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New Wine and Blackmen's Feet

by

Keith Antar Mason

Keith Antar Mason is a performance and theater artist, poet and writer whose stage and literary works have been presented extensively throughout the United States and Britain for over two decades, including the LIFT festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New World Theater, and the Walker Center for the Performing Arts among many venues. Awards and honors include the Brody Arts Fund, Franklin Furnace, Art Matters, Harvard Book Award and the Barbara Mandingo Kelly Peace Award. Mason's poems, stories and essays have been published in dozens of publications, including *Black Theater: Ritual Performance in the African Diaspora* (Temple University Press), *Beyond the Frontier: Afrikan-American Poetry for the 21st Century* (Black Classic Press), *Let's Get It On: The Politics of Black Performance* (Bay Press), and *Pacific Review*.

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Poetry by Keith Antar Mason

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Praise for *New Wine and Blackmen's Feet*

I could call Keith A. Mason's writings an ecstatic torrent of memory and myth, a dangerous funk, dank and chuckling, in a kitchen heavy with cheeseburgers, catfish, tandoori chicken and tofu. I could say the man's concerns are religious, God lashing his tongue like it's the alpha dog pulling us from America's present winter toward a place hot enough for nakedness, hot enough that the blood comes quicker and in Technicolor™. Then I got all the way down to "Book IV" (as you should) and realized that *New Wine and Black Men's Feet* is what happens when L.A. becomes writing. The fitful traffic of sentences. Tense multiculturalism blurring in rearviews. Our windshields turning the world a silver screen so you can confuse 300 for history, flesh for geography, a poet for a prophet (and vice versa). It happens here, here, here.

—Douglas Kearney