced to face her mortality, she begins to wonder what it's all worth. In this dark comedy, questions of romance, sex, ambition, and loyalty spin Danielle and her friends out of control as they consider the possibility of life without each other. (2 men, 5 women)



Michael Mitnick THE SIEGEL

Ethan Siegel is in love. Tonight he's going to ask Alice's parents for permission to marry her. There's just one hitch. Ethan and Alice broke up two years ago—and she's in a serious relationship with someone else. But Ethan is undaunted. An irresistible comedy about modern love and the need to go back in order to move forward. (3 men, 3 women)



Marshall Paillet & A.D. Penedo WHO'S YOUR BAGHDADDY, OR HOW I STARTED THE IRAQ WAR

The show begins in a church basement, where disgraced spies, along with the unwitting audience, gather for a support group meeting. It soon shifts to Frankfurt Airport, where a mysterious Iraqi defector claims he built secret Iraqi bio-weapons labs. It's all fun and games until the looming cataclysm changes everything. (6 men, 2 women)



Lynda Radley THE INTERFERENCE

"Allegations. Drunk? He said. She said. Truth." When a survivor speaks up, can her truth rise above the noise? THE INTERFERENCE is a story for a world in the midst of a tectonic cultural shift that shakes the old patriarchal society to its core. (flexible casting)



Mfoniso Udofia SOJOURNERS

Abasiama came to America with high hopes for her arranged marriage and her future, intent on earning a degree and returning to Nigeria. But when her husband is seduced by America, she must choose between the Nigerian or American Dream. (2 men, 2 women) Also by Udofia: HER PORTMANTEAU.



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check out the Play Service's hot new plays from last season's
class of emerging playwrights

FULLILLMENT CENTER by Abe Koogler

WE'RE GONNA BE OKAY by Basil Kreimendahl

COST OF LIVING by Martyna Majok

THE TREASURER,
SISTERS ON THE GROUND,
and **SNORE** by Max Posner

entering center stage:

these esteemed playwrights have
recently joined our catalogue

**THE INTELLIGENT HOMOSEXUAL'S
GUIDE TO CAPITALISM AND SOCIALISM
WITH A KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES, OR iHo**
by Tony Kushner

KINGDOM CITY by Sheri Wilner

THE PROFANE by Zayd Dohrn

OTHELLO: THE REMIX by The Q Brothers

Meet these writers

and the rest of last year's
class on our *atPlay* Newsletter
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(under **About DPS**).