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IronE Singleton: One Man's Story Becomes a One Man Show

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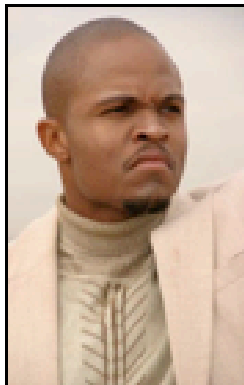
What's Up With That Brother?

"IronE...The Resurrected" chronicles the life and times of

IronE Singleton. From his experiences in the "hood" to his transformation and ultimate procurement of spiritual bliss. Appearing at 14th Street Playhouse, August 20th - 24th, 2008 - Atlanta, GA

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One had to be iron tough to come through Atlanta's 30318. In the 80's, it was a then small town Atlanta pocket neighborhood, a stone's throw from downtown. It's where the city of Atlanta decided to build what would become some of ATL's most notorious and impoverished housing projects. The zip code 30318, for 30 years was thought to be the zip code to fill Georgia's jail and prison system. Iron tough is about to be defined on stage in Atlanta.

Around the world, most have heard about the zip code mixed with hip hop beats from Atlanta's music industry taunting street cred from growing up in and around Bankhead Highway, Perry Boulevard, and Hollywood Road. Today, the city can't wait to tear down the remaining

concrete jungle to create Atlanta's hottest address on the west side. Though names may change, its history remains the same, played out at the top of the music charts and now coming to the stage.

There were those who beat the odds with statistics looming over head. For many, the stigma of 30318 was their driving force to get from beneath the dark cloud. A few great teachers exposed the world outside. To this writer's surprise, the same teacher that inspired the writings that would one day become DryerBuzz.com; Mrs. Warrior also inspired something in a young man from the hood of 30318. Whereas "Dryer" learned to love theatre from reading plays in Mrs Warrior senior class, **IronE Singleton** became theatre.

Almost a decade separates Dryer's and Iron's memories of growing up in 30318. For a young man making it out in the 1990's bypassing Atlanta's prison system, it is not uncommon to see him today as a strong family man with a strong sense of community. For IronE Singleton, he found his escape on the gridiron which led to an education and an opportunity to follow his true passion.

A graduate in Theatre and Speech Communications from the *University of Georgia* and born and raised in the inner city of Atlanta GA, IronE brings the dualism of street knowledge and scholarly intellect to the industry. Cultivating his craft throughout his life's journey, IronE has blossomed into a prophetic AMC LAD (Actor, Model, Comedian, Lyricist, Athlete, and Dancer). Who knew such a beginning would create exactly the opposite of what the zip code had defined.

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IronE Singleton is bringing the trials and triumphs of 30318 to the stage. He will star in an original one man show depicting life of Atlanta's inner-city in **IronE The Resurrected**, August 20th – 24th, 2008, at the 14th Street Playhouse in Atlanta, GA.

Based on a true story, "IronE...The Resurrected" chronicles the life and times of IronE Singleton. From his experiences in the "hood" to his transformation and ultimate procurement of spiritual bliss, "IronE...The Resurrected," with its perfect blend of Drama-Comedy-Spoken Word- Rap- Dance, takes you on a journey of Rage, Vindication, Laughter, Motivation, Redemption and the list goes on. Experience IronE like you've never experienced him before in his ONE MAN STAGE SHOW!!! Coming to Atlanta August '08. Stay tuned for ticket sales and get yours' before they sell out!!!



Learn more about Robert "IronE" Singleton by visiting www.ironesingleton.com. Below, get the buzz behind the buzz in our chat with IronE.

DryerBuzz: How was it for an athlete to go from the gridiron to the stage? To be a football player and theatre major in two unparalleled worlds?

IronE: I joined a dance group in high school, and we competed at most of the major high school talent shows throughout the city including Archer High's Gold-A-Rama. Also, one of my English teachers (Ms. Warrior) recognized I had a good speaking voice, so she had me speak at various programs we had at school, and she, also, entered me into a city-wide oratorical contest (I Have A Dream) in which I won 2nd Place. Those experiences gave me lots of confidence. Doing theater just seemed like a natural progression for me. As for football, I come from an athletic family. Therefore, I chose and fell in love, so to speak, with the one that allowed me to release a lot of stress and anger I had inside me stemming from "inner city" life.

DryerBuzz: I see in college you had a chance to do *Fences*, an August Wilson play and incredible tale. Which role did you play and how was the experience?

