



# Red Bone Coon Hound

By: Amy Lee Lavoie & Omari Newton

Staged Reading Lobby Display

# About the Show

## The Stories Within The Stories

The follows Mike and Marissa, an interracial married couple as they navigate the tensions, or the hyperfixation on those tensions, that come with their relationship via distinct and satirical interconnected timelines: the past, the present, and the future. And it all starts with them meeting a dog on their walk.

## **REDBONE** **COONHOUND**



**A PLAY BY**  
**AMY LEE LAVOIE and OMARI NEWTON**

# Prod History

## The Beginning

Commissioned by the Arts Club  
Theatre Company in Vancouver,  
British Columbia

First produced as part of Art  
Club Theatre's Silver Commision  
Program

## Other Performances

Newmont Stage @ BMO  
Theatre Centre

- Date: October 12-22,  
2022

Rolling Premieres at

- Tarragon Theatre  
(Toronto)
  - Feb 7-March 7,  
2023
- Imago Theatre
- Theatre- Denise-Pelletier
  - Feb 7- April 1,  
2023

# Themes

Race: Its impact on people's perceptions of themselves and others

Identity: Its intersection race and relationships

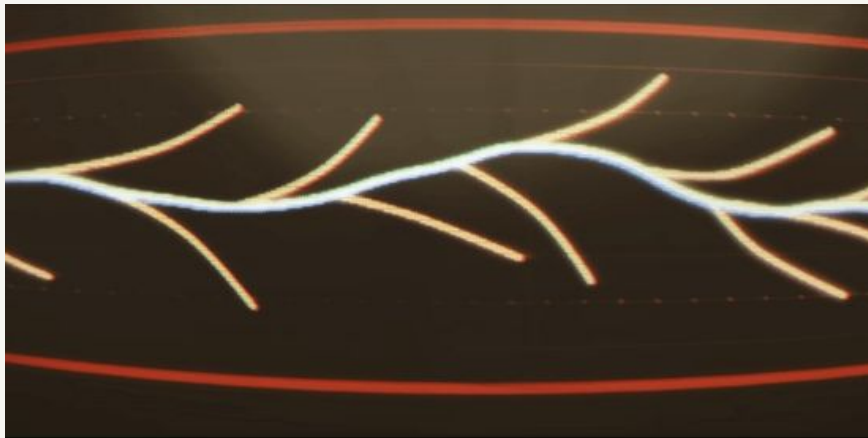
Satire & Parody: Devices used to have the tough conversations

History: Is it cannibalizing itself or repeating itself?

Relationships: Can we engage across differences?

# Why

# The Dual Timelines?



Throughout the reading, the audience will hear about two distinct timelines: one anchored by the present and the other anchored by travelling through a satirical version of space and time.

The latter is prompted by the character's trying to understand the other's point of view regarding a specific topic.

# The Redbone Coon Hound

- The dog is used as a constant in both timelines.
- History of the breed is not well documented
- Mix of Redbones and Irish Foxhounds
- Place of Origins: The South
  - Used to catch runaway slaves.
- Modern Redbone Coon Hound arose during the Civil War Era, became popular during WWII
  - Primarily used to hunt small game



# The Alternate Timeline

The Underground Railroad



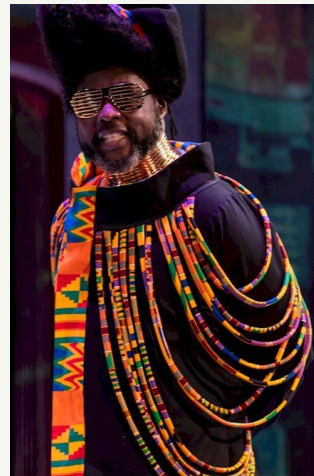
1930s Hollywood



Guess Who?  
Alternate Present



Afrofuturism





# The Underground Railroad



- System of escape routes established to help enslaved people obtain freedom in Canada
- Not a physical railroad, railroad terms used to indicate operations of the system
- Numbers of enslaved Black people reaching Canada
  - 40,000-100,000
- Harriet Tubman played a pivotal role in this work
  - Made 13 trips to rescue enslaved people



# Guess Who?



- Vignette is a play off of the film *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* (1967).
- Movie Synopsis: A white young woman goes on a vacation, meets a widower Black doctor, marries him, and bring him to meet her parents. Her parents must grapple with the fact that their daughter's husband is black and their biases that come with that.
  - The parents are portrayed as somewhat progressive thinkers

# Afrofuturism



- African American history + culture + art + tech + science
- Reimagines the black experience from an empowered and futuristic perspective.
  - Response to systemic racism
- Term coined from Mark Dery's essay *Black to the Future*

# Take a moment to fill out the survey

At the end of the reading, there will be a post-show survey audience members have the opportunity to fill out. We would love to hear your thoughts regarding the show! The QR Code is in the program.



Enjoy the reading!