

# Of Ebony Embers

VIGNETTES OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

a theatre work conceived  
and performed by

**THE CORE ENSEMBLE**  
(cello, piano & percussion)

written by  
**AKIN BABATUNDE**

directed by  
**AKIN BABATUNDE**



# Of Ebony Embers

Of Ebony Embers is a music theatre work for solo actor and chamber music trio. This evening length piece explores the life and times of African Americans who helped shape the Harlem Renaissance. Of Ebony Embers connects us to the lives and works of three outstanding but very different African-American poets - Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen and Claude McKay - as seen through the eyes of the great painter and muralist Aaron Douglas. The Core Ensemble, the nationally acclaimed trio of cello, piano and percussion, performs music by African American composers ranging from jazz greats Duke Ellington, Jelly Roll Morton, Billy Strayhorn, Thelonious Monk and Charles Mingus to concert music composers Jeffrey Mumford and George Walker.



Countee Cullen



Langston Hughes



Claude McKay

## THE CORE ENSEMBLE

Has garnered national recognition for its efforts to commission new chamber and multi-genre works. Concertizing and residency programming has taken the Core to every region of the U.S. The Boston Globe hailed the Core as "often formidable, always intelligent, ultimately compelling."

## AKIN BABATUNDE

has been a resident company member at Trinity Repertory Theater in Providence, the Alley Theater in Houston, Texas, and the Dallas Theater Center. He is nationally known for his regular appearances on Public Television's children's program Wishbone. The Dallas Observer noted that "Babatunde's characters step forward and tell the story. His moments onstage are affecting, demonstrating that the most powerful special effects are still the human heart and soul."

For further information on this and other Core Ensemble Productions, please write or call:

## THE CORE ENSEMBLE

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