

Biography (USA)
Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith

Actors Equity Association – Screen Actors Guild
NEW YORK DRAMA CRITICS AWARD NOMINEE

THEATER

DRAMATIC BROADWAY

“Merchant of Venice” Prince of Morocco / Lincoln Center Repertoire Company
“A Streetcar Named Desire” Street Singer / Director: Ellis Rabb

PRE-BROADWAY

“The Starting Five” Jimmy Clark / Universal Pictures Production

OFF-BROADWAY

“Contributions” Travis & Eugene Love / Director: Moses Gunn
“Clara’s Ol’ Man” Jack
“Three Stories High” Tod

STOCK

“Dutchman” Clay

MUSICAL OFF-BROADWAY

“The Me Nobody Knows” Clorox Johnson
“A Matter of Time” Paul

DINNER THEATRE

“Pippin” Leading Player
An Evening Dinner Theatre, Elmsford New York
Northstage Dinner Theatre, Glen Cove, L.I. (N.Y.)

STOCK

“Stop The World I Want To Get Off” Little Chap
Barat Theatre, Lake Forest, Ill.
“Lyrics For Sunshine And Shadows” Paul Lawrence Dunbar
Produced & Directed by Oscar Brown Jr.
“Louisiana Purchase” Abner / Goodspeed Opera House, Connecticut

Nominated for “Most Promising New Off-Broadway Actor” by the New York Drama Critics

PRODUCTIONS

Program Co-ordinator American Folk Theatre Productions, New York City
Oscar Brown Jr. Productions, New York City & Chicago

TELEVISION / FILM

COMMERCIALS

Nationwide	7 Up cola drinks	
	Papermate Pens	2 presentations
	Bounty Towels	3 presentations
	Revlon Cosmetics	
New York City	Chemical Bank	
	Pippin Musical	

PROGRAMS – TELEVISION

“Faith For Today” Sammy
“Somerset” Businessman

INDUSTRIAL FILMS

Governmental

ARMY & MILITARY TRAINING FILMS

RECORDINGS

Narrator for Buick and Ford Motor Companies
Poetry Readings for Scott Forseman and Company
Boy Scouts of America-National Radio Campaign

INDUSTRIAL SHOW LISTINGS

Company		No. of presentations
Schitz Beer		
Buick	Narrator	6 Times
Ford	"	4 "
Pontiac		2 "
Trans World Airlines		
Detroit Heavy Equipment		2 "
Sears Roebuck Company		4 "
Fashion Industries Showing		
Western Electric	Narrator	4 "
New York Telephone	"	4 "
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.	"	

FASHION

Mia Grau Production Co. of New York Director / Choreographer / Production Co-ordinator

"International Garment Workers Union Fashion Show"	Lincoln Center, Avery Fisher Hall, New York City
"New Man Clothes"	
French Clothes Line Fashion Show	Regine's of New York City Circle in the Square Theatre,
N.Y.C.	
"National Knitwear Association Fashion Show	Waldorf Astoria Hotel, N.Y.C., Grand Ballroom

MODELLING

RUNWAY AND PHOTOGRAPHIC

Roberto de Camerino
Fur Fashions Industry
Burlington Mills
Sears Roebuck Company

DANCE

Fred Benjamin Dance	Soloist, Original Co. Member
Rondo Dance Company	Soloist, Choreographer
Katherine Dunham	Soloist

TEACHING

JAZZ AND MODERN CLASSES

Joseph Holmes School of Dances, Chicago, Ill.
Chicago Dance Center, Chicago, Ill.
Elizabeth Rockwell School of Dance, Bedford, N.Y.
Fred Benjamin Dance Center, N.Y.C.
University of Connecticut, USA
Master Class Seminars, Caribbean Islands & USA
Barbados Dance Theatre, Trinidad, Monserrat, St. Lucia

BIOGRAPHY – USA & Europe

Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith

Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith, co-founder/producer/director/publisher/curator/moderator of **Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre**, Berlin/Germany (1980), **Black International Cinema Berlin** (1986), **THE COLLEGIUM - Forum & Television Program Berlin** and other cities (1995), **“Footprints in the Sand?” Exhibition** (2000) and **Cultural Zephyr e.V.** (1990).

