

The **2nd Atlanta Women of Color**
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL,
CELEBRATING **"Black Women in the Diaspora"**

PRESENTED BY Iyalódè Productions in collaboration with The Auburn Avenue
Research Library on African American Culture & History

3 exciting days
showcasing

Thought-provoking and
inspirational, films/documentaries
by and about Women of Color.

March
24th – 26th
2006

The Auburn Avenue
Research Library on
African American
Culture & History

Meet Atlanta
Women of Color
Filmmakers!

101 Auburn Ave, 4th floor
Atlanta, GA 30303

Admission: FREE

WWW IYALODEPRODUCTIONS.COM | 404.730.4001 XT 210



In Celebration of
WOMEN'S "HERSTORY" MONTH

Iyàlódè Productions

and the

Auburn Avenue Research Library
On African American Culture and History
A Special Library of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System

PRESENT

THE 2ND ATLANTA
WOMEN OF COLOR
INTERNATIONAL FILM
FESTIVAL

Heritage Education Center Auditorium
Fourth Floor
Auburn Avenue Research Library

Friday, March 24, 2006
Saturday, March 25, 2006
Sunday, March 26, 2006

2006 Theme:
"BLACK WOMEN IN THE DIASPORA"



WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

CYNTHIA MCKINNEY
GEORGIA



March 24, 2006

Mojisola Sonoiki, Founder and Artistic Director
Iyalode Productions

Greetings and best wishes to you and the Auburn Avenue Research Library for a successful 2nd Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival. Again my schedule does not permit my personal attendance. For this I send deep regret.

I know a little more this year than last. I know how important these festivals are and I hope with you that the best of the best wins favor in the world of distribution.

Most sincerely,

Cynthia McKinney
Member of Congress



March 20, 2006

Dear Festival Goers,

It is with heartfelt enthusiasm that I and the staff of the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History welcome you to the 2nd Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival. We are delighted to be collaborators for this exciting event and feel assured that the Festival will achieve great success.

This three day event will provide those attending a marvelous opportunity for learning and networking, as well as offer unique films that will inspire and entertain. Mojisola Sonoiki, founder of Iyalòdè Productions and Director of the Festival, is to be commended for her foresight in organizing a Festival which showcases the artistic works of minority and under-represented groups with emphasis on women of color.

Independent filmmaking is no easy task. The producers of the films presented in this Festival have worked diligently to create a variety of films which showcase some of the challenges faced by women of color. All are to be congratulated for their fine efforts.

I salute the other sponsors as we, as a group, move forward in the struggle to serve and represent minority women film creators during the 2nd Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival.

Sincerely,

Francine I. Henderson
Research Library Administrator



Francine I. Henderson, Research Library Administrator

Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History
101 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2503
(404) 730-4001, Ext. 101; Fax (404)730-5879



Greetings Festival Goers!

We welcome you once again to the Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival. On behalf of Iyàlódè Productions and the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History, we say a big thank you for attending our 2nd year. Organizing the 2006 festival was particularly challenging but we persevered and bring you an exciting program entitled “*Black Women in the Diaspora*.” With over 20 films from, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, Rwanda, and the USA, our series of films this year explores the experiences of women of color of African descent. Programming the films by and about Women of Color is always very tasking, but our festival is committed to being at the forefront of creating a platform to exhibit the creativity of these phenomenal visual artists.

There are a few of additions to this year’s festival. We are pleased to be screening films by several Atlanta-based Women of Color Filmmakers – “**Hoo Hoo: Losing Mother Tongue**” by Sandra Lee, “**Sisters of the Sojourn**” by Spelman graduates Moya Bailey, Peir Smith & Takkara Brunson and “**Winning Lisa**” by Nikki Young - who will all be in attendance. We are also excited to be hosting Zoë Naomi Bridgeman, director of “**Souls**” from Vancouver, Canada. We have expanded the festival to include an extra day in which we will be showcasing a series of features from Brazil entitled “**Viva Brazil**.”

We sincerely thank all our sponsors and supporters and congratulate all the filmmakers for a job well done.

Have fun at this year’s festival and we hope you leave educated, inspired and fulfilled!!

Yours in the arts,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mojisola Sonoiki'.

Mojisola Sonoiki,
Festival Founder/Director

*“Women directed only 7% of the top 200 films of 2005
No woman director has ever won the Oscar – only 3 have been
nominated.”* Source: www.moviesbywomen.com

THE AFRican

February 24, 2006

The AFRican is excited to support the Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival. The festival is a testament to the vision, creativity and hard work of African women in the diaspora. Our Voices, Our Vision, Our Culture is equally applicable for the work of women filmmakers, who have faced the twin evils of under and misrepresentation.

Founded in Spring 2001, The AFRican, a bi-monthly publication, has been a grass roots publication that has sought to describe and energize the culture of urban Africans in the United States as well as culturally aware, urban adults who identify with or seek a connection to African culture.

The AFRican congratulates Iyàlódè Productions and The Auburn Avenue Research Library and filmmakers of the Atlanta International Women of Color Film Festival.

We hope you enjoy the festival!

