

CONGRATULATIONS!



PHOTO BY H. KINERREW

WE ARE FAMILY: From L to R: Carl Garrison, Christopher H. Wilkerson, Carolyn Kinebrew, Rachel L. Ferguson, Darryl Lacy and Miki Biggins

DL PRODUCTIONS CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF SUCCESS

DL Productions celebrated its **5th Anniversary** by holding a **Dinner** on May 23, 1992 at Papa Charles' One West Dinner Theatre in Harlem, New York.

Actor Darryl Lacy established DL Productions in 1987 and directed and produced nine plays since its inception, including "Nikki G: Portrait of Nikki Giovanni in Her Own Words", which he wrote.

The pre-dinner showcase included two scenes from "Waiting for Lefty", a dramatic play by Clifford Odets and musical selections by special guest vocalist Christopher H. Wilkerson.

Actress/singer Miki Biggins introduced Darryl, who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the pre-dinner showcase.

Darryl introduced the first scene, "Young Hack and His Girl", which he directed, starring Carl Garrison, Carolyn Kinebrew and Gil Deeble.

After the scene, Darryl presented Christopher who sang an acapella rendition of "Wind Beneath My Wings."

Actress Rachel L. Ferguson introduced the second scene, "Joe and Edna", which she directed, starring Darryl and Miki. Both were recreating their roles.

Miki first portrayed Edna in the scene while attending the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. Miki's then classmate, Darryl, rehearsed the scene with her often at the time.

Darryl didn't get an opportunity to actually portray the role of Joe until after he transferred to SUNY Buffalo a year later.

The SUNY Buffalo production was directed by Rachel. Rae thought he was perfect for the character and had no idea that Darryl already knew the part until he confessed so after the close of the show.

Although Darryl and Miki had never performed the scene onstage before the 5th Anniversary Dinner, they had performed it before audiences — on trains, in parks and walking down the streets of New York City, etc.

After the scene, Rachel re-introduced Christopher who sang an acapella rendition of "How Great Thou Art".

At the closing of the pre-dinner show, Darryl awarded **Carolyn Kinebrew, Carl Garrison and Gil Deeble** with **Certificates of Recognition** for their talent and support of the company in 1991:

- Gil, for his commitment during "Day of Absence" portraying various roles.
- Carl, for his portrayal as the mayor in "Day of Absence" and recreating the role to perform a scene at the DL Productions' Second Cultural Press Party.
- Carolyn, for her dedication during the "Days of Absence" and "Home" productions.

Miki Biggins received the fourth **Certificate of Recognition** for starring in "Sisters", The Church Fight",

"Home", and "Nikki G: A Portrait of Nikki Giovanni In Her Own Words" which Darryl wrote for her in 1987. Miki has also been the company's production assistant since its inception.

The **Award of Special Merit** was given to **Rachel L. Ferguson** for working as stage manager/assistant director on every production since the company's inception. Rae has also appeared in "Sisters", "The Church Fight" and "Days of Absence". The well deserved plaque reads:

"This award is to express our deep appreciation for the outstanding efforts you have afforded the company..."

Darryl acknowledged the other members of **DL Productions Family** that were present: **Ben Jacobs**, director; **Estelle Johnson**, actress; **Glenn Dandridge**, actor.

Darryl gave special thanks to the following:

- **Christopher H. Wilkerson**, for performing without instrumental accompaniment.
- **Verna Ferguson**, for attending to patrons at the door.
- **Karen Felton**, for preparing the Certificates of Recognition.
- **Sandra Koger**, for purchasing the most tickets to the dinner.
- **Freddi Orange**, for lending me a thousand things over the years, mainly your continued friendship and support.
- The Media: **Nikki Williams** (Art Beat of Harlem), who attended the dinner; **Delmar Donnell** (Twilight Magazine), who interviewed me at Sylvia's Restaurant for his column; **Vivian Blackman** and **Sally Ramos** (Black Arts New York); **Black Filmmakers Foundation**; **Buffalo Challenger**; **City Sun**; **New York Newsday**; and **The Amsterdam News**.

The entire event was videotaped by Amy Bostwick and her assistant, Keitha Thompson for Mik Cribben/Film Friends.

(continued on page 2)

**INSIDE:
DARRYL AT
CARNEGIE HALL
PAGE 2**