



African American Film and Television

UCLA Film & Television Archive holds a wide selection of motion picture and television titles made by and about African Americans. These films and programs span from the silent era to modern situation comedies and provide a unique opportunity to not only examine how the African American community has been represented in the commercial mainstream media, but also to explore the broad range of productions produced, created, and directed by African Americans.

SAMPLES FROM THE GENERAL COLLECTION

This handout only represents a small sample of the relevant material held by UCLA Film & Television Archive. For research, please consult our online catalog at <http://cinema.library.ucla.edu> and/or contact the ARCHIVE RESEARCH & STUDY CENTER at arsc@cinema.ucla.edu.

Film

The Exile (1931). Micheaux Film Corporation. Director, Writer, Oscar Micheaux. Study Copy: VA6564 M

Symphony in Black: A Rhapsody of Negro Life (1935). Paramount Pictures. Director, Fred Waller. Writers, Milton Hockett and Fred Rath. Cast, Duke Ellington and his orchestra. Study Copy: VA2896 M

Go Down, Death! (1944). Harlemwood Studios. Director, Spencer Williams. Cast, Spencer Williams, Myra D. Hennings, Samuel L. Jones, Eddy Houston. Study Copy: VA20163 M

The Cool World (1964). Wiseman Film Productions. Director, Shirley Clarke. Writers, Shirley Clarke and Carl Lee. Cast, Hampton Clanton, Yolanda Rodriguez, Carl Lee. Study Copy: DVD4555 M

Black Panther (1968). Newsreel. Study Copy: VA6623 M

The Learning Tree (1969). Winger. Director, Writer, Gordon Parks. Cast, Kyle Johnson, Alex Clarke, Estelle Evans. Study Copy: DVD9063 M

Sweet Sweetback's Baad Asssss Song (1971). Yeah. Director, Writer, Melvin van Peebles. Cast, Melvin van Peebles, Rhetta Hughes, Simon Chuckster. Study Copy: VD1765 M

Black Girl (1972). Director, Ossie Davis. Writer, J.E. Franklin. Cast, Brock Peters, Claudia McNeil, Leslie Uggams. Study Copy: VA8489 M

Killer of Sheep (1978). Director, Writer, Charles Burnett. Cast, Henry Gayle Sanders, Kaycee Moore, Charles Bracy. Study Copy: DVD4056 M

She's Gotta Have It (1986). Forty Acres and a Mule Filmworks. Director, Writer, Spike Lee. Cast, Tracy Camila Johns, Tommy Redmond Hicks, John Canada Terrell. Study Copy: VD568 M

Menace II Society (1993). New Line Cinema. Directors, Albert and Allen Hughes. Writer, Tyger Williams. Cast, Tyrin Turner, Jada Pinkett, Larenz Tate. Study Copy: DVD2844 M

Women of Vision Oral History Interview: Cheryl Dunye (1995-06-17). Interviewer, Alexandra Juhasz. Study Copy: VA16371 M
Forms part of: Women of Vision: Eighteen Histories in Feminist Film and Video.

Eve's Bayou (1997). Addis Wechsler Pictures / Chubbco. Director, Writer, Kasi Lemmons. Cast, Jurnee Smollett, Meagan Good, Samuel L. Jackson. Study Copy: VA14206 M



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The Black Press: Soldiers without Swords (1998). Half Nelson Productions, Inc. Director, Stanley Nelson. Writers, Jill Nelson, Stanley Nelson, Lou Potter and Marcia Smith. Cast, Peggy Alston, Stephanie Berry, Trazana Beverly. Study Copy: VA17607 M

Screen Actors Guild Foundation Oral History Interview: Diahann Carroll (2006-06-21). Interviewer, Paul Ryan. Study Copy: DVD4500 M

The Black List: Volume One (2008). Freemind Ventures & Perfect Day Films. Director, Timothy Greenfield-Sanders. With, Thelma Golden, Louis Gossett, Jr., Charles Hailey. Study Copy: DVD4791 M

Television

Philco Television Playhouse. A Man is Ten Feet Tall (1955-10-02). NBC. Director, Robert Mulligan. Writer, Robert Alan Arthur. Cast, Sidney Poitier, Don Murray and Paul Bogart. Study Copy: VA7550 T

