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Sept. 13, 2018

BRAVE PROUD CONCERED ENLIGHTENED “BLACK”

By Wilfred M. Phillips Jr.

The solo show “Black” made its LA premiere Sunday, September 9, at the Zephyr Theater in Los Angeles. This magnificent play is written and acted by actor/playwright and storyteller, Michael Washington Brown. Michael tells it like it is about race relations not only in the black community but also in black countries around the globe. He explains in a comic way on why the word black is treated so unjustly. Words such as Black-Mail-Black Friday Black-balled. While white is described in words such as White House, White-Wash, White Collar Crime and other stereotypes. His message to the black community is Love, and Love for one another. We are the only race who don’t show love towards each other including to ourselves.

This is not a stand-up lecture play. Mr. Brown uses various aids such as visual slide shows and background music to bring attention to what slavery was about and what we have been through from slavery to now. He puts impasses on music, calling it the universal language. He liberated that if Rap music changes its lyrics from the N & B words to brothers and queens, a new light will draw a positive reaction to Rap music.

Mr. Brown will have you travel with him on a trip to Jamaica. He uses his Jamaican and African dialects to tell his story about

family values. He tells parents stop being friends with your children, but to encourage and guide them and by all means use discipline. He then takes you to Africa. He says, Africa is a rich continent with poor people living there. If we pool our resources together, we will be the most powerful people on earth. He discusses about the harmful fast foods that are killing us. We could open restaurants with foods that we like which are nutritious and wholesome. We must give up saying things are hopeless. We have the power of the dollar, we can shut down any business we don’t like. We have the choice. The show closes with the music of Bob Marley’s One Love

I recommend this ninety minutes play as a must see for all people. In these days of political uncertainty in our country, this play couldn’t have come at a better time.. I give this well done and superbly acted solo play two thumbs up. You will find it to be truthful, shocking, and at times extremely funny.

‘Black’ runs for and will be performing each Sunday until October 14, at the Zephyr Theater 7456 Melrose Ave. (between Fairfax and LaBrea) Los Angeles CA 90046 curtain time is 7 p.m. for more information and tickets call (800) 838-3006 or visit blackonemanshow.brownpapertickets.com