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**ROUND HOUSE THEATRE CONTINUES VIRTUAL SEASON
WITH AWARD-WINNING MUSIC-FILLED MEMOIR**

A BOY AND HIS SOUL

Streaming on demand March 22 – April 12, 2021

Bethesda, Md. (February 10, 2021) – Round House Theatre continues its 2020-2021 Virtual Season with ***A Boy and His Soul*** by award-winning actor, director, and writer **Colman Domingo**. Directed by Round House Resident Artist **Craig Wallace** and starring **Ro Boddie**, *A Boy and His Soul* is streaming online March 22 – April 18, 2021. Please see below for complete program details and ticket information.

Round House's 2021 Spring Season begins with ***A Boy and His Soul***, the story of a young man's coming of age in 1970's West Philadelphia, by **Colman Domingo** (*Passing Strange*, *Fear the Walking Dead*). The recipient of the Lucille Lortel Award for Best Solo Show and the GLAAD Media Award for Best Play, *A Boy and His Soul* is a vibrant journey into Colman's history, his identity, and the soul music that was his family's soundtrack. Resident Artist **Craig Wallace** (previously at Round House in *Homebound*, "*Master Harold*" ...and the Boys) makes his Round House directorial debut.

"I jumped at the chance to direct *A Boy and His Soul*," says director Craig Wallace. "It's a play about Black folks, Black love, and Black family. And most and best of all, it's about Black music, from the days before MTV and mp3s when your local DJ was as important as the mayor. Songs by The Stylistics, The O'Jays, and Gladys Knight and the Pips were shared by everyone in the household and brought whole communities together. We didn't have equality, but we did have Earth, Wind & Fire. If you know this music, come take a trip with us down memory lane. If you don't know this music, come celebrate with us the redeeming, healing power of Soul."

Actor **Ro Boddie** (previously at Round House in "*Master Harold*" ...and the Boys) stars as Jay, marking the first major production of the one-man stage memoir not performed by

Colman Domingo himself. *A Boy and His Soul* will be fully staged and produced at Round House Theatre following COVID-19 safety procedures. The live performance will be filmed, edited, and made available for online streaming March 22 – April 18, 2021.

The actor and director are joined by a creative team that includes dramaturg and Round House Associate Artist – Literary and New Works **Naysan Mojgani**, production stage manager **Che Wernsman**, scenic designer and Round House Theatre Resident Artist **Paige Hathaway**, costume designer and Round House Theatre Resident Artist **Ivania Stack**, lighting designer **Harold F. Burgess II**, sound designer **Matthew Nielson**, props master **Kasey Hendricks**, and director of photography and Round House Theatre Resident Artist **Maboud Ebrahimzadeh**.

Tickets are available now. For more production information, including full creative team bios, please visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/A-Boy-and-His-Soul

PRODUCTION INFORMATION

A Boy and His Soul

By Colman Domingo

Directed by Craig Wallace

MARCH 22 – APRIL 18, 2021

“Keep a song in your heart, and you will always find your way”—that’s what JJ’s mom always said. And sure enough, music is what reconnects him to his family when he clears out their West Philadelphia house to be sold. When JJ finds an old record collection of disco, R&B, and classic soul, he is transported by the vibrant soundtrack of his youth through memories of coming of age and coming out in the 1970s and 80s. Tender, funny, and “blazingly charismatic” (*The New York Times*), *A Boy and His Soul* is a one-man show best enjoyed, according to the playwright, with a glass of scotch and wearing your favorite kaftan.

ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

Colman Domingo (Playwright) is a Tony, Olivier, Drama Desk, and Drama League Award nominated actor, director, writer, and producer. Colman recently received his Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Ursinus College. He is a Juilliard School Creative Associate and on faculty of the Yale School of Drama. He has starred in some of the most profound films in recent years, such as Barry Jenkins' *If Beale Street Could Talk*, Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*, Lee Daniels' *The Butler*, Ava DuVernay's *Selma*, and Nate Parker's *Birth of a Nation*. Upcoming films include Jordan Peele's *Candyman* and Janicza Bravo's *Zola*. He has starred on AMC's *Fear the Walking Dead* for seven seasons and guest stars on HBO's *Euphoria* as Ali. He recurred on Steven Soderbergh's series *The Knick*. As a

