



Black History Month 2014

Social Justice

October is Black History Month in the UK; an opportunity to celebrate black cultural heritage, history and experiences today.

The theme for Islington this year is Social Justice, raising awareness of the fight for race equality within history and contemporary culture.

Islington will be hosting a lively festival of film screenings, literary events, talks and activities for schools.

Black History Month is for everyone, and all events are free or low cost, so get involved and get inspired.

www.islington.gov.uk/bhm
www.everyvoice.org.uk

Islington Black History Month is organised by Every Voice on behalf of Islington Council.



ISLINGTON

Islington Black History Month Community Film Festival

Don't miss out on this rare opportunity of free and low cost cinema and extravaganza at community hubs across Islington, showcasing inspiring independent films from across the globe in the heart of the community.



Film: Young Soul Rebels

When: Friday 3 October at 7pm

Where: Old Fire Station, 84 Mayton Street, London N7 6QT

Cost: £5 £2.50 concessions on entry

In the long hot summer of 1977, London prepared for the Silver Jubilee to the sounds of the burgeoning punk, soul and funk scenes.

Soul boys Chris and Caz, a pair of pirate radio DJs, broadcast their show from a friend's garage, tussling with the local skinheads, and clubbing with Chris's sassy music-industry girlfriend Tracy (Sophie Okonedo). But social and sexual tensions in the community reach boiling point following the murder of a local black gay man.

Including its soulful soundtrack - with Funkadelic, X-Ray Spex, Parliament, Sylvester - and enthusiastic young cast, this Cannes Critics' Week prize-winner is an engaging and sensitive drama from acclaimed artist and filmmaker Isaac Julien.

100 mins, Isaac Julien, 1991, Cert. 18



In partnership
with Reel Islington



Film: Black Power Mixtape followed by Q&A discussion on Black Feminism: then and now with special guests

When: Tuesday 7 October at 7pm

Where: Impact Hub, 34b York Way, King's Cross, London N1 9AB

Cost: £3

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

Lost in an archive in Sweden for 30 years, The Black Power Mixtape is a compilation feature documentary film that displays the story of the African-American community between the years 1967-1975. Told with sparkling and beautiful footage as well as narration by contemporary interviews, and music by The Roots, Michael Jackson and Erykah Badu, this is an amazing chart of the civil rights movement, and the people, society, culture and style that fuelled a change. Featuring footage of many of the leaders of the Black Power Movement including Angela Davis (pictured).

The film will be followed by a special Q&A discussion curated with special guests, reflecting on the legacy and influence of Angela Davis, and the voice and role of black feminism today within the context of contemporary culture and social injustices.

96 mins, Göran Hugo Olsson, 2011



In partnership with
Impact Hub King's Cross



Film: The Stuart Hall Project followed by Q&A with Tony Warner

When: Thursday 9 October 7pm

Where: Voluntary Action Islington, 200a Pentonville Road, London N1 9JP

Cost: free

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

Revolution, politics, culture and the New Left experience – this absorbing highly-acclaimed documentary presents an intimate portrait of Stuart Hall, one of the most influential and esteemed cultural theorists of our time.

Jamaican-born, Stuart Hall emigrated to the UK in 1951 to take up a place at Oxford University, and became a founding figure of cultural studies with a resounding and ongoing influence on British intellectual life.

Comprising archive footage of Hall's appearances on radio and television set against a soundtrack by Miles Davies, Hall's favourite musician, the film explores memory, race and identity tracing events from Hall's life and the wider social and political upheavals of the late 20th century. Q&A with Historian and Activist Tony Warner, founder of Black History Walks.

103 mins, John Akomfrah, 2013, Cert 12.

Voluntary
Action
Islington

Film: Forward Ever: The Killing of a Revolution, followed by Q&A

When: Saturday 11 October 6:30pm to 9.30pm

Where: Voluntary Action Islington, 200a Pentonville Road, London N1 9JP

Cost: £9

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

In October 1983, Ronald Reagan sent 8,000 members of the US Armed Forces to invade Grenada, an island with a population of just over 100,000 people, in an operation he named 'American Fury'; an operation he had been planning ever since the Grenadan revolution of 1979 had displaced the US-anointed tyrannical Prime Minister, Eric Gairy. The US invasion of Grenada, criticised as a 'flagrant violation of international law' by the UN and international community, put an end to a unique experiment in Caribbean politics.

This comprehensive, gripping and revealing documentary tells the story of the Grenada revolution as never before. The film features extensive, previously unseen file footage, as well as old and new interviews with many of the key players of the time.

