



Press information
and reservations;
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URBAN BUSH WOMEN IN THE NEW YORK PREMIERE OF HEAT
THURSDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22-25 AND WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 2
8:30 PM
THE KITCHEN, 512 WEST 19th STREET
RESERVATIONS - (212) 255-5793

Urban Bush Women will be presenting the New York premiere of HEAT during their New York City season at The Kitchen. The full-evening multi-disciplinary work is a collaboration between co-director/choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, co-director Laurie Carlos, composer Craig Harris, writers Laurie Carlos, Jessica Hagedorn and Robbie McCauley of Thought Music and visual concepts and lighting/projections designer Leni Schwendinger. HEAT opens Thursday, September 22nd and continues through Sunday, September 25th. The second week's shows begin Wednesday, September 28th and run through Sunday, October 2nd. All of the shows begin at 8:30 PM and tickets are \$10 or TDF + \$5. General reservations are made by calling (212) 255-5793.

HEAT is a work in two sections, "New Moon Fantasies" and "Shelter." The work evokes the many images suggested by the word "heat", from the developing sexuality of adolescent women to the sultry lethargy of a hot inner-city night to the anger of the displaced.

Both "New Moon Fantasies" and "Shelter" incorporate music created by composer Craig Harris and performed by Harris and the four-member Dirty Tones Band. Regarded as one of the contemporary music scene's most versatile and innovative artists, Harris has the rare ability to compose and play an eclectic range of music that combines technical mastery, originality and exuberance. Prose written and performed by Laurie Carlos, Jessica Hagedorn and Robbie McCauley of Thought Music will also be incorporated. A trio of writers and performers, Thought Music presents their personal views and shared experiences through poetry, text, and song. The members of the group, who grew up in the Philippines, in the Deep South, and on New York's Lower East Side, draw on their varied and colorful backgrounds to explore themes of alienation, racism and survival.

Artist Leni Schwendinger, through lighting and projection design visually links the two sections of HEAT. Schwendinger's work for HEAT is distinguished by a bold use of color and by projections which are graphic images abstracted from Afro-American religious symbols. Schwendinger's work can currently be seen Off-Broadway in Sandra Bernhard's performance piece, "Without You I'm Nothing" and in a national tour of the group show, "The Presence of Absence". HEAT is her first collaboration with Urban Bush Women.

These performances of HEAT are made possible in part by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, and by grants from the Meet the Composer Composer/Choreographer Project, Art Matters, Inc., and Poets & Writers, Inc., which is funded by the Literature Program of the New York State Council on the Arts. The participation of Craig Harris and the Dirty Tones Band is made possible in part by a New York State Council on the Arts commissioning grant to Craig Harris, and by a grant from the Pocket Orchestra Project, a program funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust and administered by the American Music Center.