

MILESTONES

THE SONJA HAYNES STONE CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND HISTORY

spring 2008 · volume 6 · issue 1

www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter



Lauren Kelley,
Pick Wig, Photograph,
20" x 24", 1999
photo courtesy of the
artist

BY ANDREW CHAN

‘PEPPERPOT’ EXHIBITION TO FEATURE FOUR EMERGING ARTISTS

On February 22, 2008 at the Stone Center’s Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum, an exciting new exhibition opens that will feature four young artists whose work is not easily categorized by subject matter or medium. *PepperPot: Multi Media Installation, Meaning, and the Medium in Contemporary African Diasporic Art* highlights the innovative spirit at the heart of the creative process, and will provoke discussion not only of themes central to African diaspora art—such as power, identity, and personal history—but also of the diverse aesthetic approaches through which these issues are explored. The goal is to engage the viewer in a reconsideration of how an artists’ medium and materials can contribute to an artwork’s meaning. Ranging from painting and sculpture to video and photography, the exhibition offers a look into the various ways in which contemporary artists negotiate aesthetic traditions with the ethical and political concerns of our time.

The four featured artists in *PepperPot* are Andrea Chung, Morolake Odeleye, Lauren Kelley, and Cosmo Whyte. A New Jersey native of Jamaican heritage, Chung tackles historical questions of migration by focusing on the suggestiveness of materials that, when manipulated and combined, can “imply a historical context” and “provide a vocabulary for double entendre.” Odeleye works primarily in video and installation, addressing Black exploitation in the American entertainment industry with a powerful, confrontational style. Also working in video, Kelley brings an unnerving sense of humor to subjects “ranging from pregnancy to male chauvinism, self-image to the feminine mystique” (*Glasstire*), while also

exposing the limits and artificiality of her medium. Whyte has developed a style of photography that is both personal and ethnographic, aiming to “make the viewer conscious of their position as both a voyeur and participant in...sacred ceremonies” across the African Diaspora.

UNC at Chapel Hill alumnus Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum, who received her B.A. in international studies in 2004, and her M.A. in fine arts this year at the Maryland Institute College of Art serves as exhibit curator. Her work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, most recently at Artspace, a visual art center in Raleigh. Based out of Baltimore, Maryland, Sunstrum has collaborated twice before with the Stone Center, curating *Letters from Home: The Work of Michael D. Harris* in 2004 and *Como se cuenta el cuento (How to tell the story): The Work of El Taller Portobelo* in 2005.

Exhibit hours are Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–7 p.m.; the exhibit is closed on University holidays and weekends.

PepperPot follows the Brown Gallery’s *Body and Soul: Paul Robeson, Race and Representation* that closes on January 25. In recent years the Brown Gallery and Museum has served as an inviting exhibit space for a variety of visual arts that critically examine the African diaspora including: *The Hewitt Collection of African-American Art*; *The Art of Michael Harris, Fleeting Memory*, *Enduring Legacy: The People of La Costa Chica, Oaxaca, Mexico*; *Inbetween Spaces: Textured Imaginings of African-American Lives*; and *Radicals in Black and Brown: Palante, People’s Power, and Common Cause in the Black Panthers and the Young Lords Organization*. ■

STONE CENTER UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS CONTRIBUTE SKILLS AND BUILD EXPERIENCE

DUAL & BEECH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Five UNC at Chapel Hill undergraduate students have been selected to serve as Stone Center Undergraduate Fellows for the 2007-08 academic year. Fellows gain hands-on and professional work experience while engaged in special projects under the direction of Stone Center staff.

The program includes the Director's Undergraduate Administrative Leadership Fellowship (DUAL) and the Harvey E. Beech Professional Development Fellowship. The DUAL Fellowship provides Fellows with an opportunity to work closely with the director of the Stone Center. DUAL Fellows participate in staff, board and other key meetings, work on specially designed projects, and assist the director in drafting project, program and special reports. The Harvey E. Beech Professional Development Fellowship program provides similar experiences; Beech Fellows work closely with members of the Stone Center staff, assisting with program and cultural project management, public relations and communications, and the gallery and museum.

Joining the Stone Center for the 2007-08 Fellowship program are Francinia McKeithan, Sophia Su, Andrew Chan, Annika Martins, and Amanda Rodrigues Smith.

