

RED DIRT.BIZ

the he/art and experience of Tim'm T. West

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Poet, Author, Hip-Hop and Youth Activist, **Tim'm T. West**, returns to the Bay Area for several performances in support of his new CD **Blakkboy Blue(s)** and new book "**Flirting.**"

Event: **Tim'm performs for youth ages 13-24 during a Pride Party sponsored by the S.M.A.A.C. Center.**

When: *Friday, August 17, 2007*

Event: 9:00pm-1:00am

Performance: 10:00pm

Where: *The SMAAC Center, 1608 Webster Street, Oakland, CA*

Event: **Blakkboy Blue(s) & Flirting Release Party**

When: *Saturday, August 18, 2007*

6:30pm – 8:00pm (immediately following Black LGBT Film Festival)

Where: *The Uptown, 1928 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, CA*

Background

Black, gay, feminist, poz, and working class, Tim'm T. West has embraced all of who he is and, with laser-beam precision, harnessed the power of his truth to illuminate, celebrate, inspire, provoke, and bear witness. As a teacher, performance artist, author, and culture producer, Tim'm has become an exemplar among contemporary Renaissance personalities of the early 21st Century as he brings others to voice through education for critical consciousness.

Tim'm West is a Cincinnati born, Arkansas raised author, poet, and Hip Hop-Activist who has been artistically nurtured in North Carolina, New York City, the Bay Area, and most recently Washington, DC. West complements the release of Blakkboy Blue(s) with the literary follow up to his first book, "Red Dirt Revival", entitled "Flirting". Just as "Red Dirt Revival" and "Songs from Red Dirt was an autobiographical album that traced his roots as a young child in rural Arkansas to his adult years in New York City and the Bay Area, "Blakkboy Blue(s) and "Flirting" offer a resolved, hopeful, and polished voice. In Blakkboy Blue(s), West moves from memories of finding Hip Hop down south to a sound that beautifully blends his gospel and blues roots with the sounds that largely define his movement through various urban settings.

Says West, "If leaving home leads to nostalgia for your Red Dirt, you gotta someday realize that you can never fully return home. Blakkboy Blue(s) is not just about accepting that home is where the heart is but also accepting that remembering isn't enough-- that life as an activist calls for, not just thinking, but acting in the service of social change." Blakkboy Blue(s), following Tim'm's feature in two critically acclaimed Hip Hop documentaries: Alex Hinton's "Pick Up the Mic" (LOGO) and Byron Hurt's "Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes" (PBS), presents him as one of the critical voices in Hip Hop today. As the mantra of the Grand Royal produced "Irony" states: "O say can you see/What Hip Hop Is supposed to be/All I see is Irony/Hip Hop ain't dead/He just needs to get free". Tim'm offers a curative for a Hip Hop gone bling. An unapologetic "old school" emcee, he is one who has matured with Hip Hop; and questions an industry that doesn't support that evolution.

For more information on Tim'm T. West logon to the website at WWW.REDDIRT.BIZ.

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