



**McCoy Theatre
Rhodes College
and Memphis Black Repertory Theatre**
present

The Soul of a People

conceived by Harry Bryce

Director	Harry Bryce
Set Designer	Jim Burwinkle
Costume Designer	Gregory Jerome Horton
Lighting Designer	Laura Canon
Technical Director	Laura Canon
Stage Manager	Anders Reynolds
Assistant Stage Manager	Angel Gooden
Production Crew	Rebecca Wolf, Kyle Hatley, Jonathan Harder, John Cook, Matt Reed, Shelley Stenshol, Ashley Sewell, Katie Richter, Dave Hurt, Charlie Patrick
Costume Crew	David Jilg, Angela Springer, Natalia Nagree, Sarah Stepp, Erin Gabbert, Christine Dietz, Bridgette Lacher

A message from President William E. Troutt

Rhodes welcomes the Memphis Black Repertory Theatre to McCoy. What a tremendous learning opportunity it has been for our students to work with director Harry Bryce and his imaginative team of actors and designers. Thanks to his creative leadership, students have had an invaluable experience. We hope that this is only the first of many future creative partnerships.

William E. Troutt

President

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Artistic Associate Gregory Horton
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Memphis Black Repertory Theatre

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MEMPHIS' BEST RHYTHM & BLUES OLDIES

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Company

Sarah Margaret Bridwell
Leisa Brown
Jorge Contreras
Corliss Givens
Thomas Jackson
Chris McKenzie
Cequita Monique
Alyasha Muhammad
Tamra Patterson
Marie Pecorari
Vonzel DeSean Reynolds
Joe Schulz
Terrica Rochelle Singleton
Melvin Turner II
Darius Wallace
Samantha Weaver

- Part I** Southern Soul Searchin': Look Back and Wonder
Part II The New Negro/Dream Variation: Harlem Renaissance
Part III The Soul of a People: How I Got Over
Part IV Stand Still Nature: Your Are My Make Me Do
Part V Soul Is...

There will be an intermission between Part II and Part III

Who's Who

Sarah Margaret Bridwell (Company) is a first-year English major from Columbia, SC, where she appeared in various theatre productions.

Leisa Brown (Company), a teacher by profession, was last seen in Memphis Black Repertory's *Days of Absence*.

Jim Burwinkel (set designer) is a professor of theatre at St. Louis University. He is a scenic and lighting designer whose work has been seen at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The St. Louis Black Repertory Company, and The New Theatre among others, as well as at theatres in Ohio, Massachusetts and Minnesota.

Laura Canon (lighting designer, technical director) is a theatre professor and has designed the lighting for most of the McCoy productions and recently received a Memphis Theatre Award for her outstanding lighting design of *J. B.*

Jorge Contreras (Company), a native of Veracruz, Mexico, has been seen on stage in San Jose and Gilroy, CA. This is his first experience with Memphis Black Repertory Theatre.

Corliss Givens (Company) is a senior religious studies major from Memphis. He is president of the Rhodes Student Government, a Rhodes Ambassador, a member of the Board of Trustees and four-year starter/All Conference football player.

Gregory Jerome Horton (costume designer) is the Costume Designer/Assistant Professor of Theatre at St. Louis University in St. Louis MO. As a designer Greg has a wide range of experience in education and professional theatre. His design credits with Memphis Black Repertory include *Shaking the Mess Out of Misery*, *Day of Absence*, *Old Settler* and *Dream Girls*.

Thomas Jackson (Company), a Rhodes alum, is a computer programmer with Fed Ex. While at Rhodes, he was seen in the McCoy production of *Chicago* and is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa.

Chris McKenzie (Company) is a senior psychology major/English minor from Memphis. Her McCoy credits include roles in *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Canterbury Tales* and will be seen in our next production - *Into the Woods*.

Cequita Monique (Company), a free-lance artist, has appeared in Memphis Black Rep's *Spunk*, *Trick the Devil*, and *Shakin' the Mess Out of Misery* and *All Night Strut* at the Cumberland County Playhouse.

Alyasha Muhammad (Company) is a fifth grader at the Torchlight School and enjoys computers and animals. This production marks his theatrical debut

Tamra Patterson (Company), a senior theatre major from Little Rock, AR, has been seen in *Canterbury Tales*, *Iphigenia and Other Daughters*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Tamra is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and BSA.

Marie Pecorari (Company) is from France where she has a triple major in English, French literature, and theatre studies. Marie is a teaching assistant in the foreign languages department at Rhodes.

Anders Reynolds (stage manager), a first-year student from Little Rock, AR, made his McCoy stage debut with *Canterbury Tales* and will be seen in our next production - *Into the Woods*. He is a Fine Arts Award recipient.

Vonzel DeSean Reynolds (Company) is an administrative/performance intern with Memphis Black Repertory. His stage credits include roles in *The Wiz*, *Dearly Departed*, *Once on This Island*, and *Dreamgirls*.

Joe Schulz (Company) is a first-year student from Raymondville, TX, where he performed in *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Scapino*, *Servant of Two Masters*, and *Farewell to the Clown*. Joe is a member of Hispanic Organization for Languages and Activities.

Terrica Rochelle Singleton (Company), making her McCoy debut, is a senior biology major from Breaux Bridge, LA, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Melvin Turner II (Company) has performed as a percussionist with various jazz and rhythm and blues bands. He is a regular drummer for "Ekpe and Company."

Darius Wallace (Company) has been on stage at Playhouse on the Square with roles in *Wit* and *Peter Pan* and *Dreamgirls* at Memphis Black Rep. He has also performed at the Attic Theatre and the Michigan Shakespeare Festival.

Samantha Weaver (Company), a first-year student from Houston, TX, is a member of AOPi sorority, the field hockey and lacrosse teams and the Catholic Student Association.

Harry Bryce (director) has spent over twenty-five years as a visionary in literary arts, choreography, theatre and arts education. In 1997, after a fifteen-year absence, he returned to Memphis to found the Memphis Black Repertory Theatre, Inc., the only professional black theatre company in the region. In the three and a half seasons, the company has produced nineteen productions and in the process garnered fourteen local theatre awards with marks for excellence in nearly all categories of performance and design. Mr. Bryce has lead professional dance companies in Richmond, VA, and Atlanta, GA, and has taught dance and drama at Spelman College. He worked for several years as an artistic associate with the legendary Vinnette Carroll at her repertory theatre in Fort Lauderdale, FL. As director, choreographer, poet and performer, Mr. Bryce has worked with legendary African American talents such as Al Green, Isaac Hayes, Margaret Danner, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Debbie Allen, Charles Dutton, Nikki Giovanni and Ellen Stewart. He is a native of Richmond, VA, and holds a bachelors degree from LeMoyne-Owen College.