



512 West 19th Street New York, NY 10011
tel 212 255 5793 www.thekitchen.org

Press Contact: Blake Zidell & Associates
tel: 718.643.9052
fax: 718.643.9502
blake@blakezidell.com, or
dave@blakezidell.com

For Immediate Release

The Kitchen Presents Burnt Sugar, The Arkestra Chamber: *The Rise of the Mojosexual Cotillion*

Evening to open with performance by vocalist-guitarist Sparlha Swa

New York, NY, December 17, 2007—On **Friday, January 18** and **Saturday, January 19** at **8:00 P.M.**, **The Kitchen** presents **Burnt Sugar, The Arkestra Chamber** in performances of *The Rise of the Mojosexual Cotillion*, a suite of new trans-genre works inspired by the musical and cultural aesthetic of post-Katrina New Orleans. The music is part acid-funk, part hip-hop, with layers of psychedelic grooves. The evening will open with a set by **Sparlha Swa**, who will be joined by bassist **Shree Shaym**, cellist **Amali Premawardhana** and drummer **Kevin Raczka**. Performances will take place at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Tickets are \$10.

The New York-based **Burnt Sugar, The Arkestra Chamber** is known for improvisatory orchestral performances that conjoin any and all forms of vocal, instrumental, and electronic music. The group is the brainchild of writer, guitarist and producer **Greg Tate**, who conceived it initially as a contemporary version of Miles Davis' Bitches Brew band. The fluctuating, twenty-plus member ensemble draws on influences ranging from Steve Reich, Brian Eno, and Morton Feldman to Billie Holiday and Jimi Hendrix. It explores the connective tissue binding jazz, rock, funk, twentieth-century composition and African music in a lyrical, seductive, exploratory, improvisational manner.

At the Kitchen, the ensemble will feature **Rene Akan, Maya Azucena, Mikel Banks, Paula Henderson, Asim Barnes, Lisala Beatty, Jason DiMatteo, Abby Dobson, Justice Dilla-X, Chris Eddleton, Avram Fefer, Trevor Holder, Jimmy Lee, Bruce Mack, Jared Michael Nickerson, Myles Reilly, Catherine Sikora, Josh Sinton, David Smith, Jeff Smith**, as well as **Tate**.

The Kitchen engagement follows a history of performances by **Burnt Sugar, The Arkestra Chamber** at such prestigious venues as the Royal Festival Hall in London, The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., The Concert of Colors in Detroit, The Empty Bottle In Chicago, Central Park Summerstage in New York, Banlieues Bleues in Paris, France, Jazz Al Dia in San Sebastian, Spain, Musiques de Nuit in Bordeaux, France in 2004, and The Richmond Museum of Fine Arts' esteemed Fast Forward series.

Sparlha Swa has toured Canada, Europe, Caribbean, Japan, and Hawaii. With the release of her album *In The Distance* on Japanese record label Village Again, a music video in global rotation on BET Jazz, and songs on the television show "Girlfriends" and in several independent films, Swa is gaining momentum and garnering international acclaim. She has performed at venues including Joe's Pub (New York), The Cotton Club (Tokyo), and the Jazz Café (London). Her music is a mixture of virtuosic vocals and haunting modal chords. Swa is currently working on her second album in NYC.

Funding Credits

This program is made possible with generous support from The Amphion Foundation, the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, the Aaron Copland Fund for Music, The Greenwall Foundation The New York State Music Fund, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:

212.255. 5793 x 11

Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

The Kitchen

512 West 19th Street

New York, NY 10011

www.thekitchen.org

#####