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National Museum of African American History and Culture

Playbill for A Raisin in the Sun with insert essay 'Sweet Lorraine'

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Denzel Washington (Walter Lee Younger), Broadway: Fences (Tony Award), Julius Caesar, Checkmates. Other theatre credits include Richard III, Coriolanus, The Mighty Gents, Spell #7, Ceremonies in Dark Old Men, Every Goodbye Ain't Gone, When the Chickens Come Home to Roost (AUDELCO), and A Soldier's Play (Obie Award). Film: The Equalizer (upcoming), Flight, Safe House, Unstoppable, The Book of Eli, The Taking of Pelham 123, The Great Debaters (directed), Inside Man, Déjà Vu, American Gangster, The Manchurian Candidate, Man on Fire, Antwone Fisher (directed), Training Day (Academy Award), John Q., The Hurricane (Golden Globe Award), Remember the Titans, The Bone Collector, Fallen, He Got Game, The Siege, Courage Under Fire, Crimson Tide, Devil in a Blue Dress, Much Ado About Nothing, Malcolm X, Philadelphia, The Pelican Brief, Mississippi Masala, Mo' Better Blues, Glory (Academy Award), Cry Freedom, and A Soldier's Story. He produced the Emmy-nominated documentary "Half Past Autumn: The Life and Works of Gordon Parks" for HBO and was executive producer of the Emmy-nominated "Hank Aaron: Chasing the Dream" for TBS. Denzel dedicates his performance to his good friend Tony Scott.

LATANYA RICHARDSON JACKSON (Lena Younger). Extensive theatre credits include Lincoln Center Theater's critically acclaimed Joe Turner's Come and Gone (Broadway); for colored girls..., Spell #7, Casanova, and Unfinished Women (Public Theater); Stop Reset (Signature Theatre); August Wilson's 20th Century cycle (Kennedy Center); Boogie Woogie and Booker T. (New Federal Theatre); The Talented Tenth (Manhattan Theatre Club); From the Mississippi Delta (Negro Ensemble Company); The Member of the Wedding (Westport Country Playhouse); Love, Loss...(Westside Theatre); and Elliot Loves (Promenade Theater), Film/TV: The Fighting Temptations, U.S. Marshals, Freedomland, Malcolm X, Mother and Child, Losing Isaiah, "The Watsons go to Birmingham," "Harry's Law," "Frannie's Turn," "Damages," "Law & Order," "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge," and Sidney Lumet's "100 Centre Street." A graduate of Spelman College, LaTanya is married to actor Samuel L. Jackson, and they have one talented daughter, Zoe Dove.

SOPHIE OKONEDO (Ruth Younger) is an Academy Award nominee for her performance in the film Hotel Rwanda and a regular on the English stage. She has been part of the Royal Shakespeare Company, and her first breakout role came playing Cressida in Trevor Nunn's Troilus and Cressida at the National Theatre. She has done many productions at the Royal Court Theatre, which she considers her home, including Stephen Jeffreys' I Just Stopped By to See the Man, and more recently, Joe Pennall's Haunted Child. Her many film credits include Skin (British Independent Film Award nomination, Best Actress), The Secret Life of Bees (NAACP Image Award nomination), and Dirty Pretty Things (British Independent Film Awards, Best Supporting Actress). For her performance in Hotel Rwanda, Sophie was also nominated for Screen Actors Guild and NAACP Image Awards. Her TV credits include HBO's "Tsunami: The Aftermath" (NAACP Image Award; Golden Globe Award nomination, Best Actress) and for the BBC, "Criminal Justice" (BAFTA nomination, Best Supporting Actress), and "Mrs. Mandela" (BAFTA nomination, Best Actress). A Raisin in the Sun is her New York stage debut.

ANIKA NONI ROSE (Beneatha Younger) won Tony and Theatre World awards for her performance in the musical Caroline, or Change, and starred as Lorrell in the screen adaptation of the hit Broadway musical Dreamgirls. Her other stage credits include The Pirates of Penzance;

Encores! productions of The Cradle Will Rock and Purlie; the New York Philharmonic's production of Company; Maggie in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof opposite Terrence Howard, James Earl Jones, and Phylicia Rashad; Footloose; and Eli's Coming (Obie Award), Anika's other film credits include For Colored Girls and Disney's animated feature The Princess and the Frog, in which she voiced Princess Tiana, making her

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[[image: Photo of actor Adrian Lester as Ira Aldridge playing Othello on small stage]]

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