



For immediate release

Contact: Harlem Stage: Heidi Riegler Communications
718.340.3018 or hrarts@earthlink.net or
Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company: Ellen Jacobs Associates
212.245.5100 or ellen@ejassociates.org

**BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY
PRESENTS WORLD PREMIERE OF CHAPEL/CHAPTER
AT HARLEM STAGE/AARON DAVIS HALL, INC.**

ANNA DEAVERE SMITH WILL HOST OPENING NIGHT PERFORMANCE

**TUES–SAT, DECEMBER 5–9, 2006
THE GATEHOUSE—HARLEM’S NEWEST DESTINATION FOR ART AND CULTURE**

New York, NY (November 13, 2006)—HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc., presents the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company in the world premiere of Jones’s *Chapel/Chapter*, December 5-9, at Harlem Stage’s newly renovated Gatehouse. The dance is part of WaterWorks, a series of commissions by Harlem Stage.

Chapel/Chapter will open Tuesday, December 5, 2006 and will run through Saturday, December 9, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at The Gatehouse, 150 Convent Avenue at West 135th Street, New York. Tickets for performances on Wed.–Sat. are \$35. For tickets and information, call 212.650.7100 or log on to www.harlemstage.org.

The premiere performance and post-performance reception with the artists will be held on Tuesday, December 5, hosted by Anna Deavere Smith. Tickets for this special performance are \$150. For premiere performance tickets, call 212.650.8970.

An artist troubled by contemporary events, Jones responds through dances that pose questions about personal morality in the throes of public opinion. *Chapel/Chapter*, which is designed to readily adapt to unconventional spaces, incorporates text, video and movement. For its Gatehouse production, Bjorn Amelan, the Company’s creative director, will dramatically transform the Gatehouse’s interior by swathing its walls in a brilliant red cloth and seating the audience on church pews on all four sides of the space. Reflecting one of the dance’s themes—the tension between the secular and the sacred—the white stage floor is designed to resemble both a game of hopscotch and the nave of a church.

The text, comprised of news reports, court transcripts and personal histories, all altered to broaden their relevance, is spoken and sung by actor Andrea Smith, the Company's dancers and its musicians. The hyper-physical, virtuosic and rigorous movement is ritualized through repetition, meticulous spacing and unexpected changes in rhythm. Created by Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR), the score further reinforces the work's moral themes by combining original music with madrigals, folk songs and plainchants. The video is by Janet Wong, the lighting by Robert Wierzel and the costumes by Liz Prince.

The dancers are Asli Bulbul, Leah Cox, Maija Garcia, Shayla-Vie Jenkins, Wen-Chung Lin, Erick Montes, Charles Scott, Donald C. Shorter, Jr. and Stuart Singer. Performing live with Roumain are cabaret artist Lipbone Redding, cellist Christopher Lancaster and soprano Alicia Hall Moran.

Chapel/Chapter was commissioned and developed by HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc. for WaterWorks. *Chapel/Chapter* was created with the generous support of investors in the Company's Partners in Creation program, including: The Argosy Foundation, Eleanor Friedman, Ellen Poss, Ruth and Stephen Hendel, Marcia Radosevich and Carol Tolan.

About WaterWorks

WaterWorks is a new program by Harlem Stage designed to support the creation of significant works by artists of color. The first wave of WaterWorks consists of projects by Bill T. Jones, Tania León, Roger Guenveur Smith and Sekou Sundiata, who have taken their inspiration from the original function of The Gatehouse, using water that once flowed through The Gatehouse as a metaphor, channeling art from the new venue into New York and beyond.

WaterWorks is sponsored by Time Warner. Altria Group, Inc., has provided major support for WaterWorks. Additional support for this program has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nathan Cummings Foundation. Media Sponsors are WNYC and Village Voice.

About HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc.

Since its inception, HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc., has earned a local, national, and international reputation for its world-class programming and commissioning of new works. Established in 1979 as part of The City College of New York, the organization became an independent nonprofit in 1983.

HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc., has hosted such legendary artists as Harry Belafonte, Max Roach, Bill Cosby, Abbey Lincoln, Maya Angelou, and Tito

Puente. Through vibrant programs in music, dance, theater and film, the organization has developed and sustained such signature series as NewFacesNewVoicesNewVisions, including E-Moves and SundayWorks, the Benefit Tribute designating the Harlem Renaissance Award, and its educational program for young people, the International Series.

HARLEM STAGE/Aaron Davis Hall, Inc. adapted its unique identity—Harlem Stage—on October 24, 2006, and opened its new facility. The land marked Gatehouse, used to distribute water from the Croton Aqueduct in Westchester County to New York City, was designed in a Romanesque Revival style and is transformed into a state-of-the-art performance venue by Ohlhausen DuBois Architects in partnership with Wank Adams Slavin Associates Architects and Engineers.

About the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company

One of the most well-traveled troupes in the world, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company was founded by Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane in 1982, eleven years after the two artists had begun collaborating and working as a duo. With a repertory of over 140 works, the Company has performed in over 200 American cities and 30 countries, including Australia, Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Greece, Mexico, Italy, France and the Czech Republic.

The Company, based in New York City's Harlem, has been honored with innumerable awards including several New York Dance and Performance Awards ("Bessies") and a 1999 Laurence Olivier Award nomination. The troupe has also been represented in and the subject of many documentaries, including "Uncle Tom's Cabin/The Promised Land" for the Great Performance Series, "Bill T. Jones: 'Still/Here' with Bill Moyers" and the Emmy Award-winning "Free to Dance," produced by the American Dance Festival. Jones's many honors include a 2006 Lucille Lortel Award, the 2005 Wexner Prize, the 2005 Samuel H. Scripps American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement, a 2005 Harlem Renaissance Award, the 2003 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize and a 1994 MacArthur "Genius" Award. For more information, please visit www.billtjones.org.

The Gatehouse is located at 150 Convent Avenue at West 135th Street (across from Aaron Davis Hall). To get there by subway, take the 1 train to 137th Street. Exit and walk two blocks south to 135th Street, then two blocks east to Convent Avenue. For more information and directions, contact 212.650.7100 or log on to www.harlemstage.org.

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