# **COMING EVENTS**

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### Fall 2002

## **YORK CHORUS**

**St Clement Pope Church** Sun., Dec. 01 at 3:00 PM

York College Atrium Sun., Dec. 15 at 3:00 PM

## JAZZ WORKSHOP CONCERT

In Cafeteria of York College Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 12 Noon

In Little Theatre at York College Friday, Dec. 13 at 7:30 PM

York College Theatre Presents: TALLALO York College Theatre Students Read Literature From Their Ethnic Backgrounds 94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11451 (718)262-2400

#### NOTES ON CALLALOO

I have developed and directed seven separate theatre events entitled Callaloo: York Theatre Students Read Literature From Their Ethnic Backgrounds.

The name Callaloo comes from a plant that grows in the Caribbean and a stew of which that plant is an ingredient. To use this name as the title of the performance piece (No one knew there would be another one.) was suggested by Christopher Diaz and Roger Drysdale, Trinidadians who appeared on the first Callaloo. Callaloo I was presented March 1989, in an Academic Core lecture hall; Callaloo 2 opened the new theatre.

Thornton Wilder once defined theatre as "one of the most immediate ways a human being can show another human being what it means to be a human being." This definition is especially applicable to Callaloo. As students introduce themselves and their selections, they recount family history and show family photo slides, giving a very personal flavor to their presentations. At times they tell about faraway places and unfamiliar experiences. For example, Manyin Lee (Callaloo 2) told about her incarceration in a Mao prison for nine years and nine months.

The research of family history and appropriate literature by students is an important part of Callaloo, and this research often takes students into literary areas of which they have had no previous knowledge. As director, I try to help each student find the best vehicle for his/her performance development while keeping a balance between contemporary culture and the classics. Students with multi-ethnic backgrounds may perform material representing more than one aspect of their heritages.

All the literature and family stories point to diversity, yet at the same time reveal what we have in common, "what it means to be a human being."

Previous Callaloo performers are listed elsewhere in this program.

**Barbara** Nickolich

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# PERFORMERS FROM PAST CALALOO PRODUCTIONS

African American Iris Goode Lizzi Jackson (German/Cherokee) Jamal Jones Roberta McPherson **Tommie Moore** Sonji Phillips Karolyn Rinehardt (German) Gloria Lowery Tyrell Sean White

Bengali Rumana Ahmed

Chinese Lou Ling Chen Manyin Li

Dominican Jose Sanchez

Ecuadorian Janet Cruz

English Nadine Pritchard (Italian)

Ghanian Kwasi Addo

Guvanese

Lynda Bactawar Richard Ishamel (Indian/Portuguese) Ramona Mackhrandilal Fazeeda Smartt (Indian)

Haitian **Reginal Denise** Carine Ganthier **Ghislaine Sulmers** 

Jamaican Maureen Bell Mable V. Eaton Marlon Mears Diana O'Gilvie (Chinese) **Douglas Seaton** Sonya Shaw Tanishia Simpson Tsahi Simpson Taryn Wright

Japanese Daisuke Uchiyama

Polish Mathew Sarkowicz

**Puerto Rican** Cheyenne Aldamuy Hector Hernandez Carmen Torres Gladys Rosario Vann

Salvadorian Reina Ventura

Sierra Leonean Jennifer Horton

Trinidadian Christopher Diaz Roger Drysdale (Portugese) Seneca Lovelace

Vietnamese Linh Brown (Chinese)

## York College Performing and Fine Arts Department

Barbara Nickolich, Chairperson, Joycelyn Heywood Administrative Assistant

> SPEECH COMMUNICATIONS **Prof. Como (coordinator)**

**THEATRE ARTS** Prof. Nickolich (coordinator), Assoc. Prof. Schilling, Asst. Prof. Amrhein

**FINE ARTS** Assist. Prof. Vendryes (coordinator), Prof. Garthwaite, Prof. Simkin, CA Harvey

MUSIC Prof. Ernst (coordinator), Asst. Prof. Adams, Prof. Moorman, Sr. CLT Walter Dixon

