For Immediate Release

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**ILLINOIS THEATRE in association with Definition Theatre Company presents**

***The Brothers Size* by Tarell Alvin McCraney (May 29-June 8)**

**The New Short Play Festival (June 11-14)**

Urbana, IL—Illinois Theatre, under the direction of Professor Jeffrey Eric Jenkins and with artistic consultation from Professors Kathleen F. Conlin and Peter Davis, will join forces this summer with Definition Theatre Company, the rising Chicago theatre group. Founded with a Kickstarter campaign in 2012 by a powerhouse of six Illinois Theatre alums (Aurora Adachi-Winter, Kelson Michael McAuliffe, Jessica Dean Turner, Julian Parker, Tyrone Phillips, and Mercedes White), Definition Theatre Company has put Windy City audiences on notice that a diverse, potent new company is ready to challenge the theatrical status quo.

For this first Illinois Theatre residency, the company will remount its 2012 inaugural production of *The Brothers Size*, directed by Illinois Theatre’s Professor Kathleen F. Conlin. This play is part of Tarell Alvin McCraney’s *The Brother/Sister Plays* trilogy, a series that has been performed at McCarter Theater in Princeton, The Public Theater in New York, Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, and the Young Vic in London, among other places. Hailed as “The greatest piece of writing by an American playwright under 30 in a generation or more” (*Chicago Tribune*), *The Brothers Size* is a hot-blooded, music-filled drama that recounts the story of two Louisiana brothers—Ogun (Tyrone Phillips) and Oshoosi Size (Julian Parker)—and Oshoosi’s former jail mate, Elegba (Mercedes White), who enters his post-prison life with promises of a new type of freedom. Poetic language, Nigerian mythology, and stylized movement heighten the environment as the complexities of fraternal love, the impact of poverty, and the true cost of redemption come to light.

Definition Theatre Company will continue its summer collaboration with a four-day festival featuring new short works by an exciting group of playwrights, which includes a new play by Mr. McCraney and four works by Illinois Theatre alums. Full titles and casts will be announced on May 9.

***The Brothers Size***

Th-Su May 29-Jun 1 at 7:30pm

We-Sa Jun 4-7 at 7:30pm

Tickets: 20 / UI & Yth 10

**The New Short Play Festival**

We-Sa Jun 11-14 at 7:30pm

Fr Jun 13 at 10pm

Tickets: 8/ UI & Yth 5

**For tickets and information, please visit KrannertCenter.com or call 217/333-6280.**

**Patrons who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or speech-impaired may also make inquiries via TTY at 217/333-9714.**

For additional information, please visit:

https://theatre.illinois.edu/

http://www.definitiontheatre.org/