

WINNER of the 2025  
PULITZER PRIZE for DRAMA



STEPPENWOLF'S PRODUCTION of  
**PURPOSE**  
By BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS  
Directed by PHYLICIA RASHAD



★★★★★ (OUT OF 5 STARS)

“BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS MAKES QUESTIONS INTO A MEAL — AND SERVES THEM HOT. *PURPOSE* IS A BIG SWING, BUT THAT’S WHAT IT TAKES TO GET A BIG HIT.”

TimeOut NEW YORK



“BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS FOLLOWS UP HIS STUNNER OF A FAMILY THRILLER, LAST SEASON’S *APPROPRIATE*, WITH A FAMILY DRAMA THAT HAS A QUITE DIFFERENT POWER ALL ITS OWN ... PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER IS PHYLICIA RASHAD, WHO DIRECTS HER EXCELLENT CAST WITH INSIGHT AND NUANCE, NO FALSE MOVES FROM BEGINNING TO END.”

DEADLINE

PHOTO BY JAI LENNARD

“A THRILLING BATTLE ROYALE. A HILARIOUS WAR OF ALL AGAINST ALL.”

THE NEW YORKER

DAVID STONE LACHANZE  
UNIVERSAL THEATRICAL GROUP  
JAMES L. NEDERLANDER  
DEBRA MARTIN CHASE  
RASHAD V. CHAMBERS  
EASTERN STANDARD TIME  
JOHN GORE  
ATG ENTERTAINMENT  
MARC PLATT  
AARON GLICK  
TRATE PRODUCTIONS  
NANCY NAGEL GIBBS  
THE SHUBERT ORGANIZATION  
STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENT

LATANYA RICHARDSON JACKSON HARRY LENNIX JON MICHAEL HILL

IN

THE STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION OF

# PURPOSE

BY

BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS

ALSO STARRING

ALANA ARENAS GLENN DAVIS

AND

KARA YOUNG

SCENIC DESIGN  
TODD ROSENTHAL

COSTUME DESIGN  
DEDE AYITE

LIGHTING DESIGN  
AMITH CHANDRASHAKER

SOUND DESIGN  
ROB MILBURN & MICHAEL BODEEN

HAIR & WIG DESIGN  
NIKIYA MATHIS

FIGHT DIRECTOR  
MICHAEL ROSSMY

VOCAL COACH  
KATE WILSON

CASTING BY  
CALLERI JENSEN DAVIS

ORIGINAL CASTING BY  
JC CLEMENTZ, CSA

DRAMATURG  
JONATHAN L. GREEN

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
TIFFANY N. ROBINSON

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT  
BETHANY WEINSTEIN STEWERT

PRESS  
POLK & CO.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT  
321 THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT

DIRECTED BY

PHYLICIA RASHAD

PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
SECOND STAGE THEATER  
BENNETT LEAK LISA LAWER POST

*PURPOSE* WAS COMMISSIONED BY AND ITS WORLD PREMIERE WAS PRODUCED AND PRESENTED AT STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY, CHICAGO, IL  
GLENN DAVIS AND AUDREY FRANCIS, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS / E. BROOKE FLANAGAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

*PURPOSE* WAS CREATED WITH FUNDS FROM THE PRINCE PRIZE FOR COMMISSIONING NEW WORK, WHICH WAS AWARDED TO BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS AND STEPPENWOLF THEATRE COMPANY IN 2015.

*PURPOSE* WAS DEVELOPED AT THE COLORADO NEW PLAY FESTIVAL, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO, 2019.



“THE TONYS HAVE A FRONTRUNNER FOR BEST NEW PLAY... I NEED, AND WANT, TO SEE *PURPOSE* AGAIN.”

