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THE WOMEN OF COLOR ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

The Auburn Avenue Research Library
on African American Culture & History
WWW.WOCAF.ORG

March 20th -22nd 2008

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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



Presents

THE 4th WOMEN OF COLOR
ARTS & FILM (WOCAF) FESTIVAL

Heritage Education Center Auditorium
Fourth Floor
Auburn Avenue Research Library

Thursday • March 20, 2008
Friday • March 21, 2008
Saturday • March 22, 2008

www.wocaf.org



CITY OF ATLANTA

SHIRLEY FRANKLIN
MAYOR

55 TRINITY AVE. S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335-0300

TEL (404) 330-6100

March 21, 2008

Greetings:

As Mayor of Atlanta, it is my pleasure to welcome you to *The Women of Color Arts & Film (WOCAF) Festival - Atlanta*.

WOCAF is dedicated to promoting and supporting women's issues and positive images of minorities in the media. WOCAF serves as a vessel of change in Atlanta's evolving film community, as one of the only cultural events in Atlanta sponsored by and focused on women's achievements in the media. WOCAF serves as a vessel of change in Atlanta's evolving film community. I commend WOCAF on your partnerships with local, national, and international communities to ensure continued growth and development of Atlanta's cinematic arts.

The Women of Color Arts & Film Festival - Atlanta celebrates the artistic creations by women of color in media and performing arts. You enrich the lives of residents in our community through your promotion of minority film production, film awareness and exhibitions. It is your leadership and integrity of serving others through the arts that has helped to improve our community. Thank you for your contributions to Atlanta's proud history of celebrating women.

On behalf of the people of Atlanta, I extend best wishes to you for a memorable and remarkable event!

Sincerely

Handwritten signature of Shirley Franklin in cursive script.
Shirley Franklin



Greetings Festival Goers,

On behalf of The Women of Color Arts & Film (WOCAF) Festival, Iyalódè Productions and The Auburn Avenue Research Library, we are proud to welcome you to our fourth annual film festival. The Film Festival showcases films by and about women of color from across the globe. As we continue to expand our horizon, The WOCAF Festival also presents a music showcase

promoting women of color performance artists. This year's music showcase will take place the evening of **March 22 at De Shrine Afro-Caribbean Lounge & Bar** - featuring the amazing talent of Atlanta resident - **Julie Dexter**.

The film festival will open with the powerful film *A Winter Tale* by Canadian filmmaker Frances-Ann Solomon who will be in attendance for a Q & A session. The festival's featured centerpiece film is *Malcolm's Echo: The Legacy of Malcolm X* by British-Nigerian filmmaker Dami Akinnusi who is attending the festival as well from London. This year the festival presents "*Nollywood Nights: a celebration of Nigerian cinema*". This segment of the film festival is dedicated to the growing Nigerian film industry tagged as "Nollywood" which will include several popular films including *The Narrow Path* by celebrated Nigerian director Tunde Kelani and *Osanle* by Abimbola Ogunsanya who will be attending from Nigeria.

The closing night film, *The Amazing Grace*, is the first Nigerian/Nollywood film to be distributed widely throughout North America. The film is based on the true story of captured slaves from the Calabar region of Nigeria who inspired the song *Amazing Grace*.

We could not host the 2008 festival without the support of our partners and volunteers. Our sincere thanks to the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History, The Nigerian Film Corporation, The Nigerian Film Institute, Chit Chat Communications, Consulate General of Canada, afrosonic radio, Virtualstall.com, Rolling Out Urban Style Weekly, Jodine's Corner, De Shrine, Women in Film/TV - Atlanta, Pascal Atuma Productions and Gee Bee Productions.

Enjoy the festival!

Yours in the arts,

Mojisola Sonoiki
Festival Founder/Director

2009 will mark our 5th year!! Be there!

www.wocaf.org

info@iyalodeproductions.com



It is with great pleasure that the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History has collaborated with Iyàlódè Productions to present the 4th annual Women of Color Arts and Film Festival.

The opportunity to be involved in creating a platform in which underrepresented groups can develop, present and explore their creative abilities is welcomed and represents a significant aspect of the Research Library's mission to provide access to resources relating to the global Africana experience.

