

ROUTES

The Biweekly Guide to African-American Culture

JULY 8-14, 1991

(212) 627-5241

VOL. I NO. 8 - \$1.00

**LISTINGS INSIDE: ART • CABARETS • CONCERTS • DANCE
RESTAURANTS • FREE-FOR-ALL • THEATER**

THEATRE REVIEW

MITOTE... WOMAN TALK

The play is called *MITOTE...Woman Talk*. The word *mitote* is a Mexican colloquialism which playwright Maisha Baton translates as *woman talk*. The playbill further explains: "*Mitote* or *mito*, as the Mexican men have called it, is an energy, a force that breathes life into an often cold world of male history." The Spanish word *mito* means myth...allegorical fiction, chiefly about a religious [or *spiritual*] subject. Maisha Baton's play, *Mitote*, which unfortunately closed its second New York City run on Saturday, June 29, is as multileveled in meanings and messages as the Spanish words *mitote* and *mito*.

The one-act play is set in New Mexico at a time vaguely referred to as "the American Western Traditional Period". Onstage are three women. Miss Yolanda (Lorenzo), Miss Kate (Jane Galvin-Lewis) and Miss Ruth (Linda H. Humes). The three actresses weave a magical spell as they move back and forth in time and in and out of reality to tell their individual, yet unifying tales of the African-American in the old southwest.

It is the tale of Miss Yolanda and her ghostly, dream lover, Esteban, the Spanish Blackamoor conquistador who made the first passage north from Mexico to what is now New Mexico. Big, black, red-plumed and handsome upon his horse, Esteban moves northward searching for gold and healing the Indians he meets along the way with his herbs and ancient African knowledge; while Miss Yolanda, in her time frame, awaits the return of this lover from a time long past. A lover who not only appears in her dreams but seems to transcend all laws of space and time by leaving love letters about the house.

It is the tale of Miss Ruth's people, the Exodusters, freed slaves who pioneered parts of Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico. Miss Ruth, reading *herstory* from the patterns of her quilt and from the tea leaves tells of things unseen.

It is Miss Kate's tale. Burly, tough Miss Kate of the gentle heart tricked

The United States Army and fought alongside United States soldiers during the war with the Indians—until she was wounded and found out.

Mitote is a woman's tale. It is a man's tale. It is an African-American tale. It is a tale for all people of any persuasion.

Let us hope that it reopens soon—and in theater space more befitting this Jewel performance by three gifted women. *Mitote* is a *Yaffy Productions II* and *Purple Magic Productions* presentation, directed by Anita Gonzalez.

For further information contact Linda H. Humes (212) 840-1234.

—Toni Roberts

L I S T I N G S

CABARETS

**Herbie Mann,
Jasil Brazz**

July 9-14, 9pm & 11pm

The Blue Note 131 W. 3rd St.
475-8592

**Kirk Lightsey, piano
Don Pate, bass**

July 8-13

**Michael Weiss, piano
Peter Bernstein, guitar
Tarus Mateen, bass**

July 14

Bradley's 70 University
Place/11th St. 228-6440

Joe Morello Quintet

July 9-14

Condon's 117 E. 15th St.

St. 254-0960

**Sunday Gospel Brunch
with Johnny Peoples
and the Gospel Crowns**

July 14

Delta 88 332 8th Ave. /

26th St. 924-3499

**The Frank Morgan
Quartet**

July 9-14

Fat Tuesday's 190 3rd

Ave. 17th St. 533-7902

**Judy Carmichael, piano
Mike Hashim, sax**

July 10-13

Knickerbocker Bar &
Grill 33 University Place
228-8490

**Roy Nathanson Quartet
with special Guest Anthony
Coleman**

July 9, 9& 11pm

The Knitting Factory 47 E.
Houston St. 210-3055

Solomon Burke

July 12

Tramps 45 W. 21st St.

727-7788

**Chitlin' Circuit R & B
Musical Review**

Saturdays, 3pm

**David Jennings, Mable Lee,
Dennis Legree, Boncella
Lewis, Tunde Samuel, Jan
Mickens**

Sweetwater's 170

Amsterdam Ave. / 68th St.

