



anitAFRIKA! dub theatre
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for immediate release

**ANITAFRIKA! DUB THEATRE PRESENTS MIKEY SMITH NEW WORKS FESTIVAL I – TUES DEC 16 TO SAT DEC 20
TORONTO – DECEMBER 8 2009**

d'bi.young is an award-winning storyteller building on the foundational work of anita stewart and ahdri zhina mandiola by developing dubpoetry/theatre theory and practice through the creation of anitAFRIKA! dub theatre: a launch pad of artistic training that roots itself within art for social change. located in parkdale's liberty village, anitAFRIKA! dub theatre invites the community to the first installation of the mikey smith new works festival.

named in honour of the brilliant and political jamaican dubpoet, this festival features works-in-progress by artists-in-residence at anitAFRIKA! dub theatre. each year adt! mentors 3-6 youth and emerging storytellers, providing them with rigorous training aimed at developing their artistic and political selves in unison. the festival takes place at the end of both the first and second terms of each season. artists-in-residence include kim crosby, colanthony humphrey, lisa paul, jamilah malika, and natalyn tremblay.

from tuesday december 16 to saturday december 20, come engage in a revolushunary afrikan model of theatre featuring works-in-progress. each evening is comprised of workshop readings and q & a by adt! resident artists and performances by local storytellers including **da original one**, **ania**, **sedina fiati** and **ian kamau**. the five day festival celebrates the end of the first term of the 2008-2009 season culminating in a ritual-based ceremony of drummers, dancers, poets, vocalists, djs, dancing and great vibes.

anitAFRIKA! dub theatre is a radical arts centre founded on 7 principles of dubpoetry & dubtheatre: the use of rhythm, language, political protext, orality, urgency, integrity, and sacredness as mediums of social change through storytelling. birthed by d'bi.young in spring 2008 during her professional dubtheatre mentorship with visionary dub aartist ahdri zhina mandiola, this movement provides communities with creative resources that facilitate and promote the ideas of accountability and responsibility between the storyteller and the people: the artist as leader and revolushunary keeper of the sacred. other initiatives include anti-oppreshun workshops, creative living courses, mentorship, theme-specific lectures, dramaturgy and directing, cross-cultural collaborations, touring productions, storytelling classes and performances.

d'bi.young is an afrikan-jamaican canadian visionary! who believes in life, love, and revolushun! she has performed, published, and lectured internationally. she is also the author of two dubpoetry collections: art on black and rivers and other blackness between us, and the author of the double dora award-winning play blood.claat.

for media inquires, please contact:

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