

**For Immediate Release**

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***AFROSOLO JULY MUSIC SERIES***

***AT***

***POWELL'S PLACE RESTAURANT***

1521 Eddy Street, San Francisco

Saturdays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2007

The AfroSolo Theatre Company joins with Powell's Place Restaurant to present **AfroSolo's July Music Series** featuring gospel and jazz artists in solo performance each Saturday in July from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. Powell's Place Restaurant is at 1521 Eddy Street @ Fillmore in San Francisco.

Gospel pianist **Kevan Peabody** kicks off the series on **July 7th**. Internationally renowned gospel singer **Freda Mitchell** performs on **July 14<sup>th</sup>**, jazz artist **Ricardo Scales** on **July 21<sup>st</sup>** and **Emma Jean Foster** will perform on **July 28<sup>th</sup>**. "We are very excited to collaborate with Powell's Place to present these extraordinary artists," said Thomas Robert Simpson, founder and artistic director of AfroSolo. "It provides us the rare opportunity to showcase their talent in an intimate setting," he added.

"It is a joy for us to work with AfroSolo," said Emmit Powell, owner of Powell's Place Restaurant. "AfroSolo has consistently worked to use the arts to share the culture, heritage and talents to uplift the African American community," he added.

**Featured Artists**

**KEVAN PEABODY** has devoted his life to the study of gospel music. His training is a blend of traditional and contemporary music for both church and concert audiences. Producer, songwriter and arranger, his credits Dr. Edwin and Bishop Walter Hawkins Music Workshop, Arts Love Fellowship Choir, Bobby Jones Gospel, and Emmit Powell and the Gospel Elites

**FREDA MITCHELL** is a veteran AfroSolo performer, and critically acclaimed in the Gospel industry. Ms. Mitchell has performed through out America, Europe, Australia, South America as well as the Bay Area. Her performances have been acclaimed by former President Bill Clinton and media personality Oprah Winfrey. She also performs with Emmit Powell and the Gospel Elites.

**RICARDO SCALES** is has been called the "Black Liberace" for his flamboyant and colorful attire at his concerts of smooth jazz. He has played for five United States presidents, countless diplomats, heads of state, and foreign dignitaries. He has shared concert bills with such notables as the Commodores, Nancy Wilson, Jerry Vale, and Kenny Lattimore, performing gospel, jazz, classical and/or Black spirituals. He has also recorded five CDs.

**EMMA JEAN FOSTER** is a featured vocalist for the Glide Memorial's Glide Ensemble. She has also performed with Linda Tillery and The Cultural Heritage Choir. She has sung the National Anthem at major sporting events, performed at a Presidential breakfast and appeared at Carnegie Hall. Reverend Cecil Williams, Glide Memorial Church call her "a breath taking experience..."

### **What: AfroSolo July Music Series**

**When:** Saturdays in July:    July 7<sup>th</sup>- Kevan Peabody  
   July 14<sup>th</sup> – Freda Mitchell  
   July 21<sup>st</sup> – Ricardo Scales  
   July 28<sup>th</sup> – Emma Jean Foster

**Where:**                                1521 Eddy Street @ Powell, San Francisco, CA

**Cost:**                                 \$5

Founded in 1993, AfroSolo's Theatre Company provides a forum for nurturing, promoting, and presenting the experiences of African Americans and those from the African Diaspora through solo performances, and the visual and literary arts. Through art, we bring people of all ethnicities together to explore and share the human spirit that binds us all.

AfroSolo has presented celebrity guests, such as the award-winning Broadway actor Ruby Dee; political humorist and activist Dick Gregory; the late blues and jazz legend Charles Brown; the beloved poet, writer, and teacher June Jordan; Hall of Fame Member Mavis Staples; and gospel artist Emmitt Powell. In addition, the AfroSolo Festival has presented the works of over 115 emerging solo artists.

For more information, contact AfroSolo at: 415/771-AFRO (2376) or visit:

[www.afrosolo.org](http://www.afrosolo.org).

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