



# Nubiart Diary

No.433 / 15 Oct 2020

***'A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE ON THE AFRIKAN WORLD'***

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- ~ Frederick Nathaniel 'Toots' Hibbert, O.J. (8 Dec 1942 – 11 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer.
- ~ Lynford 'Hux' Brown (4 Dec 1944 – 18 June 2020). Guitarist. Arranger.
- ~ Edward O'Sullivan Lee / Bunny 'Striker' Lee OD (23 Aug 1941 – 6 Oct 2020). Producer. Engineer.
- ~ John Lester Nash Jr (19 Aug 1940 – 6 Oct 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer. Actor.
- ~ Ronald Nathan Bell / Khalis Bayyan (1 Nov 1951 – 9 Sep 2020). Composer. Singer-songwriter. Musical Director. Producer.
- ~ Roy Charles Hammond (3 Aug 1939 – 16 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer. Record shop owner.
- ~ DeWayne Julius Rogers (9 May 1948 – 22 Aug 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer.
- ~ Pamela Rose Hutchinson (1958 – 18 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter.
- ~ Phyllis Evans Coard (2 Nov 1943 - 6 Sep 2020). Government Minister. Educationalist.

~ Stanley Lawrence Crouch (14 Dec 1945 – 16 Sep 2020). Poet. Drummer. Music and cultural critic. Novelist. Biographer. Co-Founder, Jazz at the Lincoln Center.

~ Waldemar dos Santos Alonso de Almeida Bastos (4 Jan 1954 – 10 Aug 2020). Singer-songwriter. Guitarist.

~ Gershon Rodrigues Cortes / Gerson 'King' Combo (30 Nov 1943 – 20 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Promoter. Dancer. Choreographer.

~ Anthony Peter Jones / Purpleman [Ranking Purple / Peter Yellow / Yellowman] (4 Jan 1962 - 19 Aug 2020). Deejay. Songwriter. Producer.

~ Denver 'Feluké' Smith (24 Mar 1977 – 5 Sep 2020). Percussionist. Composer. Producer. Singer.

~ Thomas Jefferson Byrd (25 June 1950 – 3 Oct 2020). Actor. Screen and stage actor. Dancer.

~ Marlyatou Barry (- 26 Sep 2020). Physician. Government Minister.

## **FORTHCOMING NUBIART PROFILES**

### **OCT PROMOS**

~ 'GOT TO BE TOUGH' – Toots and the Maytals [Trojan Jamaica / BMG – Out Now]

### **NUBIART LIBRARY – OCT MEDIA**

~ 'LET LOVE HAVE THE LAST WORD: A MEMOIR' - Common [Atria Books. ISBN: 978-1-5011-3315-2]

### **NUBIART DIARY**

## **NUBIART EDITORIALS**

Nubiart Editorials for previous years are available as annual reviews in MS Word. To receive them e-mail us stating which year you are interested in. You can view the video for the arts section of this edition on Youtube.

The video for the arts section of Nubiart Diary No.432 is at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OJ-2c\\_5sPE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OJ-2c_5sPE)

The video for the arts section of Nubiart Diary No.431 is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oj2lo051rWI>

The video for the arts section of Nubiart Diary No.430 is at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZBSa3N8U6U>

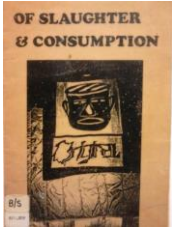
The 'What Is Beauty?' video from our archive is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFbudNsElfg>

The 'Dr Shihan de Silva - Afrikans in the East' video from our archive is at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Nm-nfvDPTo>

The 'Akyaba Addai-Sebo - The Origins of BHM in Britain' video from our archive is at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zrBMH2ryck>

## LYRICS & SPIRITS

“O ye gods of the underworld, who set yourself up against me, and who resist the mighty ones, the stars which never set have led me on my way.” - Ch. 78, *The Papyrus of Ani*



### ~ **WORRIES & PROBLEMS**

Social workers for social problems

But we're not the problem

We are the victims

Of their inferiority complex

And their complex society and structures

Which they have built & maintain

To justify the rape

Robbery

Murder

Ignorance

Power lust

And insensitivity

The disrespect for Mother Nature

The disrespect for Father Time

“Time is money and money has to make

So don't waste out time

Talking about natural progression

Nature is there to be controlled

If we weren't meant to control it

We wouldn't have been given the capacity

To invent the technology.”

In 400 years

The so-called progressive

And civilised

Westernised

Democratic

Sanitised

(Or satanised) states

Have allowed their leaders

And a handful of others  
To radically reroute the earth's path  
Now its global destruction  
Not more leisure time  
Toxic waste dumping  
And holes in the ozone layer  
Have taken over from  
"We've never had it so good"  
We've never had it  
Peace of mind that is  
Not for a long yesterday anyway  
So to certain certain man that's good  
We're too busy getting through  
Their web of lies  
To stop them hitch-hiking to mega-profit  
On the backs of our labours  
To stop them raping our mothers and sisters  
To put them on their back in labour  
To stop them by organising a real solution  
Not the irrelevance of Tory or Labour  
Lawd! Some man come down  
With some seriously distressing behaviour.

One day I step out  
'Cos I feel the stress  
¼ mile down the road  
For my good intention I get arrest  
They take mee to court  
To face their legal (dis)section  
Afrika ltyopia,  
My legal adviser  
Help with my defence  
With a Statement of Intent  
'What I do I feel  
Helps to develop  
My character  
And foster understanding  
Being my expression of self  
And encouraging  
The free expression of others

As I learn from a variety of sources  
And I'm prepared to take  
Criticisms of me on board.  
Whether others feel the same way  
About my criticisms of them  
Is for them to worry over.  
In my actions  
I want to minimise  
Unnecessary distress  
To those I love  
And whose opinions I respect.  
To those who don't respect me  
I try to stay far from  
Or keep my dealings  
Strictly Business.  
When it all runs together  
I feel good  
Like I know I should.  
I don't have worries and problems  
I just have to share earth  
With certain man  
And put up with the results  
Of their actions.'

© Kubara Zamani – 10/5/89. First published in 'Of Slaughter & Consumption' (1991).

## **AFRIKAN WORLDVIEW UPDATE**



Barbadian Prime Minister Mia Mottley  
called for the removal of the colonial  
Head of State ©Getty Images

### **~ BARBADOS SEEKS TO REMOVE BRITISH QUEEN AS HEAD OF STATE**

Barbados has announced its intention to remove the British Queen as its head of state and become a republic by the 55th anniversary of its independence from Britain in Nov 2021. The current Prime Minister Mia Mottley made the statement in the Throne Speech, which outlines the government's policies and programmes ahead of the new session of parliament. In the speech read out by the governor-general PM

Mottley said Barbadians wanted a Barbadian head of state. Her speech read: "The time has come to fully leave our colonial past behind... This is the ultimate statement of confidence in who we are and what we are capable of achieving."

The speech quoted a warning from Errol Barrow, Barbados's first Prime Minister after independence in 1966, who said that the country should not 'loiter on colonial premises'. A constitutional review commission recommended republican status for Barbados as far back as 1998. Former British colonies across the Caribbean have become republics but remained in the Commonwealth. It is hoped that the growth of the #BlackLivesMatter movement and the rejection of symbols of colonial oppression will lead to increased political pressure on other Caribbean governments to remove the Queen as their head of state.



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Non-State Actors Reparations Commission Inc.**

**September 3, 2020**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**To: NGO / Civil Society Sector**

**Dear Comrades,**

**Re: Black Lives Matter: Reparations and Economic Enfranchisement!**

The Vice Chancellor of the West Indies, Professor Sir. Hilary Beckles delivered the Ermie Bourne Memorial Lecture for 2020 on August 8 during which he presented the history of Barbados and inform us as to why Barbados should use the Nelson statue as a product for Reparations and Economic Enfranchisement. View the link. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aL1qY\\_Wk0eg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aL1qY_Wk0eg)

The statue of Admiral Horatio Lord Nelson was erected in March 1813 and has been standing in the capital city of Barbados as a colossal for 207 years. It is the first of its kind to have been erected to symbolise white supremacy – Racism. This Nelson statue is 30 years older than the Nelson Column in Trafalgar Square London that was unveiled in November 1843, and some 73 years older than the Statue of Liberty in New York of October 1886. A significant number of tourists who visit England go to London to view the Nelson column in Trafalgar Square, and the majority of tourists who visit New York will go to see the Statue of Liberty and to learn of its history. The Nelson statue can become such a tourist attraction for Barbados.

During this period of the Black Lives Matter movement the Government of Barbados passed a resolution and has agreed to the relocation of the Nelson statue. How it is treated could determine what benefits are derived from this historic monument. Sir Hilary has informs us that Barbados was the first total slave society

and that its 1661 Slave Code Act influenced the world. The slave code act of Barbados is a product of a remarkable event that took place on October 12, 1492. The truth about that date's event has eluded the world for 528 years. The Caucasians group has used the event to fashion their lies by promoting October 12 as Discovery Day and Columbus Day. From 1990 a Barbadian has been calling for October 12 to be an International Day of Hope for truth, justice, peace, healing and reconciliation to acknowledge the kindness of the Africans that Columbus encountered. Since 1992 the indigenous people of the Americas have countered the Caucasians claims by proclaiming October 12 as Indigenous Peoples Day. It is now for African people who have suffered most following that historic event of 1492 to also claim October 12 as our day of significance.

## **Proposal**

The Non-State Actors Reparations Commission (NsARC) is seeking the support of the NGO and Civil Society sector for our proposal to government that the Nelson statue should be removed from National Heroes Square this October 12 and that from 2021 the date October 12 be commemorated as a National Day of Atonement. Repairing the damage of the past 528 years and freeing our minds from Mental Slavery is a daunting process, and the NsARC is of the view that if Barbados is to undo some of what was done by the enactment of the 1661 slave code having a National Day of Atonement would be very positive on future generations. If this was done it would not be seeking to undermine the claims of either the Caucasian or the indigenous people's groups. However, it would put the history of Barbados on a trajectory to repair some of the damage as we prepare to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Barbados as a colony of England in 2027.

The NsARC intend to produce a short film entitle the spirits speak on the removal of the Nelson statue that could be shown on networks around the world. An introduction to the film is the link below for your information.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eBJ4TNvBtKN2VTAxm254JZL-DYJAiuWI/view?usp=sharing\\_eil&ts=5f47d595](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eBJ4TNvBtKN2VTAxm254JZL-DYJAiuWI/view?usp=sharing_eil&ts=5f47d595)

This proposal for the removal of the Nelson statue on October 12 is not new, in 1999 during the national consultation on racism the date October 12, 2000 was put forward as most appropriate for the removal of the statue (See Barbados Advocate of August 13, 1999). The proposal for the date becoming a National Day of Atonement from 2021 is in support of the Black Lives Matter movement that is having a global impact. Therefore, the date that this historic symbol of white supremacy is removed should be of spiritual significant and there is no better date than October 12 for the following reasons; (1) in 1990 October 12 was put before 178 world leaders and also to the people of the world as a date for truth, justice, peace, healing and reconciliation, and to expose the genocide programme that is now in place to depopulate the world through the GOVID-19 pandemic (2) in 1995 October 12 was put before the government as a draft resolution that was recommended for consideration to be tabled at the United Nations for truth, justice and peace (3) the October 12 draft resolution was presented to the 2001 World Conference on Racism held in Durban, South Africa (4) on October 12, 2012 Barbados established a National Task Force on Reparations,

its report of 2017 is now to be implemented via a special department (5) in October 2013 the World Social Forum proclaimed October 12 as the International Day for Reparations; and (6) in October 2017 the CARICOM Reparations Commission proclaimed October 12 as Caribbean Holocaust Day. Therefore, the month of October is worthy to promote truth, justice, peace, healing and reconciliation as in addition to the above it is the birth month of our prime minister and also of the two former female Prime Ministers of England. It is the month when the first aviation terrorist bombing of an air plane took place in Barbados waters.

When the above information is taken into consideration along with the fact that the first Barbados Embassy on the African continent is to be open in October and our prime minister has been nominated to be chairperson of the World Bank and the IMF from November having a National Day of Atonement in 2021 would place Barbados higher on the world agenda as we advance towards 2027.

I thank you for your consideration in this matter and look forward to a meeting to further discuss the proposal.

Sincerely,

Rev. Buddy Larrier

For NsARC



© AFP

### **~ ZIMBABWEAN GOVERNMENT FORCED TO 'SUE FOR PEACE' IN FARMLAND DISPUTE**

The Zimbabwean Government has been forced to compensate the mainly European land occupiers who have had their land confiscated and repossessed over the last two decades. In accordance with the 1979 Lancaster House Agreement by which Zimbabwe gained its independence from its colonial oppressor, Britain, the government waited until the year 2000 to bring about extensive land reform. By this time the British government under Tony Blair had reneged on its obligations to compensate the European occupiers who controlled large tracts of the country's most fertile land leaving the majority indigenous Afrikan population in generational poverty. It should be remembered that Europeans either stole the land or 'purchased' it in racist and fraudulent transactions under Eurocentric contract law. It is also wrong to call them 'farmers' as most of the actual farming work was done by their Afrikan employees while the Europeans raked in the profits and paid their workers a pittance, often with spuriously justified 'deductions' for poor food, travel and substandard accommodation.



In the intervening 20 years the Zimbabwean government has tried to resettle Afrikans and give them an opportunity to become major landowners again in a rightful return to pre-colonial justice while taking into account modern demographics and economic realities. However, their plans were sabotaged by Europeans within the country who refused to sell their excess farmland which they weren't using for productive purposes and where they did offer to sell it was at exorbitant, highly inflated prices that revealed a lack of patriotism to a free and independent Zimbabwe. The Europeans also hoarded produce or sold it abroad creating shortages within Zimbabwe. Meanwhile, their European 'kith-and-kin' engaged in political, economic sanctions and a global propaganda offensive making it impossible for the Zimbabwean economy to grow and reducing the scope for neighbours and allied countries to come to their aid through US control of the SWIFT system under which all major financial transactions are conducted.

The emergence of Covid-19 basically sealed the fate of Zimbabwean government's adherence to the letter of the Lancaster House deal as there was no way they could bolster their economy in the middle of a pandemic. Thus the Zimbabwean government was forced to 'sue for peace' and offer a generous compensation package to land occupiers. President Emmerson Mnangagwa revealed that 3,500 European land occupiers will share \$3.5bn for improvements they made on their properties during their period of occupation. Half this sum is to be paid within the next 12 months, with the balance spread over five years. There will be no compensation for compulsorily acquired land.

The agreement also covers 400 Afrikan Zimbabwean farmers and 37 foreign European land occupiers who were protected by Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreements (Bippa) who would be given their land back. The government recently announced that "Where the situation presently obtaining on the ground makes it impractical to restore land in this category to its former owners, government will offer the former farm owners alternative land elsewhere as restitution."

A group of war veterans have denounced the agreement and threatened to sue the government. Their lawyer's letter described the agreement as "highly discriminatory, degrading and akin to selling out the liberation struggle".



A pyramid in Sudan over 2,300-years-old

© Getty Images

## **~ NILE FLOODS IN SUDAN THREATEN ANCIENT PYRAMIDS**

Sudan's ancient pyramids are under threat from flooding as heavy rains have caused the River Nile to reach record-breaking levels. The Nile regularly bursts its banks and farmers rely on the floodwaters to create fertile land, but this year's flooding has seen around 200 people perish by drowning, mudslides and

building collapses. Around one million people have been affected with many made homeless leading the government to declare a three-month state of emergency as 17 of the country's 18 states face the deluge. The Water Ministry said the level of the Blue Nile, which is the Nile's main tributary, has risen to its highest level since records began more than a century ago.



The site of pyramids, temples, palaces and cemeteries. © Getty Images

The UN-designated World Heritage Site at al-Bajrawiya, was the heartland of the ancient Kingdom of Kush, and is normally 500m (550 yards) from the Nile. UNESCO says the area 200km north-east of Khartoum has hundreds of archaeological relics such as pyramids, temples, palaces, cemeteries and other places of interest that "testify to the wealth and power of the Kushite State", a major power in the region for more than 1,000 years from the eighth Century BC. Archaeologist Marc Maillot said they have built sandbag walls and are pumping out water to protect the sites of the ancient Meroe civilisation. "The floods had never affected the site before. The situation is currently under control, but if the level of the Nile continues to rise, the measures taken may not be sufficient."



#GandhiMustFall campaigners topple his statue

### ~ **GANDHI BUST ERECTED IN MALAWI DESPITE PROTESTS**

A bust of the Indian independence activist Mahatma Gandhi has been unveiled in the Malawian capital, Lilongwe, two years after critics prevented a Gandhi statue from being erected in the southern city of Blantyre. The Indian high commission's original plans in 2018 met stiff resistance from some locals who formed the Gandhi Must Fall movement. They highlighted Gandhi's use of racial slurs against Afrikans and took the matter to court.

