Bio 250 words

Lisa B. Thompson is an artist/scholar known for her contributions to both academia and the performing arts. Her creative endeavors include critically acclaimed plays lauded for their insightful exploration of the Black middle class. Her plays *Single Black Female*, *Undergroun*d, *Monroe*, *The Mamalogues*, *The Black Feminist Guide to the Human Body*, and *African Stew* have been staged across the United States, off-Broadway, and internationally. The distinguished scholar's works have also enriched the academic discourse on Black feminist theory, theatre, film, and cultural studies. She is the author of *Beyond the Black Lady: Sexuality and the New African American Middle Class*, as well as articles about figures such as bell hooks, Melvin Van Peebles, and August Wilson. Her public scholarship includes co-hosting and co-producing the NPR podcast *Black Austin Matters* along with Richard J. Reddick which highlights Black life, culture, and politics in Central Texas.

Thompson's artistic and academic achievements have garnered her awards and support from a number of institutions including the American Council of Learned Societies, Hedgebrook, MacDowell, Millay Arts, National Performance Network, Michele R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research, the University of California's Office of the President, and the W. E. B. DuBois Research Institute at the Hutchins Center. She is currently the Bobby and Sherri Patton Endowed Professor in African and African Diaspora Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, where she serves as interim Associate Dean of Graduate Education and Academic Affairs for the College of Fine Arts.