



**anitafrika! dub theatre**

village@anitafrika.com

**d'bi.young**

dubpoet ♦ monodramatist ♦ teacher

**artistic director ♦ founder**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

**Canstage Theatre's 2009-2010 playwright-in-residence d'bi.young,  
continues anitafrika! dub theatre's second season with the incredible mikey smith raw works festival**

**Toronto, December 2, 2009** - African-Jamaican-Canadian dubpoet, monodramatist, and teacher d'bi.young is at it again. In the summer of 2008 d'bi founded the **anitafrika! dub theatre** under the mentorship of dub visionary ahdri zhina mandiola. This new launch-pad for emerging Canadian playwrights who specialize in solo-work creations, has grown rapidly. At the start of the second season the theatre boasts an impressive record; the development of over 300 artists from across Ontario, the support of a diverse cross-section of communities, a graduating class of five residents, the release of the book and documentary '**s' is for storytelling**' at the close of the 2008-2009 season and the introduction of 6 new resident artists for the 2009-2010 season – all under the artistic direction of d'bi.young.

To celebrate the second season of this groundbreaking arts centre, anitafrika! dub theatre presents the 2<sup>nd</sup> **mikey smith raw works festival**. Named in honour of the brilliant and political dub poet Mikey Smith, this festival will feature works-in-progress by artists-in-residence at anitafrika! dub theatre: Amanda Parris, Cassandra Walker, Julie Tesolin, Kalmplex, Kemba King and Natasha Morris. December 19, also features youth workshops with Amlakawi Beteseb Dubtheatre Collective (free) during the day and a closing party with dj Kalmplex on the turntables.

The festival is made possible by the generous support of the anitafrika! dub theatre artists-in-residence and the community at large.

**anitafrika! dub theatre presents the mikey smith raw works festival**

featuring works-in-progress by 2009-2010 resident artists

**December 17 2009 – December 19 2009:**

**admission:** pay-what-you-can

**venue:** anitafrika! dub theatre, 62 fraser ave. @ king and dufferin

**time:** 7:00pm doors | 7:30pm show

**anitafrika!** dub theatre is a radical arts centre founded on the 'orplusi principles of storytelling' being developed by d'bi.young: the use of orality, rhythm, political content, language, urgency, sacredness, and integrity as mediums of social transformation through storytelling. **d'bi.young anitafrika** is an artist who believes in life, love, and revolution. She has performed, published, and lectured internationally. She is also the author of two dub poetry collections: **art on black** and **rivers and other blackness between us**, and the author of the double **Dora Award**-winning play **blood.claaf**.

For more information: [www.anitafrika.com](http://www.anitafrika.com)

**For media inquires, please contact:**

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