In Lilongwe the plans to unveil the bust were not announced in advance and the Indian diplomats got around any possible objections by siting it within the grounds of their offices. It was unveiled on the birthday of Gandhi, who was assassinated in 1948 at the age of 78. The unveiling ceremony was attended by Malawi's Foreign Minister Eisenhower Mkaka who praised Gandhi saying: "Mahatma Gandhi, who led

India's freedom movement through non-violent struggle, is not only an icon for India but also a global icon that set the ball rolling for emancipation from the colonial struggle.”

While people have undoubtedly learnt some valuable lessons from Gandhi he remains a controversial figure across Afrika where campaigns have been organised in the likes of South Africa and Ghana over plans to erect statues in his honour. Gandhi did not only express anti-Afrikan opinions but also was dismissive of the rights of the Dalits, Untouchables, Scheduled Castes in India. He clashed with Dr B R Ambedkar, the writer of the Indian constitution, who sought to ensure that Hindu caste discrimination was not legitimated in the newly independent nation.

The British Chancellor millionaire Rishi Sunak, whose father-in-law is the richest man in all of India, put forward Gandhi when suggestions were sought for non-Europeans to be on future bank notes. Sunak totally ignored the concerns that have been expressed over decades about honouring a person who is recorded as being so notoriously anti-Afrikan and speaking in support of ingrained discriminatory practices.



Ethiopian migrants were expelled by Yemeni rebels to Saudi Arabia © AFP

### **~ DEATHS AT SAUDI ARABIAN DETENTION CENTRES**

At least three people have died in detention centres housing thousands of Ethiopian migrants in Saudi Arabia. According to Amnesty International the migrants were facing ‘unimaginable cruelty’ including being chained together in pairs and using their cell floors as toilets. The detainees had been working in northern Yemen but were expelled by the Houthi rebels. The UN's International Organization for Migration said another 2,000 Ethiopians remain stranded on the Yemeni side of the border, without food, water or healthcare.

Thousands of Ethiopians go to Saudi Arabia for work, making the kingdom nation a key investor and source of foreign remittances for Ethiopia. There were up to 500,000 illegal migrants from Ethiopia in the country when Saudi authorities began a crackdown in 2017. An average of 10,000 Ethiopians were being deported each month which only slowed when Ethiopian officials requested a moratorium because of the coronavirus pandemic as they didn't have enough space to quarantine the returnees.

Tsion Teklu, a state minister at Ethiopia's foreign ministry, said the total number of Ethiopian migrants in Saudi detention facilities was 16,000 earlier this year but that it had since gone down. Amnesty interviewed detained Ethiopian migrants about conditions in the al-Dayer detention centre, Jizan central prison, and prisons in Jeddah and Mecca. Conditions were worst in al-Dayer and Jizan, where detainees were sharing

cells with 350 people and men from Ethiopia, Yemen and Somalia perished in al-Dayer. The report, corroborated by videos, photos and satellite imagery, said: "All those interviewed said they knew of people who had died in detention, and four people said they had seen bodies themselves."

### **Ethiopian Government Press Release on Irregular Migrants in KSA**

Ethiopia continues to receive its most vulnerable citizens from the Kingdom of Saudi (KSA), although the COVID-19 infection rate spikes at home. Since April 2020, Ethiopia has repatriated and quarantined 3,500 of the most vulnerable migrants. They have been in the process of being reintegrated into their community.

Another round of 2,000 comprised of women, unaccompanied minors, and migrants with health conditions have begun to arrive in the capital since the eve of Ethiopian New Year in a safe and dignified manner. So far, we have received 964 (58 infants), assisted them in the temporary transit places (universities in the capital), and sent them to their destination community for reintegration.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reviewed the repatriation process in the month of April to assure safe and dignified repatriation involving all sector Ministries. This change has brought about smooth and effective coordination in the process of identification with detailed data, sharing information among sector ministries, confirmation of citizenship and security checks, repatriation, transition/quarantine, psychosocial support, and reintegration. Data management has helped all involved to make preparation ahead of time before migrants arrived and enabled the government to provide expedited assistance to returnees.

Migration on the East and Horn of Africa route is a large scale, mixed in terms of types of migrants involved, and heavily facilitated by smuggling and trafficking networks. Over 90% of the migration along this route are bound for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). The convergence of the irregular nature of the migration, involvement of smugglers and traffickers, and the ongoing conflict in Yemen – the transit country to KSA – results in migrants facing significant threats to their lives and human rights.

Torture, sexual abuse, and other forms of violence are day-to-day experiences among migrants on this route. Migrants also suffer from dehydration, hunger, and exposure to the elements on a journey that can last several months. This makes the repatriation process even more complicated as the psychosocial support is intense. The reintegration process also needs enormous resources as returnees come back home empty-handed while costing their family or themselves scores of resources in the aspiration of a better life in KSA.



### **~ US-ORCHESTRATED CHAOS ACROSS MENA REGION**

The US has been overseeing increasing destabilization across the Middle East and North Afrika region as the clock ticks down to the hopeful removal of the genocidaires in Washington and Jerusalem. Bahrain and the UAE signed up to the so-called 'deal of the century' making peace with the Israeli Occupational Government in Palestine. The selling out of the indigenous Palestinians legitimate First Nations rights by a growing number of Arab states will be added to the disasters of the last four years of the US Presidency. All this at a time the genocidaire Netanyahu is facing court trials for his rampant corruption and regular mass protests over that and his failings in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Currently, Lebanon is being pressured into a maritime deal with the Israelis. The neighbouring states have technically remained at war since the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1948-49. While there is no agreed land border between them, they are committed to a ceasefire along the so-called Blue Line. The boundary was drawn up by the UN after Israeli forces withdrew from southern Lebanon in 2000, ending 22 years of occupation.

This is part of a trend where countries that want to have trade deals with the US must now agree to end support for the Boycott, Divestment Sanctions campaign. Kenya was recently forced to make such decisions despite the well-established Afrikan links with the Palestinian liberation forces stretching back decades. They trained, provided safe bases and logistics for many of the anti-colonial forces. In return it was Tunisia that the PLO retreated to when they were forced out of their homeland in the aftermath of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camp massacres by the Israelis and their Christian Phalangist proxies in 1982. Afrikans living in Israel are facing harassment, racist abuse, poverty and detention as a result of the actions of not only the Israeli police and military but the wider Israeli society.

The recognition of the Israeli occupational government by two more states to add to Egypt and Jordan officially and Turkey and Saudi Arabia in an unofficial capacity led to an increase in cross border violence between the territories remaining to the Palestinians and that of the occupiers. Israel has now started flights to the UAE and there is even talk of Sudan jumping on the bandwagon once it can get the sanctions imposed because of the atrocities committed in Darfur lifted. The removal of Omar al-Bashir was seen as a first step to getting in the US and Israelis' good books.

The current realignment comes as nations buy into the US rhetorical fantasies about the alleged dangers and destabilisation of Iran. A typical reverse psyops scheme as the most destabilising countries across the MENA region over the last century apart from the Europeans have been Saudi Arabia, Israel and their hangers-on. Like Saudi Arabia, the UAE has been quietly acquiring intrusive Israeli-made surveillance software to keep an eye on its citizens. The UAE is increasingly seeing itself as a major player in world affairs. As well as its sellout deal with the Israelis it has sent a mission to Mars and sent panneloads of Covid-19 Personal Protective Equipment to Britain. But it is its role in Libya, Yemen and Somalia that is of most concern. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, a graduate of Britain's Royal Military Academy Sandhurst is overseeing the UAE's growing military strategies. He had been in charge of the first modern Arab state's military deployment in Europe, in support of NATO in Kosovo.



Drone strike on Libyan cadets doing military drills

A drone operated by the United Arab Emirates killed 26 unarmed teenage cadets at a military academy in Libya's capital at the start of this year at a time when Tripoli was under siege by the so-called 'Libyan National Army'. The drones only operated out of the al-Khadim air base in LNA-controlled eastern Libya and the UAE supplied and operated the drones stationed there. The LNA, under Gen Khalifa Haftar, denied that it was behind the strike. Ghassan Salamé, the former head of the UN mission in Libya, described this as "possibly the largest drone war theatre now in the world".

Meanwhile, Egypt is allowing the UAE to use Egyptian military air bases close to the Libyan border near Siwa in the western Egyptian desert. A second Egyptian military air base, Sidi Barrani, has been used as an operating base for Mirage 2000 fighter jets painted in colours which exactly match the jets flown by the UAE. This is the same model of plane implicated by the UN in an air strike on a migrant centre east of Tripoli in July 2019 in which 53 people were killed. Sidi Barrani is also the destination for multiple cargo planes that took off from the UAE, suggesting an air bridge for equipment or supplies between the UAE and a military base just 80km from the Libyan border.



The UAE jumped in to support Saudi Arabia's Prince Mohammed bin Salman invasion of Yemen in the civil war in 2015. The UAE's F-16 fighters conducted air strikes against the Houthi rebels and troops were sent into the battered nation such as on the strategic Yemeni island of Socotra. An assault force based at Assab in Eritrea had planned to cross the Red Sea and retake the port of Hudaydah from the Houthis. As with its Saudi neighbour the UAE has tried to play both sides of a conflict by being linked to local militias affiliated to al-Qaeda that locked dozens of prisoners inside a shipping container, where they suffocated to death in the heat.

In the Somali theatre the UAE is supporting the breakaway territory of Somaliland, which is relatively peaceful but not internationally recognised due to 'territorial integrity' concerns. The UAE has built a military base at Berbera on the Gulf of Aden. Last month the UAE sent ships and fighter jets to the island of Crete for joint exercises with Greece at a time when there were fears of a possible confrontation with Turkey over drilling rights in the eastern Mediterranean.

## **WHAT THE 'COVID-19 PANDEMIC' HAS TAUGHT US**

### **~ 'THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – ONE YEAR ON'**

It is one year since Covid-19 / SARS-CoV-2 was released into the general public. The story starts when US scientists overseen by Dr Anthony Fauci started doing research into coronaviruses that could jump species from bats. He was probably operating out of Fort Detrick in Maryland where the Ebola virus and Lassa fever were created towards the end of the 1960s. In 2015 US government funding was withdrawn and Fauci transferred the research to Institute of Virology in Wuhan in China. The city has a population of 10 million but it is not well-known outside of academic and research circles but it is a major student hub similar to Oxford or Cambridge in Britain. Looking back through our e-mails we were offered work there several years ago as TEFL teachers as China is the country where English language training is most in demand.

In 18-27 Oct 2019 the Military World Games took place in Wuhan and among the attendees were personnel from the various branches of the US military. It was after this visit that people began falling ill with a new virus. Towards the end of the year the Wuhan Center for Disease Control and Prevention detected a novel coronavirus in two hospital patients with atypical pneumonia and the Institute of Virology were asked to look into it.

It is not confirmed whether the US military chemical and biological warfare scientists released the disease in the Wuhan 'wet' / live animal market knowing it would spread given the crowded facilities and poor sanitation or if they visited one of the institutes and released or activated it there. Alternative theories are that there was no US involvement in the outbreak but that it came from one of the Wuhan research institutes either by accident or intentionally. At the turn of the year the disease was spreading across south east Asia. There were fears that there could be mass outbreak during the forthcoming Chinese New Year celebrations. However, even before that was the Eurocentric Christmas and New Year festivities which included large gatherings and mass global travel. Today there are disputes pushing forward the date when Europeans first became infected with what became known as Covid-19 but it centres around that holiday period. The number 19 is a reference to the year in which it came into the public and is not as stupid people tried to make out that it is the 19<sup>th</sup> version of a virus.

The World Health Organisation has decreed that diseases should no longer be named after the places they were first reported in order to prevent stigmatising a group of people or geographical area. Therefore illnesses will not be named as 'Spanish Flu', 'Ebola', 'Marburg', etc. The WHO decision also meant that it could raise more funds and awareness around diseases by making them of general concern worldwide. The place where a disease is first recorded is not necessarily where it was created, the most people will be infected, there are the greatest fatalities or it will have the most widespread political, economic or medical impact. If we kept the original naming system then on many grounds Covid-19 could be called the 'US disease' as that is the country with the most deaths – 220,000 and technically speaking it was where the strain originated all those years ago.

It appears that the countries with the highest number of Covid-19 fatalities all have fascist, racist and supremacist governments – US, India, Brazil and Britain. In China there have only been around 6,000 deaths in a population of 1.3bn whereas in the US with a quarter of the population has 40 times the fatalities. Apart from South Africa and Egypt most Afrikan and Afrikan-descended majority countries have very low mortality rates. However, where Afrikans and Latinos live among Europeans their mortality rates skyrocket far in excess to their proportion of the population. This indicates that racism, poor diet, low-paid work, public-facing roles, inadequate medical treatment, lack of access to PPE, poor housing, unequal employment in health and social care posts are contributory factors i.e. Covid-19 does not see race but it seeks out poverty and discrimination to exploit.

The low Chinese fatality rate is partly because they took stringent security measures at the same time as using Traditional Chinese Medicine to fight the disease. Low rates in Afrika and the Caribbean are believed to be because part of the diet still includes a high-degree of non-processed and organic foods. Vitamin D is now being investigated for its role in combating Covid-19. Anti-malarials have also been used. South Africa is using polio and MMR vaccines to slow the progress of the disease. When we were at school we had to get a BCG vaccine for TB which was meant to last a lifetime. It was halted in 2005 but it also is being investigated for its properties.

There have been at least 25 cases of symptomatic reinfection in different countries. Researchers say that of the people diagnosed with Covid-19 at least a million could be reinfected asymptotically. However it is not even clear whether the test shows up positive for Polymerase Chain Reaction, Covid-19 or its traces. People have also reported suffering from 'long Covid', where they have been diagnosed and suffered the symptoms of Covid-19 but having tested negative they still have significant health issues such as fatigue, vertigo, shortness of breath, disorientation and debilitation.

There is no indication whether the vaccines now being rapidly researched around the world will be annual like flu, 10 years like Yellow fever or lifetime. None of the Big Pharma, politicians or public health officials will admit what the ingredients in these vaccines include but they will almost definitely include animal parts, genetically-modified pathogens and carcinogenic bulking agents. They will have a risk of side effects as that is how allopathic medicines work. Given they want to vaccinate everybody a 0.1% risk would result in eight million adverse reactions – if the vaccine is annual then this would have a cumulative effect and we'll leave it to our readers to do the maths! That is before we address the issue of whether Afrikans, Asians and Latinos would be given the same high quality of vaccine as our European 'Master Race overlords'.

Living in Britain we have to look at the multi-millionaire incompetence of the current Tory government and their advisors. They told us that they were 'following the science' when science is not an all-conquering objective set of circumstances or indisputable facts. It turns out they weren't even following the scientists but making it up as they go along on a day-by-day, hour-by-hour basis to such a degree that neither the Crime Monster or several of his ministers were able to explain in a coherent manner. They told us their test



and trace system would be 'world-beating' which turned out to be a euphemism for shambolic. People were being told to travel hundreds of miles to get a test when their nearest clinic was empty. Results were meant to be delivered within 24-48 hours but people were waiting up to nine days to hear what their condition was missing out on work, school and visiting relatives. The App that people were to use wouldn't let people record a negative test result. The government also counted as tests completed packs that they had sent out and that had not been returned. Their ambition is to do 10 million tests a day early next year despite none of the technology or infrastructure being in place and them struggling to do 200,000 daily tests.

The Tories claimed their medical, economic and educational systems were 'Robust'. Which in reality meant they would change their mind to the complete opposite within 24 hours - or 48 if they are seeking for an equally impractical scheme or scam to replace it with. As was the case with the lack of exams during the summer and the government being forced to do things they had previously claimed there was no justification for. The Chancellor Rishi Sunak with his rictus grin announced his 'Eat Out To Help Out' discount scheme to last for the month of August to encourage people to go back to dining out. He was then part of a campaign to get people to return to their workplaces and that the transport system was safe threatening those who were reluctant that they may be the most likely to be made redundant. Within a fortnight of the 'Eat Out To Help Out' scheme ending the government was telling people to go back to working from home as people had been over-socialising and infection rates were rapidly rising again. Sunak, whose personal wealth is put at £200m and whose father-in-law is the richest man in India, was never going to come up with a support scheme for people unable to work by government diktat as he doesn't care about poor people as his focus is on ensuring big corporations continue to thrive while paying little or no taxes.

People of Afrikan descent were the most likely to be stopped, fined and criminalised during this pandemic. The government have been increasing the fines for entering premises without a mask, failing to observe quarantine, meeting in groups larger than six or 30 and even being outdoors thus in true capitalist spirit turning a crisis into another money making opportunity aimed at impoverishing the most oppressed and discriminated against.

The Tories have fallen under the spectre of 'Three' – inane three-word or three-slogan messages such as 'Get Brexit Done', 'Test, Trace, Isolate', 'Hands, Face, Space', etc. Now they have introduced three categories of measures for disease control – 'medium, high and very high'. Crazy - there is no low, very low or none just so they can tell themselves they have offered the public simple messages to follow. They're a bunch of incompetent, lying idiots! And none of them have any shred of what the millennials call 'impostor syndrome' despite their trail of failure that has led to so much death, illness, mental stress and economic destruction.