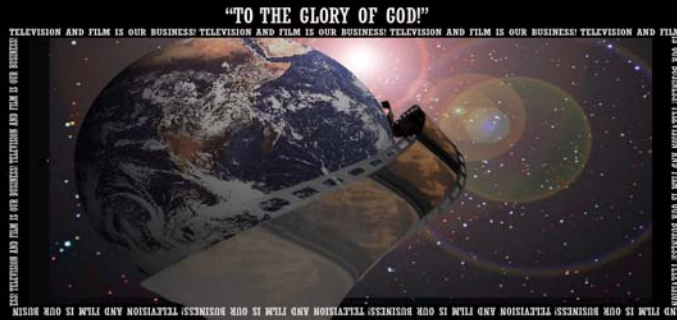
The founder of Iyàlódè Productions, Mojisola Sonoiki, is a true visionary as she continues to recognize the significance of providing an opportunity for a wider audience to experience independent films by and about women of color throughout the Black Diaspora. During the 2008 film festival, audiences may again, look forward to a variety of outstanding film creations by sensitive, talented artists, who endeavor to tell these remarkable stories.

On behalf of the entire Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, the Auburn Avenue Research Library enthusiastically supports the 2008 Women of Color Arts and Film Festival.

Congratulations and best wishes,

Francine I. Henderson

Francine I. Henderson
Research Library Administrator



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Supports & Congratulates The WOCAF Festival



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Wishes The WOCAF Festival much more success!

Julie Dexter Performs @ The WOCAF Festival

Venue: De Shrine, 1150 Euclid Avenue, Little Five Points, Atlanta, GA 30307



Born and raised in Birmingham, England of Jamaican parents, Julie Dexter is a world-renowned singer / songwriter who has won numerous international awards. A classically trained musician who writes, arranges, composes and produces, Julie is considered by many to be one of the most important female vocalists of her generation. Deeply influenced by legends such as **Abbey Lincoln**, **Nancy Wilson** and **Bob Marley**, as well as popular icons such as **Omar** and **Sade**, Julie takes classic soul to the heart of artistry.

The dynamic voice of Julie Dexter was first heard in 1997 on *Dune Records'* release of **J-Life**, a UK group formed by **Gary Crosby** and led by **Jason Yarde**, that sought to invigorate the public concept of Jazz as a dying tradition. While this debut recording showcased original instrumental compositions and stirring renditions of jazz standards, it also contained a swinging cover of **Loose Ends'** hit song "Gonna Make You Mine," which amply featured the soulful croon of Julie Dexter. Julie gained her chops for cutting her vocals on this record by touring several continents with jazz wunderkind **Courtney Pine** as a lead vocalist of his ensemble. This musical school of tough-love learning would also give her the confidence to begin to perform and record as a solo artist, garnering the seven song EP, *Peace of Mind* (2000) and then later the full-length recording, *Dexterity* (2002), both of which were independently released on her own label, *Ketch A Vibe*.

For the past seven years Julie Dexter has spent the millenium sharing the stage with this generation's cutting-edge soul artists, including **Jill Scott**, **Bilal**, **Amel Larrieux**, **Donnie Omar**, **Loose Ends**, **Jaguar Wright**, **Rachelle Ferrell**, **Ledisi**, **Frank Mccoomb**, **Eric Roberson**, **Raheem DeVaughn** and **Fertile Ground**, to name a few. While Julie Dexter is more than able to hold up against her peers, her music has also been praised by them. In time the world will hold Julie Dexter in the same regards as those stellar artists who regard her well.

The 2008 WOCAF Film Festival



FILM FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

Thursday, March 20, 2008

Reception: 6:00pm –7:00pm

*Opening Night Reception hosted by Iyàlòdè Productions and The Auburn Avenue
Research Library/ Meet the Filmmakers.*

Greenland **7:30pm**
Gini
(Nigeria, 2007, music video, 5mins)

Opening Night Feature

A Winter Tale **7:35pm**
Frances-Ann Solomon
(Canada, 2007, drama, 100mins)
Q & A with Filmmaker

Friday, March 21, 2008

Your Choice **6:00pm**
Tunde Kelani
(Nigeria, 2006, comedy, 3mins)

Yaa Asantewaa: The Spirit of the Ashanti Nation **6:05pm**
Love Joel Aryeetey
(Ghana, 2007, documentary, 55mins)
Q & A with Filmmaker

