Henry IV - Parts I & II, and “Mercutio” in Romeo & Juliet. David's portrayal of “Charles Dickens” in The Night Before Christmas Carol has now been seen by millions, nationally and internationally, on public television. Additionally, public television audiences have seen him in the national broadcast of EbzB’s War Bonds: The Songs & Letters of WWII - and as a frequent spokesperson with UNC-TV in North Carolina.

**Ian Finley (Playwright)** - Ian Finley is a theatre educator and playwright, most recently serving as the North Carolina Piedmont Laureate in the field of dramatic writing. Finley originally hails from Utah, where he studied at the University of Utah, and premiered You Can Say That Again: A Trio For Secretaries (KCATF 2001) and The Nature Of The Nautilus (Kennedy Center/Jean Kennedy Smith Award winner 2002). Finley received his MFA in Dramatic Writing from New York University’s Tisch School of Performing Arts. Finley currently serves as Head of Drama at Research Triangle High School, and continues to write for regional theatre companies.

**Serena Ebhardt (Director)** - Serena is an award-winning actress, director, playwright and teaching artist. She holds her BA in Dramatic Art from the University of North Carolina, where she was a Paul and Elizabeth Green Scholar. Serena has received training as a teaching artist from John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center Institute, and National Center for Creative Aging. Ebhardt is the co-founder and Artistic Director of EbzB Productions. Ebhardt’s direction includes world premieres and national tours including Nnenna Freelon's The Clothesline Muse, Tim Tyson's Blood Done Sign My Name, and Mike Wiley Productions' Dar He: The Lynching of Emmet Till. Serena edited & directed the first staging of Paul Green's Johnny Johnson using materials derived from the critical edition of the work, published in 2012 as part of the Kurt Weill Edition.
EbzB Productions presents

**Native**
by Ian Finley

directed by Serena Ebhardt

featuring

J. Mardrice as Richard Wright

and

*David zum Brunnen as Paul Green

Time: March, 1941.

Setting: A Room in the Hotel Edison.
New York City.

**Special Thanks**
Laurence Avery, Gil Faison, Paul Freilick, John Harris,
Devra Thomas, Marsha Warren, Minnow Media, Paul
Green Foundation, Weymouth Center for The Arts

**Biographies**

**J. Mardrice** (Richard Wright) - J. gained knowledge of his craft at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Acting. After obtaining his undergraduate degree, J. moved to Durham, North Carolina, which has afforded him great opportunities to work and learn onstage. His work includes “Louis” in Finding Clara and “Brook” in Little Women (Women’s Theatre Festival). Notable regional credits include: “Harry/Gerry” in Cloud 9 (Tiny Engine Theatre), “Vladimir” in Isn’t it Romantic (Cary Arts Players), and “Mike” in Wait Until Dark (Kennedy-McIlwee Studio Theatre). J. received a nomination for a local Pietzsch Award for his role of “Vladimir”. J. Mardrice's performance both honors and stands on the shoulders of the great African-American men and women who faced defeatist hardships and endured unfathomable strife to maintain their voice. We hear you!

*David zum Brunnen* (Paul Green) - David has appeared in a variety of roles on stage over the years - in the US and Canada. He appeared in the widely praised Deep Dish Theatre Production of David Hare’s Via Dolorosa at the Stoneleaf Theatre Festival in Asheville, NC, and in Chapel Hill, NC. Along with productions such as War Bonds, The Wrights of Passage, and others, he has also appeared as “Charles Dickens” in Elliot Engel’s The Night Before Christmas Carol throughout the US. His theatre credits include “Nicholas” in Nicholas Nickleby, “Jesu” in Unholy Trinity, “Mortimer” in Arsenic and Old Lace, “Hotspur” and other roles in

www.ebzb.org