Francinia McKeithan, a senior African and Afro-American studies major with a minor in social and economic justice, assists the Stone Center director with community education programs and special research projects. Last summer, she completed a summer internship for the Labor and Worklife Program sponsored by Harvard Law School.

Sophia Su, a junior international studies major with a minor in entrepreneurship and creative writing, assists the Stone Center director with funding and development projects. This past summer, she interned at Florence Crittenton Services (FCS) in Charlotte. She is president of the Chinese Undergraduate Students Association (CUSA).

Andrew Chan, a senior English major from Charlotte, works with the assistant director on projects for the Stone Center Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum. Last summer, he held a Helena Rubinstein internship at The Museum of Modern Art in New York. His other experience includes working as a docent/tour guide at Charlotte's Levine Museum of the New South.

Annika Martins, a junior communication studies major, assists the Stone Center program coordinator with program planning and logistics. A native of the Cayman Islands, her prior experience includes an internship with the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Amanda Rodrigues Smith, a senior and native of Baltimore, Maryland, assists with Stone Center public relations and communications activities. Her prior experience includes interning at Black Entertainment Television (BET) and for the Kweisi Mfume for United States Senate Campaign. She is the president of the Carolina Association of Black Journalists (CABJ). ■



Francinia McKeithan



Sophia Su



Andrew Chan



Annika Martins



**Amanda Rodrigues
Smith**



THE 2008 STONE CENTER UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History is currently accepting applications for its Spring Term Undergraduate International Studies Fellowships (UISF). The Stone Center, established in 1988 to support the critical examination of all dimensions of African and African-American diaspora cultures, created the UISF program in support of the university's effort to globalize the campus and internationalize the curriculum.

Fellowship recipients are awarded up to \$2500 toward academic research or study in an international setting. Through the fellowships, the UISF program hopes to increase the participation of students of color and other underrepresented students at UNC at Chapel Hill in travel and study abroad programs. Students who plan to study abroad in the summer or fall of 2008 who are in good standing and enrolled full-time are eligible to apply for the fellowship.

Full instruction and applications are available at the Stone Center, suite 215 or on the Center website at www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2008. For more information on the fellowship, contact Olympia Friday at (919) 962-7265. ■

GLOBAL RIGHTS ADVOCATE TO DELIVER AFRICAN DIASPORA LECTURE

Salih Booker, executive director of Global Rights: Partners for Justice, a leading international human rights advocacy group, will deliver the spring African Diaspora Lecture on March 28 at 4 p.m. The lecture entitled, *Human Rights: Lessons Learned from Africa over the Last 20 Years*, will focus on global human rights issues and violations.

As executive director of Global Rights, Booker is responsible for the coordination and implementation of Global Rights' mission and day-to-day operations. Prior to joining Global Rights, Booker served as a professional staff member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the U.S. Congress and as a program officer for the Ford Foundation in Eastern and Southern Africa. He was also the former director of Africa Action, the oldest US based advocacy group on African affairs. Booker has written about African affairs for *The Nation*, America's oldest weekly magazine and journal of opinion, and for other publications.

Over the past 25 years, Global Rights has worked in more than 100 countries, collaborating with local human rights advocates from legal and civil society

alike to strengthen their effectiveness in combating human rights abuses in their countries. Working with its partners, Global Rights has secured the release of political prisoners, brought fairness to political trials and controversial elections and held governments accountable for torture, disappearances, and summary executions.

From Africa to Afghanistan, Global Rights' workers empower activists to promote justice and mobilize support for human rights. In Morocco for example, the organization implemented a legal and human rights education program for illiterate women across the country by collaborating with local partners to support girls and young women at risk.

In addition to the lecture, Booker will meet with students to discuss non-government career options in international and global affairs. To learn more about Global Rights, visit the website at www.globalrights.org.