### SPECIAL THANKS

Joycelyn Heywood, Administrative Assistant **Performing & Fine Arts** 

> William Warren **Printing Services**

Joseph Goffredo **Buildings & Grounds** 

> Walter Dixon **Music Discipline**

**Margaret Ballantyne Foreign Languages** 

> **Andy Kirby** Writing Fellow

**Costume Cleaning for York College Theatre Courtesy** of HALLAK CLEANERS 1282 Second Avenue New York, New York, 10028

**York College** The City University of New York Department of Performing & Fine Arts Barbara Nickolich, Chairperson

Presents

York College Theatre Students Read Literature From Their Ethnic Backgrounds

**Scenic Designer Timothy J. Amrhein** 

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Fall 2002 Friday, October 25th at 4pm Saturday, October 26th at 8pm Sunday, October 27th at 3pm Tuesday, October 29th at Noon

Director **Dr. Barbara Nickolich** 

> **Lighting Designer** Maria Christina Fuste

York College Theatre 94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11451

## PROGRAM

## **AFGHAN**

(Translated by Edward Cuthbert)

Affandy Farooq

## **NIGERIAN**

"Olwuaseun"......David Akinyemi Deborah Akinyemi

#### **COLUMBIAN and SPANISH**

| Excerpt from Don Quixote De La Mancha | Cervantes           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| "La Muerte Del Pollo"                 | Celio Cortazar      |
| (The Death of the Chicken)            | (Trans. Larissa A.) |
| Harold Garcia                         |                     |

#### TRINIDADIAN

Coral King

#### **TRINIDADIAN and VENEZUELAN**

| "The Cypress"                       | .Jose A. | Calcano |
|-------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Translated by Alice Stone Blackwell |          |         |
| Excerpt from Miguel Street          | .V.S. N  | aipaul  |

Nelisa Roach

#### **ROMANIAN and ITALIAN**

"Si Dacă".....Mihai Eminescu Claudia Lisena

## **GERMAN, IRISH, and SICILIAN**

"Questions From a Son of Poor B.B.".....Bertolt Brecht "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"......William Yeats Nickolas Spagnolo

"A Luna Ammenzu 'U Mari"......Sicilian Folk Song Claudia Lisena & Nickolas Spagnolo

## YORK COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Russel K. Hotzler **Interim President** 

Dr. Edward B. Weil **Provost & Vice President, Academic Affairs** 

**Dr. Avis Hendrickson \* Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Development** 

> **Dr. Cheryl Smith Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs**

**David Taylor** Vice President for Administrative Affairs and Finance (acting)

**Dr. Diatra Jones Assistant Dean of Cooperative Education and Career Services** 

Dr. Earl Duval Assistant Dean of Student Activities and Campus Programs (acting)

> Yvette C. Urquhart Associate Dean for Faculty and Staff Relations

**Ronald C. Thomas** Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement (acting)

**Dean William Barry** \* Executive Assistant to the President/ Associate Dean of College Relations

**Dr. Miguel Cairol** Dean for Planning/Special Assistant to the President (acting)

**Adolphus Frazier Assistant Dean of Evening and Weekend Programs** 

## **FACULTY OF YORK COLLEGE THEATRE**

Timothy J. Amrhein (Scenic Designer & Technical Director), Assistant Professor of Design holds an MFA from Wayne State University. He has designed sets and costumes for various productions throughout the United States, and most recently: A Flea in Her Ear, Damn Yankees, & Bus Stop (The River Rep Theatre, Ivoryton, CT). Some of Mr. Amrhein's past productions include: The Crimson Thread (The Wings Theatre) and The Tempest (The Looking Glass Theatre) Off Off-Broadway; Master Class and High Spirits (TheatreFest); multiple designs for The Second City Comedy Group (Detroit, MI); the national tour for Perilous Times; industrial designs for Carnegie Mellon University; and several designs at the University of Pittsburgh, the Totem Pole Playhouse, and the California Repertory Theatre. He is a professional member of United Scenic Artists (USA) Local 829 and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT).

Barbara Nickolich (Chairperson of the Performing and Fine Arts Department & Director) received her formal theatre training from Wheaton College, Northwestern University and New York University. In addition, she has been a student of Bobby Troka, voice coach, in New York City. She has appeared as a performer and director with the CUNY Readers Theatre. She developed a one-woman show, American Counterpoint, which she performed in Munich, Germany, Nashville and New York City. Most of her work has been as a director of legitimate theatre in university settings. Joseph Walker's The River Niger, Antigone, Tartuffe, Six Plays by Dario Fo, Callallo 6, The Miser, Camino Real, and The Imaginary Invalid. have been her most recent productions.