Theater for a Story. The Sound of Miles Davis (1959-03-31). CBS. Producer, Robert Herridge. Featuring John Coltrane (tenor saxophone) and Julian Adderly (alto saxophone). Study Copy: VA14638 T

ABC News Special Report. March on Washington: August 28, 1963 (1963-08-28). ABC. Study Copy: VA14783 T

East Side/West Side. Who Do You Kill? (1963-11-04). CBS. Producer, Writer, Arnold Perl. Cast, George C. Scott, Elizabeth Wilson, Cecily Tyson and James Earl Jones. Study Copy: DVD4106 T

Like it is. Malcolm X at the Oxford Union (1964-12-03). WABC-TV, New York. Director, Frank Olivo. Producer, Host, Gil Noble. Study Copy: VA7929 T

Where is Jim Crow? A Conversation with Godfrey Cambridge (1964-12-30). KQED, San Francisco. Host, Buzz Anderson. Study Copy: DVD10436 T

CBS Playhouse. The Final War of Olly Winter (1967-01-29). CBS. Director, Paul Bogart. Writer, Ronald Ribman. Producer, Fred Coe. Cast, Ivan Dixon (Olly Winter). Study Copy: DVD11345 T

Of Black America. Black History Lost, Stolen or Strayed (1968-07-02). CBS. With, Bill Cosby. Study Copy: VA381 T

The Richard Pryor Show (1977-09-13). NBC. Co-Producer, Director, John Moffitt. With, Richard Pryor, Allegra Allison, David Banks. Study Copy: DVD483 T

American Playhouse. For Us, the Living: The Story of Medgar Evers (1983-03-22). PBS. Director, Michael Schultz. Writer, Irene Cara. Cast, Howard E. Rollins, Jr., Irene Cara, Margaret Avery. Study Copy: VA9187 T

Champlin on Film. Spike Lee (1989). Bravo. Host, Charles Champlin. Inventory Number: T07755

Champlin on Film. Morgan Freeman (1990). Bravo. Host, Charles Champlin. Inventory Number: T07714

John Singleton: Straight from the 'Hood (1991-07-14). KTTV, Los Angeles. Producer, Director, Host, Robin Young. Inventory Number: T38725

Biography. Muhammad Ali (1996). A & E. Study Copy: VA18843 T



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Good Morning, America. Dorothy Dandridge – Excerpt (1997). ABC. Inventory Number: T68116

American Masters. Paul Robeson: Here I Stand (1999-02-24). PBS. Director, St. Claire Bourne. Writer, Lou Potter. Narrator, Ossie Davis. Study Copy: VA8886 T

The Directors. The Films of Spike Lee (1999-07-01). Encore. Producer, Director, Writer, Robert J. Emery. With, Wesley Snipes, Alfre Woodard, Delroy Lindo. Inventory Number: T77391

American Masters. Sidney Poitier: One Bright Light (2000-02-02). PBS. Director, Lee Grant. Study Copy: VA22374 T

Half Past Autumn: The Life and Works of Gordon Parks (2000-11-30). HBO. Director, Craig Rice. Study Copy: VA18460 T

A Huey P. Newton Story (2001-06-18). Black Starz. Director, Spike Lee. Writer, Roger Guenveur Smith. Cast, Roger Guenveur Smith (Huey P. Newton). Study Copy: VA19686 T

Hollywood Celebrates Denzel Washington: An American Cinematheque Tribute (2002). A & E. Host, Jamie Foxx. With Denzel Washington, Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Bruce Willis. Inventory Number: T95262

Hearst Newsreels / Telenews / KTLA News (sample entries; many more relevant segments in collection)

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Black Athletes: 1932/1936 Olympics. Study Copy: VA4018 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Josephine Baker (1948, 1954). Study Copy: VA6598 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Ralph Bunche (1949-1966). Study Copy: VA6774 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Martin Luther King, Freedom Riders, Tape 1. (1956). Study Copy: VA4145 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Thurgood Marshall (1957, 1958). Study Copy: VA5375 M

Hearst Newsreel Footage. Muhammad Ali, Segregation (1960-1966). Study Copy: VA5500 M

Hearst Production Footage. Marian Anderson: The Lincoln Memorial Concert – Excerpt (1939-04-09). Study Copy: DVD33 M
Part of: Treasures from American Film Archives, program 4.

