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ILLUSION THEATER

For Immediate Release
March 31, 2023

Contact: Jeffery Alspaugh
(612) 767-9257

T. Mychael Rambo and Aimee K. Bryant host

In this Moment...Now

April 14-16 and 21-23, 2023 (**Limited 6 show run**) at Center for Performing Arts,
38th & Pleasant Ave, South Minneapolis

Illusion has commissioned Black and African-American artists to share their personal reflections on how theater, spoken word, dance, and song can serve our community as we continue to reckon with systemic racism.



In This Moment...Now, T. Mychael Rambo and Aimee K. Bryant are hosting thought-provoking, uplifting, and moving original performances highlighting the work of multi-talented, multi-disciplinarian, multi-award winning Black and African-American artists from the Twin Cities and around the country.

T. Mychael Rambo says, “This moment, we're in, reminds us that we are called to do more than simply bear witness, we are summoned to be forces of action creating, cultivating and carving out courageous spaces where we can find peace; not that absence of tension kind of peace but that presence of justice kind of peace...a peace where our voices in song and in poetry, in photograph and in painting, in narrative and in nuance illuminate with authenticity, agency and abundance what only art can excavate...that is hope. We need hope in our homes, neighborhoods, cities, nation, on this planet and in our hearts...may you find some potent promising portion of hope ‘In This Moment...Now!’”

In This Moment...Now will present spoken word, dance, and song contributions from T. Mychael Rambo, Aimee K. Bryant, Ryan Bynum, Brittany Delaney, Ashley Dubose, Mary Moore Easter, Denise Burse, Suzette Jornea Gilreath, Michael Keck, Peter Macon, Lester Purry, Ricky Morriseau, Danez

Smith, Darrius Strong, and Regina Marie Williams in a combination of live and filmed pieces. [Artists' Bios available here.](#)

In This Moment...Now is curated by Illusion Mellon Playwright-in-Residence Carlyle Brown, artist and healer T. Mychael Rambo, and Producing Directors Michael Robins and Bonnie Morris. Lighting design by Dante Benjegerdes. Video and Visual Design by Fred N. Cheng.

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Illusion began **In This Moment** in 2020 when we invited African-American friends of Illusion to respond to the brutal murder of George Floyd by the police on the streets of Minneapolis. These artists created work that was a response to the racial awakening that shook our community and generated protests around the world.

Performances (limited run):

Friday, April 14 7:30pm

Saturday April 15 7:30pm

Sunday April 16 2:00pm (masks required)

Friday April 21 7:30pm (masks required)

Saturday April 22 7:30pm

Sunday April 23 2:00pm (American Sign Language)

In addition to the performances of **In This Moment...Now**, Illusion will host “The Free Black Table” presented by Black Table Arts on Wednesday, April 19 7:30-9:30pm. Information about the event will be available at <https://www.facebook.com/BlackTableArts/>.

Tickets:

Illusion is excited to implement Name Your Price ticketing to make theater that illuminates realities of our times accessible to all.

Name Your Price offers a sliding scale to our community starting at \$10. We encourage those who can afford \$35 tickets to pay full price. Your generosity will help support Illusion with providing our community with Name Your Price tickets. Tickets and additional information available at www.illusiontheater.org and 612-339-4944.

Location:

Illusion Theater is located on the corner of 38th and Pleasant Avenue South in the Center for Performing Arts, 3754 Pleasant Ave South. The Theater is wheelchair accessible. Please call the box office at 612-339-4944 for ticket information, performance days and times, or go www.illusiontheater.org.

About Black Table Arts

Black Table Arts is a community driven arts cooperative located in Minneapolis Minnesota gathering black communities through the arts towards better black futures.

About Illusion Theater

Illusion Theater was founded in 1974 and presents its season in its new home in the Center for Performing Arts in South Minneapolis. Since the beginning, Producing Directors Michael Robins and Bonnie Morris have led Illusion Theater in illuminating the illusions, myths, and realities of our times and in using the power of theater to catalyze personal and social change. Tree O'Halloran joined Illusion as Associate Producer in 2021. Illusion has generated over 500 plays, developed thousands of artists, and created ground-breaking educational works. Plays developed at Illusion have been produced in theaters throughout the world. Illusion's work has catalyzed conversations in living rooms, kitchens, coffee houses, and boardrooms, and has led to transformations in policy, in organizations, in students, and in individuals.

Illusion's Mission is to illuminate the illusions, myths and realities of our times and to catalyze personal and social change. Our community is working to recover from the trauma we have experienced. How do we take in and make sense of what has happened since 2020? We've invited artists to express the outrage, to make sense out of the senseless, to inspire ways we can work towards healing.

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