The African Diaspora Lecture is an annual series that presents lectures, roundtables, and debates on a variety of subjects from the African diaspora. ■



Salih Booker

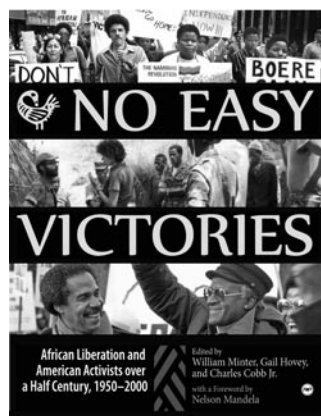
STONE CENTER TO PRESENT PROGRAM ON THE U.S. ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT

From the mid 1950s through the 1990s, Americans were at the heart of the international Anti-Apartheid Movement. Born out of various human and civil rights movements in the 1940s, the movement mobilized hundreds of thousands of Americans to oppose apartheid, a social and political system based on the segregation of races. The anti-apartheid pressure felt from around the world forced the South African government to end apartheid in the early 1990s. Since then, numerous documentary projects have collectively chronicled the ugly history of apartheid and the grassroots movements in the United States that helped dismantle the racist system.

Join the Stone Center on January 30 at the Bull's Head Bookshop for a special book event to celebrate the publication of *No Easy Victories: African Liberation and American Activists over a Half Century, 1950-2000*. Published by Africa World Press, the book includes essays by several activists who share their personal stories and experiences that link African liberation movements and American activists. Editors of the book including Charles Cobb, Jr, Gail Hovey, and Bill Minter will be present to answer questions and share insight about the book.

Later that evening, Oscar nominated director and producer Connie Field will screen and discuss her documentary film *Have You Heard from Johannesburg?: Apartheid and the Club of the West*. The film is the first segment in a six-part series that traces the complex story of the anti-apartheid movement in the United States and the nationwide campaigns that successfully reversed American policy toward South Africa. The film kicks off the spring edition of the Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film.

To read excerpts from *No Easy Victories*, visit www.noeasyvictories.org. Also, to see clips from *Have You Heard from Johannesburg*, visit www.clarityfilms.org. ■





above (top to bottom):

We Shall Not be Moved: A History of the Tillery Resettlement (U.S., 2007)

American Red and Black: Stories of Afro-Native Identity (U.S., 2006)

Have You Heard from Johannesburg?: Apartheid and the Club of the West (U.S., 2007)

right (left to right):

El Cimarrón (Puerto Rico, 2006)

Unfinished (U.S., 2007)

DIASPORA FESTIVAL OF BLACK AND INDEPENDENT FILM OPENS ON JANUARY 30

SPRING EDITION EXPLORES HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY ROOTS OF RESISTANCE

The Stone Center's spring 2008 edition of its Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film will feature six films that explore historical and contemporary roots of resistance. Themed *A Luta Continua: Cinemas of Resistance*, the festival includes films that highlight the struggle for liberation and self-determination across the African diaspora. The film festival opens on January 30 with the film *Have You Heard from Johannesburg?: Apartheid and the Club of the West* (U.S., 2007), the first segment in a six-part series that traces the complex story of the anti-apartheid movement in the United States. Oscar nominated director Connie Field will be present to discuss the documentary film, which she produced and directed.

On February 5, the Stone Center will screen the newest work from director Ivan Ortiz, *El Cimarrón* (Puerto Rico, 2006), which examines slavery and resistance in Puerto Rico. *El Cimarrón* tells the struggle of an enslaved African couple at the turn of the nineteenth century on a Caribbean island. In spite of the cruelty and inhumanity of slavery, Marcos and Carolina's love withstands these brutal conditions at the hands of Don Pablo, the master of the plantation. Following the advice of a wise and older slave, Marcos escapes from the Don Pablo farm and returns to liberate his beloved Carolina.

The festival continues on February 21 with the screening of *We Shall Not be Moved: A History of the Tillery Resettlement* (U.S., 2007). This documentary recounts the story of a New Deal Resettlement community in Tillery, North Carolina, from slavery to the present. The story, told in the words of the residents who lived through it, also touches on the Roosevelt New Deal Program, which

gave sharecroppers an opportunity to buy their own land.

As part of the Festival Program, noted filmmaker Haile Gerima will serve as series host and as Resident Artist during a weeklong residency at the Stone Center from February 25-29. As part of his residency, he will present advance previews of his latest film *Tèza* (U.S./Ethiopia/Germany, 2007). Set in Ethiopia and Germany, the film tells the story of the return of an African intellectual to his country of birth during the repressive Marxist regime of Haile Mariam Mengistu. Gerima will also offer a 3-part master class on documenting African diaspora histories. For information and to sign-up please call (919) 962-9001. Space is limited so please reserve your place by January 30.

