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U.S. World Theatre Day Message 2017

Kwame Kwei-Armah Bio

Kwame Kwei-Armah is the artistic director of Baltimore Center Stage where he has directed *Marley*, *One Night in Miami*, *Amadeus*, *Dance of the holy ghosts*, *The Mountaintop*, *An Enemy of the People*, *The Whipping Man*, and *Things of Dry Hours*. For The Public Theater in New York he directed *Twelfth Night*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Detroit '67* (world premiere). Other credits include: *The Liquid Plain* Signature Theatre (New York)/Oregon Shakespeare Festival(World Premiere), and *Porgy and Bess* at/with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, *One Night in Miami* at London's Donmar Warehouse and *One Love* at Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Kwame was artistic director for the *Festival of Black Arts and Culture*, Senegal, 2010. He conceived and directed the opening ceremony at Senghor National stadium. Among his works as playwright are *Marley*, *Beneath's place*, (Baltimore Center stage) *Elmina's Kitchen*, *Fix Up*, *Statement of Regret* (National Theatre) *Let There Be Love*, *Seize the Day*, *Tricycle Theatre*. He is an associate Director of The Donmar Warehouse, has served on the boards of The National Theatre, The Tricycle Theatre, and TCG. Kwame was the Chancellor of the University of the Arts London (2010-15), and 2012 was awarded an OBE for services to drama. In 2012, '13, and '14, Kwame was named Best Director in City Paper's Best of Baltimore, and in 2015 was nominated for the prestigious Stage Directors and Choreographers 's Zelda Fichandler Award for Best Regional Artistic Director. In 2016 he was awarded the Urban Visionary award alongside House representative Elijah Cummings by the Center for urban families for his work in the Baltimore community.