Sarah Schilling received her training at Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Playhouse. After graduation, she joined a professional acting company in Erie, PA. and played summer stock in Wisconsin. Upon arriving in New York City, she performed for over a year in the role of Heloise in a play by the same name at the Off-Broadway Gate Theatre. While teaching, first at Packer Collegiate Institute and then at York, she worked as one of the directors at the Off-Off-Broadway Actor's Place Theatre at St. Luke's in the West Village. Recently she appeared in Samuel Beckett's Cascando at LaMaMa and as a Guide in the Off-Off Broadway production : A Woman's Work is Never Done.

James Como came to York in 1968, when he founded the Speech discipline. He chaired the Department of Performing and Fine Arts for 12 years. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Language, Literature and communication from Columbia University. At York, he has appeared in The Madwoman of Chaillot (directed by Barbara Nickolich). His latest book is Branches to Heaven: The Geniuses of C.S. Lewis.

Excerpt from "What to the Slave is the 4th of July"......Fredrick Douglass Sandra Baxter Lewis

### **AFRICAN AMERICAN and CHEROKEE**

| "Invaders"                 |
|----------------------------|
| "On the Shortness of Life" |
| Excerpt from Native Sun    |
| Rober                      |

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| "Nature"           | H.D. Carberry |
|--------------------|---------------|
| "Afton Water"      | Robert Burns  |
| Paulette Dixon-Wil |               |

| "Remembrance" | 3<br>•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••• |
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|               | Denersi                                   |

"The Tropics in New York".....Claude McKay Michelle Grant

"I Shall Return"......Claude McKay Eloney Grant

"My Native Land, My Home".....Claude McKay Tsahi Simpson

"Redemption Song"......Bob Marley "Ghost Story".....Eli Clarke Victor Campbell

"Evening Time".....Jamaican Folk Song Paulette Dixon-Williams, Deneisha Watson, Michelle Grant, Eloney Grant, Tsahi Simpson, & Victor Campbell

## **AFRICAN AMERICAN**

|         | .Kent De | vaney  |        |       |
|---------|----------|--------|--------|-------|
|         | .John Ri | dge    |        |       |
|         | Richard  | Wright | & Paul | Green |
| t Hogan |          |        |        |       |

#### JAMAICAN and SCOTTISH

## JAMAICAN

......Mutabaruka

na Watson

# WHO'S WHO... **THE CAST**

\*Deborah Akinyemi (Nigerian) is an upper junior majoring in Psychology. She works with the mentally ill, is creative, enjoys giving advice to people, and loves to participate in sports.



Sandra Baxter Lewis (African American) This is her third performance at York. She studied acting at Tennessee State University and the Lee Strasberg Theatrical Institute here in NY. "Arise! Shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.": ISAIAH 60:1



Victor Campbell (Jamaican) was born in Kingston Jamaica. He is a senior at York College majoring in Marketing and Business Administration. He appeared in The Imaginary Invalid and loves music and the theatre. He intends to pursue acting as a part-time career.



\*Paulette Dixon Williams (Jamaican/Scottish) is a senior majoring in Speech Communication/Theatre Arts. She enjoys going to the theatre. Her passions are gardening and swimming. She has enjoyed working in this theatre production.



Affandy Farooq (Afghan) is an upper junior. He has been in several plays at York College. He hopes to teach drama and direct his own plays at his home town high school. He would also like to continue his education and get his masters in Civil Engineering. He thanks his friends and family for all of their love and support. He would especially like to thank his mom, Bibi Yacoob, Brent and his beautiful wife, Prof. Amrhein, Dr. Nickolich, Dr. Schilling, Mrs. Shawrts, Mr. George, his high school teachers, and everyone else that made a difference in his life. He would also like to thank three special people Abdul, Salim, and Ziabelal his older brothers, and Saira Hussam. He wants them to know that Affandy loves them very much.