On March 19, the Stone Center will screen a double feature; two short films that touch on the personal stories of bi-racial individuals who struggle to come to terms with their identities. *American Red and Black: Stories of Afro-Native Identity* (U.S., 2006), is a documentary film that follows six Afro-Native Americans from around the U.S., as they reflect upon the personal and complex issues of Native and African heritage, ethnic identity, and racialized thinking within communities of color. In *Unfinished* (U.S., 2007), a young South Asian-American woman struggles with the idea of reconnecting with her African-American father.

The Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film is the Stone Center's twice a year series featuring independent film from across the African diaspora. All screenings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Stone Center at (919) 962-9001. ■



Filmmaker Haile Gerima Returns to Stone Center for Weeklong Residency

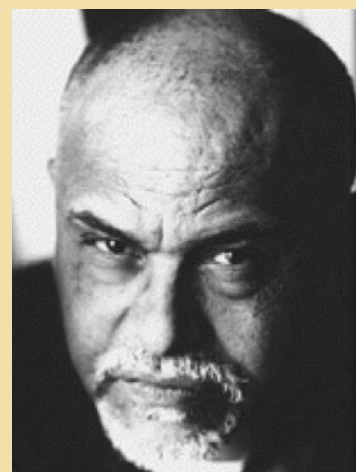
Award-winning filmmaker Haile Gerima visits the Stone Center from February 25-29 for a one-week residency. Gerima, an Ethiopian native, is a film professor at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Gerima received a bachelor's degree in 1972 and a master's of fine arts in film in 1976 from University of California at Los Angeles. He creates and distributes films through his company, Mypheduh Films Inc. Gerima also owns the Washington D.C. based Sankofa Video and Bookstore, which sells books and videos by and about people of African descent.

His achievements include the Critics Choice Award at Cannes Film Festival in 1983; the first Paul Robeson Award at the Pan African Film Festival in Burkina Faso; the mayor's Arts Award for Excellence in an Artistic Discipline, Washington DC, 1993; and the Oscar Micheaux Award for Best Feature Film, Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame for *Sankofa*.

He last visited the Stone Center in 2001 to screen and discuss his film *ADWA: An African Victor*. The

movie, filmed in Ethiopia and Italy, depicts the Battle of Adwa, in which Ethiopian forces united to defeat invading Italian troops. The victory over the Italians caused major European states to recognize Ethiopia as a sovereign, independent state. He is currently working on a follow-up to *ADWA* titled *ADWA Part II: The Children of ADWA* as well as *The Maroons Film Project*. His other films include *Ashes & Embers* (1982), *Wilmington 10 USA-10,000* (1979), and most notably, *Sankofa* (1994). *Sankofa* is an Akan word that means one must return to the past in order to move forward. In the film, spirits lingering in Ghana possess a beautiful, contemporary African-American model, forcing her to recall a past of racial dehumanization.

As part of the Stone Center's Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film, Gerima will screen visual excerpts of his latest film, *Tèza* on February 28 at 7 p.m. He will also conduct a 3-part master workshop in filmmaking on February 25, 27, and 29 at 6:30 p.m. The workshops are open to all aspiring filmmakers or those interested in filmmaking.



Haile Gerima

The three workshops will include Scriptwriting & Directing, Documentary Filmmaking and Film Directing & Visual Dramatics.

Class size is limited; those interested in the workshops should call the Stone Center at (919) 962-9001 to register. ■



Spring 2008

Critical Discussion Series

Part I

Tuesday, January 15, 2008
7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

Incarcerated Women: Challenges to Criminal Justice System

The Stone Center, along with Our Children's Place, examines the unique challenges facing incarcerated women and the effects the criminal justice system has on women inmates. Panelists include Melissa Radcliff, Executive Director of Our Children's Place, an initiative to allow young children to live with their mothers while the women serve out their sentences for nonviolent offenses; Annie Harvey, Warden of the NC Women's Correctional Facility in Raleigh; Meg Scott Phipps, the former North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner who spent more than three years in prison for perjury, obstruction of justice and other offenses; and NC State Representative Ellie Kinnaird. Natalie Bullock Brown, host of UNC-TV's *Black Issues Forum*, will moderate the discussion.

