

# Taproot Theatre Presents 2022 Season

Featuring comedic favorite *The Nerd*, Agatha Christie's *Black Coffee*, and a premiere cabaret from Seattle's own Russell family

**SEATTLE, WA** – March 9, 2022 – Taproot Theatre Company is thrilled to announce its 2022 Jewell Mainstage Season, titled *Ready to Play*. The 3-play season features the comedy *The Nerd*, *Black Coffee* by Agatha Christie, and a brand new cabaret of stories and songs by Seattle's own Russell family in *A Night with the Russells: The Legacy of Us*.

Producing Artistic Director Karen Lund said, "We have fun and games lined up for you this season. In *The Nerd*, Willum's friends come up with an elaborate strategy to help him deal with an unwanted house guest—and we all know what happens to even the best laid plans. In *Black Coffee*, the indomitable Hercule Poirot matches wits against a killer to solve the puzzle of clues before it's too late. And we're delighted to close out our season by welcoming Faith Bennett Russell, Be Russell, and Sarah Russell back to the Taproot stage. You've seen all three of these women in various plays at Taproot Theatre, but you've never seen them all onstage together! *A Night with the Russells: The Legacy of Us* will be a cabaret of stories and songs to inspire you."

The 2022 Jewell Mainstage Season starts with Larry Shue's *The Nerd* (May 18 – June 18, 2022).

*Three's already a crowd in Willum's house, but it's as tight as a game of sardines when Rick unexpectedly arrives. He's as interesting as quality control at a chalk factory, until his antics jeopardize Willum's career. Sure, Rick once saved Willum's life, but now he's ruining it! Pass the deviled eggs, this party's about to become a saucer-smashing good time!*

Next on the Jewell Mainstage, Hercule Poirot is back for Agatha Christie's *Black Coffee*, (July 13 – August 13, 2022)

*The formula for a secret weapon has been stolen, and that isn't the only mystery in the Amory house! When Sir Claude discovers the theft, he locks his family in the library. Moments later there's a dead body, a room full of suspects, and a Belgian sleuth at the door. Witness the famous Hercule Poirot untangle a jumble of deceptions to discover whodunit.*

Closing out the season, Taproot welcomes members of the Russell family back to the Taproot stage for the premiere of *A Night with the Russells: The Legacy of Us, stories and songs performed by Faith Bennett Russell, Be Russell, and Sarah Russell* (September 21 – October 22, 2022).

*An evening of laughter, love, and unrelenting joy! Seattle's own Sarah, Be, and Faith Bennett Russell carry on their family's legacy as storytellers, while celebrating their individual journeys as Black female artists. From their roots in Jamaica to their home in Seattle, this cabaret is filled with songs both new and old. Bring your tissues and party-poppers and prepare to leave with a song in your heart.*

## **2022 Jewell Mainstage Season Fact Sheet**

**WHAT:** Taproot Theatre Company announces its 2022 Jewell Mainstage Season.

### ***The Nerd***

By Larry Shue

Directed by

May 18 – June 18, 2022

### ***Black Coffee***

By Agatha Christie

Directed by

July 13 – August 13, 2022

### ***A Night with the Russells: The Legacy of Us***

Stories and songs performed by Faith Bennett Russell, Be Russell, and Sarah Russell

Directed by

September 21 – October 22, 2022

**WHEN:** Taproot's 2022 Jewell Mainstage Season runs May through October, 2022.

Performances are Wednesday/Thursday at 7:30 PM, Friday/Saturday at 8:00 PM and Saturday matinees at 2:00 PM. Select Midweek Matinee dates are available for each production.

**WHERE:** Taproot Theatre Company's Jewell Mainstage Theatre, 204 N 85<sup>th</sup> St, Seattle, WA 98103

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** 2020 Subscribers may renew their current subscription until March 25, 2022. New subscriptions for the 2022 Jewell Mainstage Season start at \$60 and go on sale April 19, 2022. Subscriptions may be purchased online at [taproottheatre.org/subscribe](http://taproottheatre.org/subscribe), by mail or by dropping off a subscription form at the Taproot Theatre Box Office at 204 N 85<sup>th</sup> St. No discounts are available on subscriptions.

**SINGLE TICKETS:** Single tickets go on sale for *The Nerd* on April 20, 2022. On sale dates for *Black Coffee* begin May 17, and *A Night with the Russells: The Legacy of Us* will be available beginning July 19. Single tickets range from \$20 to \$50. Discounts on single tickets are available for students, seniors, active military, 25 & Under, TeenTix and for groups of 8 or more.

**SEASON GRAPHICS:** <http://taproottheatre.org/for-the-press/> > Jewell Mainstage Season > 2022 Season. *This link is not to be published.*

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**Taproot Theatre Company** is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Jewell Mainstage Productions, Isaac Studio Theatre Productions, Touring Productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot Theatre Company tells stories of hope, serving the Pacific Northwest through live theatre and educational programs. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) and Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association (PNA).

Karen Lund, *Producing Artistic Director*  
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