"Only when lions have historians will hunters cease being heroes." - African Proverb
"Nur wenn Löwen ihre eigenen Geschichtsschreiber haben, werden Jäger aufhören, Helden zu sein." - Afrikanisches Sprichwort

Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre was founded 1980 in Berlin/Germany by the Professors Donald Muldrow Griffith and Gayle McKinney Griffith together with three other artists. Since then both are co-producers and directors of the Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre. Fountainhead® is a production, performing and teaching unit. People with different national, cultural, ethnic, social-economic and religious backgrounds, of both genders and different sexual orientations are working together in different artistic and cultural fields with the intention to create, promote and bring about an intercultural exchange with the projects available.

The philosophical premise upon which these organizations are based is:

Increasing international and intercultural understanding and cooperation between individuals and groups in support of democratic procedures and the elimination of violence, religious, ethnic and gender persecution, youth exploitation, homophobia and racial hatred through the process of art, education, culture and dialogue.

Professor Donald Muldrow Griffith completed his studies in Psychology and Pedagogics at the University of Loyola, Chicago Illinois, U.S.A.

After considerable time as a practicing Group Therapist, Elementary School Teacher and Probation Officer for Juvenile Offenders, he began his training in acting, voice, speech and diction and also studied a variety of dance techniques, including ballet, modern, jazz and African dance. His stage, choreographic and production career began in the U.S.A. as an actor, singer, dancer, fashion model and choreographer and he performed featured roles in musicals, theater, television commercials and film productions.

Prof. Griffith played the starring roles in the Broadway Musicals "Pippin," "Stop The World, I Want To Get Off," "Lyrics Of Sunshine And Shadows," where he portrayed the poet, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, and was nominated "Most Promising New Off Broadway Actor," by the New York Drama Critics for his featured roles in "Contributions," a three act drama in which Donald Muldrow Griffith appeared in two of the three segments. He also staged fashion shows for major clothing manufacturers and fashion houses at venues such as, Lincoln Center, Waldorf Astoria, Regines and other New York City locales.

Prof. Griffith narrated industrial shows in the U.S.A. for a number of years for clients such as Ford Motor Company, Buick, Metropolitan Life Insurance, Western Electric, Trans World Airlines, Detroit Diesel and other major companies in the U.S.A.

He also danced with the Rondo Dance Theater and Fred Benjamin Dance Company. In addition, he managed the careers of artists, such as Oscar Brown Jr., in Chicago, Illinois and New York City.

Prof. Griffith's quest for further creative and educational opportunities was enhanced by an invitation to Berlin/Germany for performing, teaching and choreographing at Theater des Westens. As a result, Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre was established in Berlin/Germany by Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith, Prof. Gayle McKinney Griffith, Lynnda

Curry, Ricky Powell and Detlef Bäcker and has become a source of creative and educational endeavors in Berlin, elsewhere in Europe and the U.S.A. Prof. Griffith's direction and choreography of "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Is Enuf" was awarded "Special Judge's Award" for Choreography and Music in the European-wide Tournament of Plays by the U.S. Army.

As a result of their educational and artistic backgrounds in the U.S.A./Europe and after an international university search, he and his wife, Prof. Gayle McKinney Griffith were selected and invited to Indiana University South Bend, U.S.A., to establish a dance theater department.

Prof. Griffith's talent, creativity and experience as a singer, actor, dancer, narrator, writer, producer, director and choreographer are characteristic of FOUNTAINHEAD's undertakings and productions today.

In his capacity as festival producer/director and film and publication distributor, Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith was invited to the IV. Cultural Mercado Festival in Salvador/Bahia, Brazil (December 2002) and to the Global Cinema and Urban Entertainment Conference in Los Angeles/California, U.S.A. (August 2003), to serve as a panelist.

An arrangement has led to a distribution agreement between Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre Distribution and Arsenal - Institut für Film und Videokunst e.V., Berlin/Germany (Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art), for selected participating films from the annual intercultural Black International Cinema Berlin.

An invitation from the Aspen Cultural Diplomacy Forum U.S.A., provided an opportunity for Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith to attend a conference in Paris France, November 13-15, 2008, in which he served as a presenter and panelist during the seminars "Music as Cultural Diplomacy" and "New Technologies in Arts and Culture - Preservation and Presentation".