150mins, Bruce Paddington, 2013



In partnership with
Black History Walks

Grenada 1983. Prime Minister Maurice Bishop
and a number of his colleagues were
machine-gunned to death. Their bodies
were never found.

Forward Ever
THE KILLING OF A REVOLUTION

Produced and Directed by
BRUCE PADDINGTON



Film: Benda Bilili!, plus African food, and post screening Q&A discussion and performances



When: Wednesday 15 October 7pm

Where: Hanley Crouch Community Centre, The Laundry, Sparsholt Road, London N19 4EL

Cost: free

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

From the ghettos of Kinshasa, Congo comes one of the most incredible stories. Spanning 5 years, Benda Bilili follows of a group of street musicians; four of the group are paraplegics who get around Kinshasa in Mad Max/Easy Rider style customised tricycles, the other three are homeless street children whose star, a teenage prodigy, plays on a home-made, single string guitar fashioned from a tin can.

The remarkable true story follows the group from the struggles of their first recording session to worldwide acclaim and stardom. Hailed as the new Buena Vista Social Club and brimming with humour, Benda Bilili is an inspirational life-affirming story of a dream that becomes reality.

This screening will be followed by a discussion chaired by Islington Councillor Jean-Roger Kaseki, a Human Rights campaigner, originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

85mins, Renaud Barret, Florent de La Tullaye, 2010

HANLEY CROUCH
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



In partnership with Hanley Crouch
Community Association

Film: Nothing But a Man

When: Tuesday 21 October 7pm

Where: Age UK, Drivers Centre, North Road, London N7 9EY

Cost: free

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

Noted as Malcolm X's favourite film, this historically important drama from director Michael Roemer was the first film with a mainly black cast aimed at a mixed-race audience. Reflecting the era of the civil rights movement during the early 1960s, the story, set in Alabama, follows the trials of railroad worker Duff who falls in love with, and marries, preacher's daughter Josie. Trying to settle down to life in the town, Duff soon comes face-to-face with the ingrained racial hostility of his bosses, and is forced to come to terms with the lack of respect and dignity afforded him by the town's population. As the couple attempt to surmount their problems and live their lives, they realise that their love for each other can overcome even the sturdiest of barriers.

95 mins, Michael Roemer, 1964



In partnership with North London
Cares and Age UK Islington



Film: Finding Fela, followed by Q&A on music and politics

When: Thursday 23 October 7pm

Where: Mildmay Community Centre, Woodville Road, London N1 8NA

Cost: Free

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

Finding Fela tells the story of Fela Anikulapo Kuti's life, his music, his social and political importance. He created a new musical movement, Afrobeat, using that forum to express his revolutionary political opinions against the dictatorial Nigerian government of the 1970s and 1980s. His influence helped bring a change towards democracy in Nigeria and promoted Pan Africanist politics to the world. The power and potency of Fela's message is completely current today and is expressed in the political movements of oppressed people, embracing Fela's music and message in their struggle for freedom.

Q&A with African history and music consultant; Kwaku. Kwaku saw Fela Kuti at shows in Accra, Ghana, and London, where he interviewed the Afrobeat star.

120 mins, Alex Gibney, 2014

mildmay community partnership

In partnership with Mildmay
Community Partnership



Film: Fire in the Blood, followed by Q&A with the Director of Photography Jay Odedra



When: Tuesday 28 October 7pm

Where: St Luke's Centre, 90 Central Street, London EC1V 8AJ

Cost: free

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

An intricate tale of 'medicine, monopoly and malice', Fire in the Blood tells the story of how Western pharmaceutical companies and governments aggressively blocked access to low-cost AIDS drugs for the countries of Africa and the global south in the years after 1996 - causing ten million or more unnecessary deaths - and the improbable group of people who decided to fight back. Including contributions from global figures such as Bill Clinton, Desmond Tutu and Joseph Stiglitz, Fire in the Blood is the never-before-told true story of the remarkable coalition which came together to stop 'the Crime of the Century' and save million of lives in the process. As the film makes clear, however, this story is by no means over.

84mins, Dylan Mohan Gray, 2013



In partnership with
St. Lukes Community Centre

Beyond Nollywood at Kings Place

Cinema of Nigeria, known as Nollywood, is the second largest film industry in the world, but there is a new and incredible emergence of contemporary Nigerian filmmakers who are challenging the Nollywood format and creating a vibrant film culture to reclaim the image of their country, with world-class independent cinema that is wowing audiences throughout the globe.

Kings Place hosts two special events exploring the theme Beyond Nollywood.

