



NCCU Photo

Members of the 2011-12 cast.

For Colored Girls & For Black Boys

The Department of Theatre at N.C. Central University closed its 2011-12 season with a bang. Its staging of "For Colored Girls and For Black Boys" earned raves on and off campus.

The production is a mash-up of Ntozake Shange's 1979 choreopoem, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" and Keith Antar Mason's "For Black Boys Who Have Considered Homicide When the Streets Were Too Much," which Mason – the artistic director of the all black male theater collective The Hittite Empire – wrote in response to the Shange classic.

The NCCU production combines the raw, uncut emotions of Shange's work with the thought-provoking words of Mason.

"Both plays utilize an Afrocentric feel transcended by ethnic music and dance, call and response, and the power of the spoken word displayed through poetry and storytelling," said director Stephanie "Dr. Asabi" Howard, an actress and assistant professor in the NCCU Department of Theatre.

Six young black men and seven young black women prowl the stage representing the dynamics of life among African American men and women. While the males and females exist in their isolated worlds, unaware of each other, the end result is a feeling of "coming-togetherness" — a unity of mutual respect, admiration, interdependence and love.

\$25

WSSU – DILLARD

WEDNESDAY,
JULY 31 THROUGH
FRIDAY, AUG. 2 AT
3 P.M.

SATURDAY, AUG. 3
AT 3 P.M. AND
8 P.M.



Press Photo

The young men and women of TROIKA.

Misunderstood

Young performers from the Caribbean will be making their way to Winston-Salem and the National Black Theatre Festival.

When the troupe TROIKA Bermuda debuted "Misunderstood" last year at The City Hall Theatre in Hamilton, crowds were left riveted. NBTF audiences will see why.

The music-laden choreoplay is about a group of forsaken students who look for their purpose and meaning in a world that seems to only want to confine their dreams and passions.

Written and directed by New York theater veteran Lawrence Floyd, choreographed by Zalika Millett and with original music by Leroy Francis, "Misunderstood" more than fulfills TROIKA's mission of "Keeping the drama onstage."

TROIKA, a nonprofit charity, works to educate, enlighten and entertain by producing significant theater experiences presented by creative young people.

Troupe members believe that art, fun and education work in tandem to cultivate young minds and afford opportunities to young people to learn about their history, invaluable life lessons and necessary values.

"Misunderstood" is one of this year's NBTF Fringe productions, a series of plays by college and youth theater groups.

\$15

M.C. BENTON –
NORTH

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31
AT 3 P.M.

THURSDAY, AUG. 1
AT 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, AUG. 2
AT
8 P.M.

SATURDAY, AUG. 3
AT 3 P.M.



Lawrence Floyd