

Arts & Entertainment

HOLLYWOOD COMES TO ECSU

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Dr. Ida Muldrow, the new addition to the Elizabeth City State University Drama Department, is not at all impressed by her resume', but others would be. She earned both a Bachelor's Degree of Science in Home Economics and Fashion Design and a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Visual Communication from North Carolina Central University. She received her Master's of Arts Degree in Fashion Design and Illustration Art from Texas Woman's University.

"Thirsty," says Muldrow, about how she drove across the United States. At the University of California at Los Angeles, she became the first African American accepted into the School of Costume Design for Film. She would be one of three accepted out of 700 applicants and she was the only student to walk across the stage with a Master of Fine Arts, the equivalent of a doctorate, in two years rather than three.

Later, Dr. Muldrow completed couture hat design at the Wilma Rae Design School located in Los Angeles. Realizing she had "the gift to comfort," says Muldrow, she questioned how she was able to use her ability and show others how to find comfort in themselves.

On a quest for knowledge she entered the Crenshaw Christian Center of Ministry in Los Angeles where in two years, she received her certificate for completion.

Her experiences at the Crenshaw Center included the head of fashion design and merchandise, advisor. She has also worked as an instructor at Clark Atlanta University. She was an instructor at Job Corps, the Fashion Institute of Atlanta, the Ministry Training Institute and the First AME Zion Children's Church.

Her career has also taken her from sketch artist to costume designer; she has worked with BET's *Comic View*, UPN's *Good News* and Fox's *Townsend Television*. Muldrow has done similar

work on many major films such as *Call Me Claus*, *Serving Sarah*, *Big Mama's House*, *Universal Soldiers 2*, *The Temptations*, *BAPS*, *The Negotiator*. Experience in the theatre as costume designer and sketch artist has also seen her working with directors such as Debbie Allen and Robert Townsend.

A native of Elizabeth City State University, Muldrow is the youngest of four siblings. Both her parents taught at Elizabeth City State University.

Muldrow says she literally "grew up on the campus of ECSU." Her family once resided in the second cottage where the ROTC and Incentive Scholarship Headquarters are located. She attended Northeastern Catholic School, but was raised Presbyterian.

She accredits her parents for her success and says they instilled "a hunger to learn and a thirst for more information," states Muldrow. Moreover, she says she realized for herself that she had "a lot to learn and a lot to give." She "specialized in beating out the competition, not for competitive reasons, but striving to push for excellence, not perfection," she says clearly.

Muldrow opened her own professional design studio in Los Angeles, Forecasting Inc. In 1994, she closed the doors, packed up and drove back across the United States to take care of her mother.

Of her journey back home she says, "There comes a time when one has to make a decision to be selfish...or give to someone you love, it was my crossroad." She says that God told her to "go home and take care of the one who took care of you all your life, and with that, it was easy, and I don't regret it."

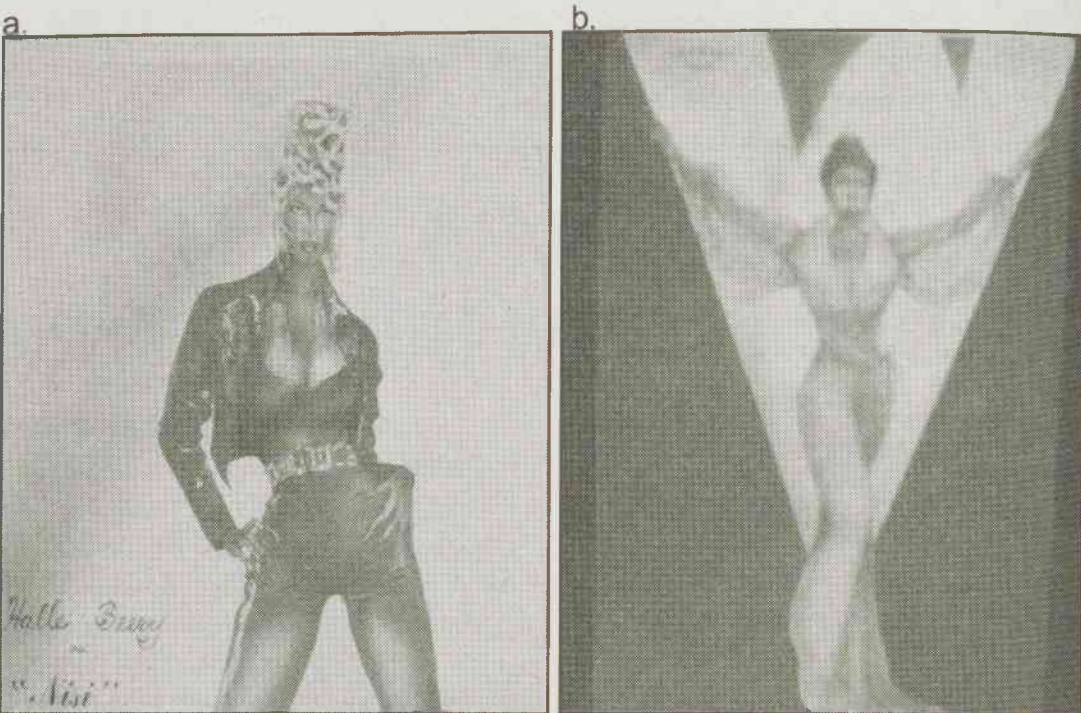
Muldrow's advice for students is "to encourage students to pursue their passions, give 100 percent to find a higher belief to hold on to when times get rough."