Nigerian Filmmaker's Guide to Success; panel discussion with Nadia Denton, Adeyemi Michael, and a special shorts screening OF SODIQ

When: Monday 6 October at 7pm

Where: Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9AG

Cost: £4.50 online, £6.50 at box office

Booking: www.kingsplace.co.uk or 020 7520 1490

Author and programmer Nadia Denton's latest book, *The Nigerian Filmmaker's Guide to Success: Beyond Nollywood* charts the emergence of a new wave of Nigerian audio-visual content - spanning indie films, documentary, animation, experimental, music videos and diaspora films - beyond Nollywood. The book features exclusive interviews, industry guidance and best practice for African filmmakers.

Kings Place host an audience with Nadia Denton, chaired by Kunle Olulode to discuss key issues and the Nigerian film industry as a whole, joined by Nigerian filmmaker, Adeyemi Michael, opening with a special screening of his short film SODIQ.

Copies of 'The Nigerian Filmmaker's Guide to Success: Beyond Nollywood' will be available on Kindle.



Film: Confusion Na Wa, followed by a Q&A with the Writer Tom Rowland-Rees



When: Wednesday 8 October 7pm

Where: Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9AG

Cost: £7.50 online, £9.50 at box office

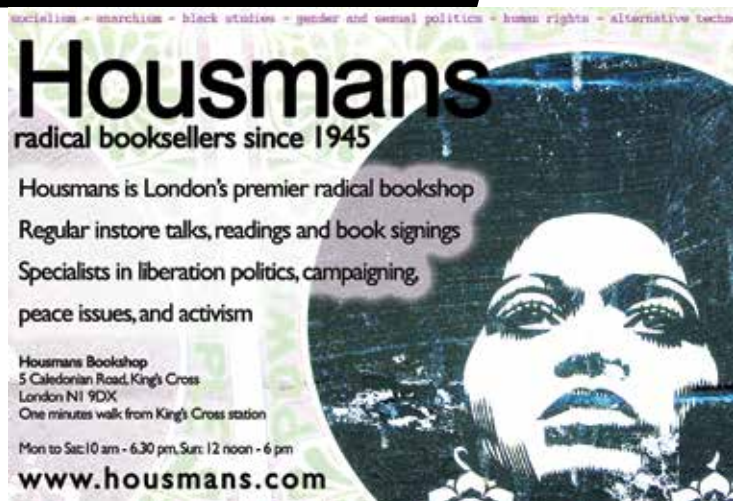
Booking: www.kingsplace.co.uk or 020 7520 1490

Acclaimed as Africa's hottest movie. Award-winning *Confusion Na Wa* is a Nigerian dark comedy drama, directed by Kenneth Gyang. The title of the film was inspired by the lyrics of the late Afrobeats singer, Fela Kuti's song *Confusion*. Set in a Nigerian city *Confusion Na Wa* is about a group of strangers whose fates become intertwined over the course of 24 hours. At the heart of everything is a phone found by two opportunist wasters Charles and Chichi who, having read through its contents, decide to blackmail the owner Emeka. Little do they realize that their misdemeanors have set in motion a chain of events that will lead to their own downfall. *Confusion Na Wa* was winner of the 'Best Picture' category at the 2013 African Movie Academy Awards.

105 mins, Kenneth Gyang, 2013, Cert 15

kings place In partnership
with Kings Place

Social Justice Talks at Housmans Bookshop



The Killing of Blair Peach, Anti-Racist Protest, Police Racism and Brutality with David Renton and Tony Warner

When: Wednesday 15 October 7pm

Where: Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, Kings Cross, London N1 9DX

Cost: Entry £3, redeemable against any purchase

Booking: just turn up, spaces limited early arrival recommended

Blair Peach was a 33 year old teacher killed on a demonstration in 1979 at Southall against the National Front. He is one of just three protesters to have been killed by the police in Britain since 1945. David Renton will be discussing his new pamphlet 'Who Killed Blair Peach' which casts a light on the identity of Peach's killer, and calls for a fresh inquest into Blair Peach's killing.

David will be joined by founder of 'Black History Walks' Tony Warner who will consider contemporary cases of police racism and brutality. Using archive footage, newspaper reports and personal testimony Tony will cover cases of black deaths in custody from 1960s to 21st century with relation to geography, community resistance, international history and white media representation of the 'black body'.