Part II

Wednesday, February 13, 2008
7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

BLACK ATHLETE ROUNDTABLE

The Image of the Black Athlete: Icons, Scandal and the Business of Sport

Inspired by recent professional sports scandals, this discussion will focus on the sociopolitical challenges and issues facing black athletes today. Panelists from different facets of professional and amateur sports will include Hanif Omar, host of WNCU's weekly sports show *Fast Break*; Pam Leake, a former UNC basketball All-American; Walt Bellamy, a NBA Hall of Famer and community youth activist; Rhonda Patterson, a UNC alumnus and attorney in an Atlanta-based sports management firm.

Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film

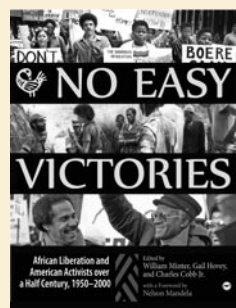
A LUTA CONTINUA: CINEMAS OF RESISTANCE

Wednesday, January 30, 2008

Book Signing: 3:30 p.m. | Bull's Head Bookshop

Film Screening: 7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

No Easy Victories Book Party



Join editors Charles Cobb, Jr., Gail Hovey, and Bill Minter for a book party celebrating the release of *No Easy Victories: African Liberation and American Activists over a Half Century, 1950-2000*,

a book of essays and

personal stories about the links between African liberation movements and American activists. The book includes a foreword by Nelson Mandela.

Have You Heard from Johannesburg?: Apartheid and the Club of the West (2007)

Oscar nominated director and producer Connie Field will screen and discuss her documentary film *Have You Heard from Johannesburg?: Apartheid and the Club of the West*, the first segment in a six-part series that traces the complex story of the anti-apartheid movement in the United States and how the nationwide campaign successfully reversed American policy toward South Africa.

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

El Cimarrón (Puerto Rico, 2006) *In Spanish, English Subtitles*

From Puerto Rican director Ivan Ortiz, *El Cimarrón* is a story about a young enslaved African couple at the turn of the nineteenth century on a Caribbean island. In spite of the cruelty and inhumanity of slavery, Marcos and Carolina's love withstands these brutal conditions at the hands of Don Pablo, their greedy and malicious owner. Following the advice of a wise and older slave, Marcos escapes from the Don Pablo farm and returns to liberate his beloved Carolina.

Thursday, February 21, 2008

7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

We Shall Not be Moved: A History of the Tillery Resettlement (U.S., 2007)

The film tells the story of a New Deal Resettlement Community in Tillery, North Carolina from slavery to present. Archival film and video footage, historical photographs, and narratives of Tillery's elders, show how seeds of independence planted in the pre-Civil Rights era took root in movements for racial justice in the 1950's, and grew into fights against present day environmental racism and economic marginalization.

The screening is co-sponsored by Wilson Library's Southern Historical Collection.

Thursday, February 28, 2008

7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Theatre and Auditorium

An Evening with Haile Gerima: Mortgaged Imaginations

Haile Gerima will present audiovisual excerpts of his past and upcoming films including his latest film, *Teza*. Set in Ethiopia and Germany, the film tells the story of the return of an African intellectual to his country of birth during the repressive Marxist regime of Haile Mariam Mengistu and the recognition of his own displacement and powerlessness at the dissolution of his people's humanity and social values.

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room

DOUBLE FEATURE

American Red and Black: Stories of Afro-Native Identity (U.S., 2006)

This intimate film follows six Afro-Native Americans from around the U.S., as they reflect upon the personal and complex issues of Native and African heritage, ethnic identity, and racism within communities of color.

Unfinished (U.S., 2007)

A mother's last will and testament proves to be a powerful catalyst that reconnects a South Asian-American woman with her estranged African-American father.

2008 Spring



UNC

THE SONJA HAYNES STONE
CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE
AND HISTORY

Monday, January 21, 2008

**7:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum**

He was a Poem: A Gathering in the Tradition

The Stone Center, in association with the University Library presents *He was a Poem: A Gathering in the Tradition*, a program honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The program will feature musical selections by Bradley Simmons, a lecturer at Duke University and director of the Duke University Djembe Ensemble, Michael and Lita Simanga, Atlanta-based poets and authors, Kim Arrington, a singer and spoken word artist, and Donovan Livingston, a UNC junior and spoken word artist. Refreshments will be provided.

