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Thembi Duncan, Prominent Intersectionalist Director, Brings Pulitzer Prize-winning *Disgraced* to Herndon's NextStop

Casting Announced for Tony-nominated drama *Disgraced*

Herndon, VA / Washington, D.C. – NextStop Theatre Company will be collaborating for the first time with **Thembi Duncan**, a Washington-area director known for her work in youth development and social activism. Ayad Akhtar's *Disgraced* is a loaded domestic drama perfect for the current political climate, and Duncan's experience in social justice and intersectionality makes her the perfect fit for a play devoted to dissecting the cultural, religious, and personal fragmentations in our society. Duncan sees the "actors as proxies for us," and the conversation-starting cast is as diverse as Duncan's own background in theatre.

The actors are all new to the NextStop family, but not to the stage. **Jesse Bahmrah** returns to his hometown of Northern Virginia to star in the role of "Amir," and his co-stars include **Nahm Darr** ("Abe"), **Jordan Friend** ("Isaac"), the founding artistic director of Maryland's *4615 Theatre Company*, **Chaela Phillips** ("Jory"), and **Jenna Rossman** ("Emily").

The production team includes Set Designer **Jack Golden**, Costume Designer **Kristina Martin**, Lighting Designer **Jonathan Alexander**, Sound Designer **Kevin Alexander**, Stage Manager **Keta Newborn**, Assistant Director **Jessica Dubish**, Assistant Stage Manager **Cheyenne Christopher**, Costume Design Apprentice **Marilyn Lopes**, Master Electrician **Jonathan Abolins**, and Fight Choreographer **Kristin Pilgrim**.

Performances are scheduled for Wednesdays through Sundays from September 7th to October 1st, 2017. General Admission tickets range from \$17.50 to \$55. You can buy tickets online at www.NextStopTheatre.org or by calling [866-811-4111](tel:866-811-4111). All seating is General Admission. Additional fees may apply. Performance popularity determines ticket prices: advance booking is strongly recommended. Information on how NextStop is building the bonds of community can be found at www.NextStopTheatre.org/Together.

About NextStop Theatre Company:

NextStop Theatre Company is just moments away from Historic Downtown Herndon, Dulles Airport, Reston Town Center, and Wiehle-Reston Metro. The company has established a strong regional reputation for producing critically acclaimed productions and educational programs, while showcasing a wide array of local talent, Broadway headliners, and locally-driven arts relevant to the community.

NextStop Theatre is made possible in part by generous support from the following valued donors: The Town of Herndon, The Ruth & Hal Lauenders Charitable Trust, The Nelson J. & Katherine Friant Post Foundation, The Arts Council Fairfax County, The Virginia Commission for the Arts, The National Endowment for the Arts, and NextStop's loyal patron donors.

LOCATION:

NextStop Theatre
269 Sunset Park Drive
Herndon, VA 20170

GROUPS:

Group discounts are available for 10 or more tickets in the same transaction using promotion code: "GROUP10". Book online or by phone.

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