## **LEGAL CASE**

Dr. Reiner Fuellmich is one of four lawyers who are going to court over what they are calling the greatest crime against humanity ever committed over responses to what is being called Covid-19. They are suing under section 7 of International Criminal Court - <https://youtu.be/kr04gHbP5MQ>

## **CRIME SCENE UK**

'No person of Afrikan descent is considered to have any rights that a European or government-appointed official feels duty-bound to respect.'



© PA Media

### **~ GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY**

The Grenfell Tower Inquiry is ongoing with the affected relatives and friends forced to watch shut out of proceedings and forced to watch them remotely online on a special feed. The evidence heard so far highlights the callous indifference with which contractors, the council and building management team considered the residents and campaigners for decent housing and secure buildings. The inquiry has already concluded that the cladding fuelled the fire in June 2017 that murdered at least 72 people and destroyed the lives of hundreds more. The Grenfell Next Of Kin group representing victims, survivors and the bereaved has called for the inquiry to "investigate the extent of institutional racism as a factor" in the tragedy. It is also seeking "inclusive and full participation" in plans for the memorial site and a "proper and independent recovery and support plan" for those directly affected by the disaster.

In the second phase of the inquiry Ray Bailey, a Director of Harley Facades, claimed he was confused about the fire safety regulations for cladding. He said similar lack of knowledge was widespread across the building industry over materials approved for use on tall buildings.

One section of the guidance for meeting the government's building regulations stated that materials used on towers above 18m needed to have a Class 0 (zero) rating, though another European classification was equally acceptable. The government claims its guidance required the insulation used in cladding systems to be of 'limited combustibility'. Bailey said he believed that if the materials were Class 0 'throughout' then this automatically meant this also meant they had 'limited combustibility'. In fact Class 0 only applies to how the surface of the cladding resists the spread of flames, not its overall combustibility. The insulation panels used on Grenfell Tower were rated Class 0, but were not of limited combustibility. The Reynobond PE cladding had a core made from flammable plastic!!!

Arconic, the manufacturer of the cladding, had tested various its product in various scenarios in 2013, and gave them poor ratings for fire safety. The product performed worse when it was shaped into 'cassette' boxes, the design used at Grenfell Tower. One test had to be stopped due to a 'flash-over', meaning the cladding could only be rated E, the second lowest on a six-point scale. The Reynobond PE cladding had a class B rating. This indicates either a failure to share relevant life-saving information or corruption within the agencies responsible for overseeing the classification system.

Zak Maynard, a commercial manager from construction firm Rydon, who refurbished Grenfell Tower, wrote in 2014 that the company would be "quids in" by using cheaper cladding which would cover a £212,000 shortfall after a costing error.

The public spending watchdog the NAO said the government was failing to strip all high-rise buildings of Aluminium Composite Materials cladding similar to that used on Grenfell Tower. Work was still outstanding on around 300 buildings. Last month the Tory government rejected a Labour party amendment to the Fire Safety Bill which would have ensured that recommendations from the first phase of the Grenfell Inquiry were put in place. The amendment required flat owners or building managers in England and Wales to: share information with their local fire service about the design of external walls and the materials used; carry out regular inspections of lifts and individual flat entrance doors; and share evacuation and fire safety instructions with residents of the building. The fire safety consultation closed this month.

Among those voting against it was the local MP Felicity Buchan who was elected last year. The campaign group for survivors and bereaved families, Grenfell United, tweeted it was "outraged that government and our very own MP Felicity Buchan voted against amendment to implement Grenfell recommendations...It's no surprise as the Gov continue to fail the country - almost a year since the recommendations and so little has been done. Thousands still in dangerous homes."

Another probe by the Independent Office of Police Conduct rejected claims by survivors that the use of six police helicopters for over 14 hours on the night of the fire and into the next day led to a downdraught that made the fire worse. The IOPC has released an 80-page report following an investigation prompted by a complaint made three years ago by Nabil Choucair, who lost six members of his family at Grenfell Tower.

It also rejected claims that people inside the tower tried to get to the roof in the hope of being rescued once they saw the helicopters nearby. Rooftop rescues often feature in disaster movies but the IOPC insisted it was not police policy and the National Police Air Service aircraft were operational and not rescue helicopters. It did make a recommendation that in future call handlers must ensure they give callers accurate information about their situation and what their rescue options are.

## **OBITUARIES**



Toots Hibbert performing with the Maytals in Chicago, 1982.

© Paul Natkin / Getty Images

~ **Frederick Nathaniel 'Toots' Hibbert, O.J. (8 Dec 1942 – 11 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer.**

Toots Hibbert, the lead singer of Toots and the Maytals, has passed away due to COVID-19-related complications after being placed in a medically-induced coma.

Toots Hibbert was born in May Pen, in the Jamaican parish of Clarendon. His parents were both Seventh-day Adventist preachers and so he grew up singing gospel music in a church choir. By the age of 11 Toots was an orphan and went to live with his brother John in the Trenchtown neighborhood of Kingston. While working at a local barbershop he was heard singing inside by Ralphus 'Raleigh' Gordon and Nathaniel 'Jerry' Matthias and the trio formed The Maytals taking the name from Hibbert's hometown of May Pen and a reference to the Rastafari term 'ital' meaning 'do the right thing'. Toots was a multi-instrumentalist who could play every instrument in the band while his singing was influenced by Otis Redding, Ray Charles, Wilson Pickett, and James Brown.



Toots and the Maytals © Getty Images

The Maytals became one of the most popular vocal groups on the island throughout the 1960s recording with producers like Coxsone Dodd, Prince Buster, Byron Lee, Ronnie Nasralla, and Leslie Kong. In 1966, Toots was sentenced to 18 months in prison for possession of marijuana which was the inspiration for the classic '54-46 That's My Number'. Toots & the Maytals were among the first artists to use the word 'reggae', in 1968's 'Do the Reggay' which marked the move away from the smoother rocksteady beat to a faster more danceable sound. They were backed by the musicians known as the Beverley's All-Stars which consisted of Jackie Jackson, Winston Wright, Hux Brown, Rad Bryan, Paul Douglas and Winston Grennan. The like of guitarist Hux Brown, who passed away earlier this year, would remain with the Maytals for 35 years. Toots said: "I recorded this song [Do The Reggay] and people told me that the song let them know that our music is called Reggae. So I'm the one who coined the word!"

In 1970 the Maytals appeared at Wembley for the first major reggae festival in Britain along with Bob & Marcia, Desmond Dekker and the Pioneers. They won Jamaica's National Popular Song Contest three

times with songs Hibbert wrote: in 1966 with 'Bam Bam', in 1969 with 'Sweet and Dandy' and in 1972 with 'Pomps & Pride'. Following on from the demise of Leslie Kong and their success with 'Sweet and Dandy' and 'Pressure Drop' on 'The Harder They Come' film soundtrack Toots and the Maytals moved to Island Records and released the 'Funky Kingston' album. On 1 Oct 1975 their gig at the Roxy Theatre in Los Angeles was broadcast live on KMET-FM and then re-mastered and released as the 'Sailin' On' album on Klondike Records.



Toots Hibbert © Getty Images

Toots continued gigging and recording even after the two other original founders left appearing on tracks in styles across gospel, country, soul, funk and R'n'B alongside the Jamaican styles of ska, rock steady and reggae. The band's greatest hits album 'True Love' won a Grammy Award in 2005. In 2011, Toots was featured in the documentary 'Reggae Got Soul: The Story of Toots and the Maytals'. He received Jamaica's fifth highest honour, the Order of Jamaica, in 2012. In May 2013 Toots received a head injury after being hit by a thrown bottle during a performance at the River Rock Festival in Richmond, Virginia, and it was three years before he returned to live shows. His last album would be 'Got To Be Tough', released earlier this year and co-produced by Ringo Starr's son, Zak Starkey.

Toots is survived by his wife and seven children, many of whom are involved in the music industry as musicians and singers in their own right.



Lynford 'Hux' Brown

~ **Lynford 'Hux' Brown (4 Dec 1944 – 18 June 2020). Guitarist. Arranger.** Hux Brown, whose guitar sound defined rock steady and early reggae, has passed away in Oakland, California.

Hux Brown was born in Port Antonio in the Jamaica parish of Portland. At school he was nicknamed 'Fordie' and 'Fordux', which became 'Hux'. He formed the Vikings band before moving to Kingston where he joined the Soul Brothers at Studio One. In 1967 he moved to the rival Treasure Isle studio run by Duke Reid playing with the Supersonics. He then joined the Beverly All Stars, a studio band organised by pianist/keyboardist Gladdy Anderson.

When his mentor Lynn Taitt moved to Canada Hux and Eric Frater became the two main guitarists on the island. Hux also recorded extensively with Lee 'Scratch' Perry and played rhythm guitar on many hit rocksteady and reggae records including the influential 'Girl I've Got A Date' by Alton Ellis, 'Bangarang' by Lester Sterling, 'Wear You to The Ball' by The Paragons, 'Rivers of Babylon' by the Melodians and 'The Harder They Come' by Jimmy Cliff.

He played on 'Ba Ba Boom' by The Jamaicans which won the Festival Song Competition in 1967. For Toots he played on 'Sweet and Dandy', 'Monkey Man' and 'Funky Kingston'. He later joined Toots and the Maytals' touring band where he stayed for 35 years. In 1971 was recruited by Paul Simon to play lead guitar on 'Mother and Child Reunion'.

Lynford Hux Brown is survived by his wife, daughter and two grandchildren.



Bunny Lee in 2007

~ **Edward O'Sullivan Lee / Bunny 'Striker' Lee OD (23 Aug 1941 – 6 Oct 2020). Producer. Engineer.**

The mighty Jamaican record producer Bunny 'Striker' Lee has passed away after six decades in the music industry, after suffering from kidney problems.

Bunny Lee grew up in the Greenwich Farm area of Jamaica's capital Kingston. After attending Greenwich Town and Denham Town Primary schools, he studied electrical engineering at Kingston Technical High School, while also working at the Teletronics Company to gain practical experience. At a young age Bunny Lee dated the sister of Derrick Morgan, who was at the time among the top artists on the island. Prince Buster got him part-time work as a record plugger for the popular JBC radio programme, 'Teenage Dance Party'. This gave Bunny Lee an introduction to the main figures on the music scene and he began his career working as a record plugger for Duke Reid's Treasure Isle label in 1962, later performing the same duties for Leslie Kong. He then moved on to work with Ken Lack's Caltone label, where he expanded his role to include engineering duties. Bunny's first production was 'Listen To The Music' by Lloyd & the Groovers. He then became a producer himself with his first hit record being Roy Shirley's 'Music Field' on WIRL in 1967.

Bunny Lee then set up his Lee's record label with the first release being Lloyd Jackson's 'Listen to the Beat'. He produced hits by Lester Sterling, Stranger Cole, Derrick Morgan, Slim Smith and The Uniques, Glen Adams, Ken Parker, Pat Kelly, and The Sensations, during the rock steady era which established him as one of Jamaica's top producers. Further hits came as the reggae sound developed between 1969-72

with Slim Smith's 'Everybody Needs Love', Max Romeo's 'Wet Dream', Delroy Wilson's 'Better Must Come', Eric Donaldson's 'Cherry Oh Baby', and John Holt's 'Stick By Me'. Bunny Lee was at the forefront of links with the British reggae market, licensing his productions to Doctor Bird, island, the Palmer Brothers' Pama and Trojan Records labels.

As the decade progressed Bunny Lee started work with the likes of Johnny Clarke, Delroy Wilson, John Holt, Linval Thompson, Owen Gray, Horace Andy, Jackie Edwards, U Roy, Derrick Morgan, Cornel Campbell and Barrington Spence, and broke the dominance of Studio 1 and Treasure Isle. Carlton 'Santa' Davis, the drummer with Lee's session band, The Aggrovators, developed the 'flying cymbal' style that matched the militancy of the period. Mixes and full dub albums were handled by King Tubby who gave Bunny Lee's productions a cutting edge using echo, reverb, distortion and sound effects on multiple versions of each song. King Tubby had Prince Jammy and Philip Smart as assistant engineers and from 1976 onwards Jammy mixed most of the tracks. As the decade moved on Bunny Lee oversaw the development of a stream of top new talent, including Linval Thompson, Leroy Smart, and Barry Brown alongside most of the top deejays of the day such as Dennis Alcapone, U-Roy, I-Roy, Prince Jazzbo, U Brown, Dr Alimantado, Jah Stitch, Trinity, and Tapper Zukie.

Up to this point Bunny Lee had been using other people's studios but in the early 1980s he bought Joe Gibbs' studio in Duhaney Park. In 1983, Bunny Lee produced the first album by Beenie Man, titled 'The Invincible Beany Man (The 10 Year Old D.J. Wonder)'. In 2008 he was awarded the Order of Distinction by the Jamaican government in recognition of his contribution to Jamaican music. In 2013 a biographical documentary film about his life 'I Am The Gorgon – Bunny 'Striker' Lee and the Roots of Reggae', was released featuring Bunny Lee alongside other producers, artists and musicians whose careers he had influenced. In 2015 a fire at Lee's Gorgon Entertainment Studio destroyed much of the equipment.

Bunny Lee was had one son, Errol, with the singer Marlene Webber. He runs Caring Kids' Concerts, which mentors young people through music.



~ **John Lester Nash Jr (19 Aug 1940 – 6 Oct 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer. Actor.** The reggae and soul singer Johnny Nash, has passed away at his home of natural causes.

Johnny Nash was born in Houston, Texas, and sang in the choir at Progressive New Hope Baptist Church in South Central Houston as a child. In 1953 he sang covers of R&B hits on Matinee, a local variety show on KPRC-TV and three years later he started a seven-year stint on Arthur Godfrey's radio and television shows. He signed to ABC-Paramount in 1957 with the single 'A Teenager Sings the Blues' and had his first chart hit in early 1958 with a cover of Doris Day's 'A Very Special Love'. As an actor he had the lead role as

Spencer Scott in the screen version of playwright Louis S. Peterson's 'Take a Giant Step' in 1959, directed by Philip Leacock. It was one of the first family films written by an African-American writer and Nash won a Silver Sail Award from the Locarno International Film Festival. Nash sang the theme song for the television cartoon series 'The Mighty Hercules', which ran from 1963 to 1966.

Nash continued releasing singles on a variety of labels such as Groove, Chess, Argo, and Warner Bros. In 1964, Nash and manager Danny Sims formed JoDa Records in New York. They released The Cowsills' single 'All I Really Want to Be Is Me'. In 1965 Johnny Nash had a top five hit in the US Billboard R&B chart with the ballad 'Let's Move and Groove Together'.

JoDa filed for bankruptcy after only two years and Nash and Sims moved on to marketing American singers to Jamaica due to the low cost of recording in that country. Sims opened a new music publishing business in Jamaica, Cayman Music, to promote the local rock steady sound. Their lawyer Newton Willoughby was the father of Jamaican radio host Neville Willoughby who took Nash to a Rastafari party where Bob Marley & The Wailing Wailers were performing. Members Bob Marley, Bunny Wailer, Peter Tosh, and Rita Marley were signed to an exclusive publishing contract with Cayman Music for J\$50 a week.

In 1967, Nash, Arthur Jenkins, and Sims created the JAD Records label and recorded their albums at Federal Records in Kingston. Johnny Nash's rock steady single 'Hold Me Tight' in 1968 which became a top-five hit in both the US and Britain. In 1971 Nash scored another British hit with his cover of Marley's 'Stir It Up'. The next year his reggae-influenced single 'I Can See Clearly Now' sold over one million copies, and was awarded a gold disc by the R.I.A.A. It reached #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 and remained at the top of the chart for four weeks. It was written by Nash while recovering from cataract surgery and tells of overcoming hard times. The 'I Can See Clearly Now' album had four original Marley compositions: 'Guava Jelly', 'Comma Comma', 'You Poured Sugar On Me', and the 'Stir It Up'. 'There Are More Questions Than Answers' was a third hit single from the album.

Johnny Nash wrote the score for the Swedish romance film 'Vill så gärna tro' in 1971 with music co-composed by Bob Marley and arranged by Fred Jordan. JAD Records ceased to exist in 1971, but it was revived in 1997 by Roger Steffens and French musician and producer Bruno Blum for the 'Complete Bob Marley & the Wailers 1967–1972' ten-album series. For which several of the Nash-produced Marley and Tosh tracks were mixed or remixed by Blum for release.

Johnny Nash's biggest hit was 'Tears on My Pillow' which reached #1 in the British Singles Chart in July 1975 for one week. Nash took a lower profile after putting out a cover of Sam Cooke's 'Wonderful World' in 1976 and 'Let's Go Dancing' in 1979 until the minor hit 'Rock Me Baby' and the album 'Here Again' in 1986. Jimmy Cliff covered 'I Can See Clearly Now' in Disney's 1993 hit film 'Cool Runnings'. In May 2006, Nash was singing again at SugarHill Recording Studios and at Tierra Studios in his native Houston and began transferring analogue tapes of his songs from the 1970s and 1980s to the Pro Tools digital format. Johnny Nash was named among the hundreds of artists whose material was destroyed in the 2008 Universal fire.



