

# SHE

A CHOREOPLAY ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE,  
SANDRA BLAND, AND HEALING

*"We have all heard the phrase 'Speak truth to power,' but I think what SHE advocates is a little different. It is as if Jinah is infusing power into hope, into justice, into a call for radical change to rid our society and all societies of sexual violence." – Cisco Bradley, College Professor, Writer, Activist*



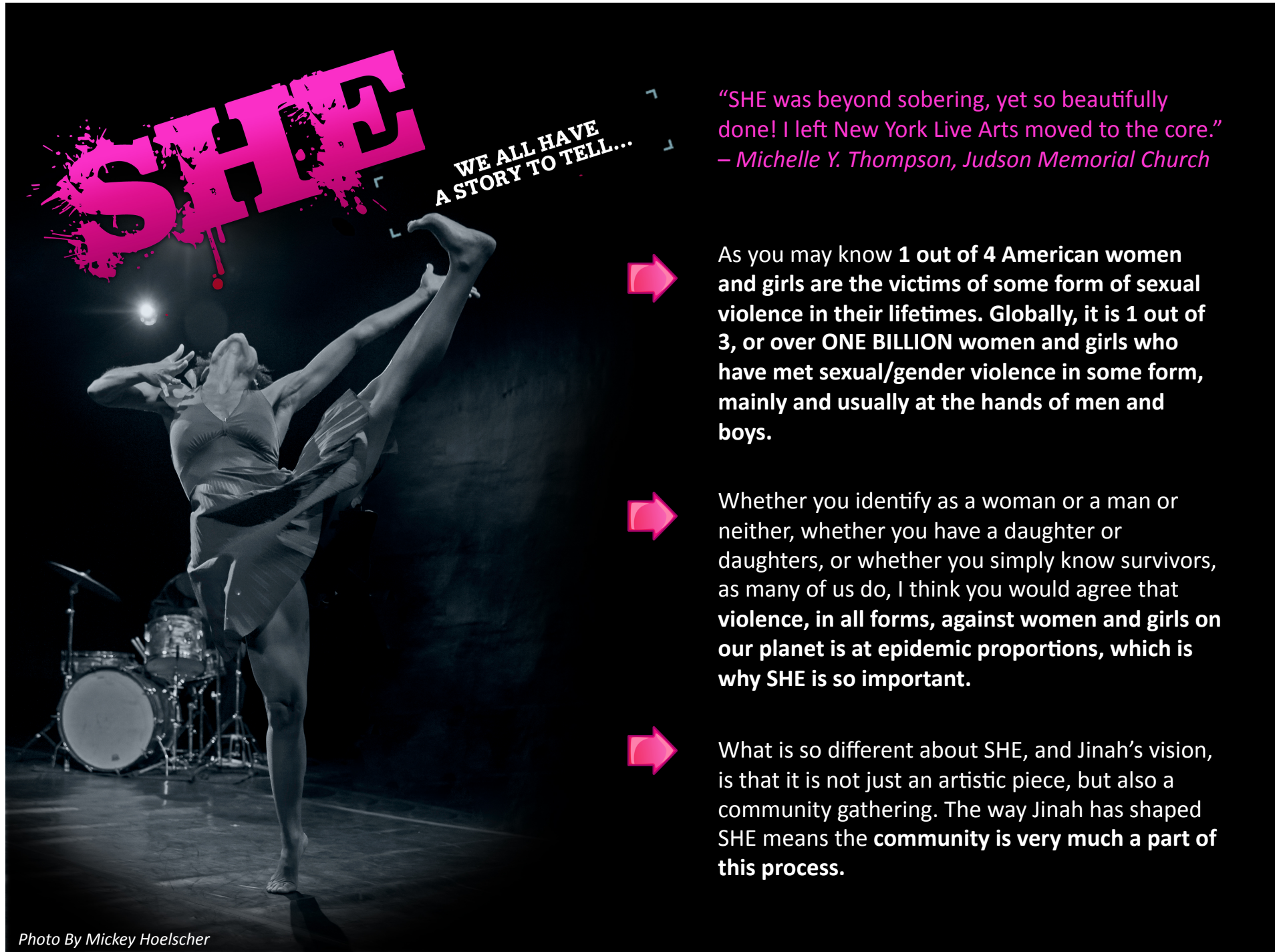
Photo By Mickey Hoelscher

# SHE

is an important new choreoplay written and choreographed by dancer Jinah Parker. SHE is about sexual violence, it is about Sandra Bland, and it is about healing. In a world where 1 out of 3 women and girls (OVER ONE BILLION) are the victims of some form of sexual violence, abuse, and of rape culture in their lifetimes, SHE is the story of mothers, daughters, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, cousins, friends and acquaintances we each know. The best way to describe SHE is FOR COLORED GIRLS meets THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES. This choreoplay is for all people, and it is just as important for men and boys to be a part of the experience and conversation as it is for women and girls. SHE is honest and direct, and it is truly both an artistic and spiritual journey.



*Photo By Mickey Hoelscher*



"SHE was beyond sobering, yet so beautifully done! I left New York Live Arts moved to the core."  
– Michelle Y. Thompson, Judson Memorial Church

As you may know **1 out of 4 American women and girls are the victims of some form of sexual violence in their lifetimes. Globally, it is 1 out of 3, or over ONE BILLION women and girls who have met sexual/gender violence in some form, mainly and usually at the hands of men and boys.**

Whether you identify as a woman or a man or neither, whether you have a daughter or daughters, or whether you simply know survivors, as many of us do, I think you would agree that **violence, in all forms, against women and girls on our planet is at epidemic proportions, which is why SHE is so important.**

What is so different about SHE, and Jinah's vision, is that it is not just an artistic piece, but also a community gathering. The way Jinah has shaped SHE means the **community is very much a part of this process.**

