



KC Melting Pot's "For Colored Girls..." Wonderfully Engages

KC Melting Pot Theater's interpretation of Ntozake Shange's "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf" engages with a fusion of raw, moving poetry and vibrant color, as the performance artfully relates the struggles and challenges that many African-American women encounter in our racist and sexist culture.



KC Melting Pot Theatre

"For Colored Girls..." emotionally engages using a visually beautiful presentation of monologues – dubbed a "choreopoem" by Shange- originally written in 1974 as twenty separate poems. "For Colored Girls..." weaves a tapestry representative of the everyday lives of "sisterhood" performed by seven "colored girls", addressing what continues today as still very relevant themes found in the #MeToo and Black Lives Matter movements, in addition to love & love lost, abandonment and abortion, amongst others.

The cast of "For Colored Girls..." consists of seven nameless

African-American women identified only by a color in equally strong and moving performances by Lanette King – Lady in Orange, Aishah Ogbah – Lady in Red, Jabrelle Herbin – Lady in Green, Alexis Dupree – Lady in Yellow, Karis Harrington – Lady in Blue, Jay Harper – Lady in Purple, and Sherri Roulette Mosley – Lady in Brown.



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Director Lynn King's excellent production includes a talented technical team of Emily Kennebeck – Stage Manager, Ebonee Grace – Asst. Stage Manager, Melonnie Walker – Dramaturg, Warren Deckert – Lighting and Dennis Jackson – Sound Design. Kyle Selley's exemplary set design perfectly complements the performance, being both simple as well as elegant. In addition, "The Colored Girls'" august dresses brought emotional vibrancy to their poetic recitations. "For Colored Girls..." could've benefited from more elaborate choreography to stay truer to Shange's original vision, but the dramatic aspect of the readings still made KC Melting Pot's rendition profound.

"For Colored Girls..." message is timeless and still resonates while evoking deeply empathetic emotions while visually engaging the audience. KC Melting Pot's production runs through Dec. 15 at Just Off Broadway. For ticket information, please go to: <https://www.kcmeltingpot.com/>