Intermission

I Want You **7:15pm**
Nefertite Nguvu
(USA, 2007, romance, 13mins)

Tomasa's Revenge **7:30pm**
Steve T. Berry
(Belize, 2007, drama, 15mins)

Kujo, My Love **7:46pm**
Stacy Pyles

(USA, 2007, romantic comedy, 15mins)

Wooden Soul

Rehana Rose Khan

(UK, 2006, drama, 11mins, English)

8:02pm

Intermission

Centerpiece Feature

Malcolm's Echo: The Legacy of Malcolm X

Dami Akinnusi

(UK, 2007, documentary, 84mins)

Q & A with Filmmaker

8:30pm

Saturday, March 22, 2008

Nollywood Nights: Celebrating Nigerian Cinema

The Narrow Path

Tunde Kelani

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 105mins)

12:00pm

Intermission

These series of shorts from The USA and Nigeria deal with issues of HIV/AIDS from various perspectives. From the cheating boyfriend to a young girl infected from circumcision, these shorts challenge our notions of how people become infected by the virus.

Silent Screams

Director: Abimbola Ogunsanya

Screenplay: Adeola Shuaib

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 10mins)

2:00pm

Low

Brian Stemmler

(USA, 2006, drama, 28 mins)

2:10pm

Catch Them Young

Awoba Bob Manuel

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 19mins, English)

2:40pm

Seen But Not Heard **3:00pm**
Cyrille Phipps
(USA, 2007, documentary, 9:35mins)

<i>Student Shorts: National Film Institute (NFI), Jos, Nigeria</i>
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NightFall **3:10pm**
Micheal Onwunai/Akpesiri Edeley
(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 7mins, English)

Flings **3:17pm**
Mercy Didam
(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 6mins, English)

Intermission

As Old As My Tongue **3:30pm**
Andy Jones
(Zanzibar, 2006, music documentary, 66mins)

Intermission

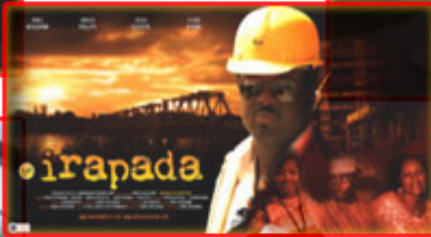
Osanle (Prostitution) **4:45pm**
Abimbola Ogunsanya
(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 15mins)

Ìràpadà (Redemption) **5:00pm**
Biodun Aleja/Kunle Afolayan
(Nigeria, 2006, drama, 90mins, English, Yoruba, Hausa, Igbo)

Intermission

Closing Night Feature

The Amazing Grace **6:40pm**
Jeta Amata
(Nigeria, 2006, narrative, 92mins)



FILM SYNOPSIS

A Winter Tale

Director: Frances-Ann Solomon

(Canada, 2007, drama, 100mins, English)



...the bullet that shattered a community.

Shots ring out one winter night and a bullet meant for a local street dealer kills a ten-year-old boy. In the downtown Toronto community of Parkdale, grief and suspicion hang heavily in the air, while the nightly patrons at Miss G's Caribbean takeaway resume their ritual of beer and banter. But one of them, Gene

Wright, cannot go on. He begs his friends for help. In a most unusual development, six Black men make a pact to form a support group in hopes of salvaging their broken spirits and redeeming their besieged community. *A Winter Tale* is set against the backdrop of a multicultural community's unrealized hopes and dreams. Bitter and tragic, funny and hopeful, the film tells a uniquely Canadian story that features Toronto as a central character.

Winner of the Tonya Lee Willians Award for Outstanding Canadian Feature at the Reel World Film Fest 2007.

As Old As My Tongue

Director: Andy Jones

Associate Producer: Rita Ray

(Zanzibar, 2006, music documentary, 66mins)

An intimate portrait of living legend Bi Kidude, probably the oldest singer on the world stage today. Her home island of Zanzibar has long been a meeting point for African and Arabic influence. The island's music is its most potent expression. Bi Kidude beguiles audiences wherever she travels but domestically she continually courts controversy, her behavior challenging perceptions of the role of women in a Muslim society.

