



THE KITCHEN

512 WEST 10TH STREET · BETWEEN 10TH AND 11TH AVENUES · NEW YORK CITY · 10011 · (212) 255-5793

The
Kitchen
Center
for
Video
Music
Dance
Performance
Film
and
Literature

For immediate release,
March 13, 1993
Contact: Eric Latzky or Meg Daly
212-255-5793

URBAN BUSH WOMEN

Thursday, April 29 - Sunday, May 2, 1993

Wednesday, May 5 - Sunday, May 9, 1993

Wednesdays - Saturdays, 8:30pm

Sundays, 3pm

Tickets: \$15, Members \$10

The Kitchen is pleased to present Urban Bush Women in the New York premiere of *Lifedance III... The Empress (Womb Wars)*. This is the latest in a series of works based on a highly personalized odyssey into the major arcana of the Tarot. The text, by Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, deals with women and reproductive issues, gender issues relating to divinity, and alternative healing processes. Also on the program will be the work-in-progress, *Nyabinghi Dreamtime*, which explores the dynamics of spiritual states in relation to the Nyabinghi rural Rastafarian tradition in Jamaica. Performers for this production will be Terri Cousar, Maia Claire Garrison, Christine King, Treva Offutt, E. Gaynell Sherrod, Junior "Gabu" Wedderburn, Valerie Winborne and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar.

Urban Bush Women was established in 1984 by Artistic Director Jawole Willa Jo Zollar to realize a creative vision continuously enriched by the folklore and religious traditions of Africans throughout the diaspora. Through movement, live music, a capella vocalizations, and the drama and wit of the spoken word, Urban Bush Women explores the struggle, growth, transformation and survival of the human spirit. In addition to its performance commitment, Urban Bush Women fosters cross-cultural exchange through educational workshops and long-term residencies.

Urban Bush Women has toured extensively throughout the United States and internationally, including the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival (U.S.), the National Black Arts Festival (U.S.), and the Lodrina International Theater Festival (Brazil). The company has presented major seasons in New York City at Ethnic Folk Arts Center, Clark Center for the Performing Arts, La MaMa Etc., The Kitchen, Serious Fun! at Lincoln Center and in the Next Wave Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Residencies have been sponsored by the Wexner Center, UCLA, Hancher Auditorium, and the Society for the Performing Arts in Houston.

"Urban Bush Women, the ensemble that Jawole Willa Jo Zollar has assembled and sustained, takes women's bodies, racist myths, sexist stereotypes, post-modern dance conventions and the 'science' of hip-hop and catapults them over the rainbow, so they come tumbling out of the grin of the man in the moon."

—Ntozake Shange

The New York Times