

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Zakiyyah Alexander on Iconoclast Adrienne Kennedy

Julie Hébert · Tuesday, November 10th, 2015

Zakiyyah Alexander discusses *Adrienne Kennedy*, a writer who has steadfastly refused to be bound by tradition or expectation throughout her long career as a playwright, memoirist, essayist and novelist. In the sixties when Adrienne arrived in New York, her play, *Funnyhouse of a Negro*, was unlike anything seen before. When it won the Obie, her career was launched, and she has continued to blaze trails of form and content ever since. Lyrical, violent, dreamlike, deeply personal, but not naturalistic — critic Alisa Solomon describes Adrienne’s plays as expressing “the process of turning memory into meaning.”

In this interview, Zakiyyah describes her recent experiences with octogenarian Adrienne, who still refuses to be categorized. Go Adrienne! Check it out.

Click on the picture below to view the clip:

“She decided she was going to break all the rules.”

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