



Ed Forti

## Dance: A Blend of Figure Skating and Modern Dance

Feb. 27; [icetheatre.org](http://icetheatre.org).

[Ice Theater of New York](http://icetheatre.org) sharpens its blades with a new collaboration to coincide with Black History Month: “Presence,” a solo choreographed by Deneane Richburg for the skater Theron James.

Richburg is known for pushing the boundaries of what can be expressed on the ice. The founder and artistic director of her organization [Brownbody](http://brownbody.org), she illuminates the African diaspora through a blend of figure skating, modern dance and social justice.

As part of Ice Theater’s City Skate Concert Series at the rink at Rockefeller Center, Richburg will explore the black body in a premiere, set to music by Nicholas Britell, that delves into aspects of momentum and stillness. In the predominantly white world of figure skating, this is a positive sign that change just might be on the way. *GIA KOURLAS*