writer, his plays and musicals include *Dot* (Samuel French), *Wild with Happy* (Dramatist Play Service), and *A Boy and His Soul* (Oberon Books), the Tony Award-nominated Broadway musical *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* and Geffen Playhouse's groundbreaking musical *Light's Out: Nat King Cole*. His plays have been produced by The Public Theater, Vineyard, La Jolla Playhouse, Humana Festival of New American Plays, New York Stage and Film, A.C.T, The Tricycle Theater in London, Brisbane Powerhouse in Australia, and others. He is the recipient of Lucille Lortel, Obie, Audelco, and GLAAD awards for his work. His production company, Edith Productions, has a first look deal with AMC Studios, for which he is developing television, film, theatre, and animation projects. He is currently writing a new musical for The Young Vic in London/Concord Music and hosting Season 3 of his series *Bottomless Brunch at Colman's* across AMC platforms.

Craig Wallace (Director) is a Round House Theatre Resident Artist *making his Round House directorial debut*. *Craig's past performances at Round House include A Doll's House, Part 2; How I Learned to Drive; "Master Harold" ...and the Boys; Father Comes Home from the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3); Stage Kiss; Permanent Collection; and The Little Prince*. Local credits include performances at Ford's Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Folger Theatre, and others. Regionally, Craig has been on stages all over the country including Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz.

Ro Boddie (Jay) returns to Round House, where he previously appeared in "*Master Harold"...and the Boys*. Off-Broadway credits include *Socrates* at The Public Theater; *Appomattox* at 59E59 Theaters; and *A Play is a Poem* at Atlantic Theater Company. Select regional credits include *Pipeline* at Studio Theatre; *A Play is a Poem* at the Mark Taper Forum; *Blueprints to Freedom* at La Jolla Playhouse; *Skeleton Crew* at The Old Globe; *The Mountaintop* at Cleveland Playhouse; *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* at Baltimore Center Stage; and *The Whipping Man* at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Television credits include *The Good Wife*, *Elementary*, *Person of Interest*, and *Unforgettable*. Ro is an alumnus of University of the North Carolina School of the Arts.

TICKETS:

A Boy and His Soul runs from Monday, March 22 to Sunday, April 18, 2021. Tickets for on-demand streaming are available now for \$30. Tickets can be purchased by calling 240.644.1100 or ordering online at RoundHouseTheatre.org. If you have any questions, our Box Office associates will be happy to assist you. Associates are working remotely, Monday through Friday, 11:00am – 5:00pm.

Available ticket discounts include:

- Free Play – free tickets for all High School students throughout the DC Metro area: Round House wants to make attending our shows an integral part of a Montgomery County education. With *Free Play*, all students aged thirteen through college throughout the DC-Metro area can reserve a free ticket to the performance of their choice during the 2020 – 2021 Virtual Season. For details and information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/Free-Play or call 240.644.1100.
- On the House – community ticket access program: Round House’s next step to remove barriers that can make it difficult for some members of our community to experience our work is *On the House*, which provides complimentary group tickets to qualifying nonprofit organizations interested in sharing the enjoyment of live theatre with their constituents. Applications for all three Spring productions are open now to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and community-serving organizations with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor who are based in Maryland, Virginia, or Washington DC. For more information, visit RoundHouseTheatre.org/On-The-House or email Community@RoundHouseTheatre.org.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Virtual subscription packages to Round House Theatre’s 2021 Spring Season are now available for \$75 and can be purchased online at RoundHouseTheatre.org, or by calling the Box Office at 240.644.1100. As always, subscribers enjoy increased flexibility with free ticket exchanges and pay no service charges. Patrons who previously purchased subscriptions for Round House’s originally announced 2020-2021 Season will be contacted directly about their tickets.

ABOUT ROUND HOUSE THEATRE

Round House Theatre is one of the leading professional theatres in the Washington, DC area, producing a season of new plays, modern classics, and musicals for more than 40,000 patrons each year at our theatre in Bethesda. Round House has been nominated for 197 Helen Hayes Awards and has won 37, including four Outstanding Resident Play Awards and the Charles MacArthur Award for Original New Play in 2016. Round House’s lifelong learning and education programs serve more than 5,000 students each year at its Education Center in Silver Spring, in schools throughout Montgomery County, and at our Bethesda theatre. Cornerstone programs include *Free Play*, which provides free tickets for students age 13-college, the Teen Performance Company, which culminates in the student-produced Sarah Metzger Memorial Play, Summer Camp for students in grades K-12, and a full slate of classes for Adults & Youth.

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