Johnny Nash loved riding horses since childhood and as an adult lived with his family on a ranch in Houston, where for years he also managed rodeo shows at the Johnny Nash Indoor Arena. He is survived by his wife, Carli, his son Johnny Jr and daughter Monica.



Ronald Bell

~ **Ronald Nathan Bell / Khalis Bayyan (1 Nov 1951 – 9 Sep 2020). Composer. Singer-songwriter. Musical Director. Producer.** Ronald Bell, one of the co-founding member of Kool & the Gang, has passed away.

Ronald Bell was born in Youngstown, Ohio, to Aminah Bayyan and Robert 'Bobby' Bell, a professional boxer and Golden Gloves amateur boxing winner. His father's friends were Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk, who lived in the same apartment building. In 1964, Ronald Bell, his brother Robert 'Kool' Bell, teamed up with friends Spike Mickens, Dennis Thomas, Ricky Westfield, George Brown, and Charles Smith to create a blend of jazz, soul, and funk calling themselves The Jazziacs. As the Jazz Birds, they won the Apollo Theater's famed Amateur Night and landed a record deal with a small label called De-Lite Records. Three singles from their self-titled debut album hit the pop charts, with the instrumental track Kool & The Gang showcasing their raucous, horn-driven sound. Their mainstream breakthrough came with 1973's 'Wild and Peaceful' album. Lead single 'Funky Stuff' became their first top 40 hit in the US.

After various name changes they became Kool & the Gang in 1968. Ronald Bell was a self-taught musician who produced many of the band's songs including 'Celebration', 'Cherish', 'Jungle Boogie', 'Summer Madness', 'Ladies' Night', Hollywood Swining' and 'Get Down On It' and 'Open Sesame'. Vocalist James 'JT' Taylor joined the group in 1979. They won a Grammy in 1978 for their work on the soundtrack for 'Saturday Night Fever'. 'Summer Madness' was used in several films including 'Rocky' and 'Baby Boy' and in a Nike shoe commercial featuring LeBron James. Their music also featured in 'Pulp Fiction'.



Robert 'Kool' Bell, Dennis 'DT' Thomas, Ronald 'Khalis' Bell and George Brown.

© Rich Fury / Invision / AP

Jungle Boogie's horn riff appears in Luniz's 'I Got 5 On It'; 'Summer Madness' formed the basis of 'Summertime' by DJ Jazzy Jeff and The Fresh Prince; Public Enemy sampled three Kool & The Gang songs for 'Fear of a Black Planet' album; and the syncopated rhythms of 'Jungle Jazz' appear on dozens of tracks, from MARRS's Pump Up The Volume to Jade's Don't Walk Away. The group received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2015 for their contribution to the world of entertainment, and were inducted into the Songwriters' Hall Of Fame in 2018. At the time of his death, Ronald Bell was working on a solo album called Kool Baby Brotha Band, as well as a series of animations about the band's childhood and career.

Ronald Bell was given the name Khalis Bayyan by Imam Warith Deen Mohammed. He was married to Tia Sinclair Bell and had 10 children, among them the singer Rachid 'Rasalus / Ra' Bell.



© Gilles Petard / Redferns

Roy C. Hammond

~ **Roy Charles Hammond (3 Aug 1939 – 16 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer. Record shop owner.** Roy C, best known for his hit 'Shotgun Wedding', has passed away from liver cancer.

Roy Hammond was born in Newington, Georgia, and began singing tenor with The Genies, a vocal group in Long Beach, Long Island. Their first single, 'Who's That Knockin"', reached number 72 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in 1958, with Claude Johnson — later of the duo Don and Juan — on lead vocal. The group then moved to Atlantic Records, with Hammond taking over as lead singer, but their recordings were not released, and he was drafted into the Air Force.

When he returned to New York City in 1965, Hammond organised a studio session to record his own song, 'Shotgun Wedding', and released it under the name Roy Hammond on his own Hammond label, before leasing it to the larger Black Hawk Records under the name Roy C. The record, with its novelty ricochet opening reached number 14 on the national Billboard R&B chart and number 6 in Britain in 1966 and number 8 when reissued in 1972. His first album, 'That Shotgun Wedding Man', was released on Ember Records in 1966.

Roy C moved to the Shout label before starting another new label, Alaga. 'Got to Get Enough (Of Your Sweet Love Stuff)' reached the R&B charts in 1971. Two years later he signed with Mercury Records, and had another R&B hit with 'Don't Blame the Man'. He released an album, 'Sex and Soul' and several more minor hit singles. He fell out with Mercury over his outspoken political stance in songs, including 'Great Great Grandson of a Slave' from his 1977 album 'More Sex and More Soul'.

In 1973 Roy C discovered a group of African-American high school students from Jamaica High School in Queens, named the Honey Drippers and released their tracks on his Alaga label. Among the tracks was 'Impeach the President', a song advocating for the impeachment of President Richard Nixon for his corruption and criminality in the ongoing Watergate scandal and resulting impeachment process against Richard Nixon. It has become one of the most sampled drum tracks in hip hop music – over 600 times so I guess that means in history!!! Hip hop producer Marley Marl used the drum intro as the breakbeat for the 1985 song 'The Bridge' by MC Shan. GZA makes a reference to the 'Impeach the President' sample on his verse on 'As High as Wu-Tang Get' by Wu-Tang Clan on the 1997 album 'Wu-Tang Forever', suggesting that the snare drum in the sample is easy to rap over. Samples also appeared on tracks by Eric B and Rakim's 'Eric B. is President', Kris Kross' 'Jump', Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg's 'The Chronic (Intro)', Tupac Shakur's 'I Get Around', The Notorious B.I.G.'s 'Unbelievable' and J. Cole's 'Wet Dreamz', as well as songs by Nas, Flo Rida, Dignity Planets, N.W.A, Big Daddy Kane, Aaliyah, Run-DMC and the Jungle Brothers.

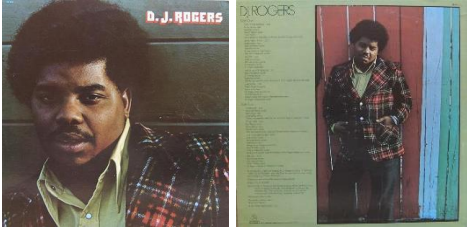
In 1992, Aaron Fuchs, president of Tuff City Records, bought the rights to "Impeach the President", and soon afterward sued Def Jam Records for royalties from its use on three then-recently released songs: 'Around the Way Girl' and '6 Minutes of Pleasure' by LL Cool J, and 'Give the People' by EPMD, which used a vocal sample from the song and not the drum track. Ronny Jordan used the sample on his first two albums and those lawsuits were settled out-of-court.

Hammond was unaware of the widespread sampling of 'Impeach the President' until he heard it used in both 'That's the Way Love Goes' by Janet Jackson and 'Luv Me, Luv Me' by Shaggy. George Benson sampled the beat on his 1996 track 'The Thinker' from the album 'That's Right'. In 2013 Roy C said he never received royalties from all the sampling. He also claimed that Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) removed several songs from his publishing catalogue based on fraudulent contracts presented by Fuchs, and Hammond has received no royalties from them either. Hammond's website included a notice encouraging those who were sued by Fuchs or any of his record labels to contact Hammond so he could retrieve his rightful payments.

Hammond has been credited as a co-writer due to the sample, on the Mary J Blige hit song 'Real Love', which samples the drum track from 'Top Billin' by Audio Two, which is based on 'Impeach the President'. The 2011 Kanye West and Jay-Z song 'Otis', uses a line from 'Top Billin'', while the 2013 Frank Ocean song 'Super Rich Kids', uses the chorus of 'Real Love'.

Roy C continued to release soul singles and albums on his own Three Gems record label. 'Infidelity, Georgia', also known as 'Save by the Bell' or 'Saved by the Bell', is a song about sexual infidelity in small town Georgia. Hammond released an album 'Stella Lost Her Groove' in 1999. He produced the 'Talk to Me' album by ex-Temptation Dennis Edwards and also worked on a CD by Bobby Stringer while running his own record shop in Allendale, called Carolina Record Distributors.

Roy C Hammond is survived by his daughter, Sabrina Hammond-Williams.



D.J. Rogers cover

~ **DeWayne Julius Rogers (9 May 1948 – 22 Aug 2020). Singer-songwriter. Producer.** The multi-instrumentalist D J Rogers has passed away.

He released around eight albums on labels such as RCA, Total Experience and Columbia and was best known for the tender acoustic piano-based ballad 'Say You Love Me', from his 1975 RCA album 'It's Good to Be Alive'. The track was covered by Natalie Cole and was the first single from her album 'Snowfall on the Sahara', released by WEA and Elektra Entertainment in 1999. D J Rogers worked with stellar artists such as Deniece Williams, Maurice White and Patrice Rushen. He was active on the Gospel music circuit and had a hit with 'Whoa to Wow' with Renee Spearman.

Don Enoch Muhammad signed D.J. Rogers Jr to Motown Records and he was a close friend of Nation of Islam Minister (Louis) Farrakhan who he met at an Operation PUSH event. Luqman Abdul Haqq, formerly known as Kenny Gamble of Gamble and Huff Music, said: "He had a tremendous voice. He was a unique artist. He was a full artist, a writer, a singer and a performer. I used to think he was a DJ because he had DJ in front of his name. It will be a long time before there will be another D.J. Rogers. He had an identifiable voice. When you heard it, you knew it was him."



Pamela Hutchinson

© Michael Putland/Getty

~ **Pamela Rose Hutchinson (1958 – 18 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter.** Pamela Hutchinson, a member of the soulful singing family trio The Emotions, has passed away.

Pamela Hutchinson was the youngest of the four sisters that made up The Emotions line-up throughout their history, having joined elder sisters Sheila and Wanda after replacing Jeanette. The band emerged from Chicago in the 1960s, where the sisters had been gospel singers as children. They were signed to the Memphis-based Volt imprint of Stax, where they worked with the likes of Isaac Hayes and David Porter on

their 1969 debut album entitled 'So I Can Love You', which reached number 43 on the Billboard Top R&B Albums chart. The title track went to No. 3 on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart and No. 39 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Another single, 'The Best Part Of A Love Affair' rose to number 27 on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart. A 1970 single called 'Heart Association' went to number 29 on the Billboard Hot Soul Songs chart. Their next album 'Untouched' was released in 1972 and a single from the album, 'Show Me How' reached number 13 on the Billboard Hot Soul Songs chart. A follow-up single called 'My Honey and Me' hit number 18 on the Billboard Hot Soul Songs chart. Their third studio album entitled 'Songs of Innocence and Experience' was left unfinished. The Emotions appeared in the 1973 feature film Wattstax, performing the song 'Peace Be Still'.

When Stax folded The Emotions were mentored by Maurice White from Earth, Wind & Fire, who produced two of their albums. In 1976 their third studio album 'Flowers' rose to number 5 on the Billboard Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart and No. 45 on the Billboard 200. The album was also certified Gold in the US by the RIAA. The LP's title track reached number 16 on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart and another single 'I Don't Wanna Lose Your Love' hit number 4 on the Billboard Dance Club Songs chart and number 13 on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart. Their next album 'Rejoice' reached number one on the Billboard Top R&B Albums chart and number 7 on the Billboard 200 chart and was certified Platinum in the US by the RIAA. The single 'Don't Ask My Neighbors' made the top ten on the Billboard R&B singles charts. 'Best of My Love' topped the Billboard Pop and R&B charts and won a Grammy for Best R&B Performance By a Duo or Group with Vocals, as well as an American Music Award for Favorite Soul/R&B Single. The song was certified Platinum in the US by the RIAA. Their third Columbia album called 'Sunbeam' reached number 12 on the Billboard Top Soul Albums chart and number 40 on the Billboard 200 chart being certified Gold in the US by the RIAA. A single from the album, 'Smile' reached number 6 on the Billboard Hot Soul Songs chart.

During 1979, The Emotions backed Earth, Wind & Fire on the single 'Boogie Wonderland' which reached number 6 and number 2 on the Billboard Hot 100 and Hot Soul Songs charts respectively and was certified Gold in the US by the RIAA. Later that year The Emotions released the album 'Come into Our World' which went to number 35 on the Billboard Top R&B Albums chart. The single 'What's the Name of Your Love?' reached number 30 on the Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart and Maurice White was nominated for a Grammy in the Producer of the Year Non-Classical category.

Pamela and Wanda appeared on Earth, Wind & Fire's 1983 album 'Electric Universe'. The Emotions' eighth studio album entitled 'Sincerely' was issued in 1984 on Red Label Records. The album hit number 3 on the UK Blues & Soul Hiplist chart and number 33 on the US Billboard Top Soul Albums chart. The single, 'You're the One' reached number 19 on the UK Blues & Soul Hiplist chart and number 34 on the US Billboard Hot R&B Songs chart. Another single 'You're the Best' went to number 33 on the US Billboard Dance Club Songs chart. During 1985 the group released the album 'If I Only Knew' on Motown Records and it went to number 11 on the UK Blues & Soul Hiplist chart.

The Emotions performed a reunion concert as a four-piece in 1990. They appeared on Tyler Collins 1989 album 'Girls Nite Out' and the single 'Watcha Gonna Do?' reached number 8 on the Billboard Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart. The Emotions were on Nancy Wilson's 1990 album 'A Lady with a Song' and the Urban Knights's 1995 album 'Urban Knights I'. They then featured on LL Cool J's 1995 LP 'Mr. Smith' which has been certified Double Platinum in the US by the RIAA. The Emotions also appeared on George Duke's 1995 album 'Illusions' and the Gospel Gangstaz's 1996 album 'Do or Die' and Smokey Robinson's 1999 Grammy nominated album 'Intimate'.

Pamela rejoined the group in 2000 and the following year they received the Pioneer Award from the Rhythm and Blues Foundation. The Emotions went on to guest upon Earth, Wind & Fire's 2003 album 'The Promise', which was produced by Maurice White. The single 'All in the Way' rose to number 13 on the Billboard Adult R&B Songs chart and number 25 on the Billboard Adult Contemporary Songs chart. In 2004 'Songs of Innocence and Experience' was finally released by Stax. They collaborated with Snoop Dogg on a song called 'Life', from the 2006 album 'Tha Blue Carpet Treatment'. They were featured on 'Patiently Waiting' from producer Terrace Martin's 2016 album 'Velvet Portraits'.

The Emotions have been sampled by rappers such as Big Daddy Kane, Tupac Shakur, LL Cool J, Wu Tang Clan, 50 Cent, Ice Cube, Salt n Pepa, De La Soul, Kanye West, A Tribe Called Quest and Notorious BIG. The likes of Toni Braxton, 112, Mariah Carey, Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam, Mary J Blige, Ginuwine, Keyshia Cole, Tamia and Janet Jackson have also sampled the girl group's output. Their songs have been covered by Phoebe Snow, Minnie Riperton, Marcia Hines, Patti La Belle, Maysa, The Temptations, Will Downing and Nancy Wilson.

The band's official Facebook page said: 'Pam succumbed to health challenges that she'd been battling for several years. Now our beautiful sister will sing amongst the angels in heaven in perfect peace.'



~ **Phyllis Evans Coard (2 Nov 1943 - 6 Sep 2020). Government Minister. Educationalist.** Phyllis Coard, who made history as part of the People's Revolutionary Government and the New Jewel Movement that toppled Eric Gairy in Grenada in 1979, has passed away.

Phyllis Coard was born in Jamaica. Her uncle Dr Ken Evans was the inventor and manufacturer of the coffee-based liqueur Tia Maria, but Phyllis Coard's family were not exceptionally wealthy. Phyllis met a Grenadian student called Bernard Coard while they were both studying at the University of Sussex in England in the late 1960s and got married. Bernard was researching the British educational system and his book 'How the West Indian Child Is Made Educationally Subnormal in the British School System: The Scandal of the Black Child in Schools in Britain' was the first and most definitive analysis of the racism faced by students and pupils and how it blighted their life chances. The book is still cited today and its publication in 1971 gave the Coards' name an elevated status among those seeking to decolonise the curriculum in Britain as well as in former British colonies and those seeking independence.

The couple moved to Grenada in September 1976 as members of the New Jewel Movement that sought to remove the government of Eric Gairy. Maurice Bishop's NJM and People's Revolutionary Army overthrew the Gairy regime in 1979. Phyllis was a member of the Central Committee of the NJM and co-founder and elected president of the National Women's Organization of Grenada from 1977 to 1983. She advanced policies such as free secondary and university education, maternity leave law, women's cooperatives, equal pay for men and women, and public discussion of the draft national budget for the country. She held governmental responsibility for information and was the minister in charge of Radio Free Grenada and revived the West Indian newspaper, which was renamed the Free West Indian. However, she was not a member of the political bureau or involved in the military.

