

The Houghton Festival Readings are named for **James Houghton**



James Houghton, the Richard Rodgers Director of the Drama Division at The Juilliard School from 2006 until his death in 2016. Under Mr. Houghton's leadership, the Division nurtured a strong ethos of the artist as citizen through community-wide meetings with artists, activists, and politicians. He instituted the creation of the Drama Division's Master of Fine Arts in the fall of 2012 and further integrated the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program within the Division. Mr. Houghton was also the Founding Artistic Director of Signature Theatre, dedicated to seasons supporting a playwright's body of work. In 2015, Mr. Houghton was honored with the TCG Visionary Leadership Award and the Obie Award for Sustained Achievement. He was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame in 2018.

Tony Kushner on James Houghton:

"He was smart and passionate. He built his singular legacy, founded on his devotion to playwrights' work and to playwrights themselves, with a uniquely sweet, generous spirit; with unflagging optimism; and with grace."

The Juilliard School Drama Division

Evan Yionoulis, Richard Rodgers Director

Richard Feldman, Associate Director

Katherine Hood, Managing Director

and its

Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program

Marsha Norman and David Lindsay-Abaire, Co-Directors

present

the first of two 2018

Houghton Festival Readings

Nicole Clark is Having a Baby

written and directed by
Morgan Gould

**The Pershing Square Signature Center
Ford Foundation Studio Theatre**

December 1, 2018 at 7:00pm

December 2, 2018 at 2:30pm

The Houghton Festival Readings are named for Jim Houghton, the former Richard Rodgers Director of the Drama Division and founder of New York's Signature Theatre, who dedicated his professional life to supporting writers in developing a body of work.

These staged readings, written by our second-year playwright fellows, have an abbreviated 29-hour rehearsal process and are cast with a mix of members of the graduating acting class, Juilliard alumni, and guest artists.

Along with monthly Play Lab readings, quarterly PlayTime sessions, the September Playwrights Festival of workshop productions and end of the year scene showings, these opportunities for Drama Division actors and playwrights to work together on brand new work foster collaborative relationships that will extend beyond their time in the school.

About the Playwright / Director

Morgan Gould's plays include *I Wanna Fucking Tear You Apart* (Beatrice Terry/ Drama League Award Winner, world premiere at Studio Theatre in Washington, DC in February 2017 with Morgan directing, nominated for a Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play), *All the Stupid Bitches* (finalist O'Neill, workshop Playwrights Center), and *Three Fat Sisters*. Morgan is a resident playwright at New Dramatists, member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, a MacDowell Colony Fellow, and an alumnus of the Dramatists Guild Fund Playwriting Fellowship, The Women's Project Lab, the Civilians R+D Group, Target Margin Lab, Lincoln Center Director's Lab, SDC Observership Program, the BAX AIR Residency, Playwrights Horizons Directing Residency and New Georges Writer/ Director Lab. She has previously held staff positions at Playscripts, Inc., Lark Play Development Center, Cape Cod Theatre Project, and was the Associate Artistic Director of Young Jean Lee's Theater Company, where she co-created *Untitled Feminist Show* (BAC/PS 122) and worked alongside Young Jean on the premieres of *LEAR* (Soho Rep) and *We're Gonna Die* (Joe's Pub/ LCT3) and tours of *Pullman WA* and *The Shipment*. Morgan is also the Artistic Director of Morgan Gould & Friends – her theater company with 9 actors, 3 designers, and a filmmaker (www.MorganGouldAndFriends.com). MG&F's work has been featured in and at the New Ohio/ Ice Factory Festival, Dixon Place, The Brooklyn Lyceum, HERE Arts Center, Ars Nova, CAP21, BAX, New Georges, and The Culture Project. Recent directing credits include Leah Nanako Winkler's *Kentucky* (P73/ EST) and *Two Mile Hollow* (2018 Women's Project Pipeline), Young Jean Lee's *Straight White Men* (Marin Theatre Company). And after directing the 2018 Humana Festival production. Morgan will helm the New York premiere of *God Said This* at Primary Stages next month. Morgan holds a B.A. in Directing from Fordham College at Lincoln Center, and a M.F.A. in Playwriting from Brooklyn College.

Cast

Nicole Clark Nicole Spiezio†
 Robert Arnold Darryl Gene Daughtry Jr.
 Helen Clark..... Debra Monk†
 Amy Renna..... Suzannah Herschkowitz

Stage Directions Tracie Lane

† Guest Artist

Staff for Nicole Clark is Having a Baby

Production Stage Manager.....Cristina Sison
 Stage Manager Hannah Nathan*

Literary ManagerAdam Szymkowicz
 Program Coordinator..... Jenny Lord
 Production Activities Manager..... James Gregg
 Director, Professional Apprenticeship Program Helen Taynton

* Member, Professional Apprenticeship Program