Edinam Oton
Publisher
The AFRican magazine
www.africanmag.com



Founded in 2005, **MIMI** is the lifestyle magazine that is a new, original voice representing today's African woman, whether she lives in Paris or Nairobi. Addressing topics ranging from style to politics from the unique perspective of the African woman, **MIMI** is a channel through which African women can embrace their rich cultural heritage and express their diverse individuality.

As a forum that entertains, empowers and inspires female filmmakers of color, **MIMI** Magazine is proud to support Iyalode Productions in conjunction with Atlanta's Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History on the 2nd Annual Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival.

MIMI Magazine would like to congratulate the organizers of the 2nd Women of Color International Film Festival for giving a voice to the extraordinary filmmakers being showcased this year, who may otherwise not be heard. Best wishes to all the participants!

Best
Lola Kingo
Editor-in-chief MIMI Magazine
www.mimimagazine.com
"A Voice for Young African Women"



February 7, 2006

Mojisola Sonoiki
President and Creative Director
Iyalode Productions
Women of Color Film Festival
Atlanta, GA

Dear Ms. Sonoiki,

California Newsreel is proud to be a co-sponsor of the Atlanta International Women of Color Film Festival. By making this festival an annual event, you have made a cultural contribution to the landscape and Atlanta is much the beneficiary! With films from Africa, America, Asia, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Europe—all by and about women of color—you are giving real meaning to the concept of an international film festival.

Honored to be a festival partner, California Newsreel is one of the oldest social justice film centers in the country. We founded the Library of African Cinema to give American audiences the chance to "see Africa through African eyes"! Thanks to your vision and festival leadership, audiences are getting increased access to worldwide programs such as these for themselves—on the big screen. Joining in partnership with Iyalode Productions, California Newsreel is pleased to help expand the diversity and plurality of voices and visions for all audiences.

Congratulations to Iyalode, the Atlanta International Women of Color Film Festival, and the city of Atlanta for this momentous cultural arts festival. Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Cornelius Moore
Director, Library of African Cinema
California Newsreel

CALIFORNIA NEWSREEL

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California Newsreel is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information, please contact us at 415.284.7800 or contact@newsreel.org.

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FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH 2006

Meet and Greet Reception **6:00pm**

Welcome and Greetings **7:00pm**

**HOPE: A series of shorts exploring hope in the face of adversity
7:15pm – 8:45pm**

God Sleeps in Rwanda

Directors: Kimberlee Acquaro and Stacy Sherman

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(RWANDA, 2004, 28 minutes, Kinyarwanda and English, subtitles)

In Time

Directors: Adetoro Makinde, Maurice A. Dywer

(USA, 2005, 19 minutes)

Brooklyn's Bridge To Jordan

Director: Tina Mabry

(USA, 2005, 20 minutes)

Souls

Director: Zoë Naomi Bridgeman

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(CANADA, 2005, 13 minutes)

Q & A with Director Zoë Naomi Bridgeman and Crew

INTERMISSION

(15 Minutes)

9:15pm – 10:45pm

Sweet Honey in the Rock:

Raise Your Voice

9:15pm

Director, Stanley Nelson

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(USA, 2005, 84 minutes)



*Sweet Honey and the Rock:
Raise Your Voice*

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH 2006

My American Nurse **Noon**
Director, Pascal Atuma
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(USA/NIGERIA, 2005, 96 minutes)

Programas: Prostitution in Rio de Janeiro **1:40pm**
Director, Parrish Smith
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(USA/BRAZIL, 2005, 90 minutes,
Portuguese and English, subtitles)

Efunsetan Aniwura **3:15pm**
The Real Story behind Iyalode of Ibadan
Director, Tunde Kelani
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(Nigeria, 2005, 90 minutes Yoruba w/English subtitles)
Introduced by Mr. Gbugbemi Okotieuro –
Filmmaker/Associate Dean of Government and External
Relations – Medger Evers College, Brooklyn, New York.



Efunsetan Aniwura

LOVE, LIFE AND THE REVOLUTION: Dedicated to the memory of Nya Joy Payton, Producer of “PRESCRIPTION FOR TIME” and the Former Creative Editor of The African Magazine (**See page 14**)
5:00pm – 6:45pm

Prescription For Time **5:00pm**
Director: Keith McQuirter
(USA, 2005, 15 minutes)

Gift For The Living **5:15pm**
Director: Tamika Miller
(USA, 2004, 15 minutes)

The Missing Peace
5:30pm
Director: Rachel Benjamin
(**ATLANTA PREMIER**)
(USA, 2005, 23 minutes)

Oxtails **5:55pm**
Directors: Antonia March/Jacqueline McKinley
(USA, 2004, 22 minutes)

Leila **6:20pm**
Director: Hanelle Culpepper
(**ATLANTA PREMIER**)
(USA, 2005, 16 minutes)

Sarang Song **6:37pm**
Director: Tamika Miller
(**ATLANTA PREMIER**)
(USA, 2006, 23 minutes)

FROM PHILLY TO THE ATL: WOMEN IN HIP HOP
7:05pm - 8:20pm

Scene Not Heard:

Women in Philadelphia Hip-Hop **6:30pm**

Maori Karmael Holmes
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(USA, 2005, 45 minutes)

FeMCees: Women Redefining Hip Hop **7:35pm**

Kalinda Campbell, Erica de Bardeleben, Sarah Smith
(USA, 2004, 30 minutes)

Q & A with Directors Kalinda Campbell & Sarah Smith

ATLANTA WOMEN DOING IT FOR THEMSELVES

A selection of films by Atlanta-based women of color filmmakers

8:30pm – 9:50pm

Hoo Hoo: Losing Mother Tongue

Director: Sandra M. Yee

(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)

(USA, 2005, 8 minutes, English/Hoi Ping subtitles)

Sisters on the Sojourn

Directors: Moya Bailey, Pier Smith, Takkara Brunson

(USA, 2005, 22 minutes)

Winning Lisa

Director: Nikki Young

(USA, 2003, 50 minutes)

Q & A with Atlanta-based Women of Color Filmmakers Moya Bailey, Pier Smith, Takkara Brunson, Sandra Yee and Nikki Young, facilitated by Co-director Tokunbo Macaulay

SUNDAY MARCH 26TH 2006

The City Of Women (A Cidade das Mulheres) 3:00pm

Director: Lázaro Faria

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(BRAZIL, 2005, 72 minutes, Portuguese and English subtitles)



Daughters of the Wind (Filhas do Vento) 4:30pm

Directors: Joel Zito Araújo

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(Brazil, 2004, 85 minutes, Portuguese w/English subtitles)



Nya Joy Paton was the Producer for the short “Prescription for Time”

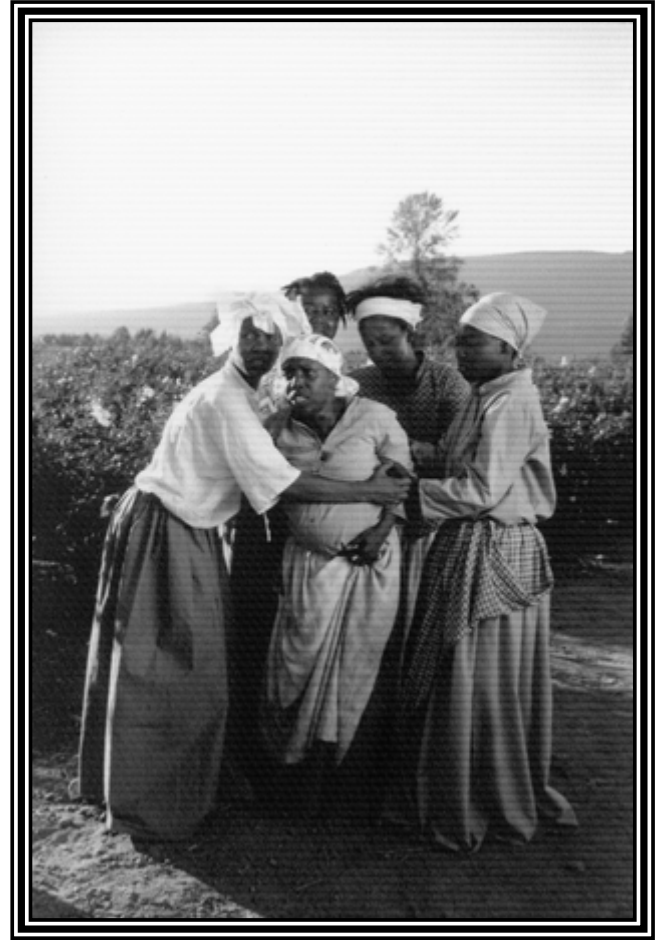


Nya Joy Paton 1977-2003

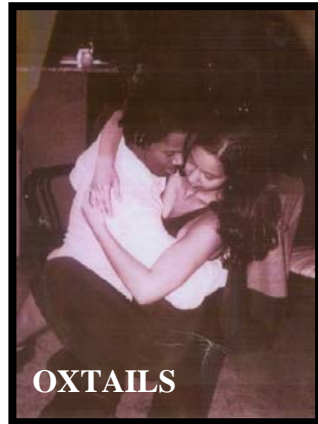
Nya Joy Paton was born in Philadelphia and was the only child of Jeannette Payton. Her professional life revolved around writing but her first love was the stage and screen. She attended New York University's Gallatin School of Film Studies and took a position as a children's drama instructor while in attendance there. She worked on several independent films as a producer and art director. She was also one of the founding members and the Creative Editor of The African Magazine and was the conceptual heart of many of the magazines most beloved articles and ancillary projects. Those that knew Nya well describe her as “a vivacious and tirelessly inventive individual.”

Nya unfortunately passed on August 14th 2003 on the day of the black out in New York City, following a brief hospitalization for breathing problems.

May her soul continue to rest in peace!

