

# Centric Productions

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Take Wing And Soar Productions presents Esther Armah's New Stage Play **FORGIVE ME?**, Directed by **Trezana Beverley**, at **The Midtown International Theatre Festival** | Limited Engagement



[New York, NY – June 25, 2009] **Take Wing And Soar Productions** proudly presents the premiere of **Esther Armah's** new stage play **FORGIVE ME?**, at **The Midtown International Theatre Festival**, **July 23<sup>rd</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>**, Directed by Tony Award winning actress **Trezana Beverley**.

**FORGIVE ME?** tells a passionate and provocative tale of culture, fear, pasts, and truth - it's all on the table and up for grabs. Zach and Lexie. An African man and a black British woman. Together for 5 years and 3 days. Friends, lovers, living together. Not any more. It's Over. Who was right? Who was wrong? They have four hours to divide what's in their apartment before the movers come. Featured in the cast are **Beverley Prentice** and **Gilbert Glenn Brown\***. Artistic Director and Producer of **FORGIVE ME?** is **Debra Ann Byrd**.

**Esther Armah** (Playwright) In addition to being a playwright Esther is an award-winning international journalist, an author and radio host. Her first play, a one-woman show titled *Can I Be Me?* was adapted from her book of the same name. **FORGIVE ME?** is her second play, which debuted in June 2008 at *The Roger Furman Playreading Series* where it broke audience attendance records. It was then selected for the September 2008 *Urban Stages Playreading Series* and has now been selected for Mainstage Theatre at this summer's **Midtown International Theatre Festival**. *Entitled* is her third play; debuting as a staged reading at the 'Dwyer Cultural Center', the new home of *The Roger Furman PlayReading Series*. Esther has also worked in print, radio and television in the UK, US and Africa for more than a decade. On radio in London she worked with the BBC as an investigative reporter, a documentary maker and a radio host. As a New York radio host, you can hear hosting 'Wake Up Call' and 'Off The Page' on WBAI99.5FM. She has written for 'The Guardian' newspaper in London, 'Essence' magazine in the US, and 'West Africa' magazine. As a reporter and journalist she has traveled and worked in London, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Lesotho, Washington and Philadelphia. She now lives in New York. For more information about Esther visit her website at [www.centricproductions.co.uk](http://www.centricproductions.co.uk).

**Trezana Beverley** (Director) won the 1976 Tony Award for her performance in the Broadway production of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Is Enuf*. Ms. Beverley has since created a unique signature in the American theatre. She is not only recognized as one of our country's great actresses, but is also a master acting teacher, director and singer. She has been a guest director on the theatre faculties of NYU Tisch School of The Arts, Rutgers University, Brandeis University, City College, SUNY Purchase and currently, The Julliard School. Trezana was an artist in residence at the

PlayMakers Repertory Co. in Chapel Hill, NC for two years where she was able to further develop her original performance genre DanzActing™. Her recent regional directing credits include *Salome*, *Yellowman* and *String Of Pearls* and her directing work on *Salome* was sighted in American Theater Magazine [September 2003]. She made her New York commercial theatre debut with TWAS' production of *The Darker Face of the Earth*.



**Take Wing And Soar Productions, Inc.** founded in 1999 by classically trained actress Debra Ann Byrd, is women-led New York State, 501(c) 3 Professional Theatre Arts Corporation, dedicated to supporting women, youth and classically trained actors of color. Take Wing And Soar Productions exists primarily to help classical actors of color to realize their full potential. ***FORGIVE ME?*** Is TWAS' twentieth production, sixth main stage production and first contemporary project. Thanks to the generosity and support of Dr. Barbara Ann Teer, TWAS Inc. has been a professional theatre company in residence at the National Black Theatre for the past six years. Take Wing And Soar Productions is a Member Organization of the Alliance of New York State Arts Organizations, Alliance of Resident Theatres New York, the Harlem Arts Alliance, and the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce. For more information about TWAS Inc. visit us online at [www.takewingandsoar.org](http://www.takewingandsoar.org)



**The Midtown International Theatre Festival**, now in its tenth year, celebrates the diversity of theatre. The MITF welcomes theatrical storytelling across a broad spectrum of genres, forms, identities, cultures, and appetites. The MITF seeks to nurture these new ideas, perspectives, and stories on its stages, with an eye set on guiding these productions toward future success and longevity. The festival, traditionally held in summer, represents a fantastic, often paradoxical, adventurous and intriguing cross-section of the forefront of the theatre world. The MITF proudly hosts production companies from across the country and around the globe, uniting talent in one of the biggest theatre capitals in the world. [www.midtownfestival.org](http://www.midtownfestival.org)

**\*DENOTES MEMBER AEA**

**DATES & TIMES:** Thursday, July 23, 2009 @ 9:00PM  
Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 @ 4:00PM  
Saturday, August 1, 2009 @ 7:30PM

**THEATRE:** The WorkShop Theater | Mainstage  
312 West 36<sup>th</sup> Street , 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10018  
[Between 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues]

**TICKETS:** General Admission \$18 Adults; \$15 Students & Seniors

**RESERVATIONS:** OvationTix (212) 352-3101 or [www.takewingandsoar.org](http://www.takewingandsoar.org)

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