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Truth Is Of No Color:
Concerts for Social Justice



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Program

Introduction to The Avenue Children's Theatre Project, Reenah Golden

Welcome and Introduction to *Truth Is of No Color*, Herb Smith

VALERIE COLEMAN, PORTRAITS OF LANGSTON

Hayley Grainger, flute
Kamalia Freyling, clarinet
Chiao-Wen Cheng, piano

Genesis Arrindell, spoken word, "*Helen Keller*"

Ta'niya Houston, spoken word, "*Danse Africaine*"

Anderson "Poetically Undefined" Allen, monologue, "*Le Grand Duc Mambo*"

N'dia "Dread" Prout, spoken word, "*In Time Of Silver Rain*"

Samyria Blythers, spoken word, "*Jazz Band in a Parisian Cabaret*"

Narionna Kahzmirh Nuñez, spoken word, "*Summer Night*"

HERB SMITH, HEALING

Herb Smith, trumpet
Reenah Golden, spoken word, "*Go Slow*"

Willa Finck, violin
Margaret Leenhouts, violin

Benjamin Krug, cello

Lars Kirvan, cello

Peter Chwazik, bass

Joe Parker, drums

Kyle Peters, percussion

**All performed poems and monologue written by Langston Hughes.
Poetry and monologue vignettes directed by Reenah Golden.*

About the Creative Process

Valerie Coleman's *Portraits of Langston* is a six-movement suite inspired by Langston Hughes's poetry. The Avenue Teen Fellows were given the five dynamic poems Coleman chose, to study and workshop during the audition process. Ultimately, they were each cast to perform the poem that they showed the most kinship to during workshop. Fellows assigned themes and visual elements to their performance to translate into the vision for the vignettes filmed and edited by Dan Gross and directed by Reenah Golden.

Additionally, the genius performance of Avenue Artist-in-Residence Anderson Allen (known creatively as "Poetically Undefined") aptly embraces the single piece of prose, *Le Grand Duc Mambo*.

The Avenue Blackbox's fearless founder, Reenah Golden makes an appearance to pair a performance of the poem, *Go Slow* by Langston Hughes with *Healing*, composed by Rochester's own (and Avenue favorite) Herb Smith.