

## **Artist Biography**

### **Renee S. Soares**

Native of Providence, Rhode Island. Received Bachelors Degree in English and Theatre Arts from Brown University. Of African American, Cape Verdean, Native American & West Indian descent. Resides in Hartford, Connecticut and is a freelance visual artist and art educator. Presently working in polymer clay, beads and mixed media in the creation of multi-cultural masks. Work has been exhibited at art galleries in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. As an art educator, artist has conducted workshops for the City of Hartford's Department of Cultural Affairs, the Wadsworth Atheneum, the Connecticut Historical Society and the New Britain Museum of American Art.

Theatrical training encompasses literary, performance and visual skills. While attending college, became a member of Rites and Reasons Summer Street Theatre performing in Rhode Island and at Lincoln Center under the direction of Langston Hughes protégé and academic advisor, George Houston Bass. Member of the Sound Awareness Ensemble under the direction of Robert Northern (Brother Ah) noted jazz musician, lecturer and instructor performing with the likes of Jean Carn, Pat Patrick and Max Roach. Recorded *Nature's Children*, a spoken word narrative performed with the Sound Awareness Ensemble for *Move Ever Onward* released in 1975 on Divine Records and recently re-released (November 2002) on CD by Ikef Records in Chicago. Recently performed this narrative with The Many Colors of a Woman Afrikan Jazz Ensemble at the Bushnell Theater in Hartford.