873-4100

Natalie Carter

July 14, 7pm

The Ballroom 253 W. 28th

St. 244-3005

Dewey Redman Quintet

July 9-14

Village Vanguard 178 7th

Ave. S. 255-4037

**Junior Mance, pianist
Marty Rivera, bass**

July 8-13

Zinno 126 W. 13th St.

924-5182

•New Jersey•

Fattburger

July 12-14

Trumpets 6 Depot Sq.,
Montclair 201-746-6100

RESTAURANTS

Abyssinia

*Ethiopian cooking, very
informal*

35 Grand St. / Thompson
St. 226-5959

B. Smith's
*Southern & American
cuisine*

Trendy

771 Eighth Ave. 247-2222

Caribe

Jamaican cuisine

Pleasant and informal,
cash only.

117 Perry St. / Greenwich
St. 255-9191

Copeland's
Southern cuisine

A Harlem institution.

547 W. 145th St. 234-2457

Honeysuckle
Southern cuisine

Trendy

507 Columbus Ave 496-8095

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Jamaican "Hot Pot"

Small restaurant of 7-8 tables inside and 3 outside—but has a large reputation for good food at bargain prices.
2260 Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Blvd/133rd St. 491-5270

Jerk Paradise

Jamaican cuisine, Jerk preparation of meats.
252 W. 29th St. 268-7020

Jezebel

Southern/American cuisine
Scarfs, swings and sophistication.

La Famille Restaurant

Southern cuisine
2017 5th Ave./125th St.
534-9909

Livi's Restaurant

Caribbean & Southern cuisine
Informal
29 E. 126th St./Madison and Fifth Avenues 831-4931

Omjavi

Jamaican cuisine
Primarily lunch hour take out.

122 Chambers St. Between Church & West Broadway,
732-1949

Sylvia's

Southern cuisine
Relaxed and informal.
328 Lenox Ave.
(126 & 127th Sts) 966-0660

The Blue Nile

Traditional Ethiopian cooking
103 W. 77th St./Columbus Ave. 580-3232

The Shark Bar

Southern cuisine
Trendy
467 Amsterdam Ave.
874-8500

Third World Café

Third world cuisine
Spices are from west Africa.
A very special little café.
700 W. 125th St./Westside Highway 749-8199

Wilson's Restaurant & Bakery

Southern cuisine
A Harlem institution
1980 Amsterdam Ave. /
145th St. 923-9821

•Brooklyn•

McDonald's Dining Room

Country home-cooking - Tues.-Sun.

327 Stuyvesant Ave. (718)
574-3728

•Queens•

La Detente

Continental and Caribbean cuisines
23-04 94th St. East Elmhurst
(718) 458-2172

Manhattan Proper Cafe

Southern cuisine
217-01 Linden Blvd/
Springfield Blvd (718) 341-CAFE

THEATER

Once on This Island

A musical set in the Caribbean, about a poor girl's passion for the son of a wealthy landowner.
Booth Theatre W.45th St. /
Broadway 239-6200.

Our Young Black Men Are Dying And Nobody Seems To Care

An original music play by **James Chapman** about the destruction of young men by drug abuse, crime, police brutality, alcoholism, poverty and AIDS.

Castillo Cultural Center 500
Greenwich St. 941-5800

Passin'

Thur., 7pm, Fri.-Sat., 8pm,
Sat.-Sun., 4pm

Written & directed by Bonnie Wright, featuring Dan Lorge, Judy Alvarez, Debra Wilson, Bernadette Jones, Rashida Turner & David Lomas

American Theatre of Actors
314 W. 54th St. (Bet. 8th & 9th Aves) 993-0070/
926-9416

Ms. Hazel's House of Heavenly Rest

Sun, 3pm through Sept 1
A Comedy by **Hazel Smith**,
Featuring, Jimmy Hayson, Louise Mike, Jerry Love, Lee Kirk, Kim Yancy, Boysie White & James Smith.