Winner, Best International Documentary Feature – Women's Int. Film Fest, Miami 2007

Audience Award Winner - MOFFOM: Music on Film, Film on Music, Prague, 2006

Catch Them Young

Director: Awoba Bob Manuel

Producers: Sandra Mbanefo Obiango & Yejide Spong



(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 19mins, English)

Ovie is a bright schoolgirl in puppy love with her classmate Sam. The two lover's passionate affair soon has irreversible consequences and Ovie is left to face hard choices with her uncle and aunt turning from angry despair to cautious hope.

Flings

Director: Mercy Didam

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 6mins, English)

A young man takes advantage of three ladies who are desperate for marriage. He is engaged to all three of them and then abandons them for a younger lady. The ladies find out and lay a siege to trap him.

Greenland

Director – Gini

(Nigeria, 2007, music video, 5mins)

One of Nigeria's most celebrated vocalists and internationally acclaimed portrait photographer - Ty Bello- performs her hit "Greenland" in this music video.

Winner of the Nigerian Future Awards for Best Song of the Year 2007.

I want you

Director: Nefertite Nguvu

(US, 2007, romance, 13mins, English)

"I Want You": charts the emotional compass of young love when Lennox Jones, an aspiring novelist, meets and falls hard for Baldwin Wright, a charismatic musician on the rise. A whimsical romance ensues, but falls short when high expectations meet discontent. Eventually, time apart forces them to decide whether or not their love was meant to last.

Award for Best Film - 10th Annual African American Women in Cinema Film Festival 2007.

Ìràpadà (Redemption)

Director: Kunle Afolayan

(Nigeria, 2006, drama, 90mins, English, Yoruba, Hausa, Igbo)

'Dewunmi a young successful building contractor lives happily with his wife in the northern part of Nigeria. His foster-mother from the village pays him an unannounced visit to convince 'civilized and educated' 'Dewunmi to perform a traditional redemption rite against foreseen mysterious tragedy; premised on her re-occurring nightmares. All efforts to convince him to do this prove abortive until the unexplainable befalls him, tearing his world apart, as he searches for answers.

Best Indigenous movie at the African Movie Academy Awards (AMAA) 2007.

Kujo, My Love

Director: Stacy Pyles

(USA, 2007, romantic comedy, 15mins)

Mallory tip-toes out of a one-night-stand and is mortified to learn she must go back inside to face HIM,,, and his evil cat named KUJO. A sophisticated comedy about a regular Black Woman exploring the possibilities of love, in a truly impossible situation.

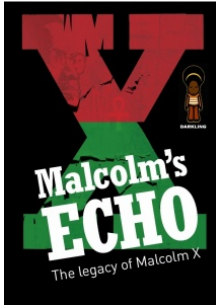
Low

Director: Brian Stemmlar

Executive Producers: Antonitta Barnes/Phillip Anthony Traylor

(USA, 2006, drama, 28 mins)

Alex's betrayal by her lover causes her to seek revenge on all men. Miles is a loving father/husband trying to keep his family together. Their worlds collide. "Low" shows how one selfish act can impact an entire group.



Malcolm's Echo: The legacy of Malcolm X

Director: Dami Akinnusi

(UK, 2007, documentary, 84mins)

Now more than 40 years after the assassination of El Hajj Malik El Shabazz – Malcolm X, we look beyond the icon and tune into his thoughts, philosophies and actions. Why is Malcolm X as important today as he was back then? This feature hears Malcolm X through the voices of activists, scholars, and everyday people, resonating from the 1960's into the 21st century, we hear it declare: it is time to define

ourselves and create a vision of the future.

Nominated for Best Documentary PAFF, LA 2008.

Nightfall

Director: Micheal Onwunai/Akpesiri Edeley

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 7mins, English)

Driven by penury, pain and bereavement, a young man reviews his upbringing envisaging no future. Considering his pregnant wife and what would be her fate, he opts for a change, which turns out to have dire consequences.

Osanle (Prostitution)

Directors: Abimbola Ogunsanya

Screenplay: Aduragbemi Otusan Dya and Adeola Shuaib

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 15mins)

Bisi is a high school girl attends an all night party with her young lover and has to prove her love to him by being more than intimate. The unthinkable happens and fearing the wrath of her father, Bisi absconds from home. The consequences she has to face are far greater than what she anticipates.

