

WACO THEATER CENTER PRESENTS

BLACK HÖMER

reinvigorating Black memory

with Artist-In-Residence **Freedom Dunn**

2022/23 Artistic Season

BLACK WITH A CAPITAL **B**

February 17

February 18

PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

Dear Patrons,

Welcome back to WACO Theater Center as we celebrate 5 years supporting the dreams of artists and young people. We are honored by your presence at our presentation of *Black Hömer*.

Your support tonight directly benefits the artists, young people and community members that WACO serves across Los Angeles and beyond.

The arts provide a gateway to the stories and histories of our communities. They allow us to laugh, cry, reflect and heal. We know the power of art and will continue to invest in education programs and world class productions.

We both know what it means to have a strong support system to guide you through life. We are proud to share that our first class of mentees in Tina's Angels and Richard's Warriors graduated and we are so excited for what is next in their future.

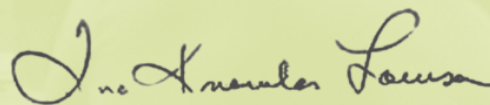
As we continue our artistic season, *Black with a Capital B*, we look to deepen our commitment, and expand our footprint to reach more artists and young people who we know will change the world.

Enjoy yourself tonight and reinvigorate Black memory. We look forward to seeing you again at the theater, and invite you to join us, as we celebrate 5 years and our journey into the future.

Together—we are WACO. We are creating a home Where Art Can Occur.



Richard Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director



Tina Knowles Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director

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Founded in 2017 by Richard and Tina Knowles Lawson, WACO (Where Art Can Occur) Theater Center is located in the burgeoning North Hollywood Arts District of Los Angeles and is one of the few cultural institutions in the country providing contemporary performing and visual arts of the African Diaspora.

Board of Directors

Angeliki Giannakopoulos, *Secretary*
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Beyoncé Knowles-Carter
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Kelly Rowland

Mission Statement

WACO Theater Center is a performing and visual arts organization dedicated to the empowerment of Los Angeles artists, young people and stories of the African diaspora.

We present, commission and develop artistic works to provide artists and young people a platform and voice to showcase their creativity.

Values Statement

WACO's artistic and education programs are driven by four values. We create work that unapologetically:

- **Centers Black art and culture** from a diasporic lens and voice.
- **Incubates and launches new creative ideas** to memorialize the past and envision the future of Black life.
- **Is collaborative and leads with an Ubuntu mindset**, "I am, because we are."
- **Serves the needs of the community** including the social, economic and civic priorities of our neighbors and Black Los Angeles.

BLACK
MURDER
MEMORIES

BLACK HÖMER

*reinvigorating **Black memory***

Darrel Friidom Dunn
Artist-in-Residence

featuring

RHAPSODES — SERAPHIM

Dustin "DPayne" Payne
Jesse Smith
Rebekah Denegal
TaiRyan White

GUARDIANS — CHERUBIM

Ambar Matos
Cassandra Tsohis
Enom "Wulf" Clayton
Malik "Gvmby" Bannister

PHILOSOPHERS — THRONES

James "Animated J" Jimenez
Zion "NoiZ" Elamin

THE ASPECTS OF GOD

Blossom Wilder
John Freeland, Jr.
Kae'dyn Levy

MOTHER

Darlesha "Valkary" Goggans
Shantavia Smith
ThaooAishat Hasati

Learn more about Epiic
thefriidom.com

BLACK
HÖMER
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Black memory



Staff & Production

WACO Theater Center

staff

Richard Lawson, *Artistic Director*

Tina Knowles Lawson, *Artistic Director*

Shay Wafer, *Executive Director*

Alex Kalognomos, *Special Events Producer*

Ariel Reyes, *Director of Finance & HR*

Bria Williams, *Senior Executive Assistant*

Carolyn Gage, *Technical Manager*

Cornelius Humphries, *Special Events Coordinator*

Isreal Spencer, *Mentor*

Jasmine Gipson, *Communications & Strategy Fellow*

Kasiopia Moore-Watts, *Interim Education Director*

Kobe Lamaur, *Administrative Assistant*

Lachelle Metcalf, *Director of Education*

Lanae Wilks, *House Manager*

Malaiye Evans, *Executive Assistant & Mentor*

Nijeul X, *Director of Communications & Strategy*

Nia Miranda, *Senior Executive Assistant*

Steven Foley, *Director of Operations & Production*

Terrence Terrell, *Mentor*

Tocarra Cash, *Education Coordinator & Mentor*

consultants

Amanda Mason, *Legal Counsel*

Cicley Gay, *Development*

Darius Glover, *Digital Marketing*

Eli Bevins, *Designer & Webmaster / EliLu Entertainment*

Erica Tucker, *Publicist / AMPR Group*

Lu Bevins, *Designer & Webmaster / EliLu Entertainment*

Taylor Desmangles, *Social Media / Ninth Flow Creative*

Black Hömer

production team

Carolyn Gage, *Technical Manager*

Chris White, *Composer*

Cornelius Humphries, *Special Events Coordinator*

G DEP, *Music Production*

Indigo, *Composer*

John Nyboer, *Production Photographer*

Jordan Sotero, *Production Videographer*

Kobe Lamaur, *Production Coordinator / Box Office*

Lanae Wilks, *House Manager*

Luz Gaitan, *Lighting Designer*

Marcus Norris, *Music Production*

Mode Korvidae, *Marketing Consultant*

Nijeul X, *Producer*

Reshae Mackey, *Stage Manager*

Rose Krol, *Sound Board Operator*

Stéphen Banks, *Production Manager*

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, *Music Production*

Sault, *Music Production*

Steven Foley, *Producer*

Torrance Winder, *Lighting Asst / Board Operator*

Valencia Stallings, *Wardrobe*

Zack Hemsey, *Music Production*



NEXT UP AT WACO

March 18 at 6:00 PM



Plan A: Black Women on the Rise Film Festival, is a showcase of short films by Black women to empower Black women. We celebrate the artistry of filmmakers, producers, writers, and actors, to bridge the gap between emerging and established industry leaders.

The 8th annual festival is presented in partnership with WACO (Where Art Can Occur) Theater Center and M.P.A.C.T (More Positive Artists Coming Together) Entertainment and Events.

**Sign up for the WACO monthly newsletter
and be the first in line for tickets!**

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Presentation of Black Hömer



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2022/23 Season Sponsors



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Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation
The Black Seed
California Humanities Council
LA County Department of Arts and Culture
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