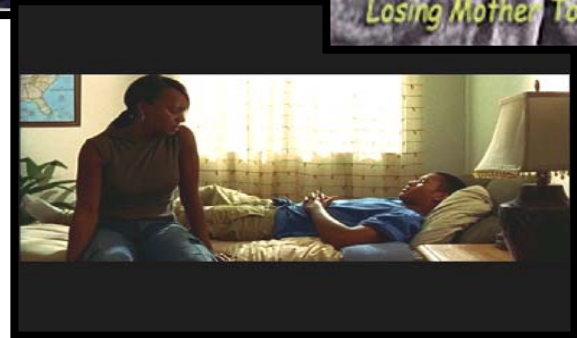


SOULS



**FILMS
ON VIEW**

SYNOPSIS



BROOKLYN'S BRIDGE TO JORDAN

Director, Tina Mabry (USA, 2005, 20 minutes)

A captivating story about a woman's struggle to bridge the gap between her and her life partner's son after losing her partner in a tragic car crash.

Audience Award – Out on Film Festival, Atlanta, 2005

Best short – Out takes film festival Dallas, 2005

<http://www.tinamabry.com>

DAUGHTERS OF THE WIND (FILHAS DO VENTO)

Directors, Joel Zito Araújo & Joel Zito Viana

(Brazil, 2004, 85 minutes, Portuguese w/English subtitles)

A first in the history of Brazilian cinema, Daughters of the Wind assembles the largest cast of black actors/actresses ever seen in a Brazilian film. It is a moving and complex story about redemption among sisters, mothers, and daughters. The film touches upon themes pertinent to women everywhere, but in small-town Brazil the ghosts of slavery and racism linger and affect the characters' lives in subtle ways.

DAUGHTERS OF THE WIND was Brazil's official entry to the Academy Awards and has won several awards in Brazil including Best Director, Best Actor and Best Actress.

EFUNSETAN ANIWU: THE REAL STORY BEHIND IYALODE OF IBADAN

Director, Tunde Kelani

(Nigeria, 2005, 90 minutes Yoruba w/English subtitles)

Ibadan, (located in south-west Nigeria and reputed to be the largest black city in Sub-Saharan Africa) is the setting for this story about one of the most powerful women in the history of that city in the late 1800's.

Efunsetan Aniwura, is a powerful, rich and influential High Chief of Ibadan and her only child and daughter dies during child birth. With a terrible sense of loss and the stigma of not having a descendant to inherit her legacy, Efunsetan, who blamed God for her tragedy turns her anger on the very society she swore to defend while taking oath on her installation as the Iyalode of Ibadan. This educational epic attempts to give a historical overview of the political infrastructure of ancient Yoruba-land.

FeMCees: WOMEN REDEFINING HIP HOP

A documentary profiling the lives of four Atlanta based female Hip-Hop artists; DJ Cha Cha, the female rap duo Xtaci and Divinity. *FeMCees* looks at the ways female artists navigate through and define their space within the male dominated culture of Hip-Hop.

GOD SLEEPS IN RWANDA

Directors: Kimberlee Acquaro and Stacy Sherman

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(RWANDA, 2004, 28 minutes, Kinyarwanda and English, subtitles)



The 1994 Rwandan Genocide left the country nearly 70% female heading Rwanda's women an extraordinary burden and an unprecedented opportunity. A poignant story of loss and redemption "God Sleeps in Rwanda" captures the spirit of five courageous women as they rebuild their lives, redefining women's roles in Rwandan society and bringing hope to a wounded nation.

*Audience Award Silverdocs/AFI/Documentary Film Festival 2005
Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary Short, 2005*

GIFT FOR THE LIVING

Director: Tamika Miller
(USA, 2004, 15 minutes)

Inspired by the O. Henry short story "Gift of the Magi", *Gift for the Living* is a story about a grandmother and her granddaughter who, without the other's knowledge, sell their most treasured possession in order to buy the other a birthday gift. In the granddaughter's quest for the perfect gift, she discovers her grandmother's rich and unique history – a history her grandmother never spoke of. Starring in 2004 Cannes special jury prize winning actress, Irma P. Hall with voice over by actress, Vanessa Williams.

*Winner of the Showtime Black Filmmaker Showcase, 2005.
Outfest Film Festival Audience Award for Outstanding Short, 2004.*

<http://www.giftfortheiving.com/>

HOO HOO: LOSING MOTHER TONGUE

Director: Sandra M. Yee
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(USA, 2005, 8 minutes)

In Hoo Hoo, Sandra Lee, a Chinese-American reaches across the gaps of generation, culture and language to commemorate the domestic rituals of her immigrant grandmother. Venom-tongued abuses pepper the grandmother's sage advice from the kitchen, exemplifying the elderly immigrant's frustration with the threatened cultural extinction.

IN TIME

Directors: Adetoro Makinde, Maurice A. Dywer
(USA, 2005, 19 minutes)

As a Nigerian-American, Bisi has lived her life balancing between the freedom of an American lifestyle and the beliefs of her Yoruba ancestors. On the eve of her wedding, tradition takes over, but it could cost her the man she loves.

