

PRESS RELEASE

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**Steel Drum in Tribute to Barbadian-born Poet, Kamau Brathwaite on November 17**

New York, NY – A multi media collaboration of dancers, musicians, and graphic designers from the Caribbean, African and American countries unite around Kamau Brathwaite's epic work "Ark - a 9/11 Continuation Poem". "This work is among the most important I've done", says Desiree Gordon, the talented vocalist and producer of the collaboration. "It is an intense theatrical adaptation, which includes an original score, articulates a collective memory of catastrophies while harkening to the redemption in shared stories and shared touch. In this tribute to Kamau Brathwaite's visionary genius, the sounds of the steel drum played by vocalist Nyasha Rhoden, best echoes the metallic haunting of a disastrous experience as well as a medium for resolution. The superb cast includes – Yolanda Zama - vocalist, Jamie Philbert – Choreographer/Dancer, Masauko Chipembere – Musical Director/Guitarist/Vocalist, Faybienne Miranda – actor, Gyasi Williams – saxophonist/flautist, Olatunji Ojore - percussionist, and Lynette Kaid - vocalist - steer this piece as an Ark, redeeming us in yet another time of disaster, towards a time of hope. Special guests, Djibril Toure and Clifford "Moonie" Pusey, join us for this performance, with directorial guidance by Kamilah Forbes. "At its highest level, the production honors our ancestors when we deliver our best artistic efforts" concludes Gordon. The 90-minute program is facilitated by the Caribbean Cultural Center where Gordon is the Director of Education. Ark – A 9/11 Continuation Poem" takes place on Wednesday, November 17, 7PM, Manhattan Neighborhood Network Studios, 537 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019. For more information (212) 757-2670 or email: [education@cccadi.org](mailto:education@cccadi.org).

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