

# WINTER WORDS



## DONTRELL, WHO KISSED THE SEA

BY NATHAN ALAN DAVIS

DIRECTED BY AMEENAH KAPLAN

April 5, 2021

[WWW.AMERICANPLAYERS.ORG/WINTER-WORDS](http://WWW.AMERICANPLAYERS.ORG/WINTER-WORDS)

## **FOREWORD**

Winter Words is one of our favorite off-season traditions. These play readings help fill the void between seasons, and allows us to delve into plays that are new to APT stages. While the series looks different in 2021, it is no less important to APT's mission. In fact, in a year like we've had, it feels even more vital. Each year, we look forward to exploring a new crop of plays with you; to hearing our incredible artists breathe life into these stories. We love the conversations these evenings spark. We love how those conversations continue through the weeks and months to follow. Eventually, we know this bond we've forged together, around our love of language and story, will lead us back to the grounds of APT, live and in person. But for now, we are grateful for this virtual time together. Thank you for sticking with us, for supporting us, for inspiring us.

Welcome to our 7th Season of Winter Words. We are glad you are here.

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## **THANKS TO OUR WINTER WORDS SPONSORS**

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**\* Denotes Winter Words Founding Sponsor**

# DONTRELL, WHO KISSED THE SEA

By Nathan Alan Davis

Directed by Ameenah Kaplan\*\*

## CAST

Dontrell Jones III

Erika

Dad (Dontrell Jones, Jr.)

Mom (Sophia Jones)

Danielle

Shea

Robby

Stage Directions

Lorenz Arnell

Rebecca Hurd\*

Gavin Lawrence\*

Kelsey Scott\*

Edmée-Marie Faal

Liz Femi\*

Hassiem Muhammad\*

Jean Egdorf\*

Stage Manager

Artistic Associate

Artistic Associate

Jacqueline Singleton\*

Evelyn Matten\*

Jake Penner

This reading will be performed without an intermission.

Please join us after the performance for a discussion with the director and members of the cast.

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers

\*\*Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

*Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

*Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* was first produced in a rolling world premiere by Skylight Theatre Company as a co-production with Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble (California), Phoenix Theatre Company (Indianapolis, Indiana), Theatre Alliance (Washington, DC), Oregon Contemporary Theatre (Eugene, Oregon) and Cleveland Public Theatre as part of the National New Play Network's Continued Life Program. *Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* was presented in a development production at CULTURALDC's 2014 Source Festival in Washington, DC.

This play reading is meant for private viewing only and may not be screened for any other purpose. Under no circumstances may it be shared or duplicated. This play reading has been made available in partnership with the employees represented by Stage Directors & Choreographers Society.



The Director is a member of the  
**STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS  
SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

**Nathan Alan Davis** is a playwright from Rockford, IL, now based in New York. His plays include *Nat Turner in Jerusalem*, *Dontrell Who Kissed the Sea* and *The Wind and the Breeze*. His work has been produced and developed by New York Theatre Workshop, McCarter Theatre, The Public Theater, Arena Stage, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Cygnet Theatre, The Lark, NNPN, The New Harmony Project, and Sundance. Awards include: Whiting Award in Drama, Stavis Playwright Award, Steinberg/ATCA New Play Citation, Blue Ink Award and Lorraine Hansberry Award. Nathan is a Lecturer in Theater at Princeton University, a Usual Suspect at NYTW, and a 2016 graduate of Juilliard's Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program. MFA: Indiana University. BFA: University of Illinois.