

Black Boy

An Evolution of Hunger.

By Richard Wright
Adapted by Wynn Handman
Performed by Charles Holt



Adapted for the stage from Richard Wright's landmark autobiography, this poignant coming-of-age story traces the many boyhood struggles of one of the most important African-American writers of the 20th century – from growing up poor and being abandoned by his father to facing “Jim Crow” prejudice, social injustice and life-threatening racism in early 20th-century America.

Through his love for reading and literature and his own personal writings, Wright finds the courage and power to rise above these challenges and make his mark on the world. Adapted by Wynn Handman, Founder & Artistic Director of The American Place Theatre.

Running time: 50 minutes

Post-show Q&A: 30 minutes

About the Artist

Charles Holt is a product of the south and experienced many of the same issues growing up as a teen in the 1990's as Richard Wright did in the 1920's. After reading the script, Holt immediately identified with Wright's struggles and challenges and was eager to become an ambassador for Wright's passionate words on stage.

A former high school and college star athlete, Charles is now enjoying playing on another field/stage. He recently starred in Disney's *Lion King* on Broadway and was the first African-American to play "Rocky" in a European production of *The Rocky Horror Show*.

He has guest starred on *Law & Order: Criminal Intent* and was a supporting lead in the award winning film, *Anne B. Real*. Charles is also a recording artist and a motivational speaker. As an entertainer, he uses his platform to touch and inspire the world.

Charles is a Rhodes alumnus, class of 1989.