## A statement from the creator and choreographer

I created SHE out of a need—a need to challenge myself, and a need for women to be heard and experience a sense of release. Research has shown that movement increases the human sense of vitality, awakening the body and mind and experiencing a renewed energy for life. Movement truly has the ability to heal and therefore free the soul. With the above said, SHE is an artistic form of self-expression to promote healing from violence, rape-culture, and sexual abuse. A year ago four brave women made the decision to step forward to share their stories of sexual violence. They allowed me to turn their stories into narratives and agreed to dance alongside professional dancers. The journey was incredible, and now it continues.

Since SHE's debut, it has been turned into what I am calling a choreoplay. The story is driven by dance: however a full script I've written accompanies it. Research, interviews, and personal reflection were all key parts in my creation of the book for SHE.



Photo By Mickey Hoelscher

***choreoplay-** a dramatic theatrical composition that emphasizes dance and movement to tell a story. Monologues and dialogue between characters are also central elements.*

SHE has opened me up to a group of new people, a new sense of self-worth, confidence, and freedom. Together we can empower change.

**With Love,  
Jinah Parker**



# OFFERINGS

SHE is an artistic movement, education tool and healing space, which is why we strive to incorporate community as much as possible. All offerings can be further modified to suit your institution's needs. Please contact us for pricing.

## SEEING

### Full Production of SHE

The Jinah Parker Project cast will come to your venue to perform the full production of SHE. A post show discussion will follow.

### Excerpts of SHE

Some members of the cast will come to your venue to perform selected excerpts from SHE. A post show discussion will follow.

## SPEAKING

### Speeches

A multimodal and interactive speaking engagement between Jinah and the audience.

## RESIDENCIES

A combination of SEEING, SPEAKING, and DOING, where the The Jinah Parker Project sets the full production on the students at your institution.

## DOING

### Workshops

Human development and empowerment. *Outline available upon request.*

### Choreography

Individual scenes from SHE are set on students.