Again in 2011, Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith was invited by the Aspen Institute to moderate a panel discussion, regarding story telling at the Royal Opera House Muscat, Oman, Nov. 28-30, 2011. A documentary montage of photography, film and music was produced by Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre under the production and direction of Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith, based upon this invitational experience.

Conceptualized, written and directed by Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith, Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre produced a film portrait of Roswitha Günther, founder and director of Pfeiffers Ballhaus, who for over 20 years produced Pfeiffers Ballhaus at the Berlin citizen television station Alex - Open Channel Berlin. The film premiered during the XXVIII. Black International Cinema Berlin 2013 presentations.

In 2013, Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre was invited for the fourth time by the Commissioner for Integration of the district Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Berlin, Gabriele Gün Tank, to participate in the presentation of the project "CrossKultur 2013", a series of productions from the district office of Tempelhof-Schöneberg. Prof. Muldrow Griffith produced, directed and presented the program "A COMPLEXION CHANGE - Transnational & Intercultural Diplomacy - THE FUTURE IS NOW", a theatre journey in Hebrew, German, English and Arabic, based upon the artistry of Amir Kaufmann, presented through spoken word, film, photography and music. In addition to the presentation of a children's workshop and seminar, the production occurred on December 6, 2013 at the cinema of the Rathaus Schöneberg (city hall), Berlin and was dedicated to the beautiful shining star of humankind, Nelson Mandela.

In honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and in appreciation of the 50th anniversary of his Berlin visit, the XXIX. 2014 Black International Cinema Berlin presented a film collage,

entitled "A Day in the Life...? And a child will lead the way...", produced, directed and choreographed by Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith.

In 2013 and 2014, Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith has been nominated for the German Prize for Civic Engagement. The German Prize for Civic Engagement aims at strengthening the recognition of citizen engagement in Germany, as well as increasing its visibility.

Historical documents from Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre, Black International Cinema Berlin, THE COLLEGIUM - Forum & Television Program Berlin and "Footprints in the Sand? Exhibition (1980-2014), are archived in the Library of the Deutsche Kinemathek - Museum für Film und Fernsehen, Berlin/Germany (German Cinema - Museum for Film and Television).

On October 1, 2014, Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith was awarded the Integration Prize 2014 from the Berlin district Tempelhof-Schöneberg. The award ceremony was presented in the Golden Hall of Rathaus Schöneberg. The Integration Prize aims at honoring special contributions by citizens or institutions of the district, who are contributing in an outstanding manner towards the integration of people with various national, cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds residing in Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Berlin/Germany.

Besides a variety of activities in the fields of dance, theatre, music, film/video, publication and television, the production, direction and realization of the annual intercultural, interdisciplinary film/video festival Black International Cinema Berlin, the television program THE COLLEGIUM – Forum & Television Program Berlin, broadcast several times a week at Alex – Offener Kanal Berlin (Open Channel Berlin) as well as in Magdeburg, Wolfsburg, Dessau and internationally, belong to the focal point of work by Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre. In addition Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre produces, under the artistic direction of Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith, the yearly presented visual documentation "Footprints in the Sand?" Exhibition, in association with international artists.

In 1990, Fountainhead® founded Cultural Zephyr e.V. as a non-profit organization.

THE COLLEGIUM - Forum & Television Program Berlin was nominated for the Alternativer Medienpreis 2015 (Alternative Media Award 2015) with the production "Happy Berlin" THE COLLEGIUM Television Dancers / Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre / February 2014.

Fountainhead® Tanz Théâtre/Black International Cinema Berlin/THE COLLEGIUM - Forum & Television Program Berlin, has been acknowledged by the EFFE International Jury as one of Europe's finest festivals and honored by receiving the EFFE Label 2015-2016 (Europe for Festivals/Festivals for Europe).

Contact and additional Information:
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MOTTOS

"I may not make it if I try, but I damn sure won't if I don't..." - Oscar Brown Jr.

"Mankind will either find a way or make one." - C.P. Snow

"Whatever you do..., be cool!" - Joseph Louis Turner

"Yes, I can...!" - Sammy Davis Jr.

"Yes, We can...!" - Barack Obama