Harlem School of The Arts
645 St. Nicholas Ave.
362-3681

Six Degrees of Separation

Courtney B. Vance
Set in Manhattan, about a mugger who seeks refuge at an elegant dinner party.
Vivian Beaumont Theater /
Lincoln Center Broadway /
65th St. 239-6200

CONCERT

Sinbad with special guest Kim Coles

July 12, 7 8, 11pm
Apollo Theatre 253 W. 125th St. 864-0372

ART GALLERIES

Multi-Cultural Expressions

July 10 through August 18
Seven artists, associated with the Art Students League representing France, Latin America and the United States. Prints, drawings, oil and acrylic paintings and sculpture.
The Cinque Gallery 560 Broadway / Prince St. Room 504 373-2707

Hollingsworth, Greene, Bearden, Lawrence, Olugbefola, Ramen

Design Masters Intergroup
Gallerie 301 Cathedral Parkway 666-8440

Romare Bearden Prints,, Stringfellow, William Carter, Fred Jones & Lester Gunter

By appointment only.
Essie Green Galleries 419A Convent Ave. 368-9635

In Search of Freedom

African-American Abstract Paintings 1945 to 1975
Through July 14

C. Alston R. Bearden, •B. Blayton-Taylor, F. Bowling, V. Browne, E. Clark, A.W. Cowans, B. Delaney, S. Gilliam, R. Grist, B. Hutson, Z. Ingram, G. Jackson, D.L. Johnson, R. Joseph, L.G. Kolawole, N. Lewis, A. Loving, R. Mayhew, A. Miller, M.L. O'Neal, J. Overstreet, H. Pindell, R. Piper, R. Reid, H.B. Rivera, T. Sills, T.J. Streat, A. Thomas, M. Thompson, W. White, J. Whitten, W.T. Williams, F. Wimberley, H. Woodruff
Kenkeleba Gallery 214 E. 2nd St. 674-3939

Maps and Madness
Through the Summer, Mon.-Fri., 9am-3pm

Whitfield Lovell
Algernon Millet
Fred Wilson

The work of fourteen artists in this exhibition represents an array of ways art, through the use of maps, can chart political solutions, ecological dilemmas and the inner self.

Marine Midland Bank. SoHo Branch 599 Broad way / Houston St. 219-9213

Robertson's African Arts
By appointment only.

Small gallery of African artifacts

36 W. 22nd St. 4th Fl.
675-4045

• **Brooklyn** •

Bedford Stuyvesant Center for Art and Culture

Wood Talk, Sculpture by James McCoy

To Tell You the Truth
paintings by Pat Bradley
1368 Fulton St. (718)
636-6948

• **Queens** •

Renee Green, Multi-media works
Mark Hassinger, sculptor and installation artist
Greg Henry, painter and sculptor.
July 13-Sept. 7 Reception: July 13, 2-4pm

Jamaica Arts Center 161-04
Jamaica Ave (718) 658-7400

MUSEUMS &

CULTURAL CENTERS

The Caribbean Cultural Center

The center serves as a meeting place for people of all ages and backgrounds who share a common interest in the cultural heritage of people of African descent.

408 W. 58th St. / 9th Ave.
307-7420

African Traditions: The Language of Beads

July 12 & July 13, 10am-noon
In African and Caribbean traditions, beads are used to tell stories and symbolize emotion. Participants will learn the history of these traditions and how color and

design play an important role in the language of beads. Participants will then "tell their own story" as they create colorful beaded objects. Jose Rodriguez, artist and storyteller. Fee per workshop: members, \$5; non-members, \$8

Cooper Hewitt Museum 2 E. 91st St. 860-6868

African Art
Through July 31

By **Osei Baffour**, artist from Ghana

Africa Explores: 20th Century African Art

Exhibit explores the continuing vitality of traditional art which coexists today with a modern art that is uniquely African.

