AUGUST WILSON’S 10-PLAY CENTURY CYCLE

August Wilson wrote the frustration and the glory of being black...in America.

—Ruben Santiago-Hudson

Tony Award-winning actor, Seven Guitars

Considered America’s Shakespeare, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson (1945–2005), created an unprecedented Century Cycle—a play set in each decade of the 20th century—chronicling the joys, struggles, history, and culture of African Americans through the lens of the relationship between an African American father and son. Wilson produced a body of work that is rich with poetic echoes of America’s past and the possibilities for its future.

August Wilson’s unexpected rise from humble beginnings to becoming the winning playwright considered America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare, America’s Shakespeare.

Wilson’s plays focus on the experiences and personal lives of African Americans. Themes of community, identity, diversity, activism, self-discovery, and resilience are explored. The plays are set in specific historical moments and locations, reflecting the social and political changes of each decade.

“August Wilson helps us remember who we are...all of us, as an American people.”

—Suzan-Lori Parks

Playwright, 2002 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama Topdog/Underdog

The August Wilson Education Project is supported by The PNC Foundation.