



For more information contact:

Fatima Kafele, Kafele PR

917.723.1494

press@651Arts.org/fkafele@gmail.com

@651ARTS

651 ARTS Presents A Revival of

***The Circle Unbroken is a Hard Bop* by Sekou Sundiata**

Kamilah Forbes Directs as part of Blink Your Eyes: A New York City Retrospective

Brooklyn, NY/September 23, 2013---651 ARTS, a presenting organization dedicated to the work of contemporary artists from the African Diaspora presents a revival of the seminal play ***The Circle Unbroken is a Hard Bop*** by the late poet **Sekou Sundiata** on **Friday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m.** The event is part of 651 ARTS' 25th anniversary season.

The one-night-only engagement will take place at Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts at LIU Brooklyn, located at 1 University Plaza between Dekalb Ave. and Willoughby St., as part of the 651 ARTS 25th Anniversary Season. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by visiting www.651ARTS.org or www.kumbletheater.org.

The Circle Unbroken is a Hard Bop (1992) will be re-imagined and directed by Kamilah Forbes and features Carvens Lissant, Traci Tolmaire and Craig MuMs Grant with choreography from Adia Whitaker. This multilayered performance work, which propelled Sundiata into the world of theater and received three Audelco awards and a Bessie award, tells the story of three African-American artists—an expatriate dancer, a poet, and a musician—who come of age during the political and cultural movements of the late 1960's and '70s. In a 1993 review of the work, The New York Times praised, "...there is nothing simple about this brief play; it is so rich it often seems about to bloom into full-scale opera."

Sekou Sundiata was internationally known as a poet who wrote for print, performance, music and theater, as an educator and as an artist-activist. He was a Sundance Institute Screenwriting Fellow, a Columbia University Revson Fellow, a Master Artist-in-Residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts (Florida), the first Writer-in-Residence at the New School University and the recipient of a Lambent Fellowship in the Arts. Sundiata was a professor at Eugene Lang College in New York City.

more

The Circle Unbroken is a Hard Bop is being presented as a part of *Blink Your Eyes: Sekou Sundiata Revisited*, a New York City-wide retrospective produced by MAPP International. To learn more, visit www.sekousundiata.org.

About 651Arts

For 25 years, 651 ARTS has been committed to developing, producing and presenting performance and cultural programming from the African Diaspora, with a primary focus on contemporary performing arts. 651 ARTS serves the cultural life of New York City, with a particular focus on Brooklyn, one of America's most culturally diverse communities. For more information, please visit www.651ARTS.org.

@651ARTS

About MAPP International Productions

MAPP International Productions is a nonprofit producing and touring organization dedicated to engaging audiences through contemporary performing arts projects and artistic experiences that offer fresh interpretations of social issues and forge connections between the artist and the community. MAPP International worked in close partnership with Sekou Sundiata as producer, project manager and tour representative on projects including *Udu*, *blessing the boats*, the *Gift of Life Concert at the Apollo Theater*, *The America Project* and *the 51st (dream) state*. www.mappinternational.org.

@MappIntl

###