Friday, February 22 – Sunday May 11, 2008

Opening Reception: Friday, February 22 at 7 p.m.
Gallery Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Closed University holidays

**The Stone Center
Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum**

PepperPot: Multi Media Installation, Meaning, and the Medium in Contemporary African Diasporic Art

Coconuts, humor, brown sugar, “bling,” moving images, cinnamon, and sound effects are just some of the materials used in *PepperPot*—an exciting exhibition featuring work by four outstanding young artists: Andrea Chung, Lauren Kelley, Morolake Odeleye and Cosmo Whyte. All four artists are engaged in a practice of making art that places materials—the medium—at the center of meaning in their work. Working in a variety of disciplines, the artists in *PepperPot* address issues of power, identity, memory and personal history from within the context of the African diaspora. Curated by Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum (UNC-CH '04) *PepperPot* will feature multi media work ranging from painting and photography to installation, experimental animation and sculpture.

Opening reception is co-sponsored by *La Tropicale Catering in Durham*.

Monday, February 25 – Friday, February 29, 2008

**The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room**

Visiting Artist – Haile Gerima

Filmmaker Haile Gerima visits for a one-week residency. Gerima, a film professor at Howard University whose films include *Sankofa* (1994) and *Ashes & Embers* (1982),

will conduct a 3-part master workshop in filmmaking. Gerima will also present a lecture on his past and present film projects. The workshops are open to all aspiring filmmakers or those interested in filmmaking. Class size is limited; please call the Stone Center at (919) 962-9001 to register. The sessions are:

Monday, February 25, 2008

6:30 p.m.

**Session I: Scriptwriting & Directing
Stone Center Classroom, 2nd Floor**

In session one, Gerima will give an overview of the relationship of scriptwriting and directing for the digital age, following the idea of scriptwriting structure in the context of one's particular culture. This session will put into context the high tech, seductive stereotype cinema in the depiction of African-Americans.

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

6:30 p.m.

**Session II: Documentary Filmmaking
Stone Center Seminar Room 200**

This session focuses on the exploration of the individual personal approach as well as collective implications of documentary filmmaking. This session will utilize Gerima's work on *The Maroons* documentary as a case study.

Friday, February 29, 2008

6:30 p.m.

**Session III: Film Directing & Visual Dramatics
Stone Center Seminar Room 200**

In this final session, Gerima will discuss the relationship of film directing and visual dramatics, dealing primarily with cultural specifics in creating cinematic accents.

Saturday, March 1, 2008

**2:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Theatre & Auditorium**

Platanos & Collard Greens

Since its 2003 Off Broadway debut, *Platanos & Collard Greens* has been making audiences all over the country laugh aloud. *Platanos*, a thought-provoking romantic comedy, addresses the stereotypes, prejudices and urban myths that exist between African-Americans and Latinos. Based on producer David Lamb's novel, *Do Platanos Go Wit Collard Greens?*, the play humorously dispels these misconceptions within the context of hip-hop, humor and satire. This performance is free and open to the public. A maximum of four tickets per patron may be picked up at the Stone Center Front Desk.

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

**12:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Hitchcock Multipurpose Room**

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH LUNCHEON

Film - Angels Can't Help But Laugh

The film offers a thought-provoking and candid documentary by Terri J. Vaughn (best known for her years on *The Steve Harvey Show*) and author Cas Sigers that examines the struggles and complexities of African-American actresses in Hollywood. Lunch will be provided.

This program is co-sponsored by the curriculum in Women's Studies, the Kappa Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Omega Iota Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Friday, March 28, 2008

4:00 p.m. | FedEx Global Education Center

African Diaspora Lecture

Salih Booker,

Director of Global Rights: Partners for Justice

Salih Booker the executive director of Global Rights: Partners for Justice, a human rights advocacy group that collaborates with activists around the world to challenge injustice, will deliver the African Diaspora Lecture.

Booker's lecture, *Human Rights: Lessons Learned from Africa over the Last 20 Years*, will focus on global human rights issues and violations.

Thursday, April 24, 2008

**6:00 p.m. | The Stone Center
Theatre & Auditorium**

Community End of Year Program

Join the Community students, counselors and parents as they reflect on past year successes and recognize outstanding students and program counselors.