American Black Film Festival – HBO Short Film Award
Denver Pan African Film Festival - Best Short Film 2005
San Francisco Black Film Festival – Best Short Film –2005

<http://www.backdoorfilms.com>

LEILA

Director: Hanelle Culpepper
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)
(USA, 2005, 16 minutes)

A woman fears love due to a painful experience in her past. However an unlikely bond with an eccentric yet charming stranger

who fights to get into her heart through the art and passion of salsa dancing, opens her heart and gives her courage to come to terms with her own inner demons.

Cameo appearance by Sinbad. <http://www.hillView798.com>



MY AMERICAN NURSE

Director, Pascal Atuma

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(UK/NIGERIA, 2005, 96 minutes)

Shehu, a frustrated cab driver in LA decides he is going home to Nigeria to find himself a wife. His journey back home proves to be challenging, as his younger brother is ashamed of him, as he didn't come back from America rich. Despite this, Shehu finds himself a wife takes her back to America and decides that she is going to be a Nurse. His wife on the other hand has other plans. My American nurse is a humorous yet serious look at the life of an immigrant in America as well as touching on issues of female inequality.

OXTAILS

Directors, Antonia March and Jacqueline McKinley

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(USA, 2004, 22 minutes)

Oxtails is a comedy about one guys fear of eating his girlfriend's food, out of the fear that she may be adding "roots" to her recipe! "Oxtails" redefines the old proverb, *the way to a man's heart is through his stomach*. <http://www.oldsoulfilms.com>

PRESCRIPTION FOR TIME

Director, Keith McQuirter

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(USA, 2005, 15 minutes)

An elderly woman suffers from early signs of dementia and fears losing her independence to her daughter. In an attempt to change her fate, she finds hope in a drug that promises to extend life.



PROGRAMAS: PROSTITUTION IN RIO DE JANEIRO

Director, Parrish Smith

(BRAZIL, 2005, 90 minutes, Portuguese/English, subtitles)

This feature length documentary is an insightful look into the sexual tourism in the city of Rio de Janeiro and follows the life's of the "Garota de Programas" (girl-of-program/girlfriends-for-hire) and the insatiable desire men of all descents have for these exquisite women of this popular vacation destination.

Contains explicit language

SARANG SONG

Director: Tamika Miller
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)

USA, 2006, 23 minutes

Sarang song is a love story of two women set amidst the politically and socially

turbulent times of the early 1970's. Their love is tested when one is thrust into the student protest movement and is forced to make a choice – will she choose her love or will she choose the movement?

<http://www.sarangsong.com>



SCENE NOT HEARD: WOMEN IN PHILADELPHIA HIP-HOP

Director: Maori Karmael Holmes
(*ATLANTA PREMIER*)

(USA, 2005, 45 minutes)

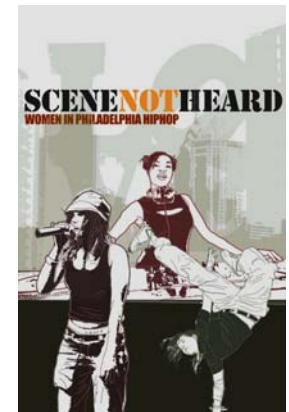
Scene Not Heard seeks to tell the story of the phenomenal female emcees, vocalists, poets and deejays in Philadelphia (often referred to as the Mecca

for American soul) as they struggle to succeed in a male-dominated industry. Scene Not Heard features interviews with some of the originators of hip-hop such as Lady B, Schoolly D and Rennie Harris, Bahamadia, Monie Love and Ursula Rucker, and presents current talents such as the Jazzyfatnastees, Ms. Jade, and Lady Alma.

Nomination, "best feature documentary" for Scene Not Heard (work in progress) - Hip-Hop Odyssey International Film Festival, November 2005.

<http://www.karmalux.com>

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SISTERS ON THE SOJOURN

Moya Bailey, Pier Smith, Takkara Brunson
(USA, 2005, 23 minutes)

Sisters on the Sojourn, examines the activism of Spelman College students in movements for social change. Highlighted are the students involvements in the recent anti-war movement, the March for Women's Lives, the tension surrounding homophobia on Spelman's campus as well as revisiting the controversial incident, which occurred during the spring of 2004 concerning Rapper Nelly.

SOULS

Zoë Naomi Bridgeman
(**ATLANTA PREMIER**)
(CANADA, 2005, 13 minutes)

Blood has memory and flows through the soul. Set in 2006 and 1860, Lola (Yvonne Myers) shares a candid conversation about the hardships that made her the woman she is today, leading the other guests to reflect on their own traumatic pasts that color their present.



SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK: RAISE YOUR VOICE

Stanley Nelson
(**ATLANTA PREMIER**)
(USA, 2005, 84 minutes)

Raise Your Voice explores "*Sweet Honey In The Rock's*" roots, in celebration of the grammy award-winning African American female acappella ensemble's 30th Anniversary. The documentary not only celebrates their music but effectively captures the tremendous energy unleashed on stage and the emotional interplay between Sweet Honey and its hand-clapping, arm-waving audiences, which group member Carol Maillard calls a "circle of communication." Through behind-the-scenes rehearsal footage, concert footage, archival stills and interviews, the film chronicles their history and music, asserts Sweet Honey in the Rock's singular creativity, and conveys members' sense of empowerment as African American women.