Phyllis Coard was the lone female among the 17 sentenced to lengthy jail terms for the assassination of Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in Oct 1983. Bishop and 10 others, including his father and Cabinet minister Jacqueline Creft, were killed in a violent coup. Bernard Coard, a childhood friend of Bishop, declared himself Prime Minister. However, six days later Operation Urgent Fury, a United States-led, Caribbean-assisted invasion ousted the Coard regime. Phyllis Coard was beaten, tortured, suffered sexual harassment and solitary confinement in prison where she had been sentenced to death, but it was never carried out and she was temporarily released from Richmond Hill Prison in 2000 by the Mitchell government on medical grounds and relocated in Jamaica as she was struggling with colon cancer.

During the time of their imprisonment, the Coards' three children were repatriated to Jamaica where they were raised by friends of the family. Their repatriation was made possible through intervention by Jamaica's former Prime Minister Edward Seaga, on the request of locals closely associated with the family. A Grenadian request for Phyllis Coard to be returned to finish her sentence was active but had been resisted by all subsequent Jamaican administrations. In 2009, Bernard Coard was freed along with several others involved in the coup by the then government of PM Tillman Thomas.

Phyllis Coard leaves her husband Bernard, daughters Sola and Abiola, and son Neto.



Stanley Crouch playing drums at the Jazz Journalists Association awards at B.B. King's, New York City, 2004 © Michael Jackson (jackojazz.com)

~ **Stanley Lawrence Crouch (14 Dec 1945 – 16 Sep 2020). Poet. Drummer. Music and cultural critic. Novelist. Biographer. Co-Founder, Jazz at the Lincoln Center.** The jazz critic Stanley Crouch has passed away after recent physical and mental decline, including being diagnosed with Covid-19 in spring.

Stanley Crouch was born in Los Angeles and raised mainly by his mother. He was a voracious reader and along with his mother's stories of life in Texas and the Midwest he developed an interest in jazz from both an aesthetic and historical perspective. In the early 1960s he began working for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee while also involved in artistic and educational projects in Los Angeles. In 1968 Crouch became the Poet-in-Residence at Pitzer College and taught theatre and literature at Pomona College until 1975. The 1965 Watts Uprising pushed his commitment to Afrikan nationalist ideas and he released a polemical speech which was recorded in 1969 and released as a collection of poems in 1972. Crouch was a jazz drummer emulating the free-jazz styles of Sunny Murray and Milford Graves and with David Murray formed the group Black Music Infinity. He continued working with Murray when they moved to New York City and shared a loft above an East Village club called the Tin Palace. Crouch began organising concerts at the Ladies' Fort and he played drums less frequently.

Crouch befriended Ralph Ellison and Albert Murray, who influenced his thinking away from an orthodox view on racial issues. He officially abandoned Afrikan nationalist ideology in 1979, in an exchange with the cultural activist Amiri Baraka in the Village Voice. As a writer for the Voice from 1980 to 1988 Crouch was noted for his blunt criticisms of his targets and tendency to excoriate their participants. Crouch was critical of: Alex Haley, the author of 'The Autobiography of Malcolm X' and 'Roots: The Saga of an American Family'; trumpeter and bandleader Miles Davis for abandoning bebop; Reverend Al Sharpton; filmmaker Spike Lee; the author Toni Morrison; and scholar Cornel West. During this time he became a friend and intellectual mentor to Wynton Marsalis, and an advocate for reviving the core values of jazz. In 1987, he became an artistic consultant for the Jazz at Lincoln Center programme where he was eventually joined by Marsalis, who became its artistic director in 1991.





Stanley Crouch © Patrick McMullan via Getty Image

Crouch was fired from JazzTimes following his article 'Putting the White Man in Charge' where he criticised the state of affairs since the 1960s where "white musicians who can play are too frequently elevated far beyond their abilities in order to allow white writers to make themselves feel more comfortable about being in the role of evaluating an art from which they feel substantially alienated."

In 1990 Crouch published 'Notes of a Hanging Judge: Essays and Reviews, 1979-1989', which was selected by The Encyclopædia Britannica Yearbook as the best book of essays to be published that year. In 1991 he received a Whiting Award in 1991, followed by a MacArthur Foundation 'genius' grant and the Jean Stein Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1993. His aesthetic critiques continued and he gave short shrift to gangsta rappers such as Tupac Shakur.

Crouch continued to be an active author producing works of fiction and nonfiction, articles for periodicals, and newspaper columns for the likes of the New York Daily News. Crouch was also a source for documentaries and as a guest in televised discussions such as 'Ken Burns' Jazz' (2001) and 'Unforgivable Blackness' (2005), a biography of the boxer Jack Johnson. Crouch published the novel 'Don't The Moon Look Lonesome?' (2000), a collection of his reviews and writings on jazz, 'Considering Genius' (2007), and a biography of the jazz musician Charlie Parker, 'Kansas City Lightning' (2013).

Crouch received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1982 In 2005 Crouch was named as one of the inaugural fellows by the Fletcher Foundation, which awards annual fellowships to people working on issues of race and civil rights. He served as president of the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation from 2009 on. In 2016, Crouch was awarded the Windham–Campbell Literature Prize (nonfiction) and was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Last year he was named an NEA Jazz Master.

Adam Shatz's article 'The Stanley Crouch I Knew' in the New York Review of Books has a fulsome biography. He is survived by his wife Gloria and his daughter from a previous marriage, Gaia Crouch-Scott.



Waldemar Bastos performing in

~ **Waldemar dos Santos Alonso de Almeida Bastos (4 Jan 1954 – 10 Aug 2020). Singer-songwriter. Guitarist.** The Angolan musician Waldemar Bastos, who combined Afropop, Portuguese fado, Cape Verdean morna, Brazilian and jazz influences, has passed away from cancer.

Waldemar Bastos was born in the Portuguese Overseas Province of Angola's town of São Salvador do Congo (now called M'banza-Kongo). He started singing at an early age using his father's instruments. Bastos left Angola in 1982 for Portugal to escape the civil war between the MPLA and UNITA. He released around half a dozen albums during his career for EMI, Luaka Bop, World Connection and WB.

Despite exile, arrest, imprisonment and the death of a son his exquisite voice and music soothed and transfixed his audiences and it was matched by the beautiful aura he radiated. We were privileged to see him perform in London radiating peace and joy. Waldemar Bastos said: 'My music is defined by own life experiences, praise for Angolan identity, and a call for universal brotherhood. I have matured. Everything I have absorbed from other cultures, and various musical styles — I have traveled quite a bit — which has inspired beauty in me, is a part of what I'm doing now. So, it is gratifying for me to hear or read critics say, as it recently happened in the USA, that my music is universal. That it is not a regional music, but instead for people everywhere. This is my main and most sincere goal, my contribution for harmony among people! For me such is the first and ultimate function of Art.'

In 2018, the Angolan Government awarded Waldemar Bastos the National Culture and Arts Award, for his services to the music industry.



Gerson King Combo in 2006

~ **Gershon Rodrigues Cortes / Gerson 'King' Combo (30 Nov 1943 – 20 Sep 2020). Singer-songwriter. Promoter. Dancer. Choreographer.** The pioneering Brazilian artist Gerson Combo has passed away, following a diabetes-related infection.

Gerson Combo was born in Maduleira and his brother is the singer-songwriter Getúlio Côrtes. At the age of 17, he started working as a mime artist at Rádio Mayrink Veiga. He then became a military parachutist during the early days of the military dictatorship but became disillusioned after seeing the mistreatment of political prisoners. Gerson married Angélica Maria Galhardo, who was one of his early dancing partners.

Gerson's career grew in 1963 doing voice acting on the show 'Hoje é Dia de Rock'. He worked as a choreographer for the Jovem Guarda programme at Rede Record, in 1965. Inspired by the funk and soul coming out of the United States Gerson became a singer with Formula 7, The Fevers and Renato and His Blue Caps and he was known as 'king of the balls' and the 'Brazilian James Brown'. He released his first album but didn't receive much radio play. The mid-70s saw the rise of the Black Rio movement and Gerson recorded his two most successful albums – 'Gerson King Combo' in 1977, followed by 'Gerson King Combo - Volume II', the next year. These two albums had hits such as 'Black Commandments', 'God Save the King', 'Funk Brother Soul' and 'Good Bye' with Gerson accompanied by Banda União Black.

As the Black Rio movement declined Gerson Combo then moved into events promotions for a foundation that cared for the physically and mentally disabled. He returned to performing on a large-scale in 1998. In 2001, he recorded a new album 'Messenger of Peace' for Warner Music Brasil, accompanied by the band Clave de Soul with participation from Cidade Negra and Sandra de Sá. He recorded on further Clave de Soul discs, 'Berimbrown' and 'Paula Lima'. In 2009 Gerson released 'Soul da Paz', accompanied by the band Supergroove. The following year Gerson was the subject of the documentary 'Viva Black Music'.

Earlier this year Gerson released the single 'Let it out sweat', which is a version of 'The breakdown' by Rufus Thomas, Eddie Floyd and Mack Rice. With his brother Getúlio Cortês, Gerson composed and participated in the single 'Take this knee out of there', which was inspired by the police killing of George Floyd in the US. A documentary 'Gerson King Combo - O Filme' is already in production and is scheduled for release next year.

Gerson is survived by his wife and a son.



~ **Anthony Peter Jones / Purpleman [Ranking Purple / Peter Yellow / Yellowman] (4 Jan 1962 - 19 Aug 2020). Deejay. Songwriter. Producer.** The deejay Purpleman has passed away after being diagnosed with coronavirus.

Purpleman was born in the famous Waterhouse district of Jamaica's capital. Surrounded by music as the heart of the reggae industry moved to western Kingston in the 1970s he became one of three albino deejays trying their luck on the sound systems and in competitions during this time. In earlier times he shared the name Yellowman with Winston Foster who would go on to have a long career under that name. The other albino was the less well-known King Mellow Yellow.

Coming from Waterhouse / Firehouse Purpleman deejayed on the local King Jammy's sound system, including 'clashes' against the likes of Youth Promotion, Arrows, Killamanjaro and Black Scorpio.

Purpleman was on Jammy's sound at the 'Shock of the Century' in 1985 when Tenor Saw first dropped 'Ring the Alarm'. He also appeared regularly on Volcano, Lee's Unlimited and Jack Ruby sound systems.

Purpleman's first single was 'A Fe We Jah' recorded under the name Ranking Purple. Purpleman's first album 'Hot' came out in 1982 when he was still known as Peter Yellow. He was renamed Purpleman by the Jammy's camp. He released 'DJ Confrontation' a split album with U-Brown and another split album with Yellowman, Fathead and Sister Nancy, 'The Yellow, The Purple and The Nancy', produced by the greatest dancehall producer of all time, Henry 'Junjo' Lawes. This was given worldwide distribution by the British-based label Greensleeves bringing Purpleman to a global audience. He shared Hitbound's 'Showdown Vol. 5' with Yellowman and Fathead. He also had another split album with Papa Tullo – 'Purpleman Saves Papa Tollo in a Dancehall'. Then came 'Laserbeam' with Sister Candy. Purpleman released the 'Confessions' album as Yellowman, probably due to contractual obligations as the two deejays were good friends.

Purpleman then had a long break from the main recording part of the reggae industry as the way the music had turned was not in keeping with his strong spiritual faith. He had only a couple of single releases in the 1990s but in 2014 he made a comeback with a new album entitled 'Home Once More'. In 2017 he released 'The Dancehall General' album followed by the track 'No Mash Up The Dance Hall' in 2019. He was working on new material and self-productions at the time of his passing.

Purpleman is survived by his daughter, mother, seven grandchildren, three brothers and six sisters.



~ **Denver 'Feluké' Smith (24 Mar 1977 – 5 Sep 2020). Percussionist. Composer. Producer. Singer.**

Feluke, who played percussion with many of Jamaica's top artists, has passed away from colon cancer from which he had been suffering for six years.

Feluke was left with his relatives by his mother when he was a toddler but by the age of 10 he was living on the streets before being placed in Alpha Boys School. As with most of the school's famous pupils he was a multi-instrumentalist but focused on becoming a master percussionist. He said of his adopted name: 'Feluké literally means 'placed in the hands of God', it's from Nigeria. For me, it's a name that connects with me spiritually based on the fact that I've been through it.'

He played and recorded with the likes of Jimmy Cliff, Luciano, Gentleman, Etana, Ky-Mani Marley and Jah Cure and on many of the productions released by the Marley clan such as Stephen Marley's albums 'Mind Control (Acoustic)' and 'Revelation Pt. 1'. Feluke's own releases were a synthesis of reggae, jazz, pop and R&B. among his songs was 'Soul Alive', the album 'Musically Disturbed' in 2012 and EP 'Insight' in 2018. He was also a mentor to many other percussionists now at the core of reggae output.



Thomas Jefferson Byrd with Spike Lee in 2012 © Getty Images

**~ Thomas Jefferson Byrd (25 June 1950 – 3 Oct 2020). Actor. Screen and stage actor. Dancer.**

Thomas Jefferson Byrd, who appeared in several of director Spike Lee's films, has passed away after being shot in Atlanta, Georgia.

Thomas Byrd was born in Griffin, Georgia, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Morris Brown College and later a Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance from California Institute of the Arts.

He starred in numerous regional stage productions including the San Diego Repertory Theatre's award-winning performance of 'Spunk'. He also starred in 'Home', 'Two Trains Running', 'The Piano Lesson' and 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' at the Alliance Theater. He was in 'Flyin' West', 'Hamlet' and 'Miss Evers' Boys' at the Indiana Repertory. 'Flyin' West' was also at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Long Wharf Theatre. The character actor was a part of the Black Arts Renaissance of Fort Greene in the 80s. Byrd received a Tony Award nomination for Best Featured Actor in his Broadway debut performance in the 2003 revival of 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' alongside Whoopi Goldberg and Charles S Dutton. He won the Theatre World Award that year.

Byrd appeared in Spike Lee's films such as 'Clockers', 'Get on the Bus', 'Bamboozled', 'He Got Game', 'Da Sweet Blood of Jesus', 'Red Hook Summer' and 'Chi-Raq'. He also appeared as Stokely Darling in Lee's Netflix version of 'She's Gotta Have It'. Byrd's other film credits include 'Bulworth', 'Set It Off', 'Ray' and 'Brooklyn's Finest'. His final film role will be as Abner in 'Freedom's Path'.



**~ Marlyatou Barry (- 26 Sep 2020). Physician. Government Minister.** Marlyatou Barry, the former wife of Kwame Ture, has passed away.

Marlyatou Barry was born in Guinea and trained as a physician. She married Kwame Ture in 1980 and they divorced two years later. At the time of his passing she was living with their son Bokar in Arlington, Virginia, US. She returned to Guinea and was the Minister Adviser in Charge of the Mission of the Guinean

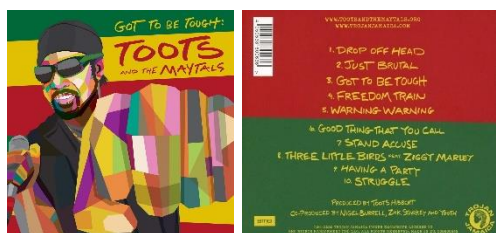
President Alpha Conde. She was also Chairman of the Board of Directors (PCA) of ANAMIF (National Microfinance Agency).

She is survived by her son Bokar Biro and Alpha Yaya, Kwame Ture's other son.

## **FORTHCOMING NUBIART PROFILES**

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## **OCT PROMOS**



### **~ 'GOT TO BE TOUGH' – Toots and the Maytals [Trojan Jamaica / BMG – Out Now]**

'Got to be tough when things get rough / You got to be tough and this is a warning / You got to be smart, living in this time / It's not so easy to carry on / So if you are my friend, treat me like a friend / A friend in need and a friend indeed / Just in case you never know / Or maybe you forget, yeah / Your days are getting shorter, ooh / Our youths are getting slaughtered, yeah / Things may be hard, so hard / But we have to overcome it, yeah / When you lost someone like loved ones / We have to overcome it, yeah.'

Toots first album in more than a decade would also turn out to be the last during his lifetime. Released in Aug it launched the new Trojan Jamaica imprint helmed by Zak Starkey, the son of Ringo Starr, and both of them put in appearances here. The basis of most of the tracks was laid by Toots who plays guitar, keyboards, drums and bass across the 10 tracks. And then he called in the likes of Sly Dunbar and Steven Douglas on drums, Nigel Burrell on drum programming, Hopeton Hibbert on bass, Steven Stewart and Charles Farquharson on keyboards, Dario Morgan and Zak on guitars and Cyril Neville - of the Neville Brothers is the percussionist. Horns are handled by a range of musicians including trombonist Nambo Robinson, in what must have been one of his final outings. On backing vocals are Lisa Davis Palmer, Latoya Hall Downer and Toots' daughter Leba.

