



**Epitome : International Journal
of Multidisciplinary Research**

ISSN : 2395-6968

REDEFINING AMERICAN THEATRE: NTOZAKE SHANGE'S BOOGIE WOOGIE LANDSCAPE

Dr. Shesham Rajesh Shriniwas

Associate Professor, Dept of English
Deogiri College, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar MS

Abstract

African American woman playwrights undertook a mission to develop and redefine the American theatre. The primary objective of these creative writers was to bring into the light authentic images of blacks, especially, black women in literary sphere and to make the world aware of the major share which Afro-Americans hold in the process of advancement of American social, cultural, and economic spheres. Ntozake Shange, being a prolific playwright and a director, very skillfully used the stage to glorify "black womanhood". She celebrates the black female as a vitalizing force that, for generations, has been intently striving to fortify not only the

women of black race but women across the world. However, having a deep concern for women of 'color', she suggests that black women should rely on themselves and not on black men in order to advance their socio-economic echelon. In 1970, the issue of racial identity tended to differ to the questions of sexual identity. Shange the most associated black woman playwright with this social change was greatly influenced and it gave insights to the sources of her creativity.

Keywords: *Black Feminism, African American Theatre, Female Consciousness*