THE WRAP



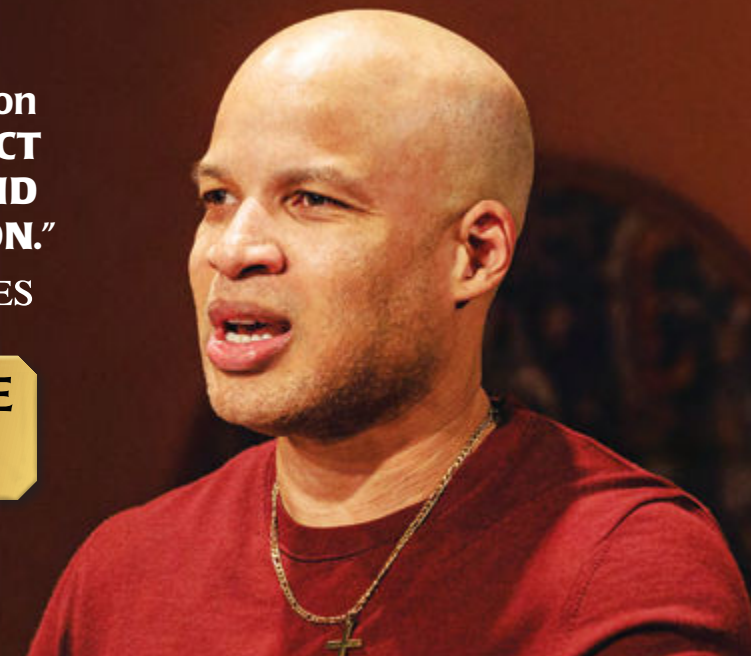
# 6 TONY AWARD NOMINATIONS

INCLUDING

# BEST PLAY

**"GLENN DAVIS** plays Solomon 'Junior' Jasper with **A PERFECT MIX OF CHARISMA AND CRAVEN CALCULATION.**"  
FINANCIAL TIMES

**2025 TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
GLENN DAVIS**



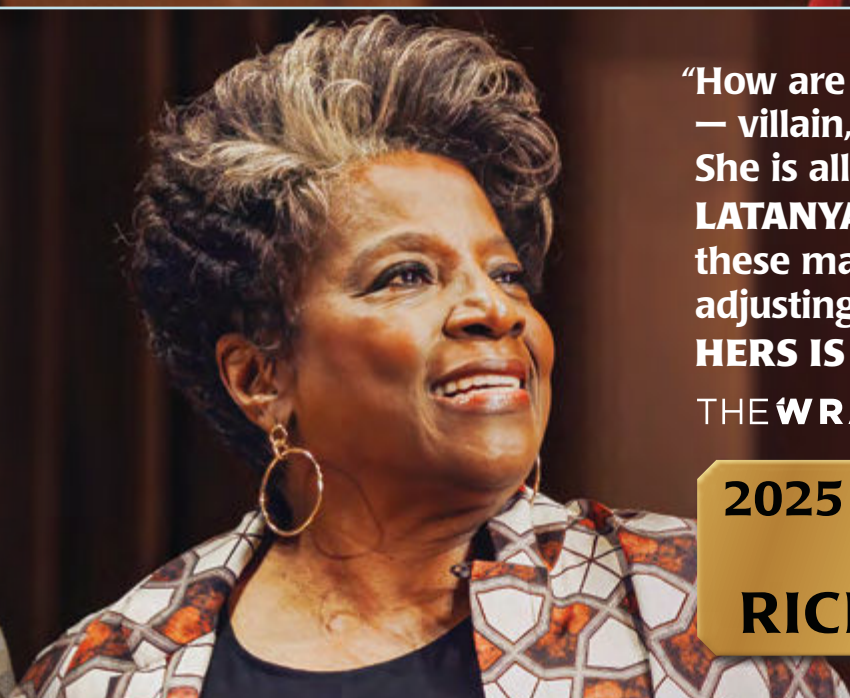
**"JON MICHAEL HILL** is a deeply empathetic actor and **HIS CHARACTER PULLS THE AUDIENCE THROUGH THIS STORY BY THE HAND.**"  
DAILY NEWS