The album covers the range of styles that Toots has delivered throughout his career. The album opens with the raw and punchy 'Drop Off Head', urging people to keep forging ahead against all adversity. 'Just Brutal' is a funky gospel number with call-and-response that suits Toots' expressive vocals. The title track, whose lyrics are given above, is a rootsy one drop that matches the seriousness of the theme. Following on from this is 'Freedom Train' with Sly laying down the foundation rockers beat alongside some upbeat organ riffs. The roots riddims continue with 'Warning Warning'.

Halfway through and Toots moves on to the soulful JA lovers of 'Good Thing You Call'. He returns to the one drop for 'Stand Accuse' which also gets a little dub treatment towards the end. Ziggy Marley trades vocals with Toots on a modern ska version of the Bob Marley & The Wailers classic 'Three Little Birds'. 'Having A Party' is an uptempo ska number. The album closes with Toots returning to his funky roots gospel on 'Struggle'.

'Got To Be Tough' is the message of this record and of Toots' entire career. The music is joyous and defiant and given that Toots was looking forward to getting back on the road before the Covid-19 related lockdown slowed down the opportunities for live performances.

## **NUBIART LIBRARY – OCT MEDIA**

We will only review books we have read and DVDs we have seen and that are available at reasonable prices online or in shops or libraries. However, given the nature and current state of Afrikan publishing and film production there may be books and films on this list that are worth the extra effort to track down.



~ **'LET LOVE HAVE THE LAST WORD: A MEMOIR' - Common [Atria Books. ISBN: 978-1-5011-3315-2]** This book goes to the heart and soul of the topic of love, an ever-pervading force that is undeniable. Common takes this book and speaks on the subject and looks at it from the angle of his experiences and what he has learnt and is learning about this special emotion or force. It is a soul-searching book that enables readers to reflect on their own view and evaluation of how they view love in their own lives. The book encapsulates the various forms we can experience love as humans: "What is love? What does it mean to me? If nothing else, it means to let love have the last word in any situation, no matter the person... it is a statement of purpose, and it is a daily promise." (Pg 33)

The self-reflection is refreshing and a reminder on how to create experiences and form and shape our loves alongside those around us who also share these capacities and gifts. Common talks on aspects of his life and why the journey of life is enhanced by giving and receiving love. The book is a pick me up if you feel vitamin love slipping from your grip. Defining moments that are spoken of allows us the readers to think of how the world could be shaped for the better if we all sat down and thought deeply on the topic and kept the concept of what he explains as a force for good, growth and change.

Within the book the aspect of his relationship with his daughter, father and mother is paramount and offers us a way to value and evaluate what is important in our lives so as to drown out the noise. He writes: "I was not a bad father, but I could be a better father to [my daughter Omoye]; no matter how much I loved my

daughter through the years, the fact remains that I was often absent, and she has a right to feel a way about this.” (Pg 38).

Common speaks on the way he seeks to touch lives and is bold enough to express things that are taboo such as the sexual abuse he experienced as a child: “I don’t FEEL like a victim, but maybe that’ll change as I continue to ... open up fully to the trauma... I want to be a person who helps break cycles of violence and trauma. I forgive him. This is love in action, and I intend to practice it.” (Pg 186-187)

The intellect and well thought out words and structured thoughts reveal his depths as an artist and human being. “For me, becoming a husband, one half of a long-term and committed intimate relationship, remains unfinished, though I’ve gotten close a few times. WE did.” (Pg 12)

‘Let Love Have the Last Word’ follows on from Common’s bestselling memoir ‘One Day It’ll All Make Sense’ and is intelligently written and easy to read or listen to. The added touch on audio is the music to bring a space of calm and healing. It touches on spirituality and has some hard to digest or wrap your head around ideas such as trying to ‘see’ the perspective of killer police and still finding ways to conjure up ‘love’ in the form of empathy for these types. I believe this book is worth reading it is invaluable if you happen to have truly lost the notion in a space of your life and feel it difficult to retain that innate emotion you were born to give and receive. It is also worth a re-read. Something to return to for pointers. It takes a deeper approach to reiterate the spiritual aspect of love so it resonates with the reader and connect with people, whatever their faith.

Common has written this book with a wholehearted feel that he knows what it means to love and as he learns to develop and brings us back the centre, he helps us, the readers, to examine what motivates us, how to truly appreciate the people in our lives or who touches our lives, how, when necessary to forgive. It leaves one thinking that if we all practiced this daily and thought on the subject a little more, we could, in effect, create a better world. This book is special and I think it is a good reminder of what we as humans could do when we incorporate more of this force of nature in all areas of our life.

ROC

## **NUBIART DIARY**

We welcome feedback on any event you have attended that was listed in Nubiart Diary. It helps us with the selection of future listings and is also info we can pass on to the event organisers where appropriate.





~ FRIENDS OF CRYSTAL PALACE PARK'S (FOCPP) AND NUBIAN JAK COMMUNITY TRUST (NJCT) **BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS BLUE PLAQUE UNVEILING FOR.** Bob Marley & The Wailers' last and biggest London concert took place on 7 June 1980 at the Crystal Palace Bowl in south London's Crystal Palace Park. A blue plaque commemorating that occasion will be unveiled as part of FOCPP's work to renovate the Bowl into a major performance space. The plaque has the Ethiopian/pan-African/Rastafari tri-colours decorating the edge specially designed to mark the 40th anniversary of the concert and the release of 'Redemption Song', the last song Marley performed on a London concert stage, and Marley75. The event also marks African History Month and is supported by the London borough of Bromley, BBM/BMC, and Island Records UK. The Jamaican Deputy High Commissioner Mrs Patrice Laird Granton, will be present acting on behalf of the High Commissioner. On Thurs 15 Oct at Crystal Palace Park, London. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the event will be livestreamed. Contact: Kesheni Aghaji (NJCT). Tel: +44 7403 330 462. E-mail: kesheniart@gmail.com Or Oli Marshall (FOCPP). Tel: +44 7791 442 056. E-mail: oli.marshall@gmail.com

~ **SOUTHBANK CENTRE PRESENTS**



Elliott Franks

- **'Phenomenal Women: Black Female Professors - Dr Nicola Rollock, in conversation with journalist Liv Little'. On Thurs 15 Oct at 7.30-8.30pm online. Adm: Free.** Bringing into sharp focus the lack of Black women in academia, Dr Nicola Rollock, one of the UK's leading academics on racial justice in education and the workplace, discusses her project 'Phenomenal Women: Portraits of UK Black Female Professors'. Hear Dr Rollock discuss the exhibition and her work, the barriers faced by Afrikan female scholars, the implications of the lack of Afrikan women in academia – and why it matters. Joining the conversation are Professor Funmi Olonisakin, Vice-President and Vice-Principal International and Professor of Security, Leadership and Development at King's College London, and Professor Tracey Reynolds, Professor of Sociology at the University of Greenwich.



© Bill Knight

- **'Phenomenal Women' Exhibition. Until 8 Nov at Queen's Walk, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1. Adm: Free.** There are more than 19,000 professors in British universities, but the latest official statistics showed that just 35 of them were women of Afrikan descent. This exhibition of portraits by Bill Knight, commissioned by Dr Nicola Rollock, highlights the achievements and careers of these scholars. White women were around three times as likely to be a professor compared to Afrikan women, while Afrikan men were more than twice as likely to be appointed. The first exhibition of its kind, 'Phenomenal Women: Portraits of UK Black Female Professors' highlights the intersectionality of race and gender and showcases the achievements of Afrikan female scholars. It builds on research carried out by academic Dr Nicola Rollock whose 2019 study reveals the barriers faced by Afrikan women as they work to navigate their way through higher education and the strategies they use to help them reach professorship.



- **'Alicia Garza: The Purpose Of Power'. From Wed 28 Oct – Wed 4 Nov online. Adm: £5 / £19.99 for a hardback book and ticket bundle via TicketCo.** Discover how Black Lives Matter began as a hashtag when Alicia Garza wrote what she calls 'a love letter to Black people' online. But hashtags don't build movements, she tells us. People do. In this exclusive online event, Garza is in conversation to discuss her new book 'The Purpose of Power'. Hear how Garza, the co-creator of the Black Lives Matter Global Network, responded to the persistent message that Black lives are of less value by organising and mobilising. As the Principal of the Black Futures Lab and the Black to the Future Action Fund, Garza gives insights into how these organisations are working to transform Black communities, build Black political power, and change the way that power operates – locally and nationally. Unflinching, challenging and inspiring, this event addresses the moment we're in, how we got here and where we can go, together. With nearly 20 years of organising experience, Alicia Garza offers valuable lessons on how we can inspire and activate more people to fight for the world we all deserve, while uncovering the possibilities that movements hold for our collective futures.



Installation view of 'My Brother Paul',  
© Ryan Mosley Photo: Linda Ny Lind

- **'Everyday Heroes' exhibition. Until Mon 30 Nov all day at Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, London, SE1. Adm: Free.** 'Everyday Heroes' is an outdoor exhibition that celebrates the contributions that key workers and frontline staff have made during the pandemic. It features more than 40 portraits of some of the entirely ordinary but also utterly remarkable people - among them health workers, bus drivers, faith workers and shop assistants - who have helped to keep this country going during the crisis, often working in extremely challenging circumstances and putting their own personal safety at risk. Many of the contributing artists and writers have chosen to portray family members, friends, or people in their local communities. Often disarmingly intimate, each portrait - whether originally rendered in paint, charcoal, photography, collage, or with language - is vividly imaginative and emotionally compelling in its own way. Together, they highlight the sheer scale of the collective response to this crisis, and the many different ways that people across the country have come together to support one another, and find a way through it.



~ **AFRICAN VOICES & THE LEGACY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE PRESENT 'AFRICAN SPIRITUALITY FOR DAILY LIVING'**. This workshop is designed for those with an interest in African spiritual wisdom who wish to receive guidance on how to practically apply their spiritual knowledge to their daily lives. It provides an overview of vital African spiritual philosophies & Universal Laws (Hermetic Principles). Other areas covered include how to set up altars & what to include on them, dreams & interpretations, veneration practices to facilitate Ancestral communications and guidance. On Fri 16 Oct at 6-7.30pm at the Legacy Centre of Excellence, 144 Potters Lane, Birmingham, B6 4UU. Tel: 0845 052 7726. Adm: £20. E-mail: [info@LegacyCOE.co.uk](mailto:info@LegacyCOE.co.uk) Booking: <http://legacycoeevents.eventbrite.com> Twitter & Instagram: @ancestral\_voices Facebook, Twitter & Instagram: @TheLegacyCOE



**~ JEAN JACQUES DESSALINES IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, WAY WIVE WORDZ, & THE PAN-AFRIKAN SOCIETY COMMUNITY FORUM PRESENT 'AFRICAN ART AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION'.** The efforts made by others to invisibilise us Afrikans have no impact when we are rooted in our Afrikan Majesty, Excellence and Divinity. This is our truth and the essence of Brotha Fowokan's presentation themed 'African art as a Source of Inspiration'. He will share a short video presentation which introduces the 1897 'Punitive Expedition' with a selection of images from Nok, Ife and Benin that dates from 500BC to 16th century AD. It shows the influence of these great masters' works and Yoruba philosophy on Fowokan's practice. His presentation will demonstrate the powerful influence Afrikan art has had on 20th-century Modern art. And it will also include poetry, prose and images of Brotha Fowokan's sculptures that are part of a collection for his forthcoming publication.

Brotha Fowokan's spirit is enthused with a multiplicity of active and living identities – Father, Sculptor, Orator, Poet, Inspirator, Visual Artist, Videographer. He is a largely self-taught artist, vibrating his phenomenal wealth and power through his Yoruba name "Fowokan" - "one who creates with the hand". His work is rooted in the traditions of precolonial Afrika and ancient Egypt rather than the Greco-Roman art of the west. He has also been a jeweller, essayist, and musician as a former member of Cymande in the early 1970s. On Fri 16 Oct 2020 at 6.30pm online. Adm: Free. Booking: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/african-art-as-a-source-of-inspiration-tickets-122660911087>

### **~ BLACK HISTORY STUDIES EVENTS**



**- 'African Holocaust: The History & Legacy of Enslavement (Slavery)'. On Sat 17 Oct at 7pm online. Adm: £6. Web: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ozeFVHzDRs-kar1mBiPgiA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ozeFVHzDRs-kar1mBiPgiA)** The enslavement of Afrikan people and its accompanying violence and destruction was one of the catastrophic events in the history of humankind. This presentation will uncover the history and legacy of the enslavement of Afrikan people through our Maangamizi. The word 'Maangamizi' is a Swahili term which speaks to the intentionality of the Afrikan holocaust of chattel, colonial and neo-colonial enslavement. We will examine the Afrikan abolition struggles and resistance movements, and the legacy of the enslavement period on Afrika and the Diaspora.



- **'How to Recession Proof Your Finances'**. On Fri 23 Oct at 7pm online. Adm: Free. Web:

<https://www.charmainesimpson.com/events> Britain officially entered its first recession for 11 years in the second quarter of 2020 as the economy shrunk by 20.4%. Over 730,000 workers were made unemployed, and 2.7 million people are currently claiming universal credit. Whatever happens, you can still prepare your finances to help survive the economic downturn. Join Financial Consultant and Educator Charmaine Simpson in a free webinar designed to show participants how to 'recession-proof' their finances.



- **'Django Unchained Or Tarantino Unrestrained?'** (Over 16s). On Sat 24 Oct at 7pm online. Adm: £7.

Web: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zewM57ITSji\\_1IL-bGJkqg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zewM57ITSji_1IL-bGJkqg) A film break-down by Film Doctor Brother Hakim and Professor Lez Henry on 'Django Unchained'!! Loved by some hated by others! We provide a forensic historical and cultural analysis of this controversial film adding in little known facts about the film. This presentation gives insight to the current racial socio-political situation we are all facing.



- **'Black History of the British Isles: Scotland, Ireland, Wales'**. On Sat 31 Oct at 7pm. Adm: £6. Web:

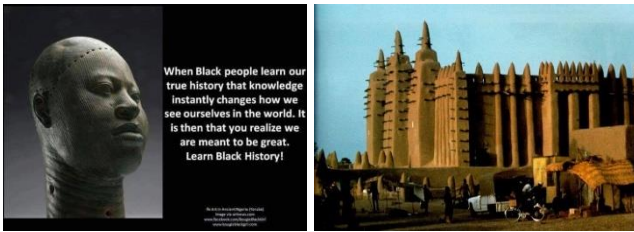
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_NASvXo9ZSC6IUCsvoyUYiw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NASvXo9ZSC6IUCsvoyUYiw) This fascinating presentation by Black History Studies focuses on the hidden Afrikan history of Scotland, Ireland and Wales and the contributions made by people of Afrikan and Caribbean descent to the history of these countries. This presentation tells their story.



- **'Building Generational Black Wealth: How To Secure Generational Prosperity'**. On Fri 6 Nov at 7pm

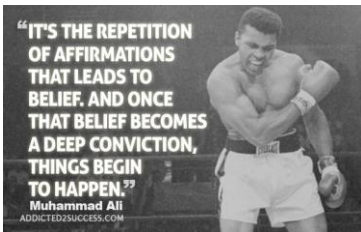
online. Adm: Free. Web: <https://www.charmainesimpson.com/events> 'Generational wealth is wealth that is passed down from one generation to another. This is through the accumulation of assets for the future to provide financial security.' If you are able to leave something behind for your children or grandchildren, then you are contributing to the growth of generational wealth in your family. How do Afrikan families build and maintain their wealth? Join Historian, Financial Consultant and Financial Educator

Charmaine Simpson in a free webinar designed to empower the Afrikan community to build and create generational wealth.



- **'The Hidden History of Africa Before the Slave Trade'**. On Sat 7 Nov at 7pm on Zoom. Adm: £6.

**Web:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_78rVI9rdRcuDxBGu-LZyCg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_78rVI9rdRcuDxBGu-LZyCg) 'The Hidden History of Africa Before the Slave Trade' is a visually stunning presentation that addresses one key question: What history do Afrikan people have before the slave trade started? This lecture discusses the Empire of Mali, the Yoruba Kingdoms, Medieval Sudan, Medieval Ethiopia, the East Afrikan Coast and much more! These civilisations have left behind a splendid array of evidence that is discussed in the lecture. This evidence includes wonderful artefacts, illuminated manuscripts, and impressive architecture.



- **'Think and Grow Rich: The Secrets to Wealth'**. On Thurs 12 Nov at 7pm. Adm: Free. **Web:**

<https://www.charmainesimpson.com/events> The book 'Think and Grow Rich' has been called the 'Grandfather of All Motivational Literature'. Over a 20-year period, Napoleon Hill interviewed more than 500 people and found common traits in their success stories. In 1937, Hill shared his findings with the world in 'Think and Grow Rich'. The book became an instant classic. Over the last 80 years, Hill's timeless book has created more wealth than any other resource in history. Hill's 13 principles of success are a timeless and evergreen concept. This material is as relevant now as it was in 1937.



- **'Virtual Black History Tour of the British Museum'**. On Sat 14 Nov at 7pm online. Adm: £8.

