

For Immediate Release  
October 2, 2006

**PIONEER OF HIP HOP THEATER WILL POWER TO PERFORM  
as August Wilson Center for African American Culture  
Presents  
“ Will Power: Poet to Playwright,” October 14**

**PITTSBURGH, PA** – Will Power, pioneer of Hip Hop Theater and an award-winning actor, rapper, and playwright, will present an intimate autobiographical performance, one night only, October 14, 8:00pm at the New Hazlett Theater.

Described by the New York Times as “...combin[ing] the complexity of serious drama with the visual and sonic arsenal of MTV,” Will Power has created his own style of theatrical communication, fusing original music, rhymed language and dynamic choreography to produce compelling works.

***Will Power: Poet to Playwright***, an engaging lecture performance, written, composed and performed by Will Power, featuring music direction by DJ Reborn, kicks off with Power’s poetry and rhymes, followed by vignettes from his explosive one-man show *Flow*. A question and answer session follows.

**Tickets for *Will Power: Poet to Playwright*** are on sale now, and can be purchased at through ProArts Tickets by calling 412.394.3353, or online at [www.proartstickets.org](http://www.proartstickets.org) Tickets are \$20, and \$15 for students.

The New Hazlett Theater is located at 6 Allegheny Square on Pittsburgh’s historic North Side.

**About Will Power**

Will Power’s one-man show, *Flow*, is a standard in Hip Hop Theater, being described as “astounding” (Curtain Up) and “theater with the refreshing aroma of originality” (New York Times). Power’s work has been featured on *Russell Simmon’s Def Poetry Jam* on HBO, the documentary *All Fathers are Sons*, and has toured extensively throughout the US. Power has won the 2004 Drama Desk nomination for Best Solo Performance, 2004 Drama League Nomination for Distinguished Performance, and the Trailblazer Award from the National Black Theater Network for his contributions to theater.

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(formerly the African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh)

In 2001, Will Power was commissioned to write and compose *The Seven*, a Hip Hop Theater adaptation of the Greek tragedy, *Seven Against Thebes*. *The Seven* won three Bay Area Critics Circle Awards and premiered to wide acclaim at the New York Theatre Workshop in 2006. For more information on Will Power, visit [www.willpower.tv](http://www.willpower.tv).

**About The August Wilson Center for African American Culture**

The August Wilson Center for African American Culture presents, interprets and preserves the art, culture, and history of African Americans in Pittsburgh and of people of African descent throughout the world. The Center realizes its mission with an engaging schedule of visual and performing arts programs as well as educational and public programs.

The AWC's 2006-2007 season are supported by lead gifts from The Heinz Endowments, The Pittsburgh Foundation, The Buhl Foundation and Allegheny Regional Asset District. More information is available at the Center's website [www.augustwilsoncenter.org](http://www.augustwilsoncenter.org)

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