Seen, But Not Heard

Director: Cyrille .G. Phipps

(USA, 2007, documentary, 9:35mins)

This short documentary explores the historical antecedents, current trends and emerging activism concerning HIV/AIDS and women of African decent. Through raw and revealing personal accounts and comprehensive investigative journalism, "Seen, But Not Heard" seeks to challenge, inform, and inspire viewers to look past the daunting HIV/AIDS statistics – to see and hear the real stories of women of color whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS.

Silent Screams

Director: Abimbola Ogunsanya

Screenplay: Adeola Shuaib

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 10mins)

Omobolanle, a promising young girl is infected with the HIV virus through female circumcision - a must for every young girl of her age in her village. News of her new status spread amongst the villagers and she is shunned by her peers. Falling into a deep depression, Omobolanle does the unthinkable.

(Explicit content – viewer’s discretion advised)

The Amazing Grace

Director: Jeta Amata

Narrator: Joke Silva

Associate Producer: Ansa Bassey

(Nigeria, 2006, narrative, 92mins)

In 1748 at the height of the slave-trading era, John Newton sails to the coast of Nigeria and the port of Calabar. Now captain of his own ship – “The Greyhound”- his previous experience in the slave trade has turned him away from religion. Slaves are rounded up by force and trickery whilst villages are raided and burned down and the captives kept in dungeons, chained like animals. Newton leaves the Nigerian coast with a shipload of slaves and a violent storm brings him to the point of death and causes him to re-evaluate his life. He finally renounces slave trading and decides to devote his life to religion. During his time in Calabar, the melody of a popular local song has stuck in John Newton’s mind. So when he pens the words to the world’s most famous hymn, Amazing Grace, it is that African melody which he uses to accompany them, a fitting tribute to the land.

The Narrow Path

Director: Tunde Kelani

(Nigeria, 2007, drama, 105mins)

Awero chooses between suitors but a haunting experience, expectations of family and culture turn her wedding night into a nightmare. Storm clouds gather as she is forced to walk a thin line between honor and shame, carrying the resourcefulness of African womanhood and the fate of communities in a fragile balance.

Tomasa’s Revenge

Director: Steve T. Berry

Writer: Kim Vasquez

(Belize, 2007, drama, 15mins, Patio with English subtitles)

A grandmother visits a young relative and becomes entangled in a case of domestic abuse.

Wooden Soul

Director: Rehana Rose Khan

(UK, 2006, drama, 11mins, English)

Amber eleven is facing the imminent death of her father. She copes with the situation in her own way, which is charming to some and shocking to others.

Yaa Asantewaa: The Spirit of the Ashanti Nation

Director: Love Joel Aryeetey

(Ghana, 2007, documentary, 55mins)

Yaa Asantewaa, the grandmother who led an army to resist colonization is a story woven into the fabric of African myths and legends. As a Queen she had foresight and conviction to fight the concept of colonization. In the second half of the nineteenth century, after more than four centuries of contact, the European powers finally laid claim to virtually all of Africa. In November 1884, the imperial chancellor and architect of the German Empire, Otto von Bismarck, convened a conference in Berlin to settle the political partitioning of Africa. France, Germany, Britain, and Portugal were the major players at the conference. Ashanti, the land flowing with Gold and Silver was virtually free from the colonizers. After the Berlin conference the British Government began pressuring the Ashanti King to become part of the British protectorate. These events culminate to the “*Yaa Asantewaa’s War for Independence*”, which began on March 28, 1900. She mobilized the Ashanti troops and for three months laid siege to the British mission at the fort of Kumasi.

Your Choice

Director: Tunde Kelani

Script Writer: Bose Oni

(Nigeria, 2006, Comedy, 3mins Pidgin with English subtitles)

A comical parody focusing on the importance of good leadership.



FILMMAKERS



Abimbola Ogunsanya is a promising young talented man in the Nigerian Entertainment and Film Industry. With experience in producing, directing, photography audio and lighting, Abimbola was trained as a camera man under the renowned Nigerian cinematographer, Tunde Kelani . He currently has two short films on the film festival circuit and is completing his first feature length film called Pandoro - *director "Osanle & Silent Screams"*.