**2025 TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
JON MICHAEL HILL**



**"How are we supposed to perceive Claudine — villain, hero, tragic figure, total monster? She is all these people plus a few more, and LATANYA RICHARDSON JACKSON** achieves these many mercurial changes by simply adjusting the temperature of her voice. **HERS IS A MASTERFUL PERFORMANCE.**"  
THE WRAP

**2025 TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
LATANYA  
RICHARDSON JACKSON**



**"THE PLAY'S BIGGEST AND MOST COMPELLING ARC** in *Purpose* may be the one traveled by Solomon, and the great **HARRY LENNIX** charts it with tremendous nuance. This renowned man of God can be as tyrannical and cruel as Tennessee Williams' Big Daddy."

NEW YORK  
The Sun

**2025 TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
HARRY LENNIX**

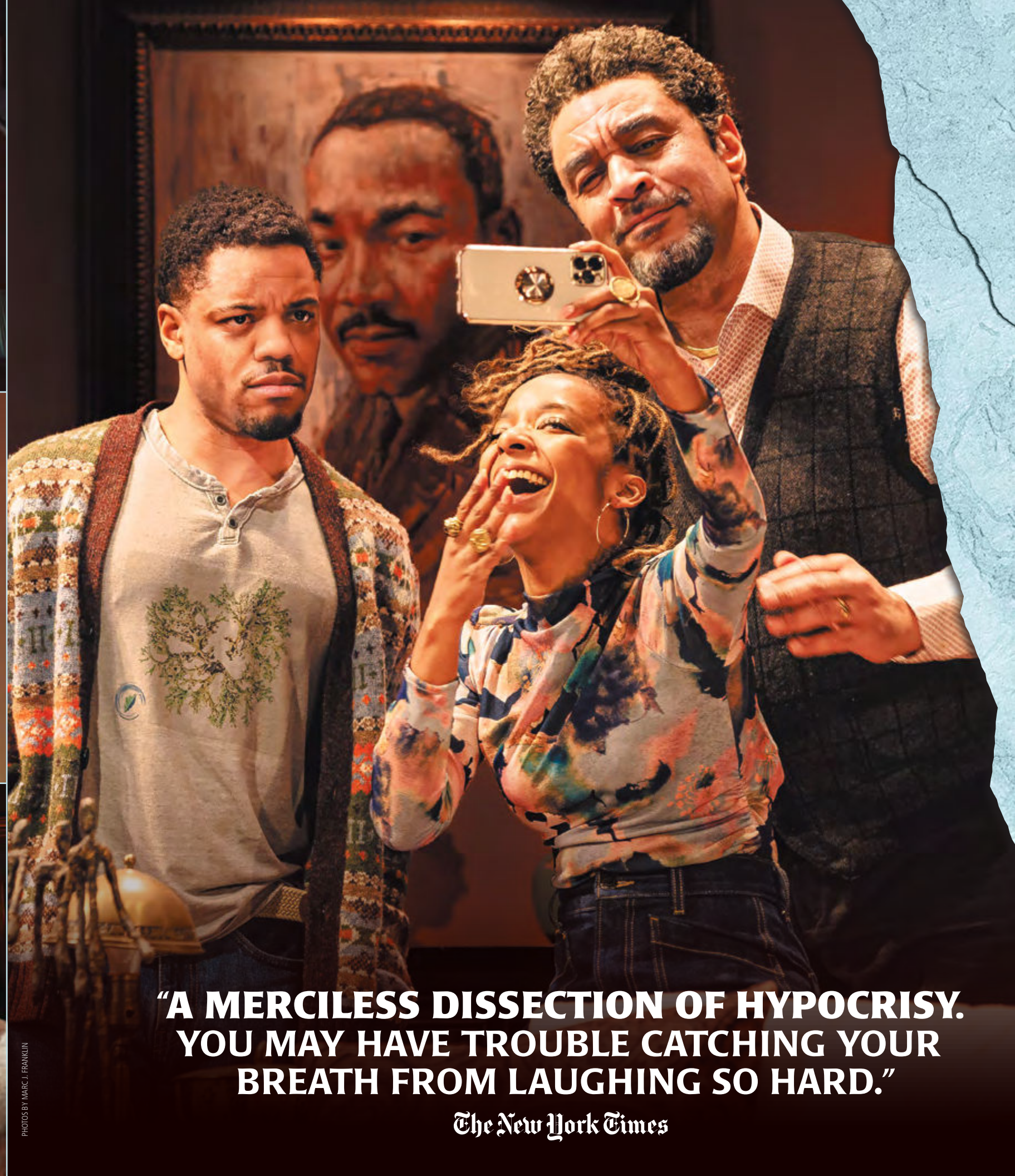


**"The hilarious KARA YOUNG,** playing a woman in awe of these nightly news celebrities, **PRACTICALLY PUPPETEERS THE AUDIENCE WITH COMEDY —** until she breaks them."  
NEW YORK POST

**2025 TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
KARA YOUNG**







**"A MERCILESS DISSECTION OF HYPOCRISY.  
YOU MAY HAVE TROUBLE CATCHING YOUR  
BREATH FROM LAUGHING SO HARD."**

*The New York Times*





**“AN ABSORBING, FIERCELY INTELLIGENT DRAMA THAT IS AS EMOTIONALLY BRUISING AS IT IS DARKLY FUNNY... THE DIALLED-TO-11 INTENSITY RECALLS TRACY LETTS’ *AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY*.”**

FINANCIAL TIMES

**“PLAYWRIGHT BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS’ LATEST IS A FEAST OF THE GOOD STUFF — CRACKLING DIALOGUE, POWERHOUSE ENSEMBLE ... AS ELECTRIFYING AN ENSEMBLE AS YOU’LL EVER SEE.”**

BROADWAY NEWS

**“A BRILLIANT EXAMINATION OF LEGACY, AMBITION AND SHATTERED EXPECTATIONS ... A WHIRLWIND OF A PLAY, THE CAST DELIVERS INCREDIBLE PERFORMANCES AND SEEMS AT EASE IN THIS WORLD CULTIVATED BY BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS AND STRUCTURED BY PHYLCIA RASHAD.”**

