

Interact 

The Guthrie Theater presents Interact  
Theater's production of

# Hot Funky Butt Jazz

A New Musical

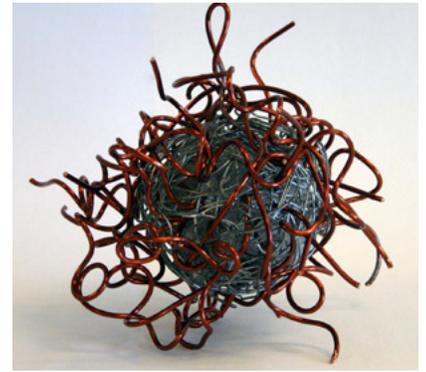
November 3 - 18, 2018



# The Impact of Your Community Partnership

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Staging this next production at the Guthrie theater will benefit sponsors like never before. We couldn't do it without the financial input of community partners like you and hope you will join us this year. Your company message will reach thousands of people in the Twin Cities metropolitan area who experience and support the work of Interact.



## About Interact

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Since 1996, Interact's mission is to create art that challenges perceptions of disability and is the only organization of its kind nationally or internationally – a place where over 100 artists with disabilities create original theater and visual arts each and every day. In our spirit of radical inclusion, Interact is multi-cultural and intergenerational and we embrace the entire spectrum of disability labels.

Our staff artists are all practicing artists with a focus on the unique abilities of every individual. Interact has opened up new horizons for artists with disabilities from whom very little may have been expected, but whose lives have now been transformed as talented, creative, contributing members of our world.

Everyday, for both artists and audiences, our work expands ideas of what is possible through the transformative power of the arts in both our theater and visual arts studio.

Visit [www.interactcenter.org](http://www.interactcenter.org) for more information.

# About the Show

*Interact Theater presents "Hot Funky Butt Jazz"  
Invited by the Guthrie Theater for their Fall 2018 season!*

## Today's New Story at the GUTHRIE THEATER

The incomparable Guthrie Theater has invited Interact to bring "Hot Jazz at da Funky Butt" back by popular demand! With a new name – "Hot Funky Butt Jazz" – and all of the original music that garnered standing ovations in 2011, we're adding new stories, some new artists, and a deeper look at "jazz," the 1900's sound revolution that we know today as... *jazz*.

The name comes from an actual historic place – Union Son's Hall, a community center-cum-church that became the Funky Butt Jazz Hall at the stroke of midnight – named in homage to a room packed with ripe sweating bodies dancing to this provocative new groove.

Black cornet player, Buddy Bolden, has been largely credited with birthing a sound that no one had ever heard before - an intoxicating brew of Afro/Caribbean, Creole, Congolese, and European music that reflected the exotic cultural mix that is the very essence of New Orleans.

Bolden's new sound was an explosion of creative independence, a way to overcome the deadening weight of Jim Crow on a people whose best hope for survival was to live in the shadows. This most democratic of art forms was created from the bottom up - by an outsider with no formal education, no musical training, no place in society, and no rights.

In a town where slaves had been openly sold in Congo Square – and where over 100 years later the city fathers were just beginning to make public reparations – Bolden's underground haunts invoked the spirits of voodoo and the charms of *gris gris*. What would eventually become known as "America's own classical music" was originally deemed a threat to civilized society... called "the devils music" because of the sensual nature of this lush improvisational sound.

Even though recordings of Bolden's music have been lost, the stories about this sound and its effect on people who heard it are still being told today - stories of a power so huge it set the Jazz Age into motion, and changed the culture forever.

## What Insight Magazine said about our 2011 premiere:

*"New Orleans is the backdrop of this esoteric masterpiece, which blends events, races, voodoo, music, and culture to reenact a moment in history that wasn't so open to what was once considered a radical interpretation of instrumental sound."*

Insight Magazine, May 2011 (reviewing Interact Theater's premiere presentation of "Hot Jazz at da Funky Butt" at Minneapolis' Lab Theater)

## The Artists

One of the most important figures from New Orleans history is Marie Laveau, legendary voodoo priestess and healer, a shape-shifter and conjurer whose real-life stories sound like tales of magic. In our production, Marie Laveau is called back to life by the phenomenal African-American **Zena Moses**, lead singer of the New Orleans jazz ensemble, Rue Fiya.

Recreating the spell of our 2011 premiere, **Rue Fiya** once again brings root-source sound from New Orleans' Frenchman Street straight up the Mississippi for "Hot Funky Butt Jazz." Moses is joined by ensemble members Eugene Harding on keys and Jeremy Phipps on horn, spiritual descendants of the earliest jazz greats, who channel their own Black experiences of tragedy and discrimination into the power of their music.

*Interact Theater's multi-cultural, 40-member ensemble of artists with and without disabilities* know about being creative outsiders. Interact Artistic Director Jeanne Calvit founded Interact with a mission to create art that challenges perceptions of disability, and with a vision of radical inclusion that dissolves ideas of who "can" and who "cannot" by blending the talents of artists with and without disabilities, and artists from the mainstream and the margins.

A Louisiana native herself, **Jeanne Calvit** has always been pulled toward the outsiders who flavor New Orleans' rich cultural history. With original music by Ivey-award winning composer **Aaron Gabriel**, "Hot Funky Butt Jazz" tells stories of creativity, race, resilience, and survival – stories as relevant now as they were back in the early 1900s, when a movement was born from Buddy Bolden's moaning horn.

# Sponsor Levels

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## Title & Opening Night Sponsor

**\$10,000**

(Your sponsorship will allow Interact to host a fabulous opening night Gala)

- Recognition in all promotional press and media
- FOUR Tickets to opening night show and Gala
- Logo placement for six months on all eblasts, social media and website
- Logo on all show mailings
- Signage at the Guthrie Theater
- Full page ad in show program

## Presenting Sponsor

**\$5,000**

- Recognition in all promotional press and media
- FOUR Tickets to opening night show and Gala
- Logo placement for six months on all eblasts, social media and website
- Signage at the Guthrie Theater
- Half page ad in show program

## Show Sponsor

**\$2,500**

- Recognition in all promotional press and media
- TWO tickets to opening night show and Gala
- Logo placement for six months on all eblasts, social media and website
- Signage at the Guthrie Theater
- Quarter page ad in show program

## Community Sponsor

**\$1,000**

- Recognition in all promotional press and media
- TWO tickets to opening night show and Gala
- Logo placement for six months on all eblasts, social media and website
- Signage at the Guthrie Theater
- Logo in show program

## Seat Partner

**\$500**

- TWO tickets to opening night show and Gala
- Logo placement for six months on all eblasts, social media and website
- Signage at the Guthrie Theater
- Logo in show program

**Yes, I would like to support "Hot Funky Butt Jazz" and Interact at the following level:**

- \$10,000 Title Sponsor
- \$5,000 Presenting Sponsor
- \$2,500 Show Sponsor
- \$1,000 Community Sponsor
- \$500 Seat Partner

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**Please return to:**  
Katherine Smith-Flores, Advancement Coordinator  
Interact Center  
1860 Minnehaha Avenue West,  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
**or email to:**  
Katherine@interactcenter.com

*Any questions regarding sponsorship of the show?  
Please contact Raleigh Wolpert at 651-209-3575*

**Interact Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization ID # 41-1802858**