

Tantra-zawadi

Tantra-zawadi best describes her work as *"the love that I make through my art to the vision of the unseen reality."*

Soulful and sublime, her poetry explores love in all its forms; from the rush of the first kiss to the bittersweet. Born in Brooklyn, New York, as a performance poet and published author, Tantra also uses her voice to support the rights of women through creative expression.

Tantra has performed to standing-room audiences at venues as far away as South Africa, London, Germany and Canada. She has performed original works in the off-Broadway productions of *Girl – A Choreospective*, *A Night of Three God/desses: Soldier Blues and Powerful Women*, *Stolen Dreams – a Stage Play*, *An Evolution in Reinvention*, *the Numeral Three*, *Leaving My Apartment and Other Urban Adventures* and projects with the *vonduvoisdancecollective*. Tantra's recent appearances include the New York Public Library of Performance Arts at Lincoln Center, the Austin International Poetry Festival, and the Badilisha Poetry X-Change Festival in Cape Town, South Africa and the Montserrat Poetry Festival in Missouri. Tantra is a 2010 Pushcart Prize Nominee for her poem "Girl," and a recipient of the Kings County District Attorney's Office Women's History Month Award.

Published Author: Tantra's latest release, *"Gathered at Her Sky"* from Poets Wear Prada Publishing (June 2010), is available at Amazon, LULU, Tower Books.com and iTunes iBook-store.com.

Tantra, a mentor for Girl-Child Network Worldwide (GCN), will donate partial proceeds from *Gathered at Her Sky* to GCN. Tantra is also the author of *"alife poem in progress"* from Chuma Spirit Books, and her poetry was featured in several publications including *Essence* and *SpokenVisions* Magazines.

On Screen: Tantra has made several appearances on cable television, local and satellite radio shows. Known for being on the cutting edge as an artist and for speaking out about issues such as HIV and AIDS awareness, Tantra's poem and video "Scarlet



Waters,” was featured on the Product(RE)D video wall to raise awareness for HIV/AIDS in Africa. She is the director of two short documentaries: “Girl: The Film, Volume I – A Message from Ardija Red-Cloud” and “A Silent Genocide ~ A Brief Insight into HIV/AIDS,” both edited by Oliver Covrett. “A Silent Genocide” was selected for inclusion in Cine Mostra AIDS Brasil in Sao Paulo (2010). Tantra also participated in a public service announcement for BETAH Associates produced by Marc Herbert Productions aimed at promoting HIV/AIDS awareness. Tantra’s videos and films may be viewed on-line @ www.youtube.com/tantrazawadi.

Music and Poetry: The Love Planet EP by Collective Spirits - Tantra-zawadi is a member of Collective Spirits with producers Jonny Montana and Neil Maclean (Camio Recordings), Bennett Holland on keys, and Dana Byrd on vocals. Tantra is also a contributing artist on several musical compilations with Dana Byrd and projects such as the award winning “Liberation Sessions: Soul of the City CD” by Mwalim, “Summerbreeze EP” by Dolls Combers, “Poetic Stimulus” by Atlanta Red, “EARTHOLOGY” by Floyd Boykin, Jr., “Rizen” by Cendrine Marrouat, recordings with world renowned DJ’s/producers Groove Assassin on “Love Seeker” (GKF Records), Gene King’s “Out of the Blue,” Soul Agenda’s “Don’t Let Go,” Nastee Nev’s “Secrets of Life” and “Giant Steps – Back From Miami,” Do It Now Recordings.

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