



Sun | Oct 2 | 7:30pm | Multicultural Arts Center, East Cambridge

Celebrity Series of Boston presents a Neighborhood Arts performance

Jean Appolon Expressions
Traka: Trauma, Haiti, and the Healing Power of Dance

Choreography Jean Appolon
Composer and Live Musician Val Jeanty
Costume Design Jean Appolon (Judith Perez, Seamstress)
Lighting Stephen Petrilli
The Company
IJ Chan, Velouse Joseph, Meghan McGrath,
Buyile Toyvo Narwele, Lonnie Stanton, Mcebisi Xotyeni

Movement I

Ginen The Company
Obouba Buyile Toyvo Narwele
Kouzen IJ Chan, Buyile Toyvo Narwele, Lonnie Stanton
Espri Meghan McGrath, Mcebisi Xotyeni
Raj IJ Chan, Meghan McGrath, Lonnie Stanton,
Mcebisi Xotyeni

Musical Interlude by Val Jeanty, featuring dancer Buyile Toyvo Narwele

Movement II

Zantray IJ Chan, Meghan McGrath, Buyile Toyvo Narwele,
Lonnie Stanton, Mcebisi Xotyeni
Tranzisyon IJ Chan, Buyile Toyvo Narwele, Lonnie Stanton
Koneksyon Velouse Joseph, Meghan McGrath, Mcebisi Xotyeni
Lespwa The Company

Today's program will run about 75 minutes with no intermission.

2022/23 Neighborhood Arts Presenting Sponsor **Stephanie L. Brown Foundation**

2022/23 Season Sponsors **Amy & Joshua Boger**

Neighborhood Arts is sponsored by the Barr Foundation through its ArtsAmplified initiative, Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, First Republic Bank, Foley & Lardner LLP, Klarman Family Foundation, Liberty Mutual Foundation, Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Yawkey Foundation, U.S. Small Business Administration, and other generous supporters.

Celebrity Series of Boston is supported by Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

About the program

Traka, meaning “Troubles” in Haitian Kreyòl (Creole), explores how dance, culture, and community are pathways to healing for victims of traumatic events. Following a traumatic event, individuals may use coping strategies such as emotionally processing with family, finding distraction through play or work, or seeking meaning and understanding through religion and community. *Traka* highlights how dance and culture can support healing on both individual and community levels.

Jean Appolon has overcome deep loss by focusing intently on his art and through teaching others. Preserving Haiti’s cultural legacy through dance and celebrating Haitian dance and culture as a pathway to healing has defined Appolon’s artistic mission. During a time of such division and discord, especially around immigrant communities, *Traka* is exceedingly timely. Jean Appolon Expressions is committed to elevating immigrants’ voices and stories.

About Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE)

Based in Boston, JAE is a Haitian contemporary dance company, directed by Jean Appolon. Combining modern technique and Haitian folkloric dance, JAE brings a new artistic vernacular to its audiences. With its dynamic repertoire, JAE educates audiences about Haitian culture, traditions, history and current issues. JAE fulfills its mission to preserve Haitian folkloric culture while constantly enlivening the art form in a way that is vital, accessible, inspiring and educational. JAE is comprised of dancers from diverse backgrounds, each of whom is committed to JAE’s mission to use dance to share Haitian culture.

THANK YOU

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Chucho Valdes | October 14
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Celebrity Series of Boston

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