

## Last Profiles

### PRECIOUS J. MORRIS (SOPHIE WASHINGTON)

Precious recently landed the recurring role of "Cookie" on BET Comic View The Blackberry Inn. Precious has appeared in many productions throughout the valley and state. Her last BTT performance was as Julia in **Dancers**, under the direction of Michael Mitchell. Precious' other BTT favorites include **Raisin in the Sun**, **Colored Girls, Whatever Gets You Through, Mama, I Want to Sing**. Precious is the recipient of 1996 Zoni Award for supportive actor as Aunt Rachel in **Tom Sawyer and Friend** with Phoenix Theatre Cookie Company. This show is dedicated to all my Phoenix family and friends for all your continued love and support.

### JOYCE GITTOES (MISS LEAH)

Since calling the BTT office in the fall of 1995 Joyce has appeared in their productions of **Mama, I Want to Sing** and **Raisin in the Sun**. In the fall of 1997 she appeared as the older women in Ntozake Shange's **Boogie Woogie Landscapes**, and now feels blessed to play Miss Leah in BTT's production of **Flyin' West**. "I felt the spirits of all my female ancestors with me in this performance."

### CAROLYN PARSON (MINNIE DOVE CHARLES)

Carolyn has done several shows at the Black Theatre Troupe. Last seen at BTT in **Raisin in the Sun**. She also played Belle in Actor's Theater's **A Christmas Carol** for two. Other credits include **A Long Time Since Yesterday, Amen Corner, Bird Bath, Extremities** and many more. Carolyn has also done several industrial films and commercials for Roloids, Telesound and Checker Auto. She can also be seen in Dream Street Films' **Dads for Live**.

### TONI ROBINSON (FANNIE DOVE)

Toni has performed on valley stages in **Talking With, Last Summer at Bluefish Cove** and **Personal Crossings**. This multifaceted and versatile thespian is thrilled to be making her debut performance with the Black Theatre Troupe.

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### DAMON BOLLING (FRANK CHARLES)

Damon is thrilled to join the cast of **Flyin West** with the Black Theatre Troupe. **Flyin West** marks Damon's second production with BTT, after the Zoni Award winning Arizona Premiere of **Five Guys Named Moe**. Damon has also been seen in numerous productions through out the valley including Phoenix Theatres' Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat; **Herberger Headlines** at The Herberger Theatre. Past show credits include The College Boy in **Hello Again** with In Mixed Company (Zoni nomination for Best Supporting Actor), **Guv II - The Emperor Strikes Back** with Theatre League, **Damn Yankees** and **Merrily We Roll Along** with Theatre Works. Damon is an alumnae of Arizona State University's Lyric Opera Theatre where he did such productions **Into The Wood**, as the Baker, which earned him an AriZoni nomination for Best Actor; **Romance Romance, Godspell**, and **The World Goes 'Round**. Special thanks David Hemphill for his constant support and encouragement, and the extraordinary cast of beautiful, strong black women...I praise you. You too, Kenny! BWKIWU!

### KENNETH GRIMES (WIL PARISH)

Kenny is a singer/dancer and has appeared in a variety of shows throughout the valley, including a number of performances with the Black Theatre Troupe: **Whatever Gets You Through, Ten Minute Short Stories, Raisin in the Sun, Piano Lesson** and **Best Little Christmas Pageant Ever**. Kenny continues to work on his craft through Gus Edwards' Workshop, with production of **Tropicana and Soldier's Play**.

### ELAINE BARDWELL (SOPHIE UNDERSTUDY)

Elaine is a native of Arizona and has been acting for 11 years. Graduating from South Mountain Center for the Performing Arts High School, Elaine went on to received her Bachelors degree in Theatre from Arizona State University. She has appeared around the valley, working with such directors as Michael Mitchell, Jean Thompson and Gus Edwards. Some of her recent roles include Harriet Tubman in **Harriet Tubman**, Nurse Raymond in **Dancers**, Orange Lady in **For Colored Girls...** and Doris in **Whatever Gets You Through**.