



Africana Studies

Film Series

Spring 2007

Tuesdays @ 5:00 PM in ILC 141

FEBRUARY 6

Bamboozled: Dr. Campbell-Grant

Spike Lee's Bamboozled starring Damon Wayans and Jada Pinkett Smith is a blistering satire of network television's pitfalls and prejudices, and a humorous look at how race, ratings and the pursuit of power lead to a television writer's stunning rise and tragic downfall.



FEBRUARY 13

Lumumba: Dr. Donald

The true story of the rise to power and brutal assassination of the formerly vilified and later redeemed leader of the independent Congo, Patrice Lumumba.



FEBRUARY 20

American Blackout: Dr. Kunnie

Many have heard of the alleged voting irregularities that occurred during the presidential elections of 2000 and 2004. Until now, these incidents have gone under-reported and are commonly written-off as insignificant rumors or unintentional mishaps from an overburdened election system. American Blackout chronicles the recurring patterns of voter disenfranchisement from Florida 2000 to Ohio 2004, while following the story of Georgia Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney.



FEBRUARY 27

T-Shirt Travels-Cast Offs for Africa: Dr. Bowens

What happens to all those old clothes you bring to the Salvation Army or Goodwill Industries? This movie is about the Third World debt and secondhand clothes. Experts discuss the history of colonialism, slavery and the depletion of Africa's natural resources. They draw a connection between this shameful legacy and the current huge debt. Our old t-shirts come with high price tags.



MARCH 6

Life and Debt: Globalization of Jamaica: Dr. Grant

Stephanie Black's documentary explains how Globalist institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) gained virtual control over the Jamaica economy. It then demonstrates how Jamaican laborers are forced to accept lower wages, as the Jamaican economy comes under the control of foreign manufacturers through the creation of "free zones".



MARCH 20

Amistad: Dr. LeSeur

AMISTAD is about an 1839 mutiny aboard a slave ship that is traveling towards the Northeast Coast of America. Much of the story involves a court-room drama about the free-man who led the revolt.



March 27

Imitation of Life: Instructor D. Washington

In 1947 at Coney Island, down-on-her-luck actress Lora Meredith and her young daughter Susie meet coloured Annie Johnson and her daughter Sarah Jane. Annie is desperate for a place to live and offers to work as Lora's maid for food and lodging. Lora's luck begins to change as a result of their meeting and their two stories unfold across the years. However, Annie's problems start when Sarah Jane tries to pass as white.



April 3

Sugar Cane Alley: Dr. Campbell-Grant

Young José and his grandmother live in a small village. Nearly everyone works cutting cane and barely earning a living. The way to advance is to do well in school. José studies hard and succeeds in an exam allowing him to attend school in the capital. With only a partial scholarship, the tuition is very costly. José and his grandmother move to Fort-de-France to make José's studies easier...



APRIL 10

Aristide and the Endless Revolution: Dr. Theodore

An intelligent and engrossing examination of the oft-suppressed story of the 2004 coup d'etat in Haiti, this film investigates the events that led to the second violent expulsion of Aristide from Haiti, and reveals the tangled web of hope, deceit, and political violence that has brought the world's first black republic to its knees.



APRIL 17

Something New: Dr. Sanchez

Kenya McQueen is a successful African-American CPA, working her way to the top of the corporate ladder -- but her life has become all work and no play. Urged on by her friends to try something new and to let go of her dream of the "ideal black man," she accepts a blind date with an architectural landscaper named Brian, only to cut the date short upon first sight, because Brian is white. The two meet again at a party, and Kenya hires Brian to landscape her new home. Over time, they hit it off, but Kenya's reservations threaten everything.



APRIL 24

Crash: Dr. Machibya

This compelling urban thriller tracks the volatile intersection of a Brentwood housewife and her D.A. husband, a Persian store owner, two police detectives who are also lovers, an African-American television director and his wife, a Mexican locksmith, two car-jackers, a rookie cop, and a middle-aged Korean couple who are struggling to overcome their fears as they careen in and out of one another's lives. In the gray area between black and white, victim and aggressor, they will collide.



Discussions moderated by Africana Studies Faculty members listed above.

This film series is an extension of AFAS-300 – Historical Overview of African Cinema and Filmmaking. This series is open to students enrolled at the University of Arizona. For individuals not enrolled and would like to observe, please contact the Director prior to each screening.

Please call 621-5664 for additional information