



FIREHOUSE LITTLE THEATER

"Brotherhood" -- 1st FireHouse Little Theater
Production stars Henri Brooks

It is a mysterious, funny, terrifying play." — NY Times
"MAD TV confronts racial hypocrisy." — Bennie Nelson West

In celebration of Black History Month, the FireHouse Little Theater kicks off its first season next weekend with a controversial adult-oriented play, "Brotherhood." Directed by Olivia Johnson, Shelby County Commissioner Henri Brooks will make her maiden performance in this play and will be joined by actors David Stowell, Dixie Fletcher and Dennis Head. Show times are Friday and Saturday, February 18 - 19 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, February 20 at 3 p.m. at the FireHouse Little Theater located at FireHouse Community Arts Center, 985 South Bellevue Blvd. Tickets are \$10 General Admission and \$7 for members. Seating is limited and reservations are recommended. To reserve tickets, contact Memphis Black Arts Alliance at 901-948-9522 or info@memphisblackartsalliance.org. Tickets also can be purchased online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/156915>.

Written by Douglas Turner Ward, "Brotherhood" is a dark comedy set in the late 1960's just as Blacks began to enter the corporate workforce. A white executive and his wife invite his new Black coworker and his wife to their home for an entertaining evening in the spirit of "brotherhood." Through the course of the evening, the couples' true feelings about each other are starkly revealed. Performed as "Readers Theater," each production will be followed by dialogue between the audience and actors about the play and its implications, led by an experienced racial reconciliation facilitator, Carolyn Head.

Award winning playwright Douglas Turner Ward, founder of the Negro Ensemble Company, is best known for "Happy Ending" and "Day of Absence" which helped establish his reputation as a leading playwright confronting Black issues. These plays showcase two primary characteristics of Ward's writings: his reliance on dark humor to make statements about the black experience, and his belief in the resiliency of black people in general.

According to Executive Director Bennie Nelson West, the FireHouse Little Theater gives the Memphis Black Arts Alliance a chance celebrate the classic works of award-winning African American artists and gives adult actors another regular venue to express themselves on stage.



Celebrating & Nurturing the Arts & Black Heritage Since 1982

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