



For Immediate Release:

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National Black Theatre Takes You To Brazil
The New York Premiere of Carnaval
Performances Begin Tuesday, October 21 thru November 16, 2014
Tickets On Sale Now!

September 10, 2014 (New York, NY). ADr. **Barbara Ann Teer's National Black Theatre [NBT]** is gearing up to produce the New York Premiere of **Carnaval**, written by Obie Award winner **Nikkole Salter**, directed by **Awoye Timpo**. This piece will open NBT's 46th Theatrical Season dedicated to Black Women Playwrights themed "NBT Takes Us Higher." Previews run October 21st-October 24th and the production is set to open, October 25th and run through November 16th. NBT is excited to announce the design team, comprised of award winning artists such as **Daniel Zimmerman** (Scenic Design) **Alan C. Ewards** (Lighting Design) **Latoya Murray-Berry** (Costume Designer) **Kris Bowers** (Composer) **Eric Sluyter** (Sound Designer) **Emre Emirgil** (Projection Designer) and **UnkleDave's Fight-House** (Fight Choreographer). Tickets are officially on sale now and available by calling (212) 722-3800, or purchasing online: www.nationalblacktheatre.org

"The brotherhood within the Black community has both a unique and important place in defining community and creating an empowering space for Black men to feel autonomous," said **Jonathan McCrory, Director of Theatre Arts**. "This play takes the veil off and allows us to experience the private in-workings of this dynamic and sensitive bond."

Carnaval takes place a year ago in Brooklyn, when two young men mourned the untimely loss of their best friend. In his honor they decided then and there that, despite their differences, no matter where life took them, they would take care of his younger brother, and get together on the anniversary of his death to celebrate the life he should have had. So, on a cold day in the winter of 1996, these three 20-somethings board a plane for Rio De Janeiro for a taste of the good life: sun, fun, and, of course, women - what better way to pay homage to a fallen friend? But what starts out as a joyride takes an unexpected turn and the three sex tourists find themselves in a situation that will change their friendships and their lives forever.

Outside of the production, NBT will be curate Community Engagement activities that aim to create an interactive theatrical experience to compliment the production. The Community Engagements will be comprised of a curated Dramaturgical Lobby Exhibit and symposia during the weekend shows which will take a closer look at brotherhood, self discovery and redemption. The exhibition will be unveiled at the Opening Night Gala on October 25, 2014. Full details on the lobby exhibit, symposia and talkbacks will be released soon.

Performance Schedule:

The production will run October 21 - November 16, 2014. Tickets are \$20 for previews only October 21 - 24, 2014. 'Carnaval' has a limited performance schedule. The production opens Saturday, October 25, 2014 with an Opening Night Gala that includes a reception starting at 6pm, with the play starting at 7pm. Performances will take place Thursday through Saturdays at 7:30 pm, with a Saturday matinee at 2pm. Sunday performances will be at 3pm. Tickets are \$35 general admission with the following exceptions: all tickets during the final week are \$40. Opening and Closing Night Gala tickets (October 25 and November 16) are \$50. Discount tickets are available for groups (10+), senior citizens, students and active military members. Tickets are available by calling (212) 722-3800, go to: www.nationalblacktheatre.org, or going to NBT's Box Office located at 2031 Fifth Avenue between 125th and 126th Streets in Harlem; NBT's Box Office hours are from 1:00pm to 6:00pm, Tuesday through Saturday.

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Dr. Barbara Ann Teer's National Black Theatre, Inc. Institute of Action Arts
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In order to enjoy the whole 46th Season, National Black Theatre is thrilled to again offer its money saving **46th Season Pass at the affordable prices of \$99 and \$149.** Visit our website to learn more: www.nationalblacktheatre.org

Who is Who:

NIKKOLE SALTER (Playwright) Los Angeles-born, Nikkole Salter is an OBIE Award-winning actress and writer. Her other credits include; In the Continuum, Repairing a Nation, Of Great Merit. For her works she has received the NY Outer Critics Circle's John Gassner Award for Best New American Play (2006), the Seldes-Kanin fellowship from the Theatre Hall of Fame, and the Global Tolerance Award from the Friends of the United Nations to name a few. Carnival received its world premiere production in Luna Stage's 20th Anniversary Season. Her new play LINES IN THE DUST is scheduled for its world premiere production at Luna Stage fall, 2014.

Amid an emerging acting/writing career, Ms. Salter's deep sense of social responsibility led her to found and serve as Executive Director of THE CONTINUUM PROJECT, INC., a non-profit organization that creates innovative artistic programming for community empowerment and enrichment. Ms. Salter is an active member of the Actors Equity Association, the Screen Actors Guild/American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, and the Dramatists Guild. She received her BFA in theatre from Howard University and her MFA from New York University's Graduate Acting Program under the tutelage of Zelda Fichandler and Ron Van Lieu. www.nikkolesalter.com

AWOYE TIMPO (Director) New York directing credits include: Chasing the Bird (Joyce Theater), Araby (La MaMa), The Vanished (site specific), Ndebele Funeral (2013 FringeNYC Overall Excellence Award – Best Play), In the Continuum (Juilliard), Tears of Anatolia (Columbia), My Sister In This House (NYU). She worked as Assistant Director at theaters such as the Public Theater, Signature Theater, Two River Theater and the Royal Shakespeare Company. Awoye has translated The Bald Soprano and Rhinoceros by Ionesco as well as The Vanished and A Crying Friend by Olivier Coyette. Other previous work includes: Associate Artist (August Wilson American Century Cycle Celebration – WNYC/The Greene Space), Associate Artistic Director (Shakespeare on the Sound), Van Lier Directing Fellow (Public Theater), Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab, Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab.

NATIONAL BLACK THEATRE: Founded by visionary Dr. Barbara Ann Teer in 1968, National Black Theatre [NBT] is a nationally recognized cultural and educational institution. Dr. Teer pioneered “the healing art of black theatre as an instrument for wholeness in urban communities where entrepreneurial artists of African descent live and work.” In 1983, Dr. Teer expanded the vision of NBT by purchasing a 64,000- square-foot building on 125th Street and Fifth Avenue (renamed “National Black Theatre Way” by local law in 1994). This was the first revenue-generating black arts complex in the country, an innovative arrangement through which for-profit businesses who shared NBT's spiritual and aesthetic values rented retail space to subsidize the arts. Out of her vision, NBT houses the largest collection of Nigerian new sacred art in the Western hemisphere and is considered the authentic representation of a model whose time has come. NBT is partially supported by grants from the City Council of New York member Inez Dickens, City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, Columbia Service Society, Theatre Communications Group, Met-Life and private donations. Visit www.nationalblacktheatre.org or follow NBT on Facebook (www.facebook.com/NationalBlackTheatre) and Twitter/Instagram (@NatBlackTheatre).

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