Hearst Vault Material. Sit-ins Arrive from Montgomery (1961-06-02). Study Copy: VA12395 M

Hearst Vault Material. Malcolm X Funeral Services, New York City (1965-02-23). Study Copy: VA11137 M

KTLA News. Angela Davis Rally at UCLA, Los Angeles, California (1971-01-26). Study Copy: VA12522 T

Related Programs

Hollywood U.S.A. 1964 (1964). NAACP. Presented by the Association of Motion Picture and Television Producers, Inc. Study Copy: VA5214 M
Greg Morris introduces film and television clips featuring African American actors.



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Inside Bedford-Stuyvesant (1968). WNEW-TV. Director, Leo O'Farrell. Writer, Charles Hobson. Hosts, Jim Lowry, Roxie Roker. Study Copy: VA21802 T
Interview with Harry Belafonte focusing on civil rights, black images on television.

Fade Out: The Erosion of Black Images in the Media (1984-07-02). PBS. Director, Robert N. Zagone. Writer, Brenda J. Grayson. Host, Robert Hooks. Study Copy: VA7314 T
Actress Marla Gibbs, director Michael Schultz and writer-producer Stirling Silliphant are among those decrying the lack of creative jobs for blacks in the film and TV industries.

Hollywood: A Legacy in Silhouette (1985-02-09). KHJ, Los Angeles. Director, Melanie Steensland. Writer, Gail Choice. Host, Ted Lange. Study Copy: VA12686 T
Documentary on the history of black performers in Hollywood.

Color Adjustment (1992-06-15). PBS. Director, Writer, Producer, Marlon T. Riggs. Narrator, Ruby Dee. Study Copy: VA8472 T
Documentary investigating the representation of African Americans on television.

City View. Fade to Black: A History of Afro-Americans in Films, Part 1-2 (1993-02-28). KABC, Los Angeles. Producer, Writer, Jacklyn Conway-Pratt. Host, Dorian Harewood. Study Copy: VA10835 T
Two-part television special examining the contributions of African Americans in film.

Small Steps, Big Strides: The Black Experience in Hollywood (1998-02-10). American Movie Classics. Producer, Director, Writer, Velma Cato. Narrator, Louis Gossett, Jr. Inventory Number: T72396
Documentary celebration of the groundbreaking achievements of black performers and their contributions through nearly seven decades (1903-70) of Hollywood filmmaking.

I'll Make Me a World. Part 1, Lift Every Voice (1999-02-01). PBS. Director, Sam Pollard. Writer, Sheila Curran Bernard. Narrator, Vanessa L. Williams. Study Copy: VA21315 T
Focuses on minstrel star Bert Williams, filmmaker Oscar Micheaux and early jazz.

I'll Make Me a World. Part 3, Bright Like a Sun (1999-02-02). PBS. Director, Writer, Tracy Heather Strain. Narrator, Vanessa L. Williams. Inventory Number: T74364
Recalls artists of the 1930s through the '40s, including actor Paul Robeson and sculptor Augusta Savage.

It's Black Entertainment (2000-02-13). Executive Producer, Director, Stan Lathan. Host, Vanessa Williams. Inventory Number: T81997
A tribute to the contributions of African American actors, musicians, and dancers in the film industry.

Inside TV Land. African Americans in Television. Comedy (2002). TV Land. Produced by Gay Rosenthal Productions. With, Bill Cosby, Norman Lear, Jamie Foxx, Diahann Carroll. Study Copy: DVD6763 T
Explores the evolution of African Americans in comedic roles.

Inside TV Land. African Americans in Television. Drama (2002). TV Land. Produced by Gay Rosenthal Productions. With, Cicely Tyson, James Earl Jones, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee. Inventory Number: T90918
Retraces the on-going struggle, through first-hand accounts by performers and other notables, to gain dramatic television work, and ultimately, acceptance from the viewing public.

