

## Formal Biography

Born in 1967 in London to Sierra Leonian parents, Tichaona Chinyelu is a daughter of Afrika in both the biographical and political sense who views the world through the prism of Pan-Afrikanism. Upon migration to the United States in the early 1970's, she maneuvered through the Boston Public School system where she graduated from Copley Square High. An older Tichaona would later travel throughout the United States with sojourns in California and Illinois.

Since accepting her call as a writer, her themes are geared towards bringing black history out of the dark ages of imperialism and into the light of Afrikan liberation. Her first book, *In the Whirlwind*, incorporates her love of music; paying tribute to Jazz musicians such as Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong and Hugh Masekela. It also focuses on various topics such as the Black Panther Party and the anti-apartheid struggle.

*Still Living on my Feet*, her sophomore effort, brings the revolutionary essence from deep within the trough of her Y chromosomes; lacing it with truths, humor and sisterly compassion. Ms Chinyelu presently lives in Massachusetts where she is hard at work raising her son and completing a Bachelor's Degree in English/History studies.

## **Publications:**

### **(Print)**

African American Review – Summer 1992

Dialogue: A Journal for Cultural Literacy – Winter 2006 - Spring 2007

The Poetry Explosion Newsletter – May 2007

Dialogue: A Journal for Cultural Literacy – Summer 2007

Step Up to the Mic: A Poetic Anthology – September 2007

### **(Online)**

Sierra-Leone.Org (permanent)

Timbooktu – June 2006

One Word Mag – Poet Rising of the Month – August 2006

Atlanta Red Best Poem of the Month – September 2006

The Nubian Chronicles Magazine – Fall 2006

## **Performances:**

Arlington Street Church – Boston, MA – Jazz & Jambalaya – January 2007

Harlem Book Fair – Roxbury, MA – June 2007

## **Book Signings:**

DisilgoldSoul Booth @ African American Pavilion – Book Expo – June 2007

## **Vending:**

Harlem Book Fair Roxbury, MA – June 2007

Boston Soul Music Festival – July 2007

Happily Natural Day Richmond, VA – August 2007

## **Interviews:**

PowerTalkFM – June 2005

ArtistFirst Radio – October 2006

Let's Talk Radio – March 2007

The Real Deal Show – June 2007

## **Other Exposure:**

Urban Reviews Poetry Site of the Month – July 2007

TCLive.com Guest Page

TerryHowcott.com (A Thinker's Greenspace) June 2007

BookMarketingandPublicity.com's Black Heritage Month Featured Author August 2007