**Outstanding Achievement in Sound Mixing for TV - Cinema
Audio Society, USA, 2006**

THE CITY OF WOMEN (A CIDADE DAS MULHERES)

Lázaro Faria

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(BRAZIL, 2005, 72 minutes, Portuguese and English subtitles)

"I think the women help make Brazil great. Will Americans believe that there is a country where women like men, feel secure and at ease with them, and do not fear them?" - Ruth Landes, American anthropologist 1930's

Through juxtaposing the findings of American anthropologist Ruth Landes and first hand accounts by Stella of Oxóssi, Iyalorisha of Ilê Axé Opô Afonjá (a Candomblé temple founded in 1910), the city of women tells the story of Candomblé (West-African derived religion) from a female perspective. Bahia – the city of women - celebrates the ingenuity of this matriarchal society.



THE MISSING PEACE

Rachel Benjamin

(ATLANTA PREMIER)

(USA, 2005, 23 minutes)

It is 1991, Haiti, A young girl negotiates her unstable community in the wake of a military coup that ousts authoritarian president Jean-Bertrand Aristide. She begins to reassess her suppliant relationships with her soldier boyfriend and her grandmother, who raises her, when she meets a bold American journalist who has come to Haiti to investigate her mother's disappearance.



WINNING LISA

Nikki Young

(USA, 2003, 50 minutes)

Winning Lisa is a romantic comedy about Lisa and Keith who break up when Keith chooses a night out with friends over his dinner plans with Lisa. Heartbroken, Lisa vows not to let him back into her life for another ride on their roller coaster affair. A few months later Keith wins the lottery BIG! After the novelty of the riches wears off he realizes he wants his love, Lisa back. Can Keith win Lisa back? <http://www.nikkiyofilms.com>

THE FILMMAKERS PROFILES

Adetoro Makinde – Director, *IN TIME*

A first generation Nigerian-American, Adetoro is a graduate of Georgetown University and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C. She has worked on several off-Broadway productions and produced various short films.

Hanelle Culpepper – Director, *LEILA*

Hanelle M. Culpepper is an award-winning writer/director based in Los Angeles. She has directed five short films including “*A Single Rose*”, which has screened at numerous film festivals worldwide, including last year’s Atlanta Women of Color International Film Festival and has won several awards, including Best Short, Best Actress and Best Music. In May 2004, it screened at the Cannes Film Festival as part of the ICG Showcase. In 2005 it ranked 12th for Academy Award Consideration. Ms. Hanelle is a graduate of USC’s Annenberg School for Communication.

Keith McQuirter – Director, *PRESCRIPTION FOR TIME*

Prescription for time is Keith McQuirter’s directorial debut and was his senior thesis at New York University. While a junior, he produced the short film “Marvin the Mad Beat Master” and received the Martin Scorsese Young Filmmaker Award. He currently resides in LA and works in production.

Kimberlee Acquaro and Stacy Sherman -
Directors, **GOD SLEEPS IN RWANDA**

Kimberlee Acquaro is a filmmaker and photojournalist whose work has appeared in The New York Times Magazine, The Washington Post Magazine, Time Magazine, US New & World Report, Mother Jones and many international publications. “God Sleeps In Rwanda” is her first documentary film. A new mother, Acquaro lives in Venice, CA with her husband and son.

Stacy Sherman holds a Bachelor's Degree from UCLA in International Relations and a Master's Degree from USC in Journalism. She has written screenplays for 20th Century Fox and Tri-Star Pictures and is currently writing a screenplay for Imagine Entertainment & Warner Bros.

Maori Karmael Holmes – Director, **SCENE NOT HEARD**

Maori received her M.F.A. in Film & Media Arts from Temple University and her B.A. in American History from American University. She is currently a full-time lecturer in the Department of Broadcasting, Telecommunications and Mass Media (BTMM) at Temple University.

Joel Zito Araújo – Director, **DAUGHTERS OF THE WIND**

JOEL ZITO ARAÚJO obtained a Doctorate of Communications science at the School of Communication and Arts of São Paulo University. He has been a guest professor at the Radio-TV-Film department of the University of Texas, Austin, since August 2001. Since 1984 he has made 24 documentaries and 22 mid-length films.

Nikki Young – Director, WINNING LISA

Founder of Nikkiyo Films, Nikki Young began performing at an early age. She has been involved in TV, Film and Stage productions both in front and behind the camera. Her stage and screen credits include: “*For Colored Girls; West Side Story*” “*Silence of the lambs*” and “*Drumline*” to name a few.

**Parrish Smith - Director, PROGRAMAS:
PROSTITUTION IN RIO DE JANEIRO**

Since his days at Howard University, where he was formally trained, Parrish grasped the art of story telling through cinematography. He studied under filmmaker Haile Gerima, director of “*Sankofa*”, and notable cinematographers, Alan Ferguson, and Torriano Berry. For the past decade, Parrish has worked for such clients as UPN, BET, Black Starz, Nickelodean, MTV, and Digital Underground. He is currently seeking a distribution deal for his feature “Programas”.

