

THE SONJA HAYNES STONE CENTER
for BLACK CULTURE AND HISTORY
The UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL

DIASPORA FESTIVAL OF BLACK AND INDEPENDENT FILM FALL 2011 EDITION

LEGACY, TRADITION, AND THE BLACK EXPERIENCE

The Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film is the Stone Center's twice a year series spotlighting film from all corners of the African diaspora. Many screenings feature commentary by the directors and relevant scholars. The fall 2011 edition opens on September 13 and features a total of 9 films, with 3 films screened as a part of the popular "Lunch and Movie" series.



LOUDER THAN A BOMB

Dir: Greg Jacobs and Jon Siskel/US/English/97 min./2010

September 13 / Noon / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film
Lunch and a Movie Series

Every year, more than six hundred teenagers from over sixty Chicago area schools gather for the world's largest youth poetry slam, a competition known as Louder Than a Bomb. Founded in 2001, Louder Than a Bomb is the only event of its kind in the country—a youth poetry slam built from the beginning around teams. By turns hopeful and heartbreaking, the film captures the tempestuous lives of these unforgettable kids, exploring the ways writing shapes their world, and vice versa.

CONTESTING RACE

Dir: Nishendra Moodley/South Africa/English/15 min./2009

September 15 / 7 p.m. / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film
Double Feature

When 15 year old Anelisa Willem, a talented Xhosa girl, wins the Miss Teen India South Africa title for the Eastern Cape, controversy follows. Set in the world of teenage ethnic beauty pageantry, Contesting Race accompanies Anelisa to the national finals in Durban, to see what happens when unwritten rules are broken.

THE PLACE IN BETWEEN

Dir: Sarah Bouyain/France, Burkina Faso/French, Dioula w/ English Sub-titles/82 min./2010

Sarah Bouyain's debut feature focuses on the intertwined stories of African women living in France. Amy, born in France as Aminata is the daughter of a mother from Burkina Faso and a white French father. Her bi-raciality is one source of the film's title, as she has always felt "in between." In a parallel story a white woman is learning Dioula, a West African language spoken in Burkina Faso, from a taciturn woman named Mariam. In carefully precise scenes, Bouyain explores the displacement that both Mariam and Amy face in a country that is familiar but not quite home.

THIS IS MY AFRICA

Dir: Zina Saro-Wiwa/UK/English/50 min./2010

September 20 / 7 p.m. / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Screened as part of the Fall 2011 African Diaspora Lecture

This Is My Africa is an award-winning documentary film directed and produced by Zina Saro-Wiwa. This unique film is a journey into an Africa that many may not know. This Is My Africa presents a vision of the continent by weaving together the personal memories, tastes and experiences of 21 Africans and Africaphiles.

NIGHT CATCHES US

Dir: Tanya Hamilton/US/English/89 min./2010

September 27 / Noon / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

The Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film
Lunch and a Movie Series

In 1976 Marcus, a former Black Panther, returns after years of mysterious absence, to the Philadelphia neighborhood where he came of age in the midst of the Black Power movement. While his arrival raises suspicion among his family and former neighbors, he finds acceptance from his old friend Patricia and her daughter. However, Marcus quickly finds himself at odds with the organization he once embraced, whose members suspect he orchestrated the slaying of their former comrade-in-arms. In a startling sequence of events, Marcus must protect a secret that could shatter everyone's beliefs as he rediscovers his forbidden passion for Patricia.

FRANTZ FANON: HIS LIFE, HIS STRUGGLE, HIS WORK

Dir: Cheikh Djemai/ Martinique, France, Algeria, Tunisia / French and Arabic w/English Sub-titles/52 min./2004

October 5 / 7 p.m. / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Screened as part of the Fanon Symposium Program

Frantz Fanon, a Martinique-born psychiatrist, theorist and activist, became an unlikely spokesperson for the Algerian revolution against French colonialism in the 1950s. While

secretly aiding the rebels of the Algerian anti-colonial war, Fanon cared for victims and perpetrators alike, producing case notes that shed invaluable light on the psychic traumas of colonial war. Fifty years after his death, this documentary reveals the short and intense life of one of the great thinkers of the 20th century.

TRANSFER

Dir: Damir Lukacevic /Germany/German w/English Sub-titles/ 91 min./2010

October 13 / 7 p.m. / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Futuristic capitalism meets old-fashioned colonialism in this crisp, cerebral science fiction morality tale in which an elderly white German industrialist and his wife of 50 years swap bodies with a couple of young, healthy, and beautiful African strangers. The discreet procedure is initially a great success, but there's a catch: for four hours each night, the young hosts regain control of their bodies and soon come to resent the exploitation of their privileged "clients."

SOUNDTRACK FOR A REVOLUTION

Dir: Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman/US/English/82 min./2010

November 1 / Noon / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

The Diaspora Festival of Black and Independent Film

Lunch and a Movie Series

Soundtrack for a Revolution tells the story of the American civil rights movement through its powerful music -the freedom songs protesters sang on picket lines, in mass meetings, in paddy wagons, and in jail cells as they fought for justice and equality.

The film features new performances of the freedom songs by top artists, including John Legend, Joss Stone, Wyckle Jean, and The Roots; riveting archival footage; and interviews with civil rights foot soldiers and leaders, including Congressman John Lewis, Harry Belafonte, Julian Bond, and former Ambassador Andrew Young.

SLY STONE: COMING BACK FOR MORE

Dir: Willem Alkema/Netherlands/English/77 min./2010

November 8 / 7 p.m. / Hitchcock Multipurpose Rm

Director Willem Alkema catches up with Sly Stone, leader of Sly and the Family Stone, the 1960's and 70's group that helped to define the aesthetics and politics of a generation. Sly and the Family Stone was racially integrated and featured both men and women performing unforgettable tunes rooted in psychedelic funk, rock, soul, and R&B. In 2002, Dutch filmmaker and musician Willem Alkema finally locates and conducts the first interview with Sly in over 20 years.



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