



# M.U.G.A.B.E.E.

MEN UNDER GUIDANCE ACTING BEFORE EARLY EXTINCTION



Their name, **M.U.G.A.B.E.E.**, is an acronym meaning *Men Under Guidance Acting Before Early Extinction*, it describes two brothers guided to be musicians, singers, songwriters, producers, playwrights, poets and teachers, seeing themselves as artists, vessels for the word, allowing it to move through them in various forms of hip hop, jazz, spoken word, rhythm and blues, and soul.

Born **Maurice S. Turner II** and **Carlton A. Turner**, M.U.G.A.B.E.E. slipped into this life in Mt. Vernon, New York in the early seventies. Several years later they relocated to rural Mississippi where they began a career in service to the communities in which they live.

Since 2001 M.U.G.A.B.E.E. has been working in communities across the country in the form of residencies, workshops, performances and lectures. M.U.G.A.B.E.E. works with youth groups, adult learners, community centers, churches, schools and universities.

One of their greatest assets is their willingness to learn, grow, and evolve as artists, but truly their greatest strength is their understanding that art is used to empower and uplift all people, assisting the evolution of human beings by providing thought provoking cultural engagements that spark dialogue on a wide range of subject matter.



I-R: Carlton Turner and Maurice Turner (Photo courtesy of Griff Griffin)

*"It is rare to present artists who can so completely engage the hearts and minds of an audience. Through powerful performance, thought provoking talk-backs and participatory workshops, M.U.G.A.B.E.E. helps communities consider questions of social responsibility and individual and collective actions that can make a difference. Maurice and Carlton Turner exemplify the 21- century artist: Original, inclusive, entertaining and highly relevant!"*

**Mark McKenna**  
Network of Ensemble Theaters

*"Brothers Carlton & Maurice Turner are the wave that I hope is taking us to the future. I have seen their highly evolved jazz and hip hop music, deeply touch the lives of all who hear them, erasing lines of age, gender, class, race, and all those other invented borders that separate us. Their work truly binds us together as one family."*

**Elise Witt**  
EM World Records

M.U.G.A.B.E.E. offers performances, workshops and residencies for a variety of audiences. All events can be tailored to fit the needs of the audience and M.U.G.A.B.E.E. includes the presenter in the planning stage before each engagement.

M.U.G.A.B.E.E. specializes in the following areas:

**Live Music Performance**  
**Theater Performance**  
**Spoken Word Workshops**  
**Story Circle Facilitation**  
**Music Production Workshops**  
**Creative Writing Workshops**  
**Digital Storytelling Workshops**  
**The Great Migration Lecture**  
**Civil Rights Movement Lecture**

Cost of engagement is based on a number of factors including scope of engagement, distance traveled and needs of the presenter. Prices begin at \$800/day.

*"Few performers that I know are as inclusive and incisive as Carlton and Maurice Turner. While they speak of their own race, region and roots, they speak with a humanity that engages and embraces all communities, including ours in rural New England. I have seen them inspire even the most reticent students to write heartfelt and personal expressions. Moreover, I have seen the Turner brothers bring our audience to the irrefutable conviction that we are all, truly, of one world..."*

**Eric Bass**  
Sandglass Theater  
Co-Artistic Director  
Putney, Vermont

**Booking Information:**  
Brandi Turner

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**Maurice S. Turner, II** is co-founder of Turner World Around Productions, Inc. and one-half of the group M.U.G.A.B.E.E. (Men Under Guidance Acting Before Early Extinction). Through M.U.G.A.B.E.E., Maurice works with people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds facilitating workshops, which range from music production to Civil Rights.

When not performing with M.U.G.A.B.E.E., Maurice is a trumpet for hire. He has shared the stage with many

great musicians, which include The Winton Marsalis Septet, Ellis Marsalis, Cassandra Wilson, Mulgrew Miller, Jon Faddis, Danny Barker, Wallace Roney, Stranger Malone, Donald Byrd, Keeter Betts, Elise Witt, Jimmy Heath, Ray Drummond, Roy Hargrove, Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Troy Andrews, Chris "Daddy" Dave, Randy Brecker, and Bobby Rush to name a few. He has credits on over a dozen CDs of various genres and has most recently composed music for the critically acclaimed spoken word theater collective Universes' "Eye Witness Blues", in which he also performs alongside Stephen Sapp and Mildred Ruiz.

Maurice is a board member of Alternate ROOTS, the National Performance Network and the Highlander Center for Research and Education.



