

The Kitchen Prayers Peace Archive

The Kitchen Prayers Peace Archive Exhibit at the UM Duderstadt Gallery 9/7/07 – 9/21/07 was the culminating event of seven years' illustrious work by the Project for Transforming thru Performing: re/placing Black womanly images. The Peace Archive is now permanently housed in the UM Libraries for the enjoyment of artists, scholars and witnesses for the future.

The entire collection, listed below, is in the Labadie Collection, Special Collections Library. In the Askwith Media Library and the Music Library, you will find Kitchen Prayers performances on DVD and well as interviews with the performers and our scholarly partners on DVD. At DeepBlue.lib.umich.edu, you can access selected Kitchen Prayers performances and events from your computer.

What's in the Peace Archive

WHAT'S COOKIN' IN THE KITCHEN? a planetary portrait
9/11/01 - 9/11/04. *COOKIN'* is a 2-disc DVD set completed in 2006.
It gives you an overview of the work of **The Project**.



SCRIPTS

You can either read the scripts (A1 – A5) or view them on CD (A6 – A10).

- A1. Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global loss December 11, 2001. Trueblood Theatre
- A2. Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global loss May 19, 2002. Trueblood Theatre
- A3. Kitchen Prayers in Turkey/ Summer 2002
(new material and background research to create an expanded script)
- A4. Identities on Trial, a kitchen protest prayer
April 11, 2003. Trueblood Theatre
- A5. Sapphire's New Shoe, the kitchen table summit
October 29, 2004. Duderstadt Center

CDs

- A6. Scanned Script/ Kitchen Prayers 2001
- A7. Scanned Script/ Kitchen Prayers 2002
- A8. Scanned Script/ Kitchen Prayers in Turkey
- A9. Scanned Script/ Identities on Trial
- A10. Scanned Script/ Sapphire's New Shoe



DVDs

- A11. Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global loss
December 11, 2001. Trueblood Theatre
- A12. Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global loss
May 19, 2002. Trueblood Theatre
- A13. Kitchen Prayers in Turkey
July 13, 2002. Enka Acikava Tiyatrosu, Istanbul, Turkey
- A14. Kitchen Prayers in Turkey
July 18, 2002. Bogazici Universitesi, Bebek, Turkey
July 19, 2002. Sabanci Universitesi, Karakoy, Turkey
- A15. Identities on Trial, a kitchen protest prayer
April 11, 2003. Trueblood Theatre
- A16. Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global loss
April 12, 2003. University of Michigan (Dearborn Campus)
- A17. Sapphire's New Shoe, the kitchen table summit
October 29, 2004. Duderstadt Center.

Newspaper Articles and Other Research

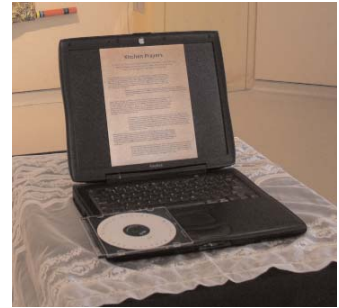
You can either read this resource material in hard copy (B1 – B4) or view it on CD (B5 – B8).

- B1. Table Work/ Kitchen Prayers
December 2001 thru May 2002
- B2. Table Work/ Identities on Trial/
Spring 2003
- B3. Table Work/ Fall 2003/
workshopping “SAPPHIRE”
- B4. Table Work/ Spring 2004/
workshopping “SAPPHIRE”



CDs

- B5. Scanned Images/
Kitchen Prayers 2001-2002
- B6. Scanned Images/ Identities on Trial
- B7. Scanned Images/ Sapphire Workshop/
Fall 2003
- B8. Scanned Images/ Sapphire Workshop/
Spring 2004



DVDs

- B9. Michelle McCullough, Walonda Lewis, Kim Staunton and Rhonda Bantsimba are interviewed/ November 16, 2003
- B10. Walonda Lewis and Lisa Richards are interviewed/
November 17, 2003
- B11. Workshopping “Sapphire”/November 19-20, 2003
- B12. Workshopping “Sapphire”/November 21, 2003
- B13. Workshopping “Sapphire”/Spring 2004
- B14. January and March 2002 workshops with responses from Jill Dolan, Haiping Yan and Elin Diamond. Room 1550, Frieze Building
- B15. Ifeoma Nwankwo workshop with Prayerful Performers/Fall 2004
- B16. Studio Work/Taping Scenes for “COOKIN”/Spring and Fall 2004
- B17. Rehearsals for “COOKIN” (5/10/04)
- B18. Rehearsals in Turkey
- B19. Symposium “Transforming thru Performing” May 2002. UM Museum of Art.
- B20. Freda Scott Giles Interview
- B21. Michael Kennedy Interview

B22. Harry Elam and Margaret Wilkerson Interviews

B23. Sapphire's New Shoe: Post-show Q and A
October 29, 2004. Duderstadt Center

B24. Symposium "Symbols, Signifiers and Sapphire's New Shoes"
October 30, 2004. Pierpont Commons

B25. Kitchen Prayers Peace Archive Celebratory Opening/
September 9, 2007

B26. Kitchen Prayers Peace Archive Roundtable/September 11, 2007



The Project for Transforming thru Performing: re/placing Black womanly images is supported by a generous grant from the Ford Foundation.









