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**UVA DRAMA TO OPEN 2014-2015 SEASON WITH POWERFUL
MARCUS GARDLEY DRAMA EVERY TONGUE CONFESS
OPENING OCTOBER 24 AT THE CULBRETH THEATRE**

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – September 26, 2013 – The University of Virginia Drama Department will open its 2014-2015 season with Marcus Gardley’s powerful drama *Every Tongue Confess*, which opens on Thursday, October 9 at the Ruth Caplin Theatre.

Directed by Theresa M. Davis, *Every Tongue Confess* will be presented from October 9-11 and from October 15-17 at 8pm. A matinee performance will be presented on Sunday, October 19 at 2pm.

Every Tongue Confess is presented with the support of the Office of the Provost and the Vice Provost for the Arts, and in cooperation with The Carter G. Woodson Institute for African American and African Studies.

Tickets for *Every Tongue Confess* are \$14.00 for adults, \$12.00 for seniors and U.Va. alumni association members and \$8.00 for students. They are currently available online at www.artsboxoffice.virginia.edu, by calling 434-924-3376 or in-person from noon until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the U.Va. Arts Box Office, located in the lobby of the Drama building.

Every Tongue Confess tells the story of tiny Boligee, Alabama, where the soaring summer heat is only compounded by a series of church burnings that have townspeople on edge and looking for a perpetrator. As the gossip mill churns, secrets escape and form intergenerational stories of love, loss and redemption – against a musical backdrop that combines soaring gospel and soul drenching blues. Marcus Gardley deftly intertwines the town’s history, its TV news headlines, and timeless Biblical lessons to create a fiery theatrical furnace in which some will be saved, some will be purged, and the truth cannot escape.

The Washingtonian said, “Part magic realism, part miracle play, part parable, *Every Tongue Confess* is a sort of epic theater-poem exploring sin, loss, and redemption...Gardley’s script combines humor with raw, searing emotion.” *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* recently called the play a “zestful musical tale imbued with rich folkloric comedy and contemporary truth-telling.”

Playwright and poet Marcus Gardley has been called “the next August Wilson” and hailed as one of the most important new voices on the theatre scene today. Asked to characterize his work, Gardley recently said, “I want to make people dream. I want to inspire people, give them hope, talk about difficult things. Ask big questions... My hope in all my works is to look at history in a new way, to tell the stories that we don’t know, the stories that were hidden.”

Season subscriptions allow patrons the most flexible and inexpensive option for securing the seats and the performance dates they are looking for. Subscribers will receive priority access to seat reservations and fee-free ticket exchanges and replacements. Subscription packages for 2014-2015 are now available and include tickets to all five productions. Subscriptions are \$60 for adults, \$55 for seniors, U.Va. faculty and staff, and alumni association members, and \$40 for students.

Free parking for all U.Va. Drama performances is available at the Culbreth Road Parking Garage, conveniently located alongside the theaters.

To access a photo of the production, visit <https://virginia.box.com/s/dihmdg9n4mv7c8yerk30>

For more information on the production, visit www.virginia.edu/drama.

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