Inside TV Land. African Americans in Television. Variety (2002). TV Land. Produced by Gay Rosenthal Productions. With, Harry Belafonte, Quincy Jones, Flip Wilson, Jamie Foxx. Study Copy: VA23117 T
This special traces the early works of black performers in variety programs.

Sisters in Cinema (2004-02-08). Black Starz. Narrator, Yvonne Welbon. Study Copy: DVD735 -DVD736 M
Pays homage to African American women filmmakers from the early part of the 20th century to today.



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RELATED RESOURCES

L.A. Rebellion Collection at UCLA Film & Television Archive

They came from Watts. They came from New York City. They came from throughout America or crossed an ocean from Africa. At a unique time and place in American history, a critical mass of filmmakers of African descent came to the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television to make movies and produced a rich, innovative, sustained, and intellectually rigorous body of work. The filmmakers of the L.A. Rebellion achieved this while realizing a new possibility for "Black" cinema, one that explored and related to the real lives of Black communities in the U.S. and worldwide. A significant portion of the work produced by this esteemed group of filmmakers, including UCLA student films, independent shorts, theatrically-released motion pictures and television projects—as well as select interviews—is available for onsite research viewing by appointment at the Archive Research and Study Center. For detailed information about the L.A. Rebellion, please go to:

<http://www.cinema.ucla.edu/la-rebellion>

The Mayme A. Clayton Film Collection at UCLA

The Mayme A. Clayton Film Collection at UCLA consists of over 450 film holdings related to African American history and the portrayal of African Americans in film and television. Representations in the collection range from offensive Hollywood stereotypes to films produced, written and directed by black filmmakers. The Collection includes a significant number of 16mm prints of Blaxploitation films, educational films, T.V. movies and titles by key figures in film history, such as Oscar Micheaux and Spencer Williams. The Collection also includes musical shorts and Soundies featuring prominent artists, such as Dinah Washington and Cab Calloway. Additionally, the Collection includes submissions to the Black American Cinema Society's film festival, known as "Black Talkies on Parade," which began in 1978. Many of these holdings can be made available for research by appointment via the Archive Research & Study Center on the UCLA campus.

The Mayme A. Clayton Library & Museum (MCLM) in Culver City, CA, represents one of the most significant document and memorabilia collections of African American history and culture. For more information, please visit their website at: www.claytonmuseum.org.

George P. Johnson Negro Film Collection, 1916-1977 - Department of Special Collections

The Department of Special Collections unit of the UCLA Libraries Collection holds the *George P. Johnson Negro Film Collection, 1916-1977* that consists of materials related to early African American film companies, films, films with African American casts, and musicians, sports figures and entertainers. For more information, please contact the Department of Special Collections: (310) 825-4988

UCLA Center for African American Studies (CAAS) - Ralph J. Bunche Center

The Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, founded in 1969 as the Center for African American Studies, was established as an Organized Research Unit at UCLA with the mission to develop and strengthen African American Studies through five primary organizational branches: research, academic programs, library and media center, special projects, and publications. For more information, please contact CAAS: (310) 825-7403 or visit the CAAS website: <http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu>



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PRINT RESOURCES

(for more information consult the UCLA Arts Library)

Bogle, Donald. *Primetime Blues: African Americans on Network Television*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2001.

Bodroghkozy, Aniko. *Equal Time: Television and the Civil Rights Movement*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2012.

Bogle, Donald. *Blacks in American Films and Television: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1989.

Bogle, Donald. *Toms, Coons, Mulattoes, Mammies, and Bucks: An Interpretive History of Blacks in American Films*. New York: Continuum, 1992.

Hunt, Darnell M. *Channeling Blackness: Studies on Television and Race in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

MacDonald, J. Fred. *Blacks and White TV: African Americans in Television Since 1948*. 2nd ed. Chicago: Nelson-Hall Publishers, 1992.

Richards, Larry. *African American Films through 1959: A Comprehensive, Illustrated Filmography*. Jefferson: McFarland, 1998.

Snead, James A, Colin MacCabe, and Cornel West. *White Screens, Black Images: Hollywood from the Dark Side*. New York: Routledge, 1994.

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Archive Research and Study Center (ARSC)

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