

MAR 29–  
APR 14



# TROUBLE IN MIND

*play by* ALICE CHILDRESS  
*directed by* AMANDA WASHINGTON

*Sponsored by* **think up**  
CATIE & STEVEN BUCKINGHAM

[warehousetheatre.com](http://warehousetheatre.com)

## Recommended Reading & Resource List

Director Amanda Washington curated the following list of works as companion pieces to The Warehouse Theatre's production of *Trouble in Mind*, which runs March 29-April 14, 2024.

**The Warmth of Other Suns**  
By Isabel Wilkerson

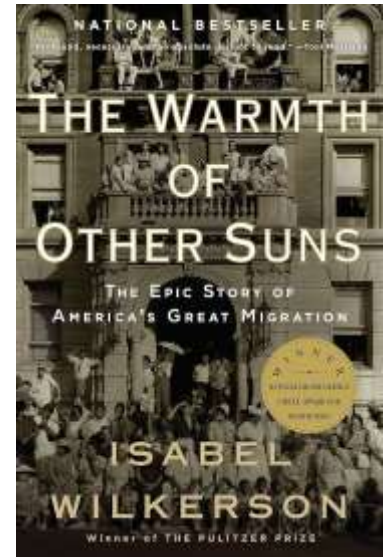
WINNER NATIONAL CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD

Book Jacket:

From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Wilkerson compares this epic migration to the migrations of other peoples in history. She interviewed more than a thousand people, and gained access to new data and official records, to write this definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.

With stunning historical detail, Wilkerson tells this story through the lives of three unique individuals: Ida Mae Gladney, who in 1937 left sharecropping and prejudice in Mississippi for Chicago, where she achieved quiet blue-collar success and, in old age, voted for Barack Obama when he ran for an Illinois Senate seat; sharp and quick-tempered George Starling, who in 1945 fled Florida for Harlem, where he endangered his job fighting for civil rights, saw his family fall, and finally found peace in God; and Robert Foster, who left Louisiana in 1953 to pursue a medical career, the personal physician to Ray Charles as part of a glitteringly successful medical career, which allowed him to purchase a grand home where he often threw exuberant parties.

Wilkerson brilliantly captures their first treacherous and exhausting cross-country trips by car and train and their new lives in colonies that grew into ghettos, as well as how they changed these cities with southern food, faith, and culture and improved them with discipline, drive, and hard work. Both a riveting microcosm and a major assessment, The Warmth of Other Suns is a bold, remarkable, and riveting work, a superb account of an "unrecognized immigration" within our own land. Through the breadth of its narrative, the beauty of the writing, the depth of its research, and the fullness of the people and lives portrayed herein, this book is destined to become a classic.



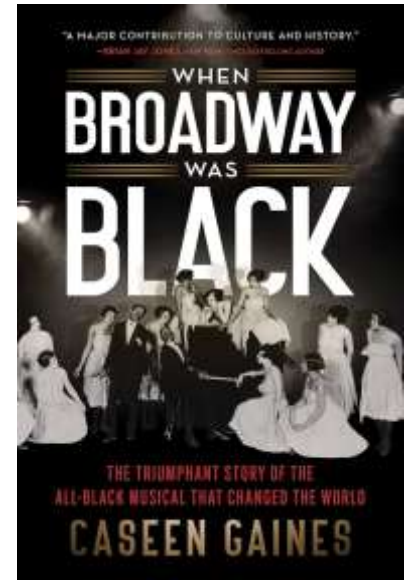
## When Broadway Was Black By Caseen Gaines

### Book Jacket:

If *Hamilton*, *Rent*, or *West Side Story* captured your heart, you'll love this in-depth look into the rise of the 1921 Broadway hit, *Shuffle Along*, the first all-Black musical to succeed on Broadway. No one was sure if America was ready for a show featuring nuanced, thoughtful portrayals of Black characters—and the potential fallout was terrifying. But from the first jazzy, syncopated beats of composers Noble Sissle and Eubie Blake, New York audiences fell head over heels.

When Broadway Was Black is the story of how Sissle and Blake, along with comedians Flournoy Miller and Aubrey Lyles, overcame poverty, racism, and violence to harness the energy of the Harlem Renaissance and produce a runaway Broadway hit that launched the careers of many of the twentieth century's most beloved Black performers. Born in the shadow of slavery and establishing their careers at a time of increasing demands for racial justice and representation for people of color, they broke down innumerable barriers between Black and white communities at a crucial point in our history.

Author and pop culture expert Caseen Gaines leads readers through the glitz and glamour of New York City during the Roaring Twenties to reveal the revolutionary impact one show had on generations of Americans, and how its legacy continues to resonate today.



## Blues People: Negro Music in White America By Hernan Diaz

### Book Jacket:

*"The path the slave took to 'citizenship' is what I want to look at. And I make my analogy through the slave citizen's music—through the music that is most closely associated with him: blues and a later, but parallel development, jazz... [If] the Negro represents, or is symbolic of, something in and about the nature of American culture, this certainly should be revealed by his characteristic music."*

So says Amiri Baraka (previously known as LeRoi Jones) in the Introduction to *Blues People*, his classic work on the place of jazz and blues in American social, musical, economic, and cultural history. From the music of African slaves in the United States through the music scene of the 1960's, Baraka traces the influence of what he calls "negro music" on white America—not only in the context of music and pop culture but also in terms of the values and perspectives passed on through the music. In tracing the music, he brilliantly illuminates the influence of African Americans on American culture and history.





### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Amanda Washington is a cultural worker, director, and intimacy choreographer. She currently works as the Associate Artistic Director at Actor's Express theatre in Atlanta, Georgia focusing on community engagement. Washington also serves as Assistant Faculty for Theatrical Intimacy Education. It has been a pleasure to direct TROUBLE IN MIND at The Warehouse Theatre. Other select directing credits include, CULLUD WATTAH, SUNSET BABY, PANTHER WOMEN: AN ARMY FOR THE LIBERATION and EVERYBODY. To learn more about Amanda visit her website [www.washingtonamanda.com](http://www.washingtonamanda.com).

