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Release Date: 04.08.08 | Location: All Metro Atlanta | Organization: Consulate General of France in Atlanta & 7Sta
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7Stages presents the World Première of "In the Solitude of the Cotton fields"

Koltès classic comes to life in groundbreaking American translation - April 24 through May 17, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENT:

To schedule an interview or for further information, please contact Sydney Ellis, Director of Marketing and Development at 404-522-4755 sydney@7stages.org - Digital Photography is available upon request.

Atlanta actor and translator, Isma'il ibn Conner teams up with 7 Stages Artistic Director and actor, Del Hamilton, in a world première translation into American English of *In the Solitude of Cotton Fields* (Dans la Solitude des Champs de Coton) by the highly acclaimed and often studied, contemporary French playwright Bernard-Marie Koltès and coproduced by CDDB – Théâtre de Lorient, Centre Dramatique National (France).

This play is a journey of deals - both profane and sacred, of desires that must be discovered and satisfied, of light and dark - two aspects of one entity, and the powerful interaction of two men who are more familiar than they appear. There is only a dealer, a client and desires that must be satisfied at all costs.

Forty years after the assassination of Martin Luther King (April 4, 1968), Director Eric Vigner, head of the CDDB – Théâtre de Lorient, Centre Dramatique National, is staging *In the Solitude of Cotton Fields* by Bernard-Marie Koltès at Atlanta's 7Stages Theatre. Moving from BMK to MLK, and from French to English, Eric Vigner undertakes the creation of giving voice to theater, theater sensitive to both the location and the text – with empathy for the deeper sense of the words and the places where they are to be produced (Atlanta), and its title (*solitude, cotton fields*)... Eric Vigner's staging focuses on the history – or rather, the histories of BMK and MLK – and makes all the world a stage, calling in question the world and the dividing lines between individuals and peoples, dividing lines that still exist after the advent of civil rights, the end of segregation, or apartheid, in the United States and indeed all over the world. *Hosting one of the hottest French directors is a coup for Atlanta, but it also means our show has the best possible person as its leader, so we are especially happy to have him, says Hamilton.*

This production marks the beginning of **THE U.S. KOLTES PROJECT**, a ten-year project created in order to translate and produce six of Koltès' plays, to continue the artistic legacy of the playwright Bernard-Marie Koltès. In cooperation with and through the exclusive permission of the Koltès Estate, a ten-year program was established in order to translate and produce six of Koltès' plays: *Dans la solitude des champs de coton, Le Jour des meurtres dans l'histoire d'Hamlet, Sallinger, La Nuit juste avant les forêts, Tabataba* and *Quai Ouest*. 7 Stages chose these plays because they address the curious human condition and predicament that U.S. citizens face in relation to themselves, as citizens of the world. Bernard-Marie Koltès emerged as one of the most distinctive and important dramatic voices of the 1980s. His work, based in real-life problems, expresses the tragedy of being alone and of death. His writing style accents the dramatic tension and the lyricism of his plays. Each play speaks of intense isolation, fear of the 'Other', deal-making, senseless war, misplaced national loyalty, and dysfunctional familial love/hate. Isma'il ibn Conner, Artistic Associate of 7 Stages and the official translator of the Koltès plays explains, *the 7 Stages U.S. Koltès Project is a long-range effort to make new versions of Koltès' plays, including several that have not been published, as well as his novels and other writings by and about him.*

OTHER INFORMATION:

Ticket Pricing: \$10 previews April 24 & 25; \$25 for all regular performances; \$5 off for students, seniors over 65, artists and educators
 Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased by calling 404-523-7647 or by visiting www.7stages.org.

Premiere: April 24, 8:00 pm

April 24 – May 17, 2008: Thursdays – Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 5pm, Additional performances: Monday, April 28 at 8pm; Thursday, May 1 at 10am; Saturday, May 3 at 2pm; Wednesday, May 7 and Wednesday, May 14 at 6pm

7 Stages Theatre

1105 Euclid Avenue in Atlanta's Little 5 Points
 Atlanta, GA 30307
 404-523-7647 (box office)

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit, www.7stages.org.

In the Solitude of Cotton Fields and The U.S. Koltès project is made possible through support from François Koltès, CDDB – Théâtre de Lorient, Festival d'Avignon, High Museum, Alliance Theatre Writer's Lab, Alliance Française in Atlanta and French Institute Alliance Française in New York and sponsored by the Cultural Service of the Consulate General of France in Atlanta and Etant donné (the French-American Fund for performing Arts, a program of FACE) and the Centre National des Écritures du Spectacle, La Chartreuse.

Consulate General of France in Atlanta & 7Stages Theater | Publish Date: 04.08.08 | [Back to home](#)



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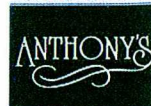
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