**Antonia March/Jacqueline McKinley – Directors,
OXTAILS**

Antonia March/Jacqueline McKinley moved to LA to begin a writing position on the WB’s SMART GUY. In 2004 they began writing for the Bernie Mac Show. While writing for TV the two decided to break out into the film world with their award-winning short film ”MOVE” which won several awards. Their latest short film OXTAILS has been making the film festival rounds.

**Sandra M. Yee – Director, HOO HOO - LOSING
MOTHER TONGUE**

Sandra M. Yee is a member of 7Adinkras Creative Media, Atlanta-based women’s arts collective. She holds a BFA in studio art and a doctorate in complementary medicine. As a holistic healer and educator, Sandra is interested in the healing aspects of creative expressions. Hoo Hoo: Losing Mother Tongue is her first film.

Stanley Nelson -Director: **SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK: RAISE YOUR VOICE**

An award-winning filmmaker, Stanley Nelson has over 20 years' experience as a producer, director, and writer of documentary films and videos. Founder and president of Half Nelson Productions, Inc., an independent production company, his most recent production is "*The Black Press: Soldiers without swords*", a documentary on the history of African American newspapers which has received the support of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Ford Foundation, among others.

Tamika Miller – Director: **GIFT FOR THE LIVING & SARANG SONG**

Tamika attended the prestigious Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. She graduated ahead of schedule with her Bachelor of Science degree in Communications. Soon after, she moved to Los Angeles to begin her career in film. She began working in commercial and music video production and advanced quickly. At the age of 23, she produced her first commercial. Tamika has directed several commercial specs, as well as a series of meditation and martial arts instructional videos. She also directed a short documentary entitled, "*Released: 5 Shorts on Women in Prison*" where she featured renowned scholar and activist, Angela Davis.

Tina Mabry – Director: **BROOKLYN'S BRIGE TO JORDAN**

Tina Mabry is a graduate of the school of Cinema-Television at the University of Southern California. She is currently co-writing a feature screen play for "*But I'm a cheerleader*" director Jamie Bobbitt.

Tunde Kelani – Director, **EFUNSETAN
ANIWURA**

Tunde Kelani is Africa's leading cinematographer. He has worked as cinematographer on celluloid movies like Fopomoyo, Iwa, Papa Ajasco, Ogun Ajaye, etc. Now heading Mainframe Film & Television Productions, TK, as he is popularly called, is behind many of the professionally packaged home video movies from the emerging industry in Nigeria. He has also worked on M-Net celluloid short features like A Place Called Home, A Barber's Wisdom and Twins of the Rain Forest.

Zoë Naomi Bridgeman – Director, **SOULS**

Zoë Naomi Bridgeman began her interest in film in late 2000. Studying film at Simon Fraser University, Zoë had the opportunity to be taught direction by an Academy nominated director and accomplished the completion of four short films. Prior to SFU, she began to write a feature-length script entitled “Soul Searching” which inspired her to make the short film “Souls.”

Rachel Benjamin – Director, **THE MISSING
PEACE**

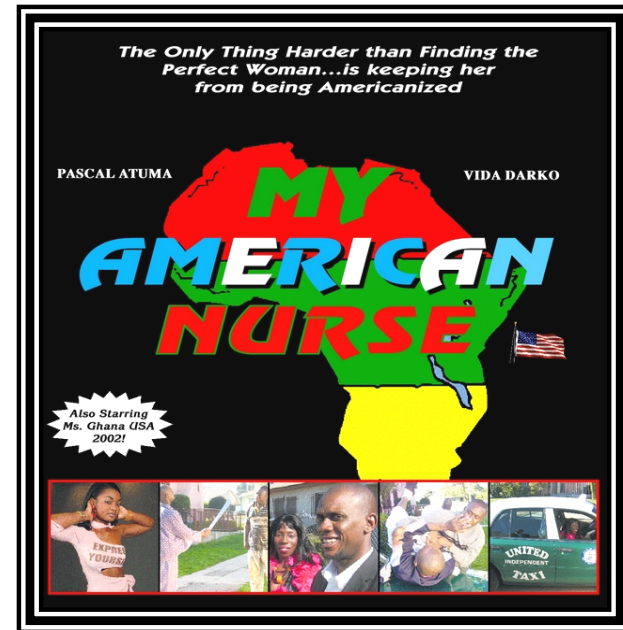
Writer/Director Rachel Benjamin earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Boston College. “The Missing Peace” is Rachel Benjamin’s fifth narrative short film, and she has worked on various feature films such as Spike Lee’s Bamboozled, Barbershop I, and Spiderman II. Rachel recently graduated from the world’s largest film school, Columbia College Chicago where she received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Film and Video.