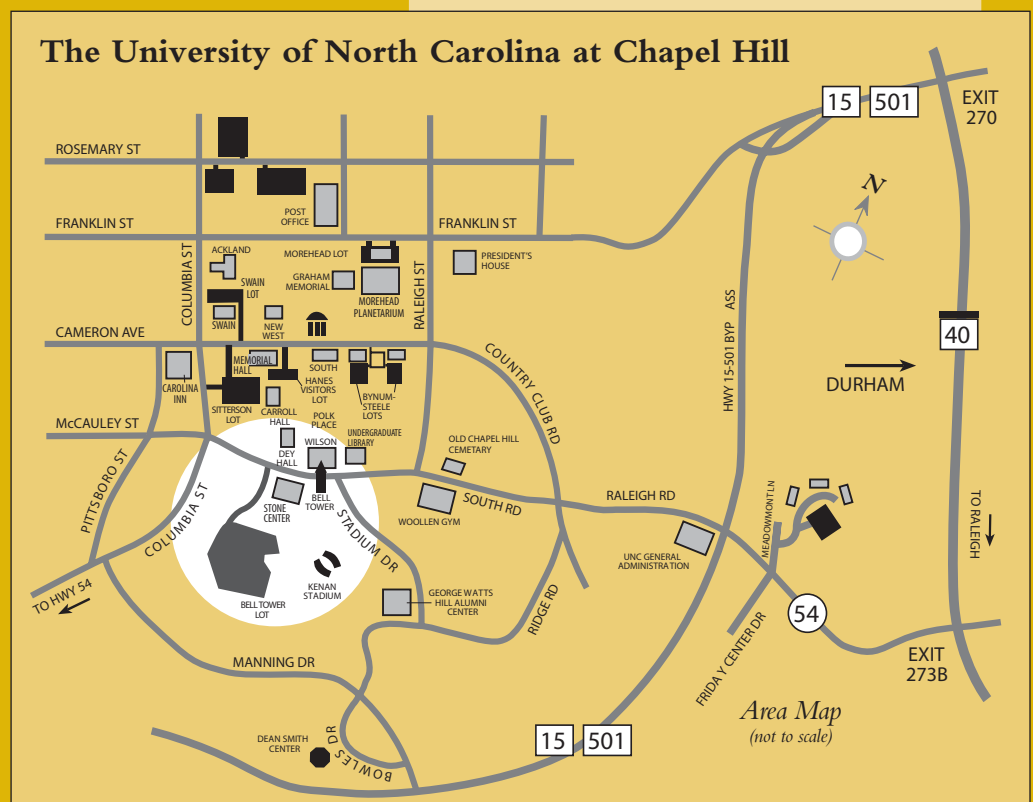
CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN BELL TOWER PARKING LOT

A lengthy construction project in the Bell Tower Lot will disrupt parking for most Stone Center programs. Limited parking will be available behind the Stone Center Building on a first come, first served basis. If you have any questions, please contact the Stone Center at 962-9001.

THE
SONJA
HAYNES
STONE
CENTER
for BLACK
CULTURE
AND
HISTORY

www.unc.edu/depts/stonecenter

150 SOUTH ROAD, CAMPUS BOX 5250 · CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-5250



OFF BROADWAY PLAY COMING TO STONE CENTER ON MARCH 1

PLATANOS AND COLLARD GREENS ADDRESSES THE STEREOTYPES, PREJUDICES AND URBAN MYTHS THAT EXIST BETWEEN AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND LATINOS

BY AMANDA RODRIGUES SMITH

The Stone Center, in collaboration with the Blue Ribbon Mentor-Advocate Program, presents *Platanos and Collard Greens*, a soul stirring play that will make you think critically and feel good at the same time. Play author, David Lamb adapted the theme of his first literary work *Do Platanos Go With Collard Greens* to this colorful play, which takes an in depth look at relationships between African-Americans and Latinos.

Set on a New York college campus, the production revolves around a group of multicultural students at Hunter College, which is also Lamb's alma mater. Told through the experiences of two unconventional love interests, Freeman who is African-American and Angelita who is Dominican, the play addresses issues of prejudice and cultural stereotypes as the two attempt to pursue a romantic relationship.

The Off Broadway production develops a familiar dialogue about race relations from a refreshing point of view with infusions of social commentary, satire and comedy. Since debuting to a sold out audience at the Producers Club in 2003, the lyrical production has spoken volumes to the hearts and minds of audiences big and small. Critics at *The New York Times* and *La Diva Latina Magazine* have described the play as pure and sweet.

