

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Director Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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arenastage.org/about/press-room/press-kits-photos/productions/two-trains-running/
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**AUGUST WILSON'S *TWO TRAINS RUNNING* EXTENDS
BY ONE WEEK DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND
NOW THROUGH MAY 6, 2018 AT ARENA STAGE**

(Washington, D.C.) **August Wilson's** masterpiece drama on the civil rights movement, ***Two Trains Running***, will receive an additional five performances during its run at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater. Under the direction of **Juliette Carrillo** and in a co-production with Seattle Repertory Theatre, ***Two Trains Running*** now plays through May 6, 2018 on the Fichandler Stage.

The cast includes **Eugene Lee** (Broadway's *Gem of the Ocean* and Arena Stage's *every tongue confess*) as Memphis Lee, **Carlton Byrd** (Woolly Mammoth's *Antebellum*) as Sterling, **William Hall Jr.** (Seattle Shakespeare Company's *Othello*) as West, **Reginald Andre Jackson** (Seattle Repertory's *Well*) as Wolf, **Nicole Lewis** (Broadway's *Hair*) as Risa, **Frank Riley III** (Arena Stage's *A Raisin in the Sun*) as Hambone and **David Emerson Toney** (Broadway's *Juan Darién* and Arena Stage's *The Piano Lesson*) as Holloway.

Tickets may be purchased online at arenastage.org, by phone at 202-488-3300 or at the Sales Office at 1101 Sixth St., SW, D.C.

Critical acclaim for *Two Trains Running*:

- "When justice is being done to a play by August Wilson, a serenity takes hold in the auditorium. The assurance that hardship and wisdom, pain and poetry, are going to meet and mingle on the stage with the required quantities of talent and insight puts a spectator at blissful ease. The brow unknits as the emotions engage. This sense of well-being envelopes an audience all the way through Arena Stage's outstanding revival of *Two Trains Running*." —**Washington Post**
- "The ensemble cast is outstanding, each actor creating a character that is believable and memorable." —**Woman Around Town**
- "The entire cast of *Two Trains Running* is a top-flight ensemble of strong, seasoned actors who give dynamite performances of the first order...storytelling at its finest...outrageously funny...a must-see theatrical production." —**DC Metro Theater Arts**

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- “Animated, humorous, and buoyed by strong performances from the ensemble...a first-rate production typical of Wilson’s best work.” –**DC Theatre Scene**

Two Trains Running is generously sponsored by PNC Financial Services Group. Additional support is provided by JMA Solutions. Anonymous support is also provided for *Two Trains Running*.

ABOUT: It’s 1969 and the civil rights movement is sending tremors through Pittsburgh’s Hill District. At the center of the community is Memphis Lee’s diner, slated to be demolished – a casualty of the city’s renovation project. Confronted with a rapidly changing world, Memphis and his regular customers struggle to maintain their solidarity and sense of pride. From Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson comes this masterpiece about everyday lives in the shadow of great events, and of unsung citizens who are anything but ordinary. “Mr. Wilson’s most adventurous and honest attempt to reveal the intimate heart of history.” (*New York Times*)

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Director Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays and impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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