**Booking:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Rm7ubpAEQEmjL\\_luw8Y2xw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Rm7ubpAEQEmjL_luw8Y2xw) Black History Studies lead a Black History Tour of the British Museum highlighting artefacts of Afrikan History held in the Museum. Because of COVID-19, these tours have obviously been postponed. In this presentation, we will take you to the same artefacts, journey together through the British Museum and further afield, to learn about Afrikan civilisations such as Ancient Egypt, Nubia and much more.

For all info on Black History Studies Tel / Fax: 0208 881 0660. Mobile: 07951 234 233. E-mail: info@blackhistorystudies.com Web: www.blackhistorystudies.com



~ **KATE MACGARRY PRESENTS 'I DECIDED I WANT TO WALK'**. Last year's joint Turner-Prize winner Helen Cammock's new exhibition explores social histories through film, photography, print, text, song and performance. She is motivated by her commitment to questioning mainstream historical narratives around blackness, womanhood, wealth, power, poverty and vulnerability. Mining her own biography in addition to the histories of oppression and resistance, multiple and layered narratives reveal the cyclical construct of histories. The exhibition features Cammock's new film 'They Call It Idlewild'. The work acts as a reflection on the politics of idleness and what it means creatively, emotionally and culturally to be idle at a time when questions are being asked more widely about the physical and emotional costs of hyperproductivity required by neoliberalism.

Partway through the film, Cammock begins to sing Johnny Mercer's Depression Era song 'Lazy Bones', drawing an explicit link between several historical periods, a reminder of the pervasiveness of racial stereotypes around laziness and the toxic hypocrisies of the slave business and land-owning classes. 'They Call It Idlewild' asks: who gets to be lazy? Helen Cammock works between Brighton and London and last year was also the winner of the 7th Max Mara Art Prize for Women. Until Sat 17 Oct on Weds-Sat at 12-6pm at 27 Old Nichol Street, London, E2 7HR. Tel: 020 7613 0515. E-mail enquiries: mail@katemacgarry.com Web: www.katemacgarry.com

#### ~ **SOUTHWARK LIBRARIES PRESENTS**

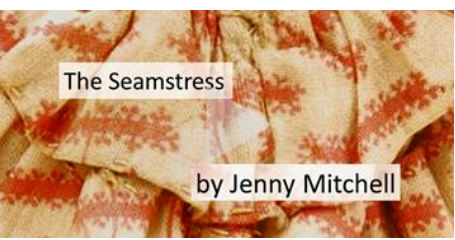


©South London Gallery

- **'Looking for Sierra Leone'**. Until Sun 18 Oct at 9am-11.30pm via **Southwark Local History Library and Archive**. E-mail: local.history.library@southwark.gov.uk Web: [youtu.be/c1V2702LgCQ](https://youtu.be/c1V2702LgCQ)

A film by young filmmakers, working with the Community TV Trust and the South London Gallery in Peckham, to mark the 50th anniversary of Sierra Leonean independence in 2011. Southwark, and especially Peckham, is home to members of the Sierra Leonean diaspora – some settled after the country gained independence on 27 Apr 1961, while others came seeking to escape the chaos of the civil war.

Many have opened small businesses; these also serve as informal community centres, helping to support each other and keep Sierra Leonean culture alive in London. The young filmmakers introduce us to this community through interviews where members of the community discuss the country's history and politics, and their hopes for its future. Edited by Chris Haydon, Directed in partnership with Community TV trust, Juma Bah, South London Gallery.



- 'Four Poems By Jenny Mitchell'. Until 31 Dec at 9am-5pm. E-mail: [wes.white@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:wes.white@southwark.gov.uk)  
 Web: [www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/adults/poetry-for-black-history-month-by-jenny-mitchell](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/adults/poetry-for-black-history-month-by-jenny-mitchell)  
 Twitter: [twitter.com/southwarklibs](https://twitter.com/southwarklibs) This selection by the winner of the Segora Prize and of a Bread and Roses award in 2020, marks Black History Month and National Poetry Day. They are taken from her debut collection 'Her Lost Language' which was published as joint winner of the Geoff Stevens Memorial Prize in 2019. The recordings are "An exploration of the impact of British transatlantic enslavement on black lives and family dynamics."



~ LAMBETH LIBRARIES PRESENTS BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2020





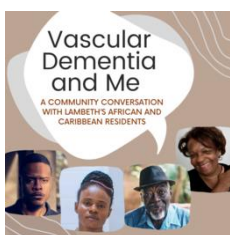
- **'Shame On Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging'** with author **Tessa McWatt**. **On Mon 19 Oct at 7pm online**. 'What are you?' Tessa McWatt knows first-hand that the answer to this question, often asked by white people, is always more complicated than it seems. In *Shame On Me* Tessa unspools all the interwoven strands of her inheritance, she dismantles her own body and examines it piece by piece to build a devastating and incisively subtle analysis of the race debate as it now stands. Talk organised by the Friends of Durning Library.



- **'The Autumn Glories present: Grabbing a bit of history as we go along the way'**. **On Tues 20 Oct at 7pm online**. Lambeth Theatricals Drama Group the Autumn Glories are proud to present *Grabbing a bit of history as we go along the way* - an oral history production with a live Q&A for Lambeth's Black History Month celebrations.



- **'Connecting With Black Culture Through Food'**. **On Wed 21 Oct at 10.30am-12pm online**. **E-mail: [marta@stockwell.org.uk](mailto:marta@stockwell.org.uk)** Join Natural Chef Nena Foster for a special Black History Month cookery class focused on food and the myriad ways that it is created and enjoyed in black cultures. We'll share food memories and favourite culturally-inspired dishes and get cooking a few recipes inspired by Nena's own cultural heritage and her love for health-focused food! Fantastic event for families with children aged 0-4.



- **'Vascular Dementia and Me: a community conversation with Lambeth's African and Caribbean residents'**. On Sat 24 Oct at 11am online. Tel: Kate at Healthwatch - 07943 986 256. E-mail: [kate.damiral@healthwatchlambeth.org.uk](mailto:kate.damiral@healthwatchlambeth.org.uk) Join this community conversation with live drama performance to explore how vascular dementia is particularly affecting Lambeth's black communities. Join us to: Find out more about vascular dementia, its causes and symptoms; Learn how to reduce the risks of developing the disease with a healthy lifestyle; Discover some of the local healthy living activities and support available; Investigate the issues behind the inequalities and explore potential solutions; Experience a live drama performance by local community members to bring these matters to life. This event will be hosted by Black Thrive, Healthwatch Lambeth and South London and Maudsley NHS Trust.



- **'Legacy & Hope'**. On Sun 25 Oct at 7.30pm online. Web: [www.pegasusoperacompany.org/virtualconcert](http://www.pegasusoperacompany.org/virtualconcert) Join Pegasus Opera online for our virtual Black History Month concert entitled 'Legacy and Hope'. This vocal extravaganza features Britain's leading black classical singers who will regale you with opera, calypso and musical theatre as we also pay tribute to the Windrush generation. We know you will love this unique and uplifting digital event!

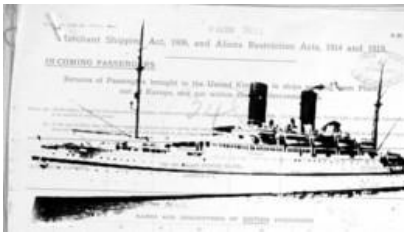


- **'The First Woman'** with author Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi. On Mon 26 Oct at 7pm online. The First Woman by Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi follows Kirabo on her journey to become a young woman and to find her place in the world, as her country is transformed by the dictatorship of Idi Amin. Jennifer has written a sweeping tale of longing and rebellion, at once epic and deeply personal, combining an intoxicating mix of ancient Ugandan folklore and contemporary feminism. Jennifer is a Ugandan novelist and short story writer acclaimed for her prize-winning first novel, Kintu. Join her to discuss her new novel.



- **'Big Kids Storytime'**. On Mon 26 to Fri 30 Oct at 4.15pm daily online on Instagram Live

@lambeth\_libraries Tune in each week day from 4:15pm on Instagram to listen to librarian Zoey read 'Race to the Frozen North; the remarkable true story of Matthew Henson, the first American to reach the North Pole', written by Catherine Johnson, illustrated by Katie Hickey and published by Barrington Stoke.



- **'Family Tree Making Workshop'**. On Wed 28 Oct at 7pm online. Join Dr Audrey Allwood, author of 'Belonging in Brixton' for a Family Tree Making Workshop. After researching her own ancestry Audrey constructed a family genealogy narrative, or a 'book' as her brother called it, containing her family tree. It is both interesting and valuable to know the influences that shaped our ways of being, leaving the story for present and future generations to know and add to. Here Audrey touches on her own experience and sets out the steps you'll need to take to construct your family narrative.



- **'The Windrush Generation: 492 Korna Klub Interactive Performance'**. On Thurs 29 Oct at 7pm online. Web: [www.492KornaKlub.com](http://www.492KornaKlub.com) 492 Korna Klub presents a live interactive performance and community debate about the Windrush Generation. We are living in a Historic moment, join the 492 Korna Klub for a virtual performance so that we can connect and join the dialogue about how we can move forwards in this hostile environment whilst celebrating and commemorating the Windrush generation and their Kin.



- **'Kwame and the Lockdown'**. On Fri 30 Oct at 7pm online. How can Black men survive COVID19 and remain proactive during these challenging and uncertain times? What can Black men do collectively to look after their Mental Health & Wellbeing and address our current reality? How can Black men support and guide the next generation so that we are better prepared for civil action? Join the Black Men's Consortium for an interactive theatre performance & community dialogue event about Black men in the time of COVID19.



- **'Happy Windrush Day' with Winston Nzinga. On Sat 31 Oct at 10am online.** Old time stories come back again. Come and join in the fun. Play along with a drum, a shaker or bell. Listen and sing along with Winston Nzinga recounting special Caribbean folk stories with music and song from the Windrush generation. A lively storytime, where you will hear and be entertained by traditional tales. Ages 5 years and above.



- **'Lambeth Libraries Wiggle & Rhyme for under 5s'. On Mon to Fri at 10.30-11am.** Throughout the month Afrikan and Caribbean folktales and stories will be told during our under 5 sessions. Hear what tricks Anancy is up to and sing-along to traditional rhymes. Join our librarians for songs, stories and rhymes for the under 5s.



- **'Black Lives Matter: Signs and placards from a summer of protest'. Until Sat 31 Oct at 11am-4pm (Mon-Sat) at Minet Library, Knatchbull Road, London, SE5. Bookings: 020 7926 6073. E-mail: [minetlibrary@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:minetlibrary@lambeth.gov.uk)** An exhibition of some of the signs and placards left behind after the recent Black Lives Matter protests in London. Do you see your sign here? Do you want to donate a sign that you still have at home or any other BLM content? Then get in touch, we want to record your story, contact Lambeth Archives at: [archives@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:archives@lambeth.gov.uk)



- **'Windrush: Portrait of a Generation - A photo-story by Jim Grover'**. Until Dec 2020 at Brixton Library, Windrush Square, London, SW2. Bookings: 020 7926 1058. Web: [www.jimgroverphotography.com](http://www.jimgroverphotography.com) / [www.windrushportraitofageneration.com](http://www.windrushportraitofageneration.com) Twitter / Instagram: [@jimgroverphoto](https://twitter.com/jimgroverphoto) Celebrating the Caribbean community in South London. This photo-story by award-winning social documentary photographer Jim Grover looks at the community following the arrival of SS Windrush.

Contact Lambeth Libraries for details of all events. Tel: 020 7926 0750. Web: [www.lambeth.gov.uk/jointhelibrary](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/jointhelibrary) On Twitter: [@lamlibs](https://twitter.com/lamlibs) using the hashtag **#BlackWritersChallenge** and [@BHMLambeth](https://twitter.com/BHMLambeth). Instagram: [@Lambeth\\_Libraries](https://www.instagram.com/Lambeth_Libraries) Follow Lambeth Archives on Twitter: [@LambethArchives](https://twitter.com/LambethArchives). Instagram: [@LambethArchives](https://www.instagram.com/LambethArchives)



~ **BTWSC/AFRICAN HISTORIES REVISITED PRESENTS 'EXPLORING THE LEGACIES OF DAME JOCELYN BARROW AND OTHER INSPIRATIONAL BRITISH AFRICAN WOMEN'**. A Wandsworth Libraries African History Month event in memory of our sheroes, particularly Dame Jocelyn Barrow, Jessica Huntley, and Claudia Jones. This Zoom online and interactive session is led by history consultant Kwaku, an author/editor of a number of books; educator specialising in black music and African British history; and the editor of the website [BritishBlackMusic.com](http://BritishBlackMusic.com). He will through a screening of the 'What They Said I Should Be: The Story of African British Female Movers & Shakers' DVD (featuring an educationalist, attorney general, MP, classical composer and entrepreneurs) and other film footage, highlight the work of a number of British Afrikan women, and give the audience an opportunity to explore their legacies or on-going contributions. Attendees are encouraged to also offer names of notable women not mentioned in either videos or presentation. On Tues 20 Oct at 6-9pm online. Adm: Free. Booking: [www.bitly.com/BriAfriWomen](http://www.bitly.com/BriAfriWomen)

~ **SHANTI-CHI EVENTS**



- **'GotKushTV presents 'Introduction to the Afrikan Al-Khem-I of Spirituality' On Sun 18 Oct on 12-7pm online. Adm: £5. Web: [www.gotKushTV.co.uk/events](http://www.gotKushTV.co.uk/events)** Featuring: Sister Mut, Urban Goddess; Michelle Yaa Asantewa, WayWiveWords; ShakaRa, Alkebu-Lan Revivalist Movement; Dalian Adofo, Ancestral Voices; Leo Muhammad, NOI Study Group; Kahun Montu Tar, Holy Qubtic Church; Robin

Walker, Black History Man; Griot Chinyere, Shanti-Chi.com; VVN, @vvnings; Ras Asheber, Afrikan Revolution.



- 'Ubuntu Coffee Saturday in the Week' featuring Griot Chinyere. On Mon 26 Oct at 6.30pm online.



- Griot Chinyere storytelling. On Wed 28 - Fri 30 Oct at Waterman's Theatre, 40 High St, Brentford, TW8 0DS. Tel: 020 8232 1010.



- 'Libation for Liberation Dusk Untill Dawn Sister Circle'. On Sat 31 Oct at 6pm at Oxleas Woods Café, Shooters Hill, Crown Woods Lane, London, SE18 3JA.



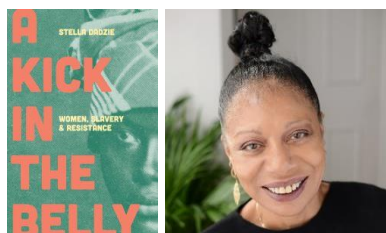
- Shanti-Chi Nightwalks – Winter Solstice. On Fri 18 Dec at 7pm at Lewisham DLR Station. Tel: 0758 222 8967. E-mail: [info@shanti-chi.com](mailto:info@shanti-chi.com) Web: [www.shanti-chi.com](http://www.shanti-chi.com)



Photo credits: Helena Appio

~ **CASILDART POP UP GALLERY IN BRIXTON VILLAGE.** An exhibition showcasing the work of mixed media artist, Estelle Grandidier's sculptures, drawings and paintings alongside painter and textile designer Helena Appio's works inspired by the orishas and adire prints. Estelle Grandidier's work is noted for its strong and distinctive aesthetics inspired by the works of Modigliani and African Arts. Estelle will be offering for sale a number of sculptures from her African head inspired collection, as well as some of her larger hand-built pieces. Helena Appio is a Nigerian-born award-winning filmmaker, textile designer, writer and educator, who has recently re-discovered her passion for painting. A collection of limited edition prints from her recent paintings 'The Wisdom of Angels' will be on sale. The work combines imaginative portraits of women with the talismanic iconography of the traditional Afrikan indigo textile designs.

Work from guest artists will also be on display and anyone who is interested in selling their work in the pop up gallery should get in touch with CasildArt. Until Sun 18 Oct at 33 Granville Arcade, Brixton Market, Coldharbour Lane, London, SW9 8PR. Contact Sukai Eccleston, Director, CasildART. Tel: 0797 1000 129. E-mail: [info@casildasnicethings.com](mailto:info@casildasnicethings.com) Web: [www.propertystylistlondon.com](http://www.propertystylistlondon.com) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/africanartsourcingservice> Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/casildart/> Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/africanartfinder/>



~ **BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS PRESENTS STELLA DADZIE SPEAKING ON HER NEW BOOK 'A KICK IN THE BELLY: WOMEN, SLAVERY AND RESISTANCE'.** Aside from Mary Prince, enslaved women in the Caribbean had few opportunities to record their stories for posterity. Yet from their dusty footprints and the umpteen small clues they left for us to unravel, there's no question that they earned their place in history. Pick any Caribbean island and you'll find race, skin colour and rank interacting with gender in a unique and often volatile way. Moreover, the evidence points to a distinctly female role in the development of a culture of resistance by enslaved people — a role that was not just central, but dynamic.