**Carlton Turner** is a poet and writer, musician, performance and theater artist whose work has been presented throughout the United States since 1998 including the International Festival for Arts and Ideas, Hayti Heritage Center, The Lyric Theater, Jump-Start Performance Company, National Black Theatre Festival, and the New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center among many venues. Awards and honors include Multi-Arts Production Fund, Community/Artist Partnership Program, Advanced Leadership Preparation Initiative Fellow, National Performance Network Creation Fund recipient and many others. His poetry and fiction has been published in Black Magnolias Literary Magazine, he has released, as part of the group M.U.G.A.B.E.E., two studio albums (Earth Tones, World Domination) and written two plays (Steal Away, Batteries in the Killing Machine).



Carlton is on the planning boards of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and Appalshop. He is also a board and staff member of Alternate ROOTS. Carlton also convenes national conversations as a facilitator with *Voices at the Cultural Battlefield* and is currently working on his book of poetry and fiction entitled *The Sea, the Tree, the Universe*.

**Schools**

- Johnson Elementary
- Walton Elementary
- Casey Elementary
- Horizons School
- Brinkley Middle School
- McComb Middle School
- Woodville Heights Elementary
- McCloud Elementary
- Callaway High School
- Lanier High School
- Raymond High School
- Oxford High School
- Frederick Douglass School
- Jim Hill High School
- McDonough 35
- New Jerusalem Christian Academy

**Colleges and Universities**

- Jackson State University
- Yale University
- Alcorn State University
- University of Southern Mississippi
- Dillard University
- Emory University
- Tulane University
- Xavier University
- Maryville College
- University of Tennessee
- University of Mississippi

- Spelman College
- Clark Atlanta College
- Warren Wilson College
- Virginia Polytechnical Institute
- Tougaloo College
- Rust College
- Hinds Community College
- University of Richmond
- Knoxville College

**Festivals, Conferences and Cultural Centers**

- Ashe Cultural Arts Center (New Orleans, LA)
- Contemporary Arts Center (New Orleans, LA)
- State of the Nation I (Jackson, MS)
- State of the Nation II (New Orleans, LA)
- State of the Nation III (New Orleans, LA)
- Paddle for the Presidency (New Orleans, LA)
- Network of Ensemble Theater Festival (Blue Lake, CA)
- Spoken Word & Hip Hop Festival (Durham, NC)
- International Festival of Arts & Ideas (New Haven, CT)
- Finding Our Folk Tour (Jackson, MS & New Orleans, LA)
- Artistic Ancestry Alternative Theater Festival (New Orleans, LA)
- Black Arts Movement Festival (Austin, TX)
- Gainesville Theater Festival (Gainesville, GA)

- Highlander Center for Research and Education (New Market, TN)
- Chitaqua Nation (DeFuniak Springs, FL)
- National Black Theater Festival (Winston-Salem, NC)
- Sandglass Theatre (Putney, VT)
- Junebug Productions (New Orleans, LA)
- Jump-Start Performance Company (San Antonio, TX)
- Alternate ROOTS Annual Meeting (Arden, NC)
- Project South Youth Day (Atlanta, GA)
- Swanawoa Gathering (Black Mountain, NC)
- The Lyric Theatre (Blacksburg, VA)
- The Goodman Theatre (Chicago, IL)
- Double Decker Bus Festival
- Gala Theatre (Washington D.C.)
- Clear Creek Festival (Berea, KY)
- Touchstone Theater (Bethlehem, PA)

**Extended Residencies**

- Exceptional Education Program (Jackson, MS)
- My Mississippi Eyes (Jackson, MS)
- Junebug Productions (New Orleans, LA)
- Jump-Start Performance Company (San Antonio, TX)
- Hayti Heritage Center (Durham, NC)
- Sandglass Theatre (Putney, VT)
- Carpetbag Theatre (Knoxville, TN)

**National Projects**

- UPROOTED: The Katrina Project ([www.alternateroots.org/uprooted](http://www.alternateroots.org/uprooted))
- Thousand Kites ([www.thousandkites.com](http://www.thousandkites.com))
- Race Peace
- Voices from the Cultural Battlefield ([www.culturalbattlefront.net](http://www.culturalbattlefront.net))

**Other Appearances**

- Bowery Poetry Club (NYC)
- Gold Mine Saloon (New Orleans)
- Hunger Coalition (Atlanta, GA)
- Apache Café (Atlanta, GA)
- Howling Wolf (New Orleans, LA)
- Changing the Beat (Charleston, SC)
- Seven\* Studios (Jackson, MS)
- Musiquarium (Jackson, MS)
- Hal & Mal's (Jackson, MS)
- George Street Grocery (Jackson, MS)
- The Industry (Miami, FL)
- House of Blues (New Orleans, LA)