## **PRODUCTION STAFF**

| Scenic Designer/TD               |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Lighting Designer                |  |
| Technical Director of Auditorium |  |
| Costume Coordinator              |  |
| Stage Manager                    |  |
| Stage Manager                    |  |
| Assistant Stage Manager          |  |
| Light Board Operator             |  |
| Sound Board Operator             |  |
| Projector Operator               |  |
| Poster and Cover Designer        |  |
| Publicity                        |  |
|                                  |  |
| Tickets                          |  |
|                                  |  |

Linda Buie Judy Brown Shallonda Bush Mary Childs Azalea Fajardo Michelle Gonzalez Ron Gregorie

APPEARING IN THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE

|       | Timothy J. Amrhein    |
|-------|-----------------------|
|       | Marie Christina Fuste |
|       | Matthew Katz          |
| ***** | Eloney Grant          |
|       | Michelle Grant        |
|       | Monique Richardson    |
|       | Patricia Ormond       |
|       | Linda Buie            |
|       | Basil "Tito" Omisanya |
|       | Ron Gregoire          |
|       | Timothy J. Amrhein    |
|       | Shallonda Bush        |
|       | Michelle Grant        |
|       | Judy Brown            |
|       | Shallonda Bush        |
|       | Michelle Grant        |

## **Scenic Construction and Running Crew**

Lisa Kushnick Claudia Martinez Itohan Obazee Tito Omisanya Patricia Onwu Folashad Shekoni Sherlie Toussaint

Lisa Kushnick (Backstage Crew) is a junior at York College. She is a Speech Communications/Theatre Arts/Education major. This is her third time working backstage and she really enjoys building the sets. She sends much love to her two sons and parents for all their help and support.

Claudia Martinez (Backstage Crew) is a senior who majors in Psychology. In the future she wants to get a Masters in Psychology Education. Her daughter Jasmine and husband Juan give her inspiration and she would like to thank them for their love and support.

Cynthia Montoya (Backstage Crew) is a senior at York College. Her major is Business Administration. After graduating from York College, she will pursue her M.B.A.

Itohan Obazee (Backstage Crew) is a Psychology Major here at York College. She was born in Nigeria, West Africa and, she loves working with children.

Basil Tito Omisanya (Sound Operator) is a sophomore at York College. He is very grateful for this chance to bring something to life. He hopes this won't be the last time he is a part of a great production here at York. If all goes well, maybe he will become a Theatre Arts major.

Patricia Onwu (Backstage Crew) is a Community Health Education Major and this is her third year at York College.

Monique Richardson (Stage Manager) is a recent graduate of York College. She received her BS in Psychology and is currently pursuing her Master's in education. She is happy to be back at York for this production.

Folashade Shekoni (Backstage Crew) is an upper junior at York College, majoring in Psychology. She received her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Kingsborough Community College. She hopes to graduate in 2003 with honors.

Cindy Toppin (Backstage Crew) is a 22 year old upper junior. Her major is Speech Communication / Theatre Arts with the emphasis in theatre. She plans on doing musical theatre or singing in the near future.

Sherlie Toussaint (Backstage Crew) is a lower senior and her major is Community Health. She will be graduating in June 2003. She enjoys art and is currently working in a school as an assistant art teacher.



Harold Garcia (Colombian) is a sophomore who majors in Speech Communications and Theatre Arts. This is his second performance at York College, he first appeared in Brush Up York Shakespeare where he performed a Hamlet monologue in Spanish. He also has his own theatre company in Colombia called "Teatro La Esfinge (The Sphinx Theatre). He would like to thank his family for their love and support, and a special thanks to Paola with love.



\*Eloney Grant (Jamaican) is an upper senior at York College, majoring is Speech Communication/Theatre Arts. She has seen many of York College's productions and has had the pleasure of working backstage on Imaginary Invalid and other plays. She enjoys working in the theatre and is having a wonderful time with everyone. She sends lots of love to her family.



\*Michelle Grant (Jamaican) is a senior who majors in Speech Communication and Theatre Arts/Education, and this is her last year at York. She is a wife, a mother of three children, an honor student, and a member of Kappa Delta Pi's International Honor Society in Education. She thanks God for continually blessing her life. She would also like to thank her husband, Mark, her children, Kiamani, Kyani, Markie, and the rest of her family for their unconditional love, support, and inspiration.



Robert Hogan (African American and Cherokee) has been on stage since 1992 and is presently pursuing a degree in psychology. He has played Argan in The Imaginary Invalid at York, Troy Maxson in The Black Spectrum Theatre's production of Fences, for which he was considered for an Audelco Award. He has also played Vegas and in many Broadway productions including The Trial of Mumia Abu Jamal. He is a two time golden glove champion and has turned his acting skills into activism which he takes to the NYC schools.

\*Coral King (Trinidadian) is a Speech Communication and Theatre Arts major. She is a model, an actress, and a member of AFTRA and SAG. She has performed voiceovers on the radio, a re-enactment of a burn victim on the Maury Povich Show, and commercials for Master Card and Fed Ex. She was born in Trinidad and enjoys bringing her culture to the theatre.