Whether responding to the horrendous conditions of plantation life, the sadistic vagaries of their captors or the 'peculiar burdens of their sex,' their collective sanity relied on a highly subversive adaptation of the values and cultures they smuggled with them naked from different parts of Afrika. By sustaining or adapting remembered cultural practices, they ensured that the lives of people considered as chattel slaves retained both meaning and purpose. Stella Dadzie was a founder member of OWAAD (Organisation of Women of African and Asian Descent) in the 1970s and was the co-author of 'Heart of the Race'. She will be in conversation with Marie-Annick Gournet at The Royal West of England Academy. 'A Kick in the Belly' is published by Verso and available from their bookseller partner Waterstones. On Mon 19 Oct at 12.30-13.15pm on Crowdcast. Adm: Free. Web: <https://www.ideasfestival.co.uk/events/stella-dadzie/>



~ **KUUMBA NIA ARTS PRESENT A BLACK THEATRE SYMPOSIUM.** In an age where hidden histories are being brought to light, this one-day live symposium aims to celebrate and reveal the momentous journey undertaken by the Black community to fully integrate into the world of British Theatre. Did you know that Black performance art and performance preceded Ancient Greece? Did you know that a Black man in the 18th century was so good at playing at playing Shakespeare's characters that he was hounded out of the country? Did you know that a Black Hollywood star came to England in the 1930's and aided by a set of socially conscious Liverpoolians created the beginnings of a Black theatre movement that exists and is still going strong today? Join Kuumba Nia Arts for a day of insights, discussion, sharing, creativity, performance and networking. Presenters and panellists include: Patrice Naiambana – acclaimed actor; Angie Amra Anderson – much-travelled African Drummer and performer; Griot Chinyere – modern-day Afrakan storyteller; Terry Adams – Relationship Manager representing the Arts Council who will discuss the Arts Council's ongoing support for the development of work by Black and Other minority groups. On Sat 24 Oct at 10am-4pm at The North Wall Arts Centre, South Parade, Summertown, Oxford, OX2 7JN. Adm: Free. Tel: 01865 319 450. E-mail: [contact@thenorthwall.com](mailto:contact@thenorthwall.com)

~ **'WE WANT WE LEADER' CAMPAIGN TO RECOVER THE REMAINS OF SLAIN GRENADIAN LEADERS.** On Sun 25 Oct at 6pm online. Registration: <https://mailchi.mp/ec2d5bd0d24f/d8wvbnhjy> or [tps://bit.ly/2DyJODJ](https://bit.ly/2DyJODJ)



~ **TAYO ALUKO AND FRIENDS PRESENT EXTRACTS FROM 'CALL MR. ROBESON'.** A live performance outside the Liverpool Maritime Museum marking the opening of a new display called 'Life at Sea'. Includes this onboard photograph of Paul and Essie Robeson in their collection. On Wed 28 Oct at the Maritime Museum, Liverpool. Tel: +44 (0)7990 608 074 / +1 914 733 5267. Web: [www.tayoalukoandfriends.com](http://www.tayoalukoandfriends.com)





**~ YOUTHS FOR PRESIDENCY MOVEMENT PRESENT THEIR AFRICA YOUTH LECTURE SERIES OCTOBER 2020 LECTURE.** This lecture which is scheduled to be held once a month to address the challenges facing Afrikan youths in mounting the mantle of Afrikan leadership and envisaging themselves as the torch carriers of Afrika's full freedom. The theme for this month's lecture is 'Elections in Africa: The Role of Africa Youths'. Speaker: David Adu Boahene (Founder, Radio Africa, Germany) – 'Religion, Africa Youths and Elections in Africa'; Dr Melida Harris Barrow (Founder and Chairperson, Board of the 6th Region of Global Chamber of Commerce) – 'Poverty, Africa Youths and Elections in Africa'; Sista Shanice (Founder, Sista Shanice Show and presenter @ galaxyafiwe.com) – 'Gender, AFRICA Youths and Elections in Africa'; Rassool Jibraeel Snyman (Founder, Anti-Treason Movement) – 'Corruption, Africa Youths and Elections in Africa'. On Sat 31 Oct at 12noon (Nigeria Time, GMT+1) on Google Meet. Adm: Free. Web: <https://meet.google.com/mkh-mbau-mtg>



**~ National Black Solidarity Day.** (Black Solidarity Day is now in its 51st year and it's time to make sure it is observed nationally and globally - No Work, No School, No Spending! On Mon 2 Nov. Tel: 267-636-3802. E-mail: [nationalmwm@aol.com](mailto:nationalmwm@aol.com)



**~ WAYWIVWORDZ AND OH COUNSELLING SERVICES PRESENT 'WHAT IS SEXUAL ABUSE VERSUS SACRED SEXUALITY & THE FEMININE DIVINE'.** Although alarming numbers of women experience sexual abuse, this violation continues to be shrouded in misunderstanding and silence. A culture of self-blame and guilt arises along with mental health crises that can last a lifetime. By exploring sexuality through the feminine divine women can reclaim this sacred power and embrace new healing perspectives. In this interactive workshop we consider ways to identify and challenge forms of sexual abuse and discover the inherent power of womanhood. It is aimed at helping you continue building on your transformational and self-healing work. On Thurs 5 Nov at 6-9pm online. Web: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)




~ **AFRO-FUTURISM AND THE BLACK SPECULATIVE.** A series of roundtable discussions and poetry readings on an Afrofuturist immersion and is curated. The participants represent cultural and literary ambassadors discussing their work and what it means to be an Afrofuturist as well as how the Black Speculative Arts are impactful throughout the Afrikan Diaspora. Panelists Include: Samuel Delany, Ishmael Reed, Sheree Renée Thomas, Reynaldo Anderson. Moderated by Darrell Stover and Kim McMillon. On Sun 8 Nov and Sun 13 Dec on 5pm (EST) streaming Live on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram. Adm: Free. E-mail: [kimmac@pacbell.net](mailto:kimmac@pacbell.net) Booking: <https://bit.ly/30fthgf> Web: [www.drkimcmillon.com](http://www.drkimcmillon.com) Black Science Fiction Society: [https://blacksciencefictionsociety.com/?xg\\_source=msg\\_mes\\_network](https://blacksciencefictionsociety.com/?xg_source=msg_mes_network)

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## A new public square outside new Britannia Leisure Centre

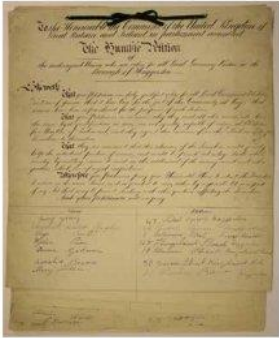
We would like local residents to help us decide the name of a new public square outside the new Britannia Leisure Centre. We have narrowed it down to four names that celebrate important people, places and events that are linked to the history of Hoxton and Shoreditch. Discover the history behind the names here and vote for your favourite online or using the attached questionnaire.



**Bradlaugh Square**

Born in Hoxton in 1833, Charles Bradlaugh was a political activist, atheist, freethinker, an advocate of trade unionism, and a supporter of universal suffrage. He was President of the London Secular Society from 1858 and in 1866, co-founded the National Secular Society, where he edited the secularist newspaper the National Reformer, and where local women's rights activist Annie Besant became his close associate. In 1868, the Reformer was prosecuted by the British Government for blasphemy and sedition.


Bradlaugh was eventually acquitted on all charges. In 1876 Bradlaugh and Besant republished *The Fruits of Philosophy*, an American pamphlet advocating birth control, and, as a result both activists were tried for obscenity. Bradlaugh was born 5mins away from the new public square at 5 Bacchus Walk, where a brown plaque commemorates him.



**Humble Square**

In c.1900-1910 Haggerston residents signed a petition asking for women to be given the right to vote in parliamentary elections. At least 10 of the 279 people who signed the petition lived on and around the site of the new Leisure Centre. A large number of people signed The Humble Petition with an 'X'.

It is widely believed that the people who signed with an 'X' could not write their name, and suggests that many local women at this time did not have access to an education. Despite this, they clearly still wished to have their views represented in national government.




**BRAFA Square**

In a BBC news report in 1984, news of the worst famine to hit Ethiopia in a century reached the UK. From the offices of The Voice newspaper on Mare Street, local musician Leon Leiffer telephoned reggae artists, musicians and MCs, to ask for their help to raise money.

A few months later, in West London, Bob Geldof and Midge Ure launched Band Aid, a project bringing together famous musicians to record and release 'Do They Know it's Christmas'. Frustrated by the lack of African heritage artists in the Band Aid and Live Aid line up, Leon Leiffer formed the British Reggae Artists Famine Appeal Team (BRAFA) with Courtney Carr, Ras Elroy Bailey, Tony Douglas, Raymond Dangarembizi and Gene Rondo, who co-wrote the charity single and lived in Hyde Road, next to the site of the new public square.

The BBC helped with the call out, Eddie Grant offered his Recording Studio for free, and in February 1985, 200 reggae artists, musicians and MCs, including Aswad, The Blackstones, Dennis Brown, Janet Kay, Winston Reedy, Trevor Walters and members of the public who sang on the backing track, turned up to record 'Let's Make Africa Green Again'.

Released by Island Records in 1985 and launched at a large open air concert in Shoreditch Park the following year, BRAFA raised over £8,000 for Save the Children to support those suffering in Ethiopia.



**McKay Square**

Claude McKay (1889-1948) was a Jamaican socialist, writer, poet and activist. He lived in London from 1919-1921 where he spent much of his time at the International Socialist Club in Shoreditch working to complete and publish a collection of poetry.

Reflecting on his time in London, McKay wrote that he did not think that he could have survived his time in the capital without the "freedom" provided by this space. McKay's poems celebrated Jamaican culture and brought awareness to the racist treatment that many African Caribbean individuals faced, from a queer Black perspective. His were the first poems to be published in Jamaican patois. During his time in London he also wrote for and edited Sylvia Pankhurst's newspaper the *Workers Dreadnought*.

Images courtesy of Hackney Archives, Joris van Drunen Littel, and Wikimedia Commons

~ **LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY ONLINE CONSULTATION TO NAME A NEW SQUARE IN SHOREDITCH PARK.** The consultation includes an online appeal for locals to name a new square within the £2m Shoreditch Park redevelopment scheme. Details of the options are above. Emma Winch, Senior Consultation Officer Communications and Consultation, London Borough of Hackney. Tel: 020 8356 2529. E-mail: [emma.winch@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:emma.winch@hackney.gov.uk) To vote by Wed 11 Nov: <http://bit.ly/NamingNewShoreditchSquare>.

~ **BLACK HISTORY WALKS EVENTS**



- 'Emperor Haile Selassie and the Black history of Bath'. On Tues 17 Nov. Web:  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



- 'The Gentrification of Peckham and Black urban removal worldwide'. On Thurs 19 Nov. Event and ticket info: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



- 'Sexual health and the Black community'. On Wed 25 Nov. Event and ticket info:  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)



- 'Medical Apartheid: European experiments on African bodies' Part 2. On Tues 1 Dec. Event and ticket info: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

For information on all Black History Walks events e-mail: [info@blackhistorywalks.co.uk](mailto:info@blackhistorywalks.co.uk) Web:  
[www.blackhistorywalks.co.uk](http://www.blackhistorywalks.co.uk)



Carl Gabriel in his studio at Carnival Village, Maida Vale. © Roy Mehta

~ **BRENT BIENNIAL PRESENTS CARL GABRIEL.** New and existing work by the Trinidadian artist Carl Gabriel will be on display. His sculptures often depict the human form and have appeared on carnival floats and community processions across the country and internationally for decades. In his wire structure creations he draws on the Caribbean tradition of wire-bending where bamboo and wire frames are covered with layers of paper and PVA, and hand painted or sprayed. Alongside the exhibits photographs from the artists' archive will chart the development of his 'social sculpture', and its relationship to community and identity. Carl has presented sculptures for London's Notting Hill Carnival, Diwali and St Patrick's Day in West London, and for the Mayor's Thames Festival. He has been an Artist-in-Residence at Orleans House Gallery, Twickenham, Heathrow Airport, London and Chelsea Gallery, London. Until Sun 13 Dec at Carlton Ave E, Wembley, HA9 8PL. Adm Free. Tel: (+44)7508 446 868.



~ **BARBICAN CENTRE PRESENTS 'A COUNTERVAILING THEORY'.** This first British exhibition by the Nigerian-American artist Toyin Ojih Odutola is an epic cycle of new work exploring an imagined ancient myth. It comes with an immersive soundscape by artist Peter Adjaye. Toyin recognises the pen as a 'writing tool first' considering drawing as a form of storytelling using only pastel and charcoal. Until Sun 24 Jan 2021 at 12-7pm (Mon-Fri) and 11am-7pm (Sat-Sun) at The Curve, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2. Adm: Free (Booking essential). E-mail: [tickets@barbican.org.uk](mailto:tickets@barbican.org.uk)



A man standing in front of a bank of loud speakers in All Saints Road, during the Notting Hill Carnival, 21 Aug 1994 © Peter Marshall

~ **THE MUSEUM OF LONDON AND THE RASTAFARI MOVEMENT PRESENTS 'DUB LONDON: BASSLINE OF A CITY'.** From its roots in Jamaican reggae to how it shaped communities over the last 50 years, our new display explores not only dub music, but also the cultural and social impact it has had on the identity of London and its people. Dub has had a far-reaching impact across the music industry and the history of the capital. It has influenced multiple genres from drum and bass, garage and hip-hop to even mainstream pop, and played an important role in the early days of the city's punk scene with bands such as The Clash and The Slits drawing on its unique sound. Exploring this musical influence alongside community, fashion and spirituality, Dub London examines how dub is a varied thread that runs through an

entire community. Highlights include: A speaker stack belonging to Channel One Sound System that has appeared yearly at Notting Hill Carnival since 1983; A bespoke record shop created in collaboration with Papa Face of Dub Vendor Reggae Specialist; A record selection curated in collaboration with representatives of various independent record shops around London; Historic and contemporary rolling imagery and audio selections.

Through collecting objects, memories and personal stories from some of Dub's most iconic people and places from across London, including Hackney, Lambeth, Notting Hill, Ladbroke Grove, Harlesden and Lewisham, the display plunges you into the heart of Dub Reggae and invites you to explore this cultural phenomenon. The Curator Cedar Lewisohn said: "The story of Dub culture in London is a fascinating one and one that hasn't been told this widely in a museum setting before. Through getting out into the places and speaking to the people who have been instrumental in the Dub scene, we've been able to hear stories of how London was central for the emergence of Dub in the UK." Until Sun 31 Jan 2021 at 11.30am-3.30pm (Mon-Fri) & 10am-6pm (Sat & Sun) at the Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London, Adm: Free. Tel: 020 7030 3300. Booking: <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london>



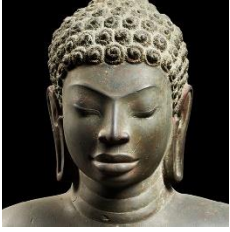
© Black Cyclists Network

~ **BLACK CYCLISTS NETWORK MEETUPS.** The Black Cyclists Network rides out weekly to encourage people of colour to take up cycling. They have several groups for different levels of proficiency. Supporters and members from all backgrounds who share their vision are welcome. On Sats at 8am in Regents Park, London, NW1. Web: <https://www.blackcyclistsnetwork.cc/>



~ **CARIBBEAN LABOUR SOLIDARITY MONTHLY MEETING.** On Suns at 12pm on Zoom. E-mail: [info@cls-uk.org.uk](mailto:info@cls-uk.org.uk) Web: <http://www.cls-uk.org.uk>

~ **BBC/BMC EVENTS.** For all BBM/BMC & BTWSC events e-mail: [btwsc@hotmail.com](mailto:btwsc@hotmail.com) / [bbmbmc@gmail.com](mailto:bbmbmc@gmail.com) Web: [www.BBM.eventbrite.com](http://www.BBM.eventbrite.com)



~ **LONDON BUDDHIST CENTRE POC WEEKLY MEDITATION.** During this time of the Coronavirus pandemic it is even more important that we come together as a community to alleviate our own suffering and the suffering of all peoples. Meditation and the teachings of the Buddha are now even more pertinent than ever. The Buddha taught compassion and wisdom, helping us to act wisely and compassionately to effect positive change. In this weekly online class you can expect led meditation followed by talks on the Buddhist vision, discussion and ritual. On Sundays at 4-5.30pm on Zoom. Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94298185687>

~ **PRESTON WINDRUSH GENERATION UK PRESENT WINDRUSH CONFERENCE - WEEKLY ONLINE (ZOOM) MEETING.** Every Tuesday at 8.30-11pm. For Registration and queries e-mail: [prestonwindrushgenerationuk@gmail.com](mailto:prestonwindrushgenerationuk@gmail.com)

**Contact: Kubara Zamani, Afrikan Quest International, PO Box 35165, London, SE5 8WU. E-mail: [afrikanquest1@hotmail.com](mailto:afrikanquest1@hotmail.com) Twitter: @nubiartdiary**

***'TALK SENSE OR IT DON'T MAKE SENSE YOU TALK'***