Infused with a modern dose of hip-hop, *Platanos and Collard Greens* illuminates nuances of racial conflict in modern settings. It has been well received at college campuses and theaters across the United States with little commercial publicity. Word travels fast. Finally, the buzz will reach North Carolina. *Platanos* will premiere at the Stone Center Theatre and Auditorium on March 1 at 2 p.m. A discussion session follows the presentation.

The play is free and open to the public. Please call the Stone Center at (919) 962-9001 to reserve a maximum of four tickets per patron. ■



STONE CENTER RECEIVES 1943 OTHELLO PROGRAM BROCHURE

Duke University Professor Emeritus Donald J. Fluke donated a program brochure from a 1943 performance of *Othello* starring Paul Robeson in the lead role. An exhibit about Robeson, *Body and Soul: Paul Robeson, Race and Representation*, is currently on display in The Stone Center's Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery and Museum through January 25, 2008.

Yes, I want to support the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY STATE ZIP _____

I prefer my gift to go toward:
Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture & History

General Fund (6013) \$ _____
 History Art Fund (6206) \$ _____
 Community Program (6021) \$ _____
 Other \$ _____

Enclosed is a check for:
 \$1,000 \$500
 \$100 Other \$ _____
 (Please make check payable to UNC-Chapel Hill)

I prefer to make my gift by credit card:
 Visa Mastercard AMEX
 Card # _____/_____/_____/_____
 Expiration ____/_____
 Signature _____

I prefer to make my gift over the next year.
 Please send me a reminder or charge my credit card:
 Monthly Quarterly
 Biannually Yearly

Please detach and send this form to:
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 Office of University Development
 PO Box 309
 Chapel Hill, NC 27514-9931

All gifts are tax-deductible.

For more information please contact: Timothy Minor, '94 · Director of Development for Centers and Institutes · 208 W. Franklin Street · Chapel Hill, NC 27599-6100

STONE CENTER STAFF

Joseph Jordan
Director
919.962.9001
jfordan@email.unc.edu

Trevaughn Eubanks
Administrative Director
919.962.9001
tbrown3@email.unc.edu

Ursula Littlejohn
Program Coordinator
919-962-9001
ulittlej@email.unc.edu

Lotticia Mack
Community Coordinator
919.962.9001
lmmack@email.unc.edu

Olympia Friday
Public Relations Officer
919.962.9001
ofriday@email.unc.edu

Raquel Von Cogell
Stone Center Librarian
919.843.5808
raquel.cogell@unc.edu

Gregg Moore
Stone Center Assistant Librarian
919.843.5804
moorejg@email.unc.edu

Randy Simmons
Facilities Manager
919.843.1854
rlsimmon@email.unc.edu

Gaynelle Williamson
Development Research Assistant
919-962-9001
gaynelle_williamson@unc.edu

Stone Center awarded NEA grant for community reading program

UNC NEWS SERVICES

The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will be one of 127 organizations nationwide joining the federal government's Big Read program this spring.

The center was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for a community-wide reading project in April. The book will be Zora Neale Hurston's novel "Their Eyes Were Watching God." In the story, Hurston's main character, Janie Crawford, matures from a voiceless, inhibited teenager to a woman who establishes her own destined path.

The endowment recently awarded grants of \$2,500 to \$20,000 each, totaling more than \$1.5 million, to 127 libraries, towns and education and cultural groups chosen for The Big Read in the first half of 2008. The number of proposals received was not available, but spokesperson Paulette Beete called the selection process "very competitive."

Conducted by the endowment and the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Big Read began as a pilot program in 10 communities last year and aims to involve 400 in 2009. Its goals are to

encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment and build a new generation of readers.

Awardees will receive readers' and teachers' guides, audio guides and other materials. Local programs may include events such as read-a-thons, book discussions and film screenings. The Stone Center's activities will be announced in March, and the center will seek to arrange for discounts on the book at local stores, said Lotticia Mack of the center, the project director.

"The Stone Center is honored to be among the chosen communities," she said. "We invite faculty, staff, students and community members to begin reading the novel in anticipation of activities slated to occur in April. We hope that collaborative efforts by the local and campus communities will establish a long-term literary coalition that will ascend toward The Big Read initiative of restoring reading to the center of American culture."

For more information on the national program and a list of grant winners, visit www.nea.gov/news/news07/BigReadJan2008.html. For more on the Stone Center project, call (919) 962-9001. ■

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS



THE BIG READ