VARIETY

**“A FUNNY, HEADY, IRREVERENT EXCAVATION INTO THE PSYCHE OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY.”**

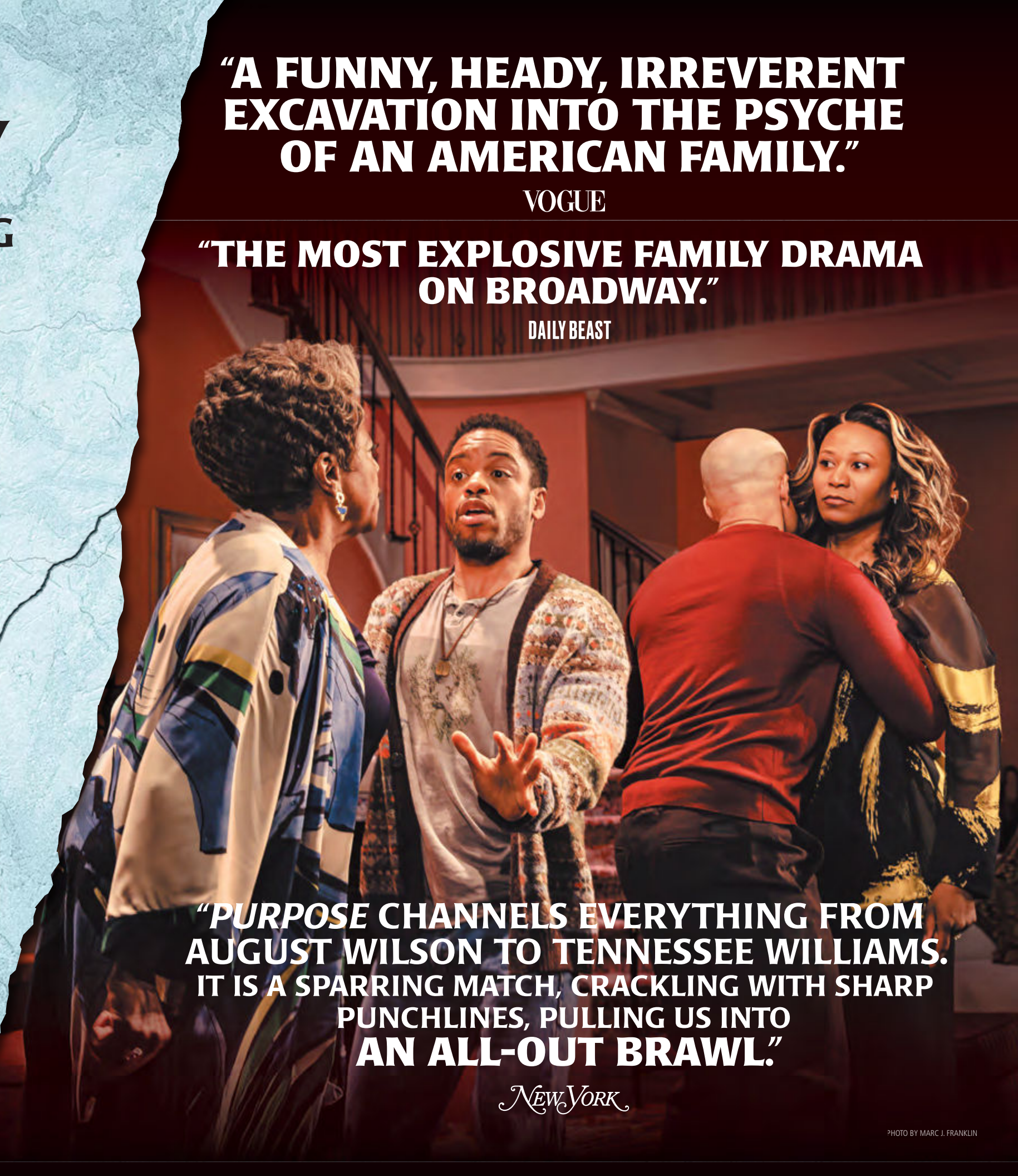
VOGUE

**“THE MOST EXPLOSIVE FAMILY DRAMA ON BROADWAY.”**

DAILY BEAST

**“PURPOSE CHANNELS EVERYTHING FROM AUGUST WILSON TO TENNESSEE WILLIAMS. IT IS A SPARRING MATCH, CRACKLING WITH SHARP PUNCHLINES, PULLING US INTO AN ALL-OUT BRAWL.”**

NEW YORK









**"MY FAVORITE BROADWAY SHOW OF THE SEASON.  
MORE THAN ANYTHING, *PURPOSE* CHALLENGES YOU TO THINK ABOUT  
THE LIFE COURSE THAT WE FIND OURSELVES ON, OR THAT WE CHOSE, AND  
WHETHER IT'S RIGHT FOR US AND WHETHER IT'S ENOUGH.  
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE LOSE OUR SENSE OF PURPOSE SO MUCH THAT  
WE ARE NO LONGER INTACT — AS HUMANS, AS A FAMILY, AS AMERICA?  
IT IS A PLAY THAT MEETS OUR NATIONAL MOMENT."**

—Patrick Healy, Deputy Opinion Editor

*The New York Times*



**"*PURPOSE* IS A MAJOR NEW AMERICAN PLAY...  
A THUMPING BLEND OF TRAGIC-PROXIMATE HORROR  
AND SCHADENFREUDE, IT'S RIVETING TO WATCH."**

DAILY NEWS