"I challenge them to get up and go do it, no excuses!" she exclaims.

As Dr. Muldrow grows, so does her repertoire and so will the lives of the ECSU students with whom she comes into contact.



Ida Muldrow



Sketches done by Ida Muldrow: a. Nisi from BAPS, b. CECE Winans

Photos by Antonio Barrow



Trina

Photo courtesy of www.atlantic-records.com/trina

"SLIPPIN" AND SLIDING INTO THE TOP OF THE CHARTS

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"Da Baddest Chick" is back and is taking the airwaves by storm with her latest single, "No Panties." The 25-year-old Miami-based rapper Trina has been keeping herself busy lately, emerging from her gold-selling debut album, "Da Baddest *****," which she released two years ago to various guest-appearances with some of the most notable artist in the music industry, and now she releases her 17-track CD "Diamond Princess" under Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic Records. On the "Diamond Princess" CD, Trina has been working with some very special guests such as Tweet, Ludacris, Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliott, Eve, Rick Ross, Jagged Edge, Fabolous, and producers Kanye West (Scarface's *Guest Who's Back*) and Just Blaze

(Cam' Ron's *Oh Boy*).

With all the guest appearances on the "Diamond Princess" CD, Trina still manages to use her talented rap persona to express herself as an independent woman. She continues to show people that she is definitely a true diva who is going to keep on letting the world know that women too can make it in the music business. Trina emphasizes this on the single "Ladies First," where she teams up with female rap counterpart Eve, which Trina mentions in her biography as "a Thelma and Louise type thing." This single focuses on women being independent and being able to do what they love in life without having to result to men. It's a single that shows the true rap dynamics of two very sophisticated women in the rap industry. On a similar track on her CD, "Rewind that back," Trina

talks about being a real woman and expresses herself as an "empowered woman of hip-hop," in which she has the help of Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliot.

Now don't think that the whole CD is geared towards independent women and revenge on cheating boyfriends. Trina also decides to partner up with another "loud mouth" rap artist on her CD. The single "B R Right" features the rap dynamics of Ludacris, where the two of them have their own version of "battle of the sexes." Kanye West produced the catchy-beat single that is merely another version of Ludacris single "What's Your Fantasy," where Trina made a guest appearance on the remix version. But on this track, Trina has the front seat and she definitely expresses her true confidence in herself. Another single on her album that is definitely an atten-

tion getter is the single "U and Me," which she basically puts herself in her own shoes and talks about her life struggle growing up in the Liberty City section of Miami, Florida.

The "Diamond Princess" CD is Trina's most talented work yet. Many have seen Trina as well as others speak about her latest project on MTV, BET's 106 & Park, BET's *Rap City*, and BET's *In the Grind*. Trina displays a lot of talent on this CD and a lot of quality production as well from some of the most talented producers in the industry. The "Diamond Princess" CD is in stores now.

Mike-Skillz rates this ***1/2.