



African American Cultural Center Inc.

gatekeeper for urban generations [since 1958]

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PAUL ROBESON THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 SEASON OF DIVERSE NEW PRODUCTIONS

(Buffalo, NY) The Paul Robeson Theatre at the African American Cultural Center 2011-2012 season is an interesting mix of theatrical innovation.

“I look forward to bringing these new works to the Western New York stage. Our featured playwrights represent a mixture of veteran and new artists whose writing talents have been acknowledged by some of the most noted theater critics. Their stories speak directly to African American cultural heritage and enlighten audiences to the breadth and depth of our American experience,” PRT Artistic Director Paulette D. Harris said.

The new season premieres on “Curtain Up” Friday, September 19, 2011, with *Cool Blues* by Bill Harris. Directed by former PRT Artistic Director Edward G. Smith, the action revolves around “B” (a jazz musician so impressive he only needs a single initial to identify him) and Baroness Alexandra Isabella von Templeton, known as “Xan”. When B shows up unannounced at Xan’s apartment, issues of loyalty, love, privilege and friendship arise as quickly as the ghosts of his past.

Every Tongue Confess by opens February 10, 2012 and runs through March 4, 2012. Directed by Laverne Clay, the story is set in the backwater town of Boligee, Alabama, where a rollicking revivalist church engulfed in flame sets the tone. Playwright Marcus Gardley deftly blends gospel music, ancient myth, magical realism and the local TV news broadcast together for a memorable, exhilarating piece.

The season closes with *Three Sistahs* – a musical spin on the Anton Chekhov classic – running May 4 through 27, 2012. In this urban tale, Irene, Marsha and Olive are all that’s left of the Bradshaw family of Washington, D.C. as they gather for the third year in a row for a funeral of what’s left of their family. Written and directed by Tom Jones, the production is driven by a hauntingly beautiful musical score that lifts the audience to compelling heights and a stunning conclusion.

Subscriptions for the PRT 2011-2012 Season are available now at the African American Cultural Center. The subscription for all three shows is \$65.00, \$55 for seniors. Paul Robeson Theatre general admission is \$25; \$20 for seniors and students with a valid I.D., and \$15 for children age three to 13.

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For subscription and more information about the Paul Robeson Theatre 2011-2012 season call the African American Cultural Center at (716) 84-2013 or email africancultural350@gmail.com Visit the African American Cultural Center online at www.africancultural.org