### Classes

Technique and somatic classes taught by Jinah or members of The Jinah Parker Project

# Responses to SHE

SHE Review *Jazz Right Now*, by Cisco Bradley

*"SHE was a truly stunning and powerful artistic statement made up of so many individual contributions. But what truly stands out is how Parker managed to link together movement, images, stories, and a number of genres of music into such a coherent and dynamic performance."*

*"What a passionate piece filled with such devotion and care. The cast of dancers and poets were wonderful and your dancing was gorgeous. I was so moved by your inclusion of me."* – ***Eve Ensler, Playwright, Performer, and Activist***

*"SHE is uplifting, disturbing, healing and important."* – ***Alexia Clifton, Daughter of the late poet Lucille Clifton***

---

*"I've been thinking about last night, and I've never seen anything quite like it, ever. It was such an extraordinary show."* – ***Mr. Lambert, Audience Member***

---

*"Wow, nothing was 'swept under the rug' in this performance."* – ***Mona Arestil, live stream audience member***





*Photo By Mickey Hoelscher*

**“We have all heard the phrase ‘Speak truth to power,’ but I think what SHE advocates is a little different. It is as if Jinah is infusing power into hope, into justice, into a call for radical change to rid our society and all societies of sexual violence.”** – *Cisco Bradley, College Professor, Writer, Activist*

**“Moving evocative, thoughtful, and impressive.”** – *Ethan Paulini, Theater Director*

# THE JINAH PARKER

Dance.Choreography.Education.

## PROJECT

The Jinah Parker Project is a non-profit arts organization created to inspire people of all backgrounds through dance, choreography, and education. Tackling major social issues in America and globally, Jinah views dance as a transformative tool to encourage cultural exchange, courageous conversations, and individual and community action. In short, Jinah’s art is for ‘the people,’ and is inspired by everyday people. Her newest major effort in that regard is SHE, a multimedia suite on sexual violence against women and girls, Sandra Bland, and healing.

SHE utilizes dance, spoken word, drama, song, video, live music and a deejay to highlight what the New York Times Magazine has called one of the major human rights issues of the 21st century: gender violence. Housed at New York Live Arts – run by legendary dancer and choreographer Bill T. Jones – SHE was completely sold out at its premiere. SHE is set to embark on a longer run in New York City, and a tour across the United States, including on college campuses.

With SHE, Jinah has created the template for her work going forward, a template which will include performance, conversation, and curriculum. Additionally, Jinah uses an aesthetic she describes as “distorted beauty,” which takes classic dance lines and breaks the rules, resulting in crisp and electrifying new movements. That is the vision and mission of The Jinah Parker project: Dance. Choreography. Education.

*"...danced alongside the stunning Jinah Parker, moving through inner conflict that swelled and released at the energetic duality of their pairing." - Matt Hanson, Danceworld.com*



# Jinah Parker

## Dancer, Choreographer, Educator

Jinah Parker is a multi-faceted creative force from Buffalo, NY. From a very young age she expressed the gift of dance and choreography, often creating and performing her own dance routines for her parents. Acting as the best audience a kid could have, they placed Jinah in dance classes at the age of four and she has been dancing ever since. Her work is inspired by the tenacity of Debbie Allen and the endless intellectual curiosity of Katherine Dunham.

Since then Jinah has received a Masters Degree in Dance Education from New York University and a B.A. in Dance from the

University at Buffalo where she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society. Prior to her graduate studies, Jinah was a member of Dayton Contemporary Dance Company II (DCDC2), Lehrerdance, and participated in regional productions of "AIDA" and "Beauty and the Beast." During her studies at NYU, she began working with Alpha Omega Theatrical Dance Company and Annabella Gonzalez Dance Theater. During her work with Alpha Omega Theatrical Dance Company, she has had the honor of performing numerous works by Eleo Pomare and has become a commissioned choreographer for Annabella Gonzalez Dance Theater.

Jinah has worked as a full-time dance educator in both the Buffalo and New York City Board of Education. She has had the pleasure of teaching on the university level as a semester substitute instructor as well as a guest artist. Her specialties lie in modern technique, dance composition, and curriculum writing. Her work has led her to teach and present internationally and she is highly recognized for her expertise around youth choreography.

Jinah's most recent work is her original production SHE that previewed at New York Live Arts and will be presented at HERE Art Center in May 2017; and her dance concert "Statement Pieces" at Dixon Place in New York City. Both productions focused on social themes that affect our society.

# CONTACT

---

Website: [www.jinahparker.com](http://www.jinahparker.com)

Email: [jinah@jinahparker.com](mailto:jinah@jinahparker.com)

Phone: (937)750-0745

Facebook: /SHEbyJinahParker

Instagram: @jinah\_nicole\_parker

Twitter: @jinahparker

