



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe  
Phone: (415) 641-7657 x 8  
Fax: (415) 641-7684  
Email: edris@brava.org

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Brava! For Women in the Arts  
& Cultural Odyssey  
presents  
Rhodessa Jones in  
***The Resurrection of SHE***

**WHO:** RHODESSA JONES with visual artist/lighting designer **Stephanie Johnson**, set designer, **Pam Peniston**, musician/composer **Idris Ackamoor**, and sound designer **David Molina**.

**WHAT:** **The Resurrection of SHE**, a new work by Rhodessa Jones

**WHERE:** Brava Theater Center, 2781-24th Street at York, San Francisco, CA 94110

**WHEN:** Thursdays through Sundays, March 28 – April 7, 2013. All shows Thursday through Saturday at 8 PM with matinees on Sunday at 3 PM.

**TICKETS:** Tickets are \$20 - \$30. Gala Night (Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>) \$40 - 50. Discounts for students & seniors. Early Bird discount available before February 28!! For information and tickets please call (415) 641-7657 and/or log on to <http://www.brava.org>.

In celebration of National Women's History Month, Brava Theater Center Artist in Residence, RHODESSA JONES, will perform her new solo work, *The Resurrection of SHE*, Thursdays through Sundays, March 28 – April 7, 2013. Brava! For Women in the Arts will host Rhodessa in a 3-month residency beginning in January 2013 at Brava Theater Center in development of this work. This collaboration between Rhodessa and Brava! For Women in the Arts, an original producing partner for the professional productions of The Medea Project, reunites two strong San Franciscan voices for women.

*The Resurrection of SHE* is a multidisciplinary, interactive performance that peruses the decades long artistic career of Rhodessa Jones, As one of San Francisco's preeminent performers, Rhodessa's work with her company Cultural Odyssey and The Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women have put her in the forefront of artists working in the field of "arts as social activism". . At the center of *The Resurrection of SHE* will be the ongoing work that Rhodessa conducts with disenfranchised populations around the world including her most recent work in Johannesburg, South Africa working with female inmates at the Naturena Women's Correctional Center and her recent work with HIV positive women in San Francisco.

"*SHE*" explores the interstices of the global feminine narrative- both visually and aurally, in search of the universality of the human experience. "*SHE*" is a passageway into lives normally hidden from and forgotten by society - a revelatory journey of redemption and hope. "*SHE*" carves out a route to healing and towards a healthier future. Close to seven years of residency and performance activity in South Africa and America has been captured in photographs, video and audio recordings that will be featured in the performance - which unites the art of documemoire, multi-media installation, and musical theater performance. Rhodessa will collaborate with visual artist/lighting designer Stephanie Johnson, set designer, Pam Peniston, musician/composer Idris Ackamoor, and sound designer David Molina to create the work.

**Rhodessa Jones** is Co-Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed San Francisco performance company Cultural Odyssey. An actress, teacher, singer, and writer, Jones is also the founder and director of the Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women. On January 29, 2013 San Francisco Mayor Lee presented the 2013 Mayor's Art Award to Rhodessa Jones for her "lifetime of artistic achievement and enduring commitment to the role of the arts in civic life". Rhodessa was selected as an "ARTS ENVOY" by the U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau in June/July 2012. She received grant support to journey to South Africa to continue her work in collaboration with Urban Voices Festival inside the Naturena Women's Prison in Johannesburg, South Africa and then journey on to participate in the National Arts



Festival in Grahamstown, South Africa. She has received many awards for her work including a United States Artist Fellowship to support her work in 2007, an Honorary Doctorate from California College of the Arts, a San Francisco Bay Guardian GOLDIE Lifetime Achievement Award, an Otto Rene Castillo Award for Political Theater, and a San Francisco Foundation Community Leadership Award.

**Brava! For Women in the Arts** celebrates its 26<sup>th</sup> year as a professional arts organization dedicated to cultivating the artistic expression of women, youth, LGBT, people of color and other unheard voices through the ownership and operation of Brava Theater Center. BRAVA producing history includes award-winning premieres by Diana Son, Eve Ensler, Debbie Swisher, Reno, Cherylene Lee, Suzan-Lori Parks, Culture Clash, Joan Holden, Anne Galjour, Elizabeth Summers, Kate Rigg, Dan Guerrero, and Mabou Mines, as well as works by internationally known playwrights like Jesusa Rodriguez and Liliana Felipe of Mexico, Jorge Drexler of Uruguay, and Ojos de Brujo and Ismael Serrano of Spain. BRAVA's current artistic programming includes traditional and contemporary music festivals, a variety of film festivals, contemporary and experimental theatrical productions, international comedy shows, lectures and professional dance productions - making BRAVA one of the most eclectic and multi-faceted arts venues in the Bay Area. BRAVA's resident youth programs include the long standing SF Running crew which pairs youth with professional mentors and hands on opportunities for technical theatre training; Cuicacalli Escuela de Danza, traditional and contemporary dance training for youth, Famooly Productions Salsa Band workshops and Loco Bloco dance and drum ensemble. Brava is committed to providing affordable space for artistic development and presentation and quality professional arts training for underserved youth in the San Francisco community.

“The Resurrection of She”, is funded in part by The National Endowment for the Arts, Brava! For Women in the Arts, the James Irvine foundation, Zellerbach Family Foundation, and a Individual Artist Commission from The San Francisco Art Commission's CEG Program. Additional funding for Cultural Odyssey provided by Grants for the Arts, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The San Francisco Art Commission, the James Irvine foundation, The San Francisco Foundation, The California Arts Council, The Lia Fund, The Grousbeck Family



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