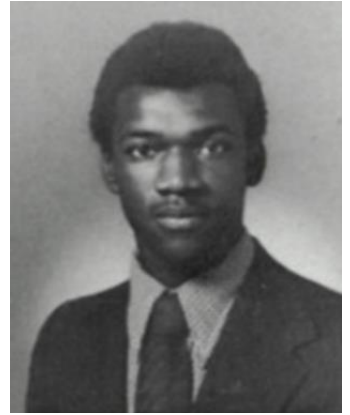


JASON BROOKS

January 10, 1955 – December 13, 2005



Jason Ansara Brooks, a native Austinite, was born January 10, 1955. He departed this life on Tuesday, December 13, 2005.

Jason was the son of Bertha Mae Clark and Willie Clark and William Brooks, Sr. Brother to William Brooks (Diana), Denice Brooks, Mary Clark Turner (Anthony) and Donna Clark Robinson (Hollis). Half-brother of James Gibson, Mischa Brooks and Debra Brooks. Grandmother Victoria Clark Henderson and William McKinley Clark. Uncle of Billy Brooks III, Mehcad Jason Brooks, Britney Turner, Lynnse'e Turner, Shari Brooks, Camille Robinson and Hollis Robinson, Jr. Nephew of Alonzo Clark, Donal Clark, Joe Louis Clark, Randolph Clark, Glen Clark, Ike Clark, Kenny Clark (Shirley), Sidney Clark, Mickey Clark (Mary), Larry Clark (Eddie), Frances Clark Monroe, Betty J. Clark Randolph (Levi) and Theresa Clark Scott. Jason will be loved and remembered by special family friend Nick Lewis, and a host of friends.

Jason was a multi-faceted, world-renowned choreographer/dancer/singer and actor, fluent in German, proficient in tap, ballet, modern ballet, jazz and African Dance. Jason received training at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK and the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater in NYC. Jason has worked on all four continents and in 1992, made a world tour featuring Berlin, Tokyo, Sydney, Hawaii.

Tribute published by the Austin Chronicle on 12/23/2005:

Jason Brooks, who directed, choreographed, and was performing in the company's production of *Black Nativity*, died Dec. 13. The very night that Brooks passed away, ProArts was beginning discussions about establishing a black theatre company for Central Texas. Brooks was an Austin native who returned to his hometown in recent years after years of training and a professional career that took him across the globe. In the late Eighties he moved to Europe, where he was a soloist with the Deutsche Opera Berlin; danced with Stuttgart Ballet; appeared in productions of *Porgy and Bess* (Germany), *Show Boat* (Austria), *Cotton Club* (European/UK), and *Starlight Express* (European); danced for two television programs in the Netherlands; sang professionally with the touring group First Take, which featured sister Denice. In Minneapolis he performed in the production of Rita Dove's *Darker Face of the Earth* at the Guthrie Theatre and danced the role of Joseph in the Penumbra Theatre Company's production of *Black Nativity*. He choreographed work for Ballet East and acted for Live Oak Theatre, Theatre Austin, and the Zachary Scott Theatre Center. His performance as Lyman in *The Piano Lesson* and co-choreography of *Dreamgirls*, both for Zach, earned him nominations for B. Iden Payne Awards and Austin Critics Table Awards.

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