

Maison de Lamar
in association with Blacksmith's Daughter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NIA LOVE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER, CURATES SOCIO-POLITICAL ARTS EVENT IN MARCH AT KUMBLE THEATER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Entitled "Living Fully: Standing for Justice"

NEW YORK, February 19, 2007—Maison de Lamar is pleased to produce *Living Fully: Standing for Justice*, a performing arts presentation curated by Nia Love in collaboration with her dance company, Blacksmith's Daughter. Opening March 15, 2007 at Long Island University's Kumble Theater, in Brooklyn, the three-day event will explore intersections of politics and social issues from a variety of creative perspectives, featuring powerful voices in dance, jazz, spoken word, and mixed media. Many of the performers will teach during a full day of related workshops.

Participating artists include dancer and choreographer Vincent E. Thomas, tap ingénue Maurice Chestnut, multidisciplinary poet Tracie Morris, renowned choreographer Marlies Yearby, spoken word prodigy Autum Ashante', world leader in hip-hop dance and education Rennie Harris Puremovement, multiple Grammy Award-winning jazz artist Wallace Roney, sociopolitical dance company Blacksmith's Daughter, and Zane Booker, artistic director of the Smoke, Lilies and Jade Arts Initiative, one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" in 2007.

Controversial themes rarely approached in performance mediums will be investigated throughout the program: the self-consciousness of racism, the blurring of the political and the personal in suicide, the turbulent by-products of man's attempts to create and find peace, the memorial of an artistic community entirely destroyed by HIV and AIDS, and the complex politics of love and freedom as seen through athletic balances of the self and the communal.

A longtime performer and choreographer collaborating with these and similar themes, Love has gathered these artists because they search for truth through form and thereby answer the most simple and difficult question of all: Why do we live? "Their creative missions and bodies of work have developed highly relevant voices to this artistic-political discussion," says Love. "This is an opportunity to focus on the emotional weight of these issues, contextualizing them through movement and sound, allowing words to share footing with instinct and intangible expression."

Living Fully: Standing for Justice is also a tribute to Love's father, renowned artist Ed Love, and his devoted championing of social and personal justice.

Workshops held all day on Saturday, March 17, 2007 and taught in large part by the event's performing artists will provide the audience opportunities to avoid passive engagements with the themes and movement onstage. A full roster and schedule will become available at www.livingfully.bsddance.org.

Living Fully: Standing for Justice will be presented at 7:30 PM on March 15, 16, and 17, 2007 at the Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts, on Long Island University's Brooklyn campus, at 1 University Plaza; their box office can be reached at (718) 488-1624. Front orchestra seats are \$32 for non-members and \$27 for members; rear orchestra seats are \$25 for non-members and \$20 for members. Students and seniors are eligible for a reduced rate of \$13. The Theatre Development Fund (TDF) is pleased to offer seats at \$18 for its members, and High 5, which encourages teenagers to attend arts events by offering a flat ticket rate of \$5, is also participating.

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www.livingfully.bsddance.org

www.kumbletheater.org

www.tdf.org

www.highfivetix.org

www.maisondelamar.com

Blacksmith's Daughter is a New York City-based sociopolitical dance company. Workshops have been organized as part of Blacksmith's Daughter: Arts Programming.

Maison de Lamar offers production, management, and planning services for small performance companies and solo artists.

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