

LinksHall

Chicago's Center for Independent Dance
and Performing Arts

For Immediate Release 2/4/11

Hi-res digital images available on request

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Baraka de Soleil comes to Links Hall in *Water Moves the Soul Immersed* at Links Hall, February 13, 2011

Chicago, IL- As a part of Sharon Bridgforth's *Theatrical Jazz Institute*, Baraka de Soleil/D UNDERBELLY will present excerpts from, *Water Moves the Soul Immersed* in an ambient environment of voices, natural and inorganic sounds. An experimental body-based work, *Water Moves the Soul*, traces the transatlantic slave voyage from Africa to America; unearthing the ancestral, emotional and spiritual memories of a 'people' – who endured one of the most horrific experiences in World history; a testimony to survival in the midst of loss and longing. The workshop will reflect traditions of the African diaspora, immersed in a post-modern sensibility. Participants will explore conventions of theatre, dance, communal and interdisciplinary performance. The *Theatrical Jazz Institute* will have public events **Sundays, Feb. 13 and 27, and Apr. 10 and 17, at 2pm.** Admission to performances is free and open to the public. Performances are 30 minutes with a 30-minute talk back. Workshops are following the performance are free but limited to ten spots. *Water Moves the Soul Immersed* is Sunday, **Feb. 13 at 2pm.** All performances are located at 3435 N. Sheffield Avenue, on the second floor in Chicago, IL 60657. For more information email Erica Mott at emott@linkshall.org or call 773.281.0824, or register for a workshop online at www.LinkHall.org.

Links Hall is pleased to sponsor the *Theatrical Jazz Institute* produced by Sharon Bridgforth and the Theatre School at DePaul University Chicago. Inspired by traditional Jazz methods of training, this Institute is designed for artists interested in learning about the Theatrical Jazz Aesthetic by *being in the room** with practitioners. Nationally based master Theatrical Jazz Aesthetic practitioners will visit the Institute, offering public talks, workshops and informal presentations of their work. After a rigorous application process the *Theatrical Jazz Institute* is proud to announce its participants: K. Bradford, Eleanore Catolico, Misty De Berry, Marie Casimir, Ching-In Chen, Jonathan Kitt, Constance Michelle Lee, Shannon Matesky, Dalila Paola Méndez, Erica Mott, Stacey Nwokeyi, Kyla Searle, and Isaac Fosl-van Wyke. Apprentice: Ni'Ja Whitson.

PRODUCER/FACILITATOR BIO



Sharon Bridgforth, a resident playwright at New Dramatists since 2009, is a writer working in the Theatrical Jazz Aesthetic. Her piece, *blood pudding*, was produced in the 2010 New York Summer Stage Festival. She is the 2010 – 2011 Visiting Multicultural Faculty Member at The Theatre School at DePaul University. **Ni'Ja Whitson** will serve as Bridgforth's Apprentice in the Theatrical Jazz Institute. Bridgforth and Whitson have been in since 2009, supported formally by Links Hall and informally by their own means and commitment. Whitson, holds an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

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FEBRUARY 13, 2011

WATER MOVES THE SOUL IMMERSSED

Featured Guest Artist: **Baraka de Soleil**

Baraka de Soleil will present excerpts from, *Water Moves the Soul Immersed* in an ambient environment of voices, natural and inorganic sounds. An experimental body-based work, *Water Moves the Soul*, traces the transatlantic slave voyage from Africa to America; unearthing the ancestral, emotional and spiritual memories of a 'people' – who endured one of the most horrific experiences in World history; a testimony to survival in the midst of loss and longing. The workshop will reflect traditions of the African Diaspora, immersed in a post-modern sensibility. Participants will explore conventions of theatre, dance, communal and interdisciplinary performance.

Sunday 2-5pm

Performance Admission at Links Hall is Free and Open to the Public*

*Workshop following is limited to **10 spaces**/ Register online at www.LinkshHall.org

For more information, contact Erica Mott, Education and Community Programs Director, at emott@linkshall.org

Lecture Demo at The Theatre School at DePaul, **Monday, Feb. 14** TBA

FEBRUARY 27, 2011

NOTES FROM AN INTEGRAL'S MANUAL

Featured Guest Artist: **Daniel Alexander Jones**

Sunday 2-5pm

Performance Admission at Links Hall is Free and Open to the Public*

*Workshop following is limited to **10 spaces**/ Register online at www.LinkshHall.org

For more information, contact Erica Mott, Education and Community Programs Director, at emott@linkshall.org

Lecture Demo at The Theatre School at DePaul, **Monday, Feb. 25** TBA

APRIL 10, 2011

BE/HOLDING HOME

Featured Guest Artist: **Lenelle Moïse**

Lenelle Moïse features in *Be/Holding Home*, an evening of poems, performance, essays and music about place, compassion and resilience. The workshop will explore radical voice and movement in an interactive and highly physical performance workshop for actors, musicians, dancers, poets or anyone interested in radical self-expression & improvisational vocal composition.

Sunday 2-5pm

Performance Admission at Links Hall is Free and Open to the Public*

*Workshop following is limited to **10 spaces**/ Register online at www.LinkshHall.org

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Lecture Demo at The Theatre School at DePaul TBA

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APRIL 17, 2011

SPONTANEOUS ACT OF THEATER

Featured Guest Artist: **Helga Davis**

Using a device that allows her to sample her voice and to create a musical soundscapes around a theme that she or an audience member will present. The audience will offer text or musical ideas that get incorporated into the piece. Helga will also use this method to perform some of her own original songs. Helga is coming to lead a workshop which she has led for the last three years at Robert Wilson's summer theater lab, Watermill, with great success. The workshop will offer a body/mind/breath workshop in which participants will use the breath to open the body and the mind to create short pieces which can be performed within just a few minutes of their inception.

Sunday 2-5pm

Performance Admission at Links Hall is Free and Open to the Public*

*Workshop following is limited to **10 spaces**/ Register online at www.LinkshHall.org

For more information, contact Erica Mott, Education and Community Programs Director, at emott@linkshall.org

Lecture Demo at The Theatre School at DePaul, **Monday, Apr. 18 TBA**

Links Hall is located at 3435 N. Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657—convenient to the BROWN, PURPLE & RED line stop at Belmont and RED line Addison stop in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. For more information, call **773.281.0824** or visit www.LinkshHall.org

Links Hall encourages artistic innovation and public engagement by maintaining a facility and providing flexible programming for the research, development and presentation of new work in the performing arts.

Links Hall is supported by Alphawood Foundation, Allstate Insurance Company, Arts Midwest, Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development, The Boeing Company, The Chicago Community Trust, Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation, The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, James S. Kemper Foundation, Lisa Dershin Creative Dance Fund, MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, National Performance Network, The Weasel Fund and many individuals.

Links Hall's Performance Series is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and a CityArts Program 2 grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

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