Andy Jones is an independent filmmaker from Wolverhampton living in South London. In 2000 he and Suzy Gillett set up the ScreenStation collective, now expanded to include ScreenStation Productions. His films to date have included work with refugees in the UK, an award-winning introduction to responsible tourism for teenage travelers and most recently "*Just Peace*" a moving documentary about children's experiences of the conflict in Sudan. '*As Old As My Tongue*' is ScreenStation's first independently produced hour-long documentary. - *director "As Old As my Tongue"*.

Cyrille Phipps an African/Caribbean American and native New Yorker has been a media educator and video documentary maker for almost fifteen years. She received a B.F.A in Film Drama from Syracuse University and an M.A in Media Studies from the New School University. She has produced and directed a number of documentaries and community-oriented programs dealing with issues, such as AIDS, homophobia, sexism and racism. – *director "Seen But Not Heard"*.



Dami Akinnusi is a self-shooting writer/director who started in television working for broadcasters like the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). Her first documentary, *The Bedroom MC*, was awarded a Millennium Award. In 2005 she directed a documentary about skin bleaching, commissioned by ITV1 and aired on primetime TV in the UK. *Malcolm's Echo* is her first feature documentary.

Frances-Ann Solomon is an award-winning Filmmaker, Writer and Producer in Film, TV and Radio. She trained in Theatre Arts at the University of Toronto, and the Lecoq School of Mime in Paris before moving to Great Britain where she built a



successful professional career with the BBC as a Producer, Director and Writer. Since her return to Toronto in 1999, she has continued to create, direct write and produce television and film projects through her own company, Leda Serene Films. In 2002, she established CaribbeanTales, an innovative multimedia not- for-profit that promotes and celebrates the rich tradition of Caribbean-heritage storytelling through a variety of multimedia products. – *director “A Winter Tale”*.

Jeta Amata the grandson of John Amata, a famous Nigerian playwright and actor, comes from three generations of actors, directors and producers. Jeta is one of Nigeria’s most prolific filmmakers and to date has directed over 20 “Nollywood” home videos. He has a degree in dramatic arts, and is currently touring the USA promoting his latest movie *“The Amazing Grace”*.



Kimberley Vasquez is the co-writer of season 1 and the writer of seasons 2 and 3 of the Belizean television drama *Noh Matta Wat*. She has written and directed two films, *Choices* and *Risking it All*, both about the experience of living with HIV/AIDS. Her recent work includes the screenplay for the short movie *Precious* and *Sweetie Loves Baby-Doll* a stage play about sexual abuse, which she also directed. She lives in Belize City - *writer “Tomasa’s Revenge”*.



Kunle Afolayan is one of the children of late theatre icon and one of the pioneers of celluloid films in Nigeria - Ade Afolayan - popularly known as Ade Love. A banker in Nigeria for seven years, Kunle quit his job to pursue his passion of acting and was featured in Tunde Kelanis *“Saworoide”* He then went on to attend the New York Film Academy where he gained a certificate in digital filmmaking. - *director “Ìràpadà (Redemption)”*.

Love Joel Aryeetey, born in Ghana and raised in London, England obtained a Masters Degree in Communication and films from Leeds Metropolitan University in 1991. Love Joel worked for channel 4 and BBC TV in England and in 1998 he produced and directed his first 35mm feature film titled *“Rituals of fire”*. Love has also produced and directed other documentaries including - *“Scramble for Africa”, The Black and White World of Paul Robeson”* and *“Haiti: the sleeping giant”*. – *director “Yaa Asentewa: The Spirit of The Ashanti Nation”*.



Nefertite Nguvu graduated from New York's School of Visual Arts with a B.F.A in Film. Her Thesis project at SVA won the award for Outstanding Screenplay. A multi-dimensional artist, Nefertite is a published poet whose work has appeared in various magazines and journals - *director "I Want You"*.



Rehana Rose Khan born in London to a Pakistani Muslim father and Spanish Catholic mother has worked as an audio-visual designer in the corporate live events sector for over twenty years. Five years ago Rehana self financed her training in filmmaking and has made three short fiction films. - *director "Wooden Soul"*.

Rita Ray spent has spent many years working in the music industry as a manager and producer. Rita also works as a DJ and radio presenter for BBC World Service. 'As Old As My Tongue' is her first foray into film production. - *associate producer "As Old As My Tongue"*.



