

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

OPINIONATED JUDGE

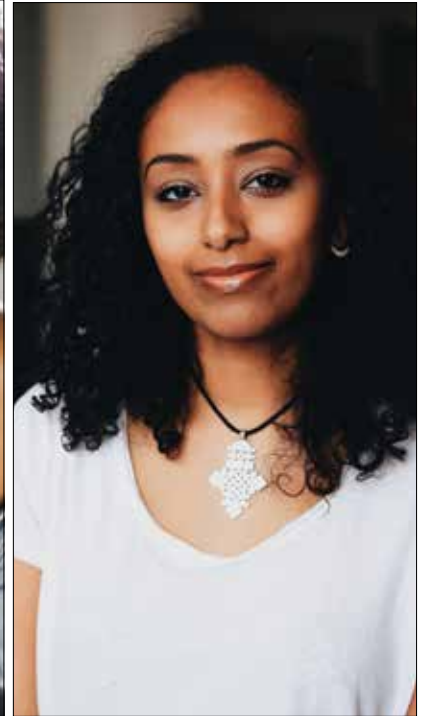
BY
DARLEEN ORTEGA



Recognizing Pearls Others Would Miss

Black women bring strength, vulnerability to film 'Ash Land'

I'm not at all tempted to minimize the suffering of 2020, much of it wholly preventable and also disproportionately felt by communities of Black and indigenous people and people of color. But moments of crisis often contain gifts, ushered in by those souls who are



Kamilah Long (from left), Cyndii Johnson and Banna Desta are actors and screenwriters of color working with Black Director Shariffa Ali in the new short film "Ash Land," premiering Friday, Oct. 11 on the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's digital platform.

creative and spiritually sensitive enough to find them. The new short film, "Ash Land," to premier on the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's digital platform this Friday, is just that sort of gift, in more ways than one.

It only makes sense that this particular film, the first for director Shariffa Ali, grew from conversations-during-pandemic-lockdown between its director, actors Kamilah Long and Cyndii Johnson, and screenwriter Banna Desta, all women of color. What they created--perhaps channeled is a better word--working with a majority BIPOC produc-

demical-lockdown between its director, actors Kamilah Long and Cyndii Johnson, and screenwriter Banna Desta, all women of color. What they created--perhaps channeled is a better word--working with a majority BIPOC produc-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

north by northeast

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

north by northeast

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

North by Northeast Community Health Center is the only clinic in Oregon devoted to African American health. We provide welcoming, high quality health care to adults who have Oregon Health Plan. Since 2006, our priority has been to serve the local African American community and to reduce the deadly effects of high blood pressure and diabetes. We are accepting new patients, and if you're uninsured, we can help you get covered!

We want to see our community stay safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please:

- Wear your mask
- Wash your hands frequently
- Maintain at least 6 feet of distance from people who do not live with you in your home
- Avoid crowded spaces

To make an appointment or learn about our services, contact us:

www.nxneclinic.org

(503) 287-4932

714 NE Alberta Street
Portland Oregon 97211

Black Health Matters