

SankofaSpirit

Looking Back to Move Forward

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Movies with a Mission 2008 Season
The Dusable Museum, 740 E. 56th Place, Chicago
Gallery Walk, Screening and Dialogue
Schedule Subject to Change

Remaining Season Schedule

Sunday, May 11, 2:00-4:00pm – Sunday Short Showcase

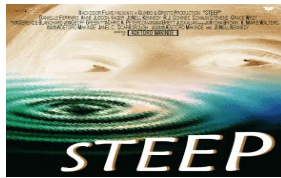


“Souls”

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.

“Sticks and Stones”

This experimental fiction directly addresses the psychological repercussions of racial and class disparity in the American public educational system.



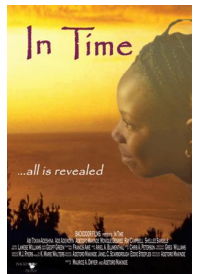
“Steep”

A simple Saturday sales turns into an examination of character when an everyday experience is colored by a past event.

“In Time”

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.

While “In Time” explores the beauty and betrayal of culture on African women, it brings up the question: when raised by ‘Tradition’, how does one follow their heart?



Sunday, June 8, 2:00-4:00pm

“From Florida to Coahuila”

In Spanish with English subtitles

This second film by Rafael Rebollar Corona is a part of a series of films by Rafael Rebollar Corona on the African Legacy in Mexico. It focuses on those Africans who escaped from slavery in the United States, made their way to Florida, where they inter-married with the Seminoles (creating the group known as the Black Seminoles), fought to preserve their freedom, eventually made their way into Mexico, and gradually integrated into that culture. A fascinating exploration of a cultural identity that transcends the constraints of political borders.



Sunday, July 13, 2:00-4:00pm

“Congressman Robert Smalls: A Patriot’s Journey from Slavery to Capitol Hill”



A documentary film full of Americanisms – strong work ethic, rags-to-riches, patriotism. It follows Smalls’ evolution from a slave to Civil War hero to master politician in South Carolina. Exploring why he chose this journey, the story demonstrates personal commitment and strength, foreshadowing the modern-day civil rights movement.

Sunday, August 10, 2:00-4:00pm

“Homecoming”

Homecoming is the story of African-American land loss and a chronicle of black farmers from the Civil War to the present. In 1920 there were nearly 1,000,000 black farmers in America. In 1999 there are less than 18,000.

“For all of us who have never toiled in 100-degree sun with our 6-year-old child at our knees, the South can sometimes be a romanticized dream of family, or a nightmare of burned bodies hanging from trees.



...This is the story of my family. This is the story of black farmers in the 20th century. This is a story of land and love.” - Charlene Gilbert

Sunday, September 14, 2:00-4:00pm

“The Lion Mountains – A Journey Through Sierra Leone’s History



This documentary is about a journey to Sierra Leone, West Africa seen through the eyes of Louis Buckley a 25-year old Jamaican English man who was born and grew up in England. After a long desire to visit the continent of Africa and learn more about his history he finally decides to visit the country of Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone is rich in natural resources, yet today it’s recorded to be one of the poorest countries in the world. Louis arrives in Sierra Leone, while it’s recovering from an 11 year civil war, which devastated the whole country. He heads out to discover first hand about the countries past, offering a unique narrative and perspective. The question is what happened in the days of the British Empire and how did this country get to this point?

The documentary has a hip-hop & reggae fused soundtrack with stunning visual of the landscape. The Lion Mountain looks at pre-colonial Sierra Leone, the beginning of African & European trade, slavery, resistance, the 1807 Abolition Act & some of the effects of Western imperialism and colonial rule.

Sunday, October 12, 2:00-4:00pm

“Banished” An investigation into ethnic cleansing in post-reconstruction America

How did three U.S. towns make African Americans disappear? Marco Williams, award-winning filmmaker of *Two Towns of Jasper*, visits some of the whitest counties in the country to confront the legacy of “banishment” - a wave of racial purging that tore through the South 100 years ago. Williams sits down with KKK leaders, white residents of these all white communities, as well as descendants of the banished alike, opening the wounds of history. Will he help these communities heal? Is reconciliation possible? Or reparations or both?



Sunday, November 9, 2:00-4:00pm
"Iron Ladies of Liberia"



An intimate documentary that goes behind-the-scenes with Africa's first freely elected female head of state, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, president of Liberia. The film explores the challenges facing President Sirleaf and the extraordinary women surrounding her as they develop and implement policy to rebuild their ravaged country and prevent a descent back into civil war.

Sunday, December 14, 2:00-4:00pm
"Rain in a Dry Land"



How do you measure the distance from an African village to an American city? What does it mean to be a refugee in today's "global village"? "Rain in a Dry Land" provides eye-opening answers as it chronicles the fortunes of two Somali Bantu families transported by relief agencies from years of civil war and refugee life to Atlanta, Georgia, and Springfield, Massachusetts.

Sunday, January 11, 2:00-4:00pm
"Panther in Africa"

On October 30, 1969, Pete O'Neal, a young Black Panther in Kansas City, Missouri, was arrested for transporting a gun across state lines. One year later, O'Neal fled the charge, and for over 30 years, he has lived in Tanzania, one of the last American exiles from an era when activists considered themselves at war with the U.S. government.

Today, this community organizer confronts very different challenges and finds himself living between two worlds - America and Africa, his radical past and his uncertain future.



Screenings are Free and Open to the Public