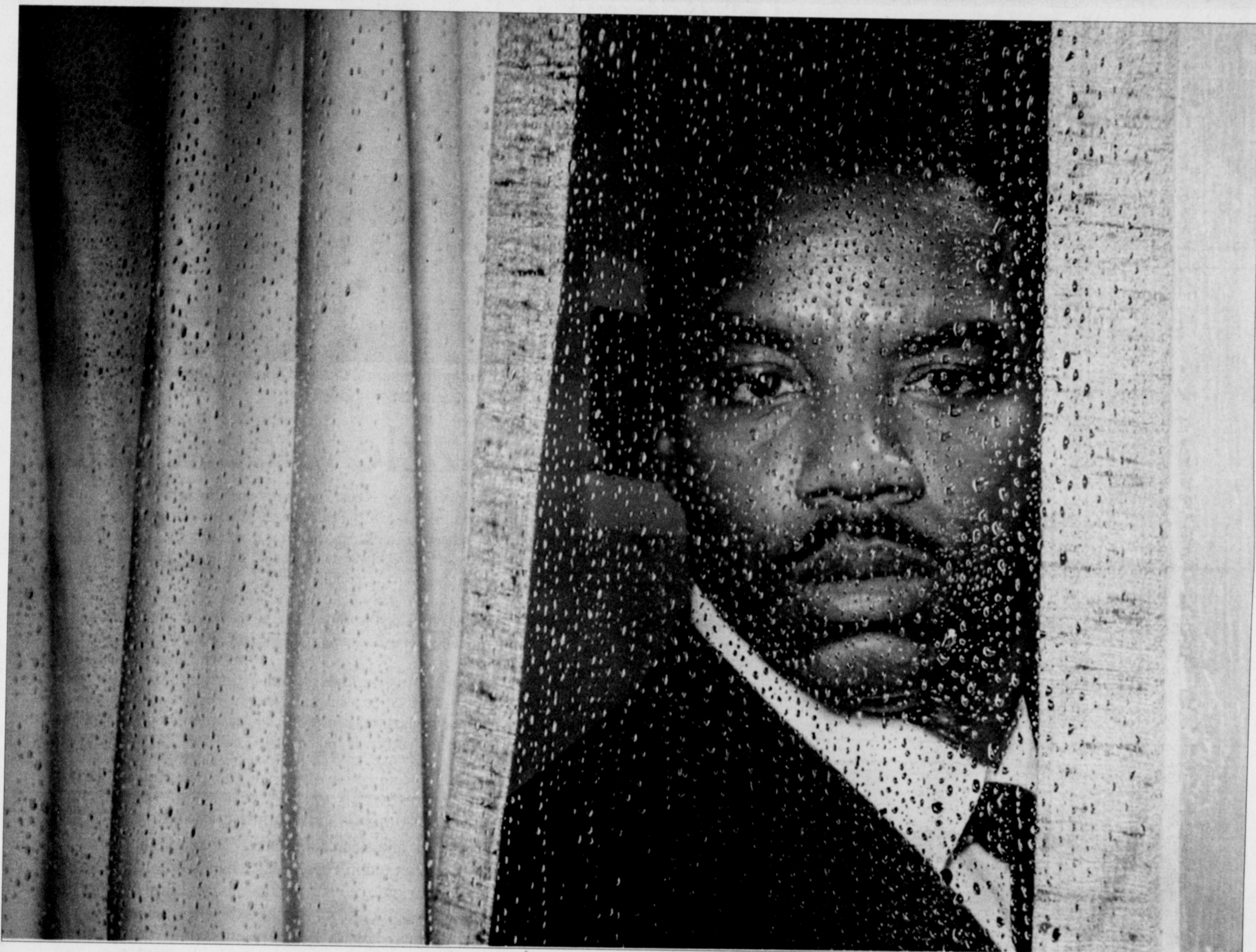


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Rodney Hicks stars as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Katori Hall's *The Mountaintop*. Playing Saturday, Aug. 31 through Oct. 27 at Portland Center Stage. For tickets and information, visit pcs.org or call 503-445-3700. PHOTO BY PATRICK WEISHAMPEL.

The Mountaintop

A final evening with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Memphis. The Lorraine Motel. April 4, 1968. A time and place burned into the American psyche.

But what about April 3, 1968? How did Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spend his last night on Earth?

Portland Center Stage's production of *The Mountaintop*, by Katori Hall, previews Saturday, Aug. 31, opens Friday, Sept. 6 and runs through Oct. 27.

Playwright Katori Hall creates a

surrealistic fantasy in this breakout Broadway hit about a chance encounter between Dr. King and a mysterious hotel maid who brings him a cup of coffee and prompts him to confront his life, his legacy and the plight and future of his people.

"Dr. King was a complex, complicated man carrying a huge burden,"

says Director Rose Riordan. "Katori has constructed a play that will keep us from getting lost in the mythology of who he was."

The cast of *The Mountaintop* includes Rodney Hicks as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Hicks was last seen at Portland Center Stage as Curly in 2011's smash hit *Oklahoma!*

His Broadway credits include *The Scottsboro Boys*, the closing and original casts of *Rent* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, in addition to numerous regional and off-Broadway appearances.

The role of the mysterious motel

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