



Dance Mission Theater presents
Harriet's Gun: Shapeshifting Towards a Radically Imagined Black Future
PROGRAM 1: Saturday, May 18

PRODUCTION TEAM

Curators	Adia Tamar Whitaker & Sarah Crowell
Producers	Stella Adelman, Krissy Keefer
Publicist	Stella Adelman
Digital Stage Managers	Sarah Crowell & Stella Adelman
Video Editor	Angie Morales
MC Scriptwriter	Adia Tamar Whitaker

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

Rhodessa Jones

ARTIST BIOS

SHOW ORDER

Dedication

Harriet's Gun 2024 is dedicated to Robert Henry Johnson, a prolific Bay Area Black choreographer who passed away in 2023.

We are also honoring the lives of Malonga Casquelourd, Alicia Rae Pierce, Papa Zak Diouf, Chief Yagbe Awolowo Onilu, Nontsizi Cayou, Mozel Zeke Nealy, Carlos Aceituno, and Iyanifa Omo Oshun Ifadayo Olabinjo Efeya Makala Sampson.

Special thanks to Joanna Haigood who provided video footage of Robert Henry Johnson from Zaccho Dance Theatre's production of "Invisible Wings," commissioned by Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, conceived and directed by Joanna Haigood in collaboration with Diane Ferlatte, Linda

Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir, Kim Euell, Alexander Nichols, Jack Carpenter, Wayne Campbell, Robert Henry Johnson, amara tabor smith, Shakiri, Sheila Lopez, Paul Benney, Ashley Taylor, Robert Ernst, Shereel Washington, Ramon Ramos Alayo, Raissa Simpson.

Introducing Harriet's Gun

Photos: Harriet's Gun performer photos, Destiny Arts Center youth, stock photos

Music: Radical Imagination by The Black Joy Experience, featuring Charlene Carruthers

MC introduction: Written by Adia Tamar Whitaker & spoken by Marc Bamuthi Joseph

Video editing: Sarah Crowell

Harriet: Of Exodus

Director/Creative Director/Choreographer: Jamal Josef

Assistant Choreographer: Kara Mack

Producer: AR Betts LLC

Videographer/Editing: Takeflight Productions/Jin Chohan

Costume Design: Parrish Dove/Alia Simone

Cast:

Harriet Tubman: Kara Mack

Harriet's assistant: Jamal Josef

Enslaved Africans: Brendan Ashleigh, Christopher Battle, Malcolm Dunbar, Rebekah Denegal, Sheaterra Ervin, April Foster, Duante Fyall, Shari Gardner, Janae "Jenger" Jones, Floyd Linzie, Taryn McNamee, Natali Micchiche, Dala Mystique, Christopher Russell, Julian Stokes, Tierra Strike, Janae Stewart-Snider, Merquides Velez, Tai White

born (here)

Dancer/Director: amara tabor smith

Created as part of House/Full of Blackwomen Project

Videography/Editing: Alexa Christine Burrell

House/Full of Blackwomen Project created by: amara tabor smith + Ellen Sebastian Chang

Batéla

Musician/Director: Kiazzi Malonga

Zu Dia Ngoma/ Redtone Records

Mud Water (excerpt #1)

Primarily set in Oakland, Mud Water blends folklore, naturalism, and dance in a story of friendship tested and studded through with ethereal dance performances. The film was selected by multiple festivals including SFFILM Festival, Cinedans, Dance Camera West, and CAAMFest.

Written and directed by My-Linh Le

Produced by Elijah Guess and My-Linh Le

Starring: Philip "Yunghil" Mays, Arthur "DopeyFresh" V. Gardner Jr., Hector "Intricate" Ascencio, Michael "Noname" Chicago II, Mark "Knex" Andrew Barias, Shawn de Ocampo, and Xavier Days.

Cinematography by Elijah Guess

Editing by Reynolds Barney

Sound design by One Thousand Birds
Production design by Isaac Fowler
Original Music score by Adele Woodson Etheridge and Vanicka Chan

Uncle Freddie

Uncle Freddie was created for Brooklyn Academy of Music's Dance Africa Virtual Main Stage. Choreography/Direction/Costumes by lead artist Adia Tamar Whitaker and Musical Direction/Arrangement by project composer Guy de Chalus. In the pantheon of Haitian Vodou, "Gede" names a family of raucous spirits who personify the ancestral dead and sexual regeneration. Today, we begin and end the story with our dear Uncle Freddie. Uncle Freddie had many lives and many wives. He was as "stray dog" as they come. Today is his funeral and his transition into the realm of the "Gede."

Artistic Director | Adia Tamar Whitaker
Musical Director / Lead Composer | Guy DeChalus
Lead Vocalists | Sheila Anozier, Goussy Celestin
Supporting Musicians | Okai Musik, Jean Menesky Magloire
Sound Director | Orion Gordon
Video Director | Orfeas Skutelis
Editing | Natasha Giliberti
Camera | Alex Munro, Orfeas Skutelis, Junting Zhou
Production Assistant | Timothy Prolific Edwaujonte
Production Intern | Aliya Crichton-David
Administrative Team | Aya Lane, Maya Ziegler
Opening Spoken Word Text | Mama Gloria Yamato
Cane Painter | Benjamin O. Rojas aka Mincho Vega
Costume Design & Construction | Baba Haby Fashions
Costume Design & Styling | Adia Tamar Whitaker
Make-Up Artist | Maya Orli Cohen
Make-Up Assistant | James McNally
Miss Muffet aka Auntie aka Gede Zarenynen | Kendra Foster
Male Lead Actor/Storyteller | Atibon Legba Nazaire
Child Lead Actor/Storyteller | Yaaxche Whitaker-Rojas
Supporting Actors | Amah Assoumou, Joy Bell, Erin Bryce Holmes, Coco Killingsworth, Asali Johnson-Smith, Kendall Johnson Smith, Brian Polite
Freddie | André M. Zachery
Freddie's Wife | Alexandra Jean Joseph
Freddie's Old Girlfriend | Persephone DaCosta
Freddie's Mistress | Maria Rivera
Freddie's New Girlfriend | Jovan Clay
Bawon Samedi | Lionnel St. Surin
Manman Brijit | Velede Roehl
Bel Gason | Rami Margron
Gede Nibo | Lamont Joseph
Kapten Senbo | Kevin McEwen

