

CITIZEN

AN AMERICAN LYRIC

By: Claudia Rankine
Adapted for the screen by
Alise Larder & Dr. Laurie Wolf
Directed by: Alise Larder



**STREAMING ONLINE SEPTEMBER 17-20
7:30 PM, THURSDAY-SATURDAY AND 2 PM, SUNDAY**

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

To my hard-working, talented cast: what an amazing group you are! You literally took lemons and made lemonade with me. You are a marvelous group of artists who were willing to wade into the deep end of a very murky pool with me. It was fast... It was furious... It was fantastic! Thank you all very much!

To our box office manager Jessi: Thank you for answering all of my ridiculous questions. You are so delightful and I truly enjoy working with you. Thank you for never making me feel stupid for asking you the same question six different times... "When is that interview again"? 4321

To my amazing stage managers Lauren and Andre. Thank you for being available all hours of the day and night all while juggling 18 credit hours worth of work every week. Andre, as an assistant stage manager you are an amazing compliment to Lauren. Lauren, if professional theaters in the United States knew what a great stage manager you are, we would not have you right now. You are truly an administrative genius. I never could have made it through this without you. Thank you very much!

To Dr. Laurie Wolf: thank you for seeing in me some thing I did not see in myself. To think, the first time you asked me to direct this show I declined. Thank you for being persistent and making me step outside my comfort zone. Together, we made a wonderful new script. You are a wonderful dramaturge, mentor and friend. Thank you!

To my editors Anthony and Nicholas: I can not think of two students whom I would want to spend that much time hunkered down in a room with other than the two of you. The two of you help me to bring my vision to life. You gave my work shape and motion. I still think the two of you should form an editing company but we can discuss that at a later date. What a wild ride... Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thank you to my father Bruce and my stepmother Debbie. You serve as artistic inspiration. I continue to admire the way you serve The community in Detroit. Thank you dad for all of those summers at Detroit Cultural Renaissance Camp. They were so impactful and helped to shape me as an artist. Thank you Debbie for letting me play in your point shoes way before my feet were big enough for them to fit. Thank you so much for your love and support!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES Cont.

To my two beautiful daughters Sophia and Vivian: both of you are wise beyond your years and way too funny To be so young. Thank you for the laughter, love, and the mildly dirty jokes. It has been said that although children should aim to never disappoint their parents, parents should also aim to never disappoint their children. I hope to serve as a role model to the two of you and show you that hard work does yield results. There is no trick to success. It requires patience and persistence I love the two of you more than you will ever know. Thank you for allowing me to be your mother! Fingerguns!

To my amazing husband Brian: B-Lard thank you for holding down the fort when I had to be up early to shoot video and when I had to stay late to edit. What a team we are! I'm not sure which one of us is Batman and which one is Robin but who cares. You truly are my ride or die. I would not want to be in the fox hole with anyone other than you. 18 years and counting baby! If we keep this up will get our own Cialis commercial where we hold hands while bathing in two superset tubs Thank you for being my partner in life and my very best friend! A-train

And finally I want to thank my mother Bess: if you look in the dictionary under phenomenal you will see her picture. From the very beginning when it was just the two of us you made sure that I was always served artistically. Remember when we would rush across town to make sure I made it to ballet on time? Remember the Rick James concerts in our living room with me on the vacuum microphone and you playing the broom bass? Remember the very first Broadway production you took me to see... It was The Wiz starring Stephanie Mills. I was six years old but I remember it like it was yesterday. You were there every time I got a role in a show and every time I was turned away. You shared in my victories and dried my tears In my failures. Through it all you never stopped believing in me or my talent. Even when I was ready to throw in the towel you were certain that my calling was in theater and that I would not have been given this level of passion for some thing unless I was supposed to be doing it. You keep my head in the clouds and my feet on the ground. You are such a wonderful role model for my daughters. Three generations of women. I love you so much!

Respectfully,

Alise Larder

CITIZEN

By: Claudia Rankine,
adapted for the stage by
Stephen Sachs
adapted for the screen by
Alise Larder & Dr. Laurie Wolf
Alise Larder,
B.S. UTampa, M.L.S. Drexel

CAST

Lela Creamer-W&M '24	Jason Robinson- W&M '22
Chadwick Davilsaint-VCU '23	Brennan Rose-W&M '24
Maddie Furman-W&M '24	Amari Samya-VCU '20
Caroline Gant-W&M '21	Caitlin Snook-W&M '21
Nicholas Hall-W&M '23	Joseph Tapia- W&M '21
Jonathan Kimmel- W&M '24	Aidan White- W&M '23
Bayley Leyshon-W&M '23	Loni Wright- W&M '21
Lily Pond-CNU '23	

Citizen: An American Lyric is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Alise LarderDirector

Dr. Laurie WolfProducer/Dramaturge

Nicholas Bannon, W&M '24 Film Editor

Anthony Madalone, W&M '21 Film Editor

Jessi DiPette Promotions & Box Office Manager

Claire Poirier, W&M '22Promotional Assistant

Lauren Miller W&M '22 Stage Manager

Andre Bizier W&M '22 Assistant Stage Manager

Alise Larder Cinematography

Additional Cinematography ... Jeff Herrick, Nick Hollomon

Music for “Injured” Performed by Leon Alexander

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THEATRE, SPEECH, AND DANCE FACULTY & STAFF

Matthew Allar

Michele Bates King

Bodde Bauer

Jessi DiPette

Sarah W. Dixon

Vicki Fink

Eric Fuchs

Joan Gavaler

Leah Glenn

Omiyemi Green

Steve Holliday

Tamara Johnson

Mark J. Lerman

Phaedra McNorton

Mary Jo Damon

Christopher Owens

Claire Pamment

Denise Ridley-John-

ston

Brian Saxton

Frances Saxton

Janelle Smith-Ings

Francis Tang-

lao-Aguas

Larry Tolj

Denise Damon Wade

Patricia M. Wesp

Elizabeth Wiley

Laurie J. Wolf (chair)