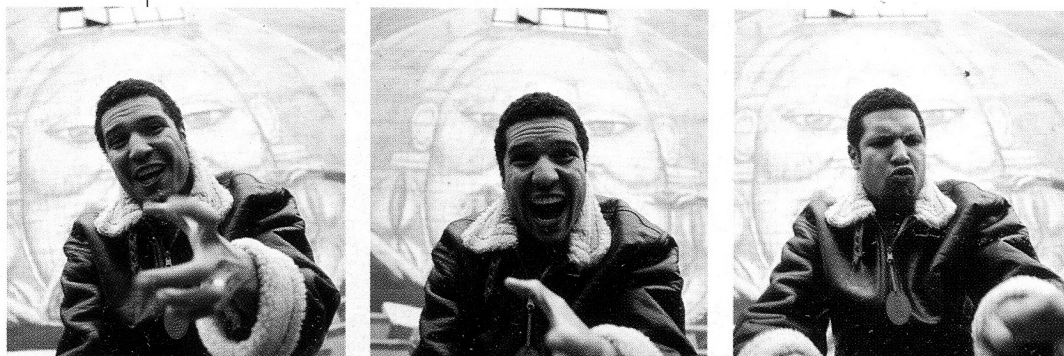


THE SOURCE

THE MAGAZINE OF HIP-HOP MUSIC, CULTURE & POLITICS

CONTENTS MARCH 2000, NO. 126

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Middle, left to right: The many faces of Will Power. Bottom, left to right: A ticket to Rhyme Deferred; A double date—Power's *The Gathering* & Jones's *Surface Transit*; A graf banner for *The Gathering*.

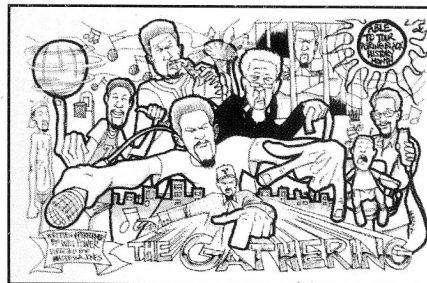
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**Will Power -
The Gathering**
 Directed by Rhodessa Jones

Theater Artaud
 September 15 - 25
 450 Florida
 at Mariposa
 Box: 615-681-7797

**Sarah Jones -
Surface Transit**

THEATER
 ARTAUD



Imagine a play where every character rhymes; not in time to a beat or a loop, but in the unique vocal rhythms and phraseology native to each of their individual tongues. This is exactly what Will Power's critically acclaimed one-man show, *The Gathering*, does, and it's so hot that afterward even the men are hoarse from screaming. Directed by theater veteran Rhodessa Jones, *The Gathering* brings oral traditions from the corner, the jam session, the barbershop and the basketball court onto the stage, and closes the gap between generations. When Power inhabits an older jazz pianist who warns an MC about exploitative contracts, he uses lyrics that carry his piano's melody, and audience members of every age howl in agreement to keep "hip-hop the one music we don't lose." Power explains simply, "It's a hip-hop journey to the meeting places of Black men."