IronE: I played the younger son, Cory. It was the first official production of my acting career. I felt that it was inevitably necessary for me to do the play so that the experience would contribute to something bigger in my life and that was to do "IronE... The Resurrected". I was just honing my craft.

DryerBuzz: You were also in *Remember the Titans with Denzel*? The film is now a classic. Would we remember you?

IronE: Yes, I think so. I was in quite a few scenes, but the best shot of me is when the team was in between car headlights practicing at night and the two main football players (*Julius and Berteer*) got into a pushing match yelling "LEFT SIDE! STRONG SIDE!" I was the one looking on with the mini-fro standing directly behind Denzel and Greg Alan Williams.

DryerBuzz: Growing up in the inner city, back in the day we didn't know it was the "inner city" as its called today. It was just our neighborhood. Looking back was it really difficult for you and how?

IronE: Yes, it was difficult. I learned to adapt in order to survive. Looking in retrospect, it was VERY difficult. Although the "inner city" was known as our neighborhood, when I left the neighborhood and that circle of familiar destitute faces, it was known as the ghetto and I was known as the ghetto kid. And the more I left my neighborhood, the bigger the contrast I saw between it and everything outside of it; the have's and the have not's That brought about this yearning desire to get out of my neighborhood.

DryerBuzz: From that experience, what will you most bring into your one man show?

IronE: EVERYTHING!!! ...the struggle, the pain, the anger, the tragedies, the motivation, the sacrifices and the triumphs.

DryerBuzz: How does your childhood play into your wanting to act and be on stage?

IronE: If I didn't have the childhood I had, I wouldn't have a foundation from which to pull my emotions. Everything, for the most part, I experienced as a child serves as my motivation for being an actor. I use all of those emotions in order to create something real for my audience so that they might be affected. I don't think it was, simply, just my wanting to be an actor. I think GOD, also, chose me to be an actor. I think it was a mutual agreement between me and GOD.

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Yalanda Lattimore | thebuzz@dryerbuzz.com

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DryerBuzz: You're going to give us several characters. Where do the characters come from?

IronE: The characters come from my life experiences. In some form or fashion I have experienced these characters through, at least, one of my six senses; seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, tasting and/or spiritually.

DryerBuzz: How did you decide on the title for the play?

IronE: My stage name is IronE. The Iron means something unbreakable and the E stands for Eagle amongst other things which coincidentally is my high school alma mater's mascot. I coined the definition for IronE to mean "an eagle in flight with an unbroken spirit". Statistics stated that as a young black male from the inner city, I would be on drugs, in prison or dead by age 18 or 21. I rose from a spiritual death and defied the statistics by soaring to new heights and, hopefully, raising the bar for society's expectations of "my kind and our expectations for ourselves," hence, "IronE... The Resurrected".

DryerBuzz: What's it like to look out in the audience and see how people have been moved by your work?

IronE: When I connect with the people, depending on the energy that's transferred to them through the overall project, I feel like I've tapped into their connection with GOD. Therefore, it makes me feel more connected with GOD. I feel that the talent GOD has entrusted me with is not being wasted or used in vain. That's why it's very important for me to get to a point in my career where I can do "The Tyler Perry Thing"; do projects that will, hopefully, change lives for the better.

DryerBuzz: I see you're also a family man. What do your children think about Daddy when they see you in movies, on TV and stage?

IronE: They've always known me as an actor. From toddlers on up, they've seen me on stage, tv or in movies, so that's what they know me as. I was an actor when they were born, I'll be an actor when I die.

DryerBuzz: What has been the proudest moment for you?

IronE: I think everyday since I realized that everything I do is to please GOD has been the proudest moment of my life. From being a good, loving and loyal husband and friend to being an understanding and loving but stern father to my kids to praying for those that consider themselves to be my enemy to everything else that I think, speak and do in honor of GOD, I get overwhelmed with emotion and am very proud of that accomplishment.

DryerBuzz: You've invited your high school classmates and community to see you in this production. What would be something that would surprise us about you and the story?

IronE: I think the mere fact that I am performing a one man show is surprising enough. To add on to that, I think my candor in discussing certain events that happened in my life will, also, surprise a bunch of people. Relax. No need to worry. I use fictitious names when referring to things that could be considered embarrassing to some of my classmates. Only they will know who I'm talking about unless they've told someone else.

Catch the Buzz You Missed: **IronE Singleton** in "IronE...The Resurrected," 14th Street Playhouse, August 20th – 24th, 2008. [Get the Buzz>>](#)

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