Immediate Release
Contact: Isabelle Deconinck
Tel: 212-255-5793

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Staged Dramatization of Sapphire’s New Collection
of Poetry & Verse

BLACK WINGS & BLIND ANGELS
Sept 24 & 25 [Fri & Sat] 8 PM, $12

Written by Sapphire
Directed by Jaye Austin Williams
Movement by Christalyn Wright
Original music by Kwame Brandt Pierce
Curated by Carl Hancock Rux

“A voice full of slang and attitude that veils a person of unyielding
strength and compassion.”--Elle magazine

The Kitchen celebrates the publication of Sapphire’s new collection of poetry
and verse, Black Wings & Blind Angels (Knopf, October 1999) with a staged
dramatization of the poet’s work directed by Jaye Austin Williams in
collaboration with dancer/choreographer Christalyn Wright (formerly of The
Urban Bush Women) and newcomer Kwame Brandt Pierce (of the
jazz/funk/hip-hop infused band, Three Bean Stew). Blending movement,
music and verse, this evening-length “choreopoem” features text from Black
Wings & Blind Angels as well as scenes from Sapphire’s much heralded debut
collection, American Dreams. The cast includes the author as well as actors,
dancers, and live musicians.

Alive with emotional honesty and intellectual force, Sapphire’s Black Wings
& Blind Angels takes us to America’s past and present, bearing testimony to
the black experience in a country fragmented by war, racism, and urban
domestic violence. The story is one of family and self-transformation, which
tells about the challenging spiritual path back to one’s roots. Exploring the
urban condition in a sensual propulsive and prophetic manner, Black Wings &
Blind Angels promises to be as controversial and heart wrenching as
Sapphire’s American Dreams.

A book signing will follow performances.

Over...