\*Claudia Lisena (Romanian/Italian) is a Speech Communication/ Theatre Arts major at York. She was born and raised in Romania. She graduated from BMCC with an Associate's Degree in Travel and Tourism. This is Claudia's first performance; she worked as a backstage crew member on Sylvia, Brush Up York Shakespeare and The Imaginary Invalid. She would like to send a very special thanks to all her professors at York for their dedication to education and for demonstrating to a future educator that "Teaching is a work of heart." She sends much love to her two sons Mario and Gianpaolo, who have inspired her more than they will ever know. Buni and Bebe, multumesc din suflet!

#### \* APPEARING IN THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE



Nelisa Roach (Trinidadian) was born and raised in Trinidad. This is her second performance at York. She is a lower sophomore majoring in Mathematics and aspires to be an actuary. She wants to thank her family and friends for their support and words of encouragement. A special thanks goes out to her sister, Necrisha and her cousin, Collètte Gill-Pierre. She will also like to thank God, Her Father, for once again giving her this special opportunity.



Tsahi Simpson (Jamaican) whose name derived from an African princess, was born in the beautiful land of Jamaica. This is her last year in college. She hopes that one day her desire for singing will lead her to a recording contract. Her family is the most important thing in her life.



\*Nickolas Spagnolo (Sicilian/German/Irish) is fourteen years old and is currently attending ninth grade at the new Queens High School for the Sciences at York College. His recent performances include Mr. Bumble in *Oliver* and Benny Van Buren in *Damn Yankees*. Both performances were presented at his middle school, M.S. 74, and he hopes his future performances are as enjoyable.



**Deneisha Watson** (Jamaican) is a junior at York College. She has taken part in many drama productions outside of York College such as: For Colored Girls and A Street Car Named Desire. When she graduates from York College she plans on using her English and Theater Arts degrees to pursue a career in teaching.

## **THE PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW**

Judy Brown (Backstage Crew) changed her career goals about 3 years ago, from business to education because she loves working with children. Currently she is a teachers' assistant, but she would like to focus on becoming a Guidance Counselor.

Shallonda Bush (Publicity) is a lower senior at York College. This is the second production she has been involved with. She is a Speech Communication/Theatre Arts Major. After graduating, she is going to pursue her Master's degree in Speech Pathology. Her inspiration comes from God, her loving family, and the two most important men in her life: Terrell, her son and Eric, her love.

Mary Childs (Backstage Crew) recently returned to York College. She is a retired senior citizen. She worked approximately thirty years in the United States Postal Service. She's a Speech Communication/Theatre Arts Major, who wants to teach elementary education. Mary enjoys her theater courses.

Canice Ewelike (Backstage Crew) is a bookkeeper who majors in Accounting. This is his last semester at York College. He is originally from Nigeria, and has taken part in numerous plays throughout high school. Also, he enjoys comedies and romantic movies, and hopes to get the opportunity to act in a major role some time in the near future. He would like to thank his parents because they support and encourage him in all that he does.

Azalea M. Fajardo (Backstage Crew) is a sophomore here at York College. She was born and raised among artists and she intends on using that to her advantage.

Marie Christina Fuste (Lighting Designer) recent credits include: The Imaginary Invalid directed by Barbara Nickolich, King Lear directed by Joe Sirabo, Three Tall Women directed by Michael Sexton, Kiss of the Spider Woman, Tales from the Vienna Woods, and Dance Work with choreographers: Sharon Estacio, Miguel Estephan and others. She holds a MFA in Lighting Design from N.Y.U. She wants to thank her mother Allen Lee Hughes for her love and support.

Michelle Gonzalez (Backstage Crew) is a senior majoring in Business Administration. She graduated from Sullivan County Community College with an Associates Degree in Liberal Arts and Science. She plans to work for a year after graduation then go to graduate school to receive her MBA in Finance.

**Ron Gregoire** (Projector Operator) is a sophomore at York College. This is his first experience with theatre. His major is Information Systems and Management, and he hopes to learn a lot from this course.

Matthew Katz (Auditorium Technical Director) Matthew has been the Production Manager and Technical Director for organizations such as The Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center, the Hampton Shakespeare Company and the Bay Street Theatre. Just before coming to York College, Matthew was the Technical Director for Kean University in New Jersey.

\* APPEARING IN THEIR FIRST PERFORMANCE