



The extraordinary new show, *Maracatu You*, makes its world premiere at the Theatre Centre on August 9th. Featuring an Afro-Brazilian percussion troupe and dance, the show examines the experience of being displaced and finding a home in the most unlikely of places.

Performer Suzanne Roberts Smith — whose one-woman show, *Offensive to Some*, was *NOW Magazine's* pick for Outstanding Performance & Production at the 2013 Toronto Fringe Festival — created and directed *Maracatu You*, which will run for seven nights.

Juno-nominated singer and master percussionist Aline Morales, a darling of Canada's vibrant Brazilian music scene, stars in the show and wrote many of songs featured in it. *Maracatu You* also includes traditional verses still sung in Brazilian carnival today.

Brazilian contemporary dancer Amanda Paixao and Candomblé priestess Lucia de Xango are also featured, alongside members of Baque de Bamba and *Maracatu Mar Aberto*.

Once the site of a post office on Queen Street, the new Theatre Centre is a one-of-a-kind venue that provides the perfect setting for audiences to enjoy the irresistible beats created by an ensemble of 30-pound wooden drums and life-size iron bells.

*Maracatu You* boasts a combination of infectious rhythm, powerful melody as well as raw, and often comedic, storytelling along with contemporary/folkloric dance that will have people dancing in their seats.

"It's full of soul-blasting music, haunting dance, powerful ritual, and true stories from right here in Toronto," says Lani Milstein, ethnomusicologist and theatre producer, who is also a featured performer in the show.

"We can't wait to show audiences how a truly diverse group of non-professional performers, including bankers, lawyers, civil servants, teachers- from literally all over the world, have formed a tight-knit group while celebrating a ritual that stems from a centuries-old Brazilian tradition.

Tickets are available online, in person, or by phone.