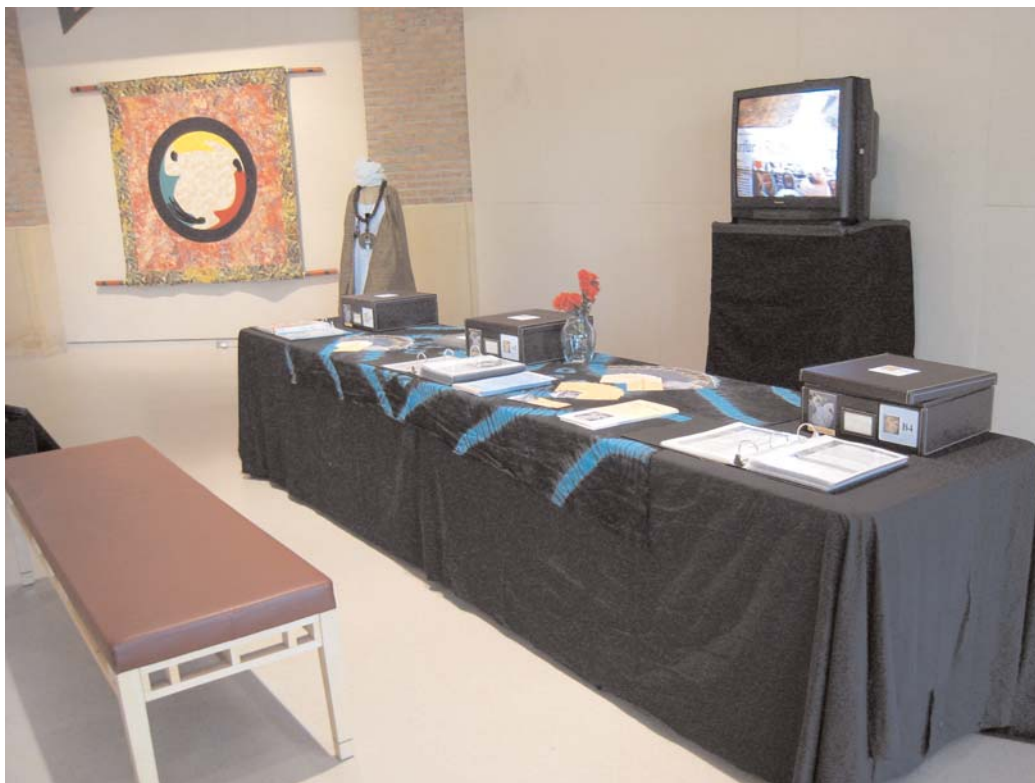


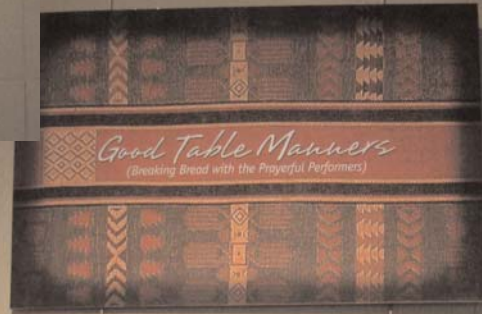





























**KITCHEN PRAYERS:
TRANSFORMING THRU PERFORMING**
Director's Notes

The Kitchen Prayers Performance Dialogue Series is presented by the Project for Transforming this Performing, replacing Black womanhood of age, of the present culture and dramatic scenes from ordinary, or the of women who, or sometimes forgotten by scholars when they are not gender identity. In discussions held both during and after the performances, we have scholarly commentary sent to the Project for Transforming this Performing of our audience. Thus the Performance Dialogue.

When the Black womanly performs, humbly and respectfully, women feel to do so, but based on history, myth and oral the narratives, she adds a spiritual dimension to the dialogue. These performers might be called performance historians, but they are creating history as witnesses for the future, as I call them: *Prayerful Performers*.

During performances, the *Prayerful Performers* carry individually handmade signs. These signs serve as places of memory, memory as a salute to the Greek *mnemotēchē* which connotes witness. I call them: *Witness Texts*.

The Kitchen Prayers Performance Dialogues like the Kitchen as a word of dialogue. The *Prayerful Performers* sit around a figurative kitchen table and tell their stories. After 9/11, we wanted to expand our storytelling to recognize stories of women who are not Black and of oppressed people who are not descendants of slaves. The voices honored in the Kitchen Prayers performances are global voices. We joined hands with voices of other friends, but we always kept the Black woman's performing voice at center.

"Kitchen Prayers, a performance dialogue on 9/11 and global love" was presented in the UK: Trondheim Theatre in December 2009 and May 2012 and in Istanbul, Turkey in Summer 2012. "Kitchen Prayers" dismantled global narratives which spoke to the reality of women living with war, terror and resistance every day. In our closing "salute of acknowledgment", we celebrated the spiritual drive these women exhibit to survive and transform their circumstances.

In April 2010, in response to the American invasion of Iraq, I conceived and directed "Identity on Trial, a kitchen protest prayer." "Identity on Trial" was performed at the University of Michigan and dramatized testimony collected from global hearings, congress, testimony, tribunals and books on violations of women's rights.

In October 2014, after collecting global stories in three years, "Supper's New Show, the kitchen table musical" emerged as its original sequel, replacing Black womanly images. More fully produced than previous performances, "Supper's" was a music, time and place crossing, shape shifting story of Black women in the news.

Please visit the companion exhibit which focuses on "Supper's New Show" in the International Institute Gallery.

What a *Goodie!* in the Kitchen! a planetary journey 9/11/09 to 11/14, a documentary which provides an overview of the work of **The Project**, was completed in 2006. *Goodie!* is an interactive 2-disc DVD which plays as part of The Exhibit. The Exhibit also contains Scripts, CDs and DVDs of the performances, as well as *Common, Peeps*, and other Artifacts.

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The Project for Transforming this Performing is supported by a generous grant from the Ford Foundation.