The Center for African Art
54 E. 68th (Bet Mad. & Lex. Aves.) 861-1200

Through December '91, &

The New Museum for Contemporary Art
Through Aug. 18

The New Museum for Contemporary Art 583
Broadway / Houston St.
219-1222

Designers to the Stars

Costumes from the permanent collection, including *Ann Low: In Memoriam*; TV, Films, Theatre. Daily 12:30pm to 8pm, By appointment only, adults \$1.50 children \$.50

Harlem Fashion Museum
155 W. 120th St. Bet. Lenox and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard 660-1320

Joan Logue: Video Portrait Gallery
Through July 28

Focuses on important women in history.

International Center of Photography 1130 Fifth Ave.
860-1777

Barbara Chase-Riboud
All That Rises Must Converge, painting

Horace Pippin
Victorian Parlor I, painting

Martin Puryear
Tango, sculpture
Metropolitan Museum of Art Fifth Ave & 82nd St.
535-7710

Robert Colescott

Emergency Room (1990) presently on display.

Museum of Modern Art
11 W. 53rd St. 708-9400

The African Presence in the Americas
Through December

African-Americans In Space Science
Through December

Guided Tours by appointment only.

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Lenox Ave. / 135th St.
491-2000

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24 WEEKS SUBSCRIPTION \$18			
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- **Memory and Metaphor**
Romare Bearden
Through August 11

- **Drawing Workshop**
July 6 & 13, 2pm

A two-part introduction to drawing techniques. \$10 per person. Reservations required. Workshops for Groups

- **Mono-Printing Workshop**
July

Studio Museum of Harlem
144 W125th St. 864-4500

American Life in American Art: Selections from the Permanent Collection
Through Nov 10

Jacob Lawrence
The War Series, 1946-1947

Whitney Museum of American Art 945 Madison Ave/75th St. 570-3600

•Bronx•

James Buxton, Painted Wood and Sculpture
Through October 31

Buxton's work involves such personally significant issues as religion and motherhood.

The Bronx Museum of Art Satellite Gallery at Hebrew Hospital for Chronic Sick
801 Co-Op City Boulevard
379-5020

The Nearest Edge of the World: Art and Cuba Now
Through August 4

This exhibition comprises of drawings, paintings, collages, installations, photography and sculpture by nine Cuban artists.

The Bronx Museum of Art
1040 Grand Concourse
681-6181

•Queens•

Langston Hughes
Community Library and Cultural Center

The second largest collection of African-American history and culture in New York City—20,000 volumes of circulating and reference materials. The cultural center is a community museum and a place for cultural activities—film screenings, art exhibits, literature and poetry readings and musical concerts.

102-09 Northern Blvd
Corona-E. Elmhurst (718)
651-1100

•Staten Island•

Black photographers:

1840 - 1940

Through September 2

Gordon Parks, James Van der Zee, Austin Hansen, and the Goodridge Brothers
—nomads who roved in the late 1800s hundreds through New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan shooting portraits.

Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences 75
Stuyvesant Pl. (718) 727-1135

MEDIA

•Film

Tribute to the
Nicholas Brothers
July 8

- **Odds Against Tomorrow**
July 9

Harry Belafonte; Score by **John Lewis**; featuring **Bill Evans**

- **Jammin' the Blues and jazz shorts of the 20s, 30s and 40s.**
July 10

- **Paris is Burning**
A documentary surrounding the lifestyles of mostly gay African-American men who dress up for Balls held at the Elks Lodge in Harlem. The balls were the spawning ground for the dance craze "Vogueing"—popularized by Madonna.

Film Forum 200 W. Houston St./6th Ave 727-6110

Boyz n the Hood, premier
July 8. 7:30pm

By **John Singleton**, starring **Larry Fishburne, Ice Cube. Cuba Gooding, Jr.**

A story about two young men growing up in an urban environment.

Loews Astor Plaza Theatre
1515 Broadway / 44th St.
307-7171

CRUISE

Music Boat

Will Downing
July 11

Seaport Line South Street
Seaport Pier 16 385-0701

FREE-FOR-ALL

Loup Garou, Zydeco
July 10, 5-6pm

Austin J. Tobin Plaza/
World Trade Center

Ron Brown's Evidence Dance Company
July 10, 12:15-1:15pm

Continental Atrium (180 Maiden Lane)

A Salute to Count Basie
July 13, 2:30pm

Featuring the **Metropolitan All Star Band** with **Natalio Carter**.