Sandra Mbanefo Obiango is the Executive Director of Communicating for Change (CFC), based in Lagos, Nigeria. CFC is a dynamic, state-of-the-art communications organization raising Africans' awareness of environment and development issues to create positive change to develop the continent and change lifestyles. Sandra holds an M.A in telecommunications from Michigan State University and a B.Ed in English & German from the University of Manitoba, Canada - *producer "Catch Them Young" & "Your Choice"*.

Stacy Pyles is an award-winning Screenwriter and Director based in Los Angeles, CA. Her film premiered at the Festival de Cannes (2007), and won the jury Award 'Honorable Mention' for Best Short at the Hollywood Black Film Festival (2007). Ms. Pyles is an alumna of the coveted Warner Bros. Comedy Writing Workshop and Dr Bill Cosby's acclaimed Screenwriting Fellowship. She received a M.F.A in Film; and completed undergrad coursework at the University of California, at Berkeley. - *director "Kujo, My Love"*.



S. Torriano Berry is an award-winning independent filmmaker who has directed and producer several independent films and videos. In 2005, Berry spent nine months in Belize, Central America as co-creator and director of that country's first dramatic television series "Noh Matta Wat!." He is currently on a one-year visiting professorship at the University of Iowa. - *director "Tomasa's Revenge"*.

Tunde Kelani is one of Africa's leading cinematographers. 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 "Nollywood" industry in Nigeria. - *director "The Narrow Path"*.



Yejide Spong is Deputy Director of Communicating for Change (CFC), based in Lagos, Nigeria with over 12 years of not-for-profit and private sector work experience. Recently, Mrs. Spong helped to establish the first delegation office in West Africa for the American Red Cross and implemented an \$11.5 million USAID grant in Nigeria. She has a Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts in accounting and an MBA in international finance from the American University in Washington D.C.- *producer "Catch them Young" & "Your Choice"* .

Special Thanks To Our Supporters:

Olodumare, The staff of Auburn Avenue Research Library – Francine .I. Henderson, Sharon E. Robinson (special thanks), Colin Dube, Amani Robinson, Kerry Cotten-Williams, Morris Gardner, - Maino Ikime, Abiodun Olayinka (GINI), Moza Mjasiri Cooper (Pan African Film & Arts Festival, LA), Mr Adesanya (The Nigerian Film Corporation - NFC), Brian Oak (Consulate General of Canada), Aminat Gbaja (La Femme Africaine), Melissa Randle & Sherry Richardson (Women in Film & TV Atlanta) Seun & Tunde Sonoiki, Gbugbemi Okotiero, Lara & Toyin Sonoiki, Mrs Fakoya, Sonia Vassell (Rochester High Falls International Film Festival) Olu Oye, Gerald Barclay, Pascal Atuma, Julie Dexter, Vivienne Ikomi, Evelyn Mims & Sheryl Gripper (Black Women's Preservation Project) Charmaine Minnefield & Gbugbemi Okotiero.

Many Thanks To Our Partners:



www.wifta.org



2008 WOCAF Staff

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Cynthia Nakpodia-Riberio - Music Director

Lola Shoyinka - Online Research/Marketing Assistant

Carla Morrison – PR Consultant

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Louisa McCullough, Lorna Wilson.

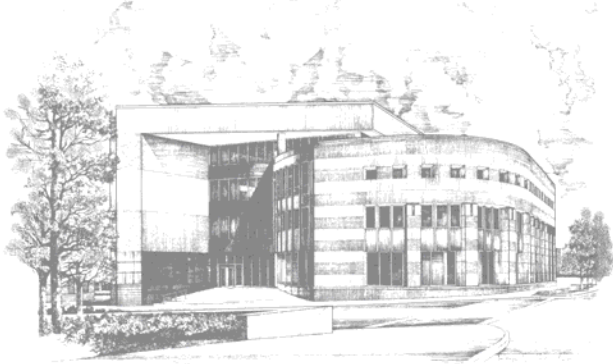
... and to all the filmmakers and artists who made this possible.

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

We look forward to seeing you at our 5th year Anniversary in 2009

Dedicated to Mama (Iyà àláso) – May your soul transition in peace!

The Auburn Avenue Research Library
On African American Culture and History
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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday • 8:00 am to 10:00 pm

Friday – Saturday • Noon to 6:00 pm

Sunday • 2:00 to 6:00 pm