

About The Grandmother Project (Short)

THE GRANDMOTHER PROJECT IS A REVOLUTIONARY PRESENTATION OF JAZZ, GOSPEL, FUSION AND SOUL THAT GIVES HONOR TO THE AFRICAN – AMERICAN FEMALE VOCALISTS WHO WERE THE ARCHITECTS IN BUILDING AFRICAN – AMERICAN MUSIC, NATIONAL IDENTITY AND INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION. THESE WOMEN, CALLED THE GRANDMOTHERS, LITERALLY HOLD THIS POSITION GENEALOGICALLY, GENERATIONALLY, HISTORICALLY, CULTURALLY AND ARTISTICALLY. VOCALIST MAYA CUNNINGHAM PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE VOCALISTS OF YESTERYEAR BY CREATING A MONTAGE OF LIVE MUSIC, FILM FOOTAGE, RECORDINGS AND TEXTILE ART (QUILTS). THE ENSEMBLE INCLUDES KEYBOARD, ELECTRIC BASS, DRUMS, PERCUSSION, SAXOPHONE, TRUMPET AND VIBRANT BACKGROUND VOCALS. THE CONCERT ALSO ACCOMPANIES AN EXHIBITION OF QUILTS, TEXTILE PIECES AND PAINTINGS BY MAYA CUNNINGHAM THAT COMMEMORATE THE BEAUTY, LIFE STORIES AND LESSON LEARNED FROM GRANDMOTHERS LIKE SARAH VAUGHAN, MAYA ANGELOU, ELLA FITZGERALD, BILLIE HOLIDAY, NINA SIMONE, SHIRLEY CAESAR, DINAH WASHINGTON AND OTHERS.

