

b current performing arts

Presents

Wise.Woman

A lyrical story of old world courting and modern-day self-searching

Toronto, ON- *b current* announces a new play where a modern tale of relationships and self-discovery tangles with a revealing journey into the old world of an East African dynasty. *Wise.Woman* by emerging playwright, Rebecca Fisseha opens on Friday February 20th at the Theatre Centre, 1087 Queen Street West.

Directed by ahdri zhina mandiola (*Scratch*, *Dream In High Park*, *Binti's Journey*), with Cara Ricketts (*Dream in High Park*, *BornReady*, *A Raisin in the Sun*) in the roles of Queen Mak'da and Saba, *Wise.Woman* tells the story of Saba's journey back to her ancestral home in Ethiopia where she plans to marry childhood sweetheart Solomon. Playwright Rebecca Fisseha intertwines this modern fable with the ancient lore of the Queen of Sheba, on her sojourn to the land of Judah and Saba's visit to the tomb ruins at Axum. The play features multi award winning actor, Walter Borden (Order of Canada & several seasons at The Stratford Festival), Peter Bailey (*A Winter's Tale* & *Blyth Theatre Festival*), Ash Knight (*Stratford Festival's A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Meghan Swaby (4th Line Theatre) and Tanya Pillay (*Banyan Tree*, *Dora* nominated *Diplomatic Immunities*).

Alongside the talented cast is a 9 member chorus, with design team including Julia Tribe (7 time *Dora* nominee for costume design) and Kimberly Purtell (3 time *Dora* nominee & *Pauline McGibbon Award* winner). *Wise.Woman* also incorporates a unique educational aspect with a special teacher preview night (Thursday February 12, 2009 at 7pm), matinees with talkbacks exclusively for schools, drama workshops, and post-show artist visits. *Wise.Woman* is destined to be a major cultural event of 2009!

About b current

b current is a not-for-profit arts company based in the heart of Toronto, Canada which supports works emerging from the Canadian and International Black Diaspora. The company strives to support, foster, and build the arts community in Toronto through nurturing of new works and new artists. Activities involve national and international players, with a specialty in developing alternative and obscure material. Core operations includes training and artists development, and the company celebrates alumnae artists like *dbi.young.anitafrika* (*Dora Award* and *RBC Youth Artist Award* winner), *Weyni Mengesha* (*Harry Jerome Award* and *RBC Youth Artist Award* winning director), *Trey Anthony* and *Ngozi Paul* (producers of the hit TV series *'da Kink in My Hair*).

Wise Woman runs from February 20, 2009 - March 8, 2009 at The Theatre Centre, 1087 Queen Street West (Queen & Dovercourt) on Friday and Saturday 2pm & 8pm, and Sundays at 6pm (weekday Matinees also available for Schools). Tickets are \$15 for students & artworkers and \$20 for adults, general. Tickets can be purchased online at www.artsboxoffice.ca, For group sales, the teacher preview, and school sales call 416 533 1500 or email education@bcurrent.ca.

For media inquiries including bios, interviews and media passes, please contact charysse@pdaPR.com or 647 802 6166.