Special Thanks to; The Green-Wood Cemetery, Harry Weil, Frank Morelli, Gabrielle Gatto, Benjamin Rojas, Coco Killingsworth, A Nia Austin-Edwards, Mark Morris Dance Center, Elise Gaugert, Mama Charmaine Warren, Habibah Ali, Velede Roehl, Orion Gordon, Jamaica Itule

The Adventures of Mr. Leftbrain & Ms. Right

A UFLYMothership Production

Shot, directed & created by Tendayi Kuumba & Greg Purnell

Osa Meji | The Great Mothers | A Work In Process

Choreography: Iyanifa Efeya Ifadayo Olaberinjo Makala Sampson

Videography | Orfeas Skutelis

Sound Design | Orion Gordon

Video Editing | Adia Tamar Whitaker

Vocalist & Prayer Warrior | Iya Fasewa Osundamilola AjeEgbe Ifasola Feyemi Akanbi

Performers: Asma Feyijinmi, Kimani Fowlin, Shalewa Mackall

Osa Meji is an odu (a pot or container as defined by the Ifa religious tradition practiced by the Yoruba people of southwest Nigeria and throughout West Africa), that speaks to the power and potency of the Great Mothers. If we are in good standing with them, then everything prayed for will manifest. Osa Meji | The Great Mothers is a section of The Road to Ose Tura dance film created by Ifa priestess, dancer, choreographer, and scholar, Efeya Ifadayo Olaberinjo Makala Sampson before she transitioned into the ancestral realm on August 6, 2020.

[EXCERPT of BLUEPRINT: A 7NMS Production]

BLUEPRINT is the collaborative brain child of 7NMS and team, an experimental documentary and art film stemming from the performance work, Memoirs of a ... Unicorn.

The scene selected to appear in Harriet's Gun 2024 was filmed in Pasadena, CA, blocks from the place where Anthony McClain would take his final steps as a result of gun violence by the Pasadena Police Department in 2020.

BLUEPRINT Credits:

Co-Visioned, Shot, & Edited: Meena Murugesan

Co-Visioned, Creative Producer and Performer: Marjani Forté-Saunders

Sound Design & Score, Co-Produced: Everett Saunders

Thought partner, camera assistance, drone operation and story consulting: D. Sabela Grimes

Colorist and story consulting support: Adelina Anthony

Costuming/Prop: Marjani Forté-Saunders and Mimi Lien

Draft Viewers/Title Assistance: Gabri Crista, Sharon Bridgeforth, Carole Kim, meenadchi, and Monica Williams.

BLUEPRINT was commissioned by Sophiensaale (Berlin, Germany) and 651 Arts (Brooklyn, NY)

Special Thanks to:

The Story Givers: Rick Forté, Everett Saunders, Jumatatu Poe, Jaamil Kosoko, Alzo Slade, Vince Ballentine, Yon Tande

Spotlight in PURPLE: “Faces of Amsterdam Houses”

Directed by Orion Gordon and Veleda Roehl

Executive Producer: Sydnie L. Mosley Dances

Produced by Orion Gordon and Veleda Roehl

Director of Photography: Ayana Baraka

Edited by Amil Cariño Charlemagne

Colorist: Jared Rosenthal

Producer: Ziiomi Law

Associate Producer: Shayla Diogene

Featuring: Angeles Castellanos, Yvonne Jackson, Patricia Ryan, Fernande Courtois, Tanya Hutcheson, Marie Stephen, Zoraida Rivera, Noelia Valles, Frances Edwards, and Rita Johnson

Music: “What does PURPLE sound like? The Amsterdam Houses EP,” available on SoundCloud

Music Producer: Ebonie Smith with Counterfeit Madison

*With thanks to “What does PURPLE sound like? The Amsterdam Houses EP” funders:
Barnard Center for Research on Women, Hi-ARTS*

*And with thanks to Spotlight In PURPLE funders:
Lincoln Center, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation - Humanities in Place, The MAP Fund*

Four Women

A film by Cubacaribe

Producer & Artistic Direction: Jamaica Itule Simmons

Choreographer & Artistic Director: Ramón Ramos Alayo

Music by Nina Simone, Laura Izibor & Ledisi

Cinematographer & Editor: Reinier Charón

Dancers: Adrianay Montero, Dariel Quiala Ramos, Sergio Alai Hechavarria, Rosangela González, Efren Suares, Claudia de la Caridad Reyes, Daryl Caballero Ramos, Creylan Frómeta, Diosmar Cobas

Cameras: Reinier Charón, Adrian Rey, Alejandro Desquiron

Sound: Damian Busqueta

Crew: Rolando Tellez, Roberto Camez

The Road to Ose Tura

Story + Concept by Efeya Sampson

Shot + Edited by Ralston Smith

Produced by Adia Whitaker

Mud Water (excerpt #2)

See notes above

Marooned

Cinematography/Creative Direction by Christian Salazar

Choreography/Performance by Hattie Mae Williams

Score by Datamouth

Wardrobe by Korey Williams

Production/Videography by: Raiden Arocha RKB Productions

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