Moya Bailey, Pier Smith, Takkara Brunson –
Directors, **SISTERS ON THE SOJOURN**

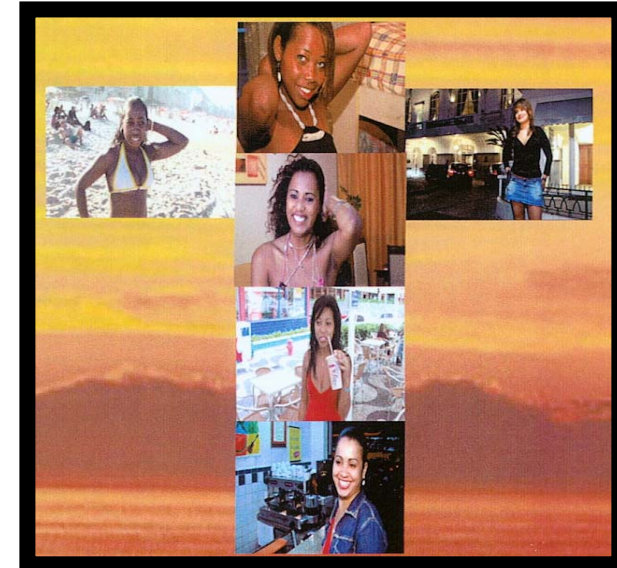
Moya Bailey is a first year PhD Candidate in Women's Studies at Emory University. She received her undergraduate degree from Spelman College where she majored in Women's Studies with a concentration in Health. Her dream is to open a free clinic for women that provides a holistic approach to health and social services.

Pier Smith joined the Spelman community with the hopes upon graduation to use her creative talents to help deconstruct negative images of women in the media by pursuing her Masters degree in Communications. Her hope is to maintain and improve the Spelman community inside and beyond the gates of Spelman College.

Takkara Brunson graduated from Spelman College in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts in Women Studies. Currently, she is a doctoral student in Latin American history at the University of Texas at Austin, studying themes of race, class, gender, and national identity in Cuba and the African Diaspora. In the future she plans to become a college professor.



“My American Nurse”
Directed by Pascal Atuma



“Programas: Prostitution in Rio De Janeiro”
Directed by Parrish Smith

2006 Film Festival Staff Profiles

Adepeju Alawusa is the Senior Art Director for Street Source Marketing in Denver, Colorado, an urban marketing agency for ethnic markets. With over twelve years experience working in web and print media, Adepeju's portfolio includes clients such as Coors Light, Proline, Remy, Simon & Schuster, Atlanta Hawks to name a few. She is also the Creative Director for the African Magazine and Director of Marketing for the Pan African Arts Society in Denver. Adepeju's flair for design is inspired by her African culture, which she infuses with contemporary concepts. She recently completed her life long dream of creating her own street wear called "YorubaWoman."

Heather Flucker, a native of Dallas, Texas is a graduating senior at Clark Atlanta University, majoring in Television and Film. Her life's ambition is to one day run her own film and television production company as well as become a celebrated filmmaker.

Tokunbo Macaulay is currently a Law student at University of Maryland School of Law majoring in International law with a focus on human rights and international development. While an undergraduate at the University of Delaware, she founded a program entitled "A Gift for Mama," that used the arts to celebrate the accomplishments of women during International Women's Day. Tokunbo also established an after school program in a Baltimore City public school, where she uses art to teach children writing skills. Tokunbo's future plans are to facilitate projects that tap into the advocacy element of art as well as create thought-provoking films.

Cynthia Nakpodia-Ribeiro has devoted herself to researching and programming music for over ten years. Her experiences come from working with the brightest names behind the scenes in the world music industry like – Putumayo Records Dan Stroper, Cassandra Goins, Jacob Edgar to Festival Directors and Programmers like "Celebrate Brooklyn," "Afropop Worldwide" to working with artist like, Baba Maal, Habib Koite, Martin Perna and others. A long time creative consultant to San Antonio Metro, she's also the principal music writer for the African Magazine where she's had the opportunity to interview rising stars like Ikwunga, Lura, Toni Blackman, and a host of others. Cynthia currently works full time as a public relations officer for the only black college in NYC.

Mojisola Sonoiki is the Founder and Artistic Director of Iyàlódè Productions. As a cultural activist, Mojisola has curated, programmed, and consulted on various film festivals and cultural events around the world. In 2005, Mojisola was the recipient of the Beverly Robinson Renaissance Award at the Pan African Film Festival in Denver, Colorado. This award is given to a dynamic woman-cultural worker who through community involvement displays excellence and compassion in artistic, academic, and/or activist work. Mojisola recently completed a stint at IMAGE Film and Video Center, where she was the first black woman to head the 18th Annual Out on Film Festival in which she programmed the first African-American series the festival ever had. She is also the featured film review writer for the "African Magazine."

Special Thanks To Supporters & Sponsors

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A Big Thank You to the Film Festival Staff

2006 Film Festival Staff

Mojisola Sonoiki – Festival Director/Programmer
Tokunbo Macaulay – Festival Co-Director
Cynthia Nakpodia-Riberio - -Festival Music Director
Adepeju Alawusa – Website/Print Designer
Heather Flucker – Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteers – Lynnette Scales, Nafisa, Desiree S. Brooks, Adinah Morgan, Mary Smith, Dora Way, Elaine Edwards



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING
AND CONTINUE TO SUPPORT INDEPENDENT CINEMA!
*For positive change to occur we need to explore our
independent minds - the innate creative energy bestowed
upon us! – Mojisola Sonoiki*