

# Greater Lansing Ubiquitous Theatre

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## Mrs. Harrison

4/1/2023

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The publicity was right. Williamston's Mrs. Harrison raises more questions than it answers.

R. Eric Thomas's script introduces us to two women, one Black, one White, in a "well appointed faculty restroom at a prestigious university" at their 10-year college reunion.

First, applause for that restroom, a masterful set with mirrors reflecting the audience, working faucets, and a beautifully painted "tile" floor. Designer Kirk Domer and crew have created a classy, workable setting for the reminiscences, confrontations, and dueling stories. The intimacy of the small, Williamston theatre enhances the realism of the set and up-close emotions of the actors.

Aisha (Janai Lachen) is a successful playwright and Holly (Alysia Kolasz) is a struggling comedian. They know each other — or do they? "Truth and memory become entwined as details emerge of their shared past," as the blurb describes.

Both actresses are amazing and sincere. Conflict arises over whether Aisha "stole" a story Holly told her years ago the basis for a successful script. I found myself identifying with Holly more... then I asked myself, is it because I'm White? Maybe...

Other "what ifs" occur. What if the White woman were the successful one, who allegedly stole the Black woman's story? I googled, and Director Jasmine Rivera appears to be Hispanic — does that put her in an objective position to direct this Black/White play? Does that matter? As I glanced around, i did not see any Black audience members. I hope that was a this-performance anomaly, as this play deserves discussion from all points of view.

Mrs. Harrison is a thought-provoking hour and a half-ish, no-intermission peek into the real and/or imagined stories of two women — intriguing, entertaining, sometimes funny — running through April 23 (Note: no show Easter Sunday, April 9.)

Get tickets at <http://williamstontheatre.org> where you can choose your own seats — and remember to celebrate the absence of POLES this season! All seats are good seats at Williamston.

NOTE: Williamston's Dark Nights at Billtown staged reading series will present "Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help" by Katie Forgette, a comedic romp with a cash-challenged Irish Catholic family in 1973, Monday, April 10 at 7pm \$10 at the door; no reservation necessary.

## Reviews

Read more about Jane and the creation of the G.L.U.T. on the "[About G.L.U.T.](#)" page.