In partnership with Defend the Right to Protest

In partnership with Housmans Bookshop

Who was Henry Muoria? With Peter Muoria Mwaniki

When: Wednesday 29 October 7pm

Where: Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, Kings Cross, London N1 9DX

Cost: Entry £3, redeemable against any purchase

Booking: just turn up, spaces limited early arrival recommended

Kenyan political thinker, writer, activist published pamphlets and newspapers that contributed and influenced the anti-colonial struggle in Kenya in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Muoria spent much of his later life living in Islington, as his life became increasingly under threat in the ferment of the oppressive regime at home. Henry's son Peter co-author of book *Writing for Kenya: the Life and Works of Henry Muoria*, will share the family and political life and legacy of his courageous father.



Artwork by Henry's daughter Juliet Mwaniki. Depicting her father as a herds boy, writing on a stone the word freedom, with the shields reflecting the future of Kenya's independence and the British Empire falling away behind him.

In partnership with Housmans Bookshop

Social Justice Talks with Black History Walks

400 Years of African Women Resistance Leaders

When: Saturday 18 October from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Where: Voluntary Action Islington, 200a Pentonville Road, London N1 9JP

Cost: £3 accepted on the day

Booking: www.everyvoice.org.uk/events

African female soldiers played a crucial part in the armed resistance to racism in Southern Africa but their stories were forgotten once the wars were over. We will cover 400 years of such international female resisters who used pistols, pens and placards.

We present visual and biographical details of black women from the UK and around the world who have resisted colonialism and racism. Women do not get the historical credit they deserve and quite often there is a focus on African Americans to the exclusion of local heroes. This event will give the audience video and documentary evidence of the who, what and why of 30 female fighters who used any means necessary to fight for equality in modern Britain. Bring notepad and pen and be on time. Women include: Dora Akunyili, Dame Jocelyn Barrow, Olive Morris, Anne Cools, Edna Ismail, Althea Gibson, Mavis Best, Fawzia Hashim, Dr. Beryl Gilroy, Leyla Hussein, Gerlin Bean, Althea Lecointe, Stella Dadzie, Dr. Patrica Bath, Professor Elizabeth Anionwu and 20 others

See our other exciting events at www.blackhistorywalks.co.uk



In partnership with Black history walks

Exhibitions

Forward to freedom

Where: Finsbury Library, 245 St John St EC1V 4NB

When: 1 October – 15 October

Cost: Free

Exhibition telling the story of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement and its campaigns to support the people of Southern Africa in the fight against apartheid and white minority rule. The movement grew to hundreds of thousands of people in the UK, boycotting South African produce and calling for sanctions against South Africa and the release of Nelson Mandela.

In partnership with www.aamarchives.org



Living Africa: through the art of its children

Where: Islington Museum, 245 St John St, London EC1V 4NB

When: 16 October – 18 November

Cost: Free

Exploring the everyday lives of children from South Africa, Nigeria, Gambia and Tanzania through their art. Learn about the young artists lives through their revealing works, as they creatively explore their landscape, culture and hopes.



In partnership with the London International Gallery of Children's Art



Schools Activities

Black History: Creative Perspectives, CPD for teachers

When: Thursday 23 October
5.30 to 7pm.

Where: Islington Museum, 245
St John St, London EC1V 4NB

Booking: Rebecca.campbell-gay
@islington.gov.uk

Islington Museum and the October Gallery present a joint CPD encouraging teachers to explore Black History from a creative, cross-curricular perspective. Tour Islington Museum's exhibition of children's artwork from South Africa, Tanzania, The Gambia and Nigeria. Work with BME artists and experienced educators to creatively explore how you can use art and objects in your classroom to engage with cultural diversity and creative expression in Africa today.

School workshops

As part of Living Africa: through the art of its children exhibition (see Exhibitions page), there are workshops for EYFS, KS1 and KS2, exploring diverse cultures of Africa, with talented London based African artists and storytellers.

Booking: Rebecca.campbell-gay
@islington.gov.uk

In partnership with



Black History Month School Assemblies:

Book engaging and inspiring assemblies for your school, delivered by an experienced black professional from BTEG's National Role Model programme Routes2Success. Assemblies last between 15-30mins on different aspects of Black history including:

- Black King with Bling in sixteenth century England
- Why do we celebrate Black History Month
- Black Soldiers during the World Wars
- Black Sporting Heroes
- Black Inventors – who are they
- The journey of the role model (motivational talk on success)

Booking: Book your assembly today, email: Janine@bteg.co.uk
Phone: 020 7832 5840

Black History in Islington schools all year round

The Full Colour History Project supports Islington schools across KS2 and KS3 to better integrate a Black and Ethnic minority narrative in the new history curriculum, all year round, so that all pupils can see themselves in the history they study. To join the growing network of Islington schools accessing this support and working together, email aisha@everyvoice.org.uk