Donnell Library Center 20 W. 53rd St.

Open Talent Night
July 27

Musicians, singers and rappers

Harlem Branch Library
9 W124th St.

Midsummer Night Swing
Through July 27

Midsummer Night Swingers are moved to a different dance band from big band to salsa to swing—every Wed thru Sat Picturesque Fountain Plaza becomes an outdoor dance club, complete with dance band and refreshments Swing, tango or fox-trot the night away. (\$6)

- **Raul Jaurena & Marga Mitchell, Tango**
July 10, 8:15pm

- **Designer, Calypso**
July 11, 8:15pm

- **Daniel Ponce. Afro-Cuban**
July 12. 8:15pm

- **Swing Fever. Swing**
July 13. 8:15pm

Lincoln Center Fountain Plaza Broadway / 65th St.
877-2011

• **La Traviata, Opera**
July 10. 8pm

• **Felicia Mack-Ware & the Gipsy Kings**
July 13. 3pm

• **Mory Kante & Cheb Khaled**

Mediterranean-African - Algerian music—hybrid of funk-rock-samba.

Rumsey Field in Central Park—72nd St./5th Ave. Mid park.

• **Film**

Class Clown

Through 28 - Tickets available 10am day of performance. Groups must make reservations.

Story about a 7th grader who has a secret—he can't read.

Promenade Theatre 2162 Broadway/76th St. 420-8202

Loup Garou, Zydeco

July 11.12:30-1:30pm

Shearson Lehman Plaza 388 Greenwich St.

Book Discussion

Temple of My Familiar,
by Alice Walker

67th St. Branch Library 328 E. 67th St.

Workshop

African Crafts: Make Your Own

July 12, 10 & 26, 4pm

Osei Baffour, artist from Ghana teaches sculpture, batik, collage, and tie-dye. Countee Cullen Branch 104 W. 136th St.

• **Brooklyn** •

Lecture

Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys
July 10, 7:30pm

Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu

Slave Theater 1271 Fulton St./Bedford Avenue

Prospect Park

David Pleasant, percussion & **MEAME**

July 13, 3pm

Choreographers Elise Long, Pamela Jones, Carlo Ainolfi, Eva Dean & the Laughing Bodies Dance Theater & Jane Real
July 14, 3pm

Saturday events are in the concert Grove Pavilion, near Wollman Rink at Lincoln Road entrance. Sunday events are at the Picnic House, 3rd St. 7 Prospect Park W. entrance, walk to right.

OBITUARY



Cecil Alonzo (Smith)

Cecil Alonzo (Smith) born in York County Virginia, September 9, 1941, the second son of Ethelyn Smith Springs and Otis H. Smith, Sr., was probably best known for founding the Alonzo Players nearly 35 years ago in Brooklyn; or for writing, producing, directing and acting in the critically acclaimed Beulah Johnson, billed as *The World's First Live Continuing Saga* in soap. At its height, Beulah Johnson was serialized in *Soap Opera Digest* and had attracted the attention and even guest

appearances of personalities from Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm to DJ Ken Webb to television soap star Ruth Warrick. As an actor, Cecil appeared in the films *Super Fly* and *Black Caesar* and in numerous plays. He worked opposite Robert Guillaume on the first black radio soap opera *Sounds of the City*. Cecil's play writing credits include *Black Voices*, *Four Hundred Years Overdue*, the popular children's classic *Circus Maxi-Us*, *AWOL*, *Somewhere Between Us Two*, and the futuristic musical 1999 to name a few.

Cecil Alonzo's life works were celebrated by a huge host of family and friends at a fundraiser tribute held on June 2 at St. Luke's Parish House in Brooklyn. Cecil's untimely death on May 31, prevented him from attending his final and finest curtain.