

B A S A

BLACK & ASIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

BLACK HISTORY MONTH DIARY OCTOBER 2010

BASA, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Room 236, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU.

To find out more about BASA visit: www.blackandasianstudies.org.uk.

Compiled by BASA Member Monthly Information Bulletin Editor Sean Creighton,
sean.creighton@btinternet.com.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMES AROUND THE COUNTRY

It is not possible to be comprehensive, so if you want to know about events in a city, town or County that is not listed, please do a search on the web. Many Museums, Libraries and Archives also have events, so it is worth looking at their websites as well.

BBC National Round-Up.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/nol/shared/spl/hi/uk/02/black_history_month/html/introduction.stm

General: www.blackhistorymonthuk.co.uk/

Birmingham: http://birminghamblackhistory.com/component/option,com_eventcal/Itemid,22

Brent: www.brent.gov.uk/arts.nsf/pages/lbb-107

Brighton & Hove: www.brightonblackhistorymonth.org.uk/#/full-event-listing/4543895996

Enfield: www.enfield.gov.uk/downloads/download/642/event_in_enfield_libraries

Essex: www.blackhistorymonthessex.com/view/events

Exeter University: www.exeter.ac.uk/staff/equality/events/blackhistorymonth

Greenwich.

www.greenwich.gov.uk/Greenwich/LeisureCulture/EntertainmentEvents/BlackHistoryMonth.htm

Hackney: www.hackney.gov.uk/black-history-month.htm

Lambeth.

www.lambeth.gov.uk/Services/AboutLambeth/WhatsOn/BlackHistoryMonth/?WT.mc_id=blackhistorymonth.

Leeds University: www.leedsuniversityunion.org.uk/news/article/LoveHydePark/1423

Liverpool.

www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/events/black-history-month_events.aspx

www.artinliverpool.com/blog/2010/09/black-history-month-2010

London Portal: www.viewlondon.co.uk/whatson/black-history-month-feature-1391.html

Manchester.

www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500142/library_news_and_events/4821/black_history_month/1

Medway: www.medway.gov.uk/index/leisure/events/bhm.htm

Merton: www.merton.gov.uk/leisure/events/blackhistory.htm

Merseyside: <http://merseysideblackhistory.co.uk>

Norfolk: www.norfolkblackhistorymonth.org.uk/

Oxford: www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/8421654.Black_History_Month_focuses_on_rich_history

Reading: www.reading.gov.uk/newsarticle.asp?id=5X9452-A7852690

Salford University: www.salford.ac.uk/blackhistorymonth

Solihull: www.solihull.gov.uk/Attachments/BHM10Events.pdf

Southampton: www.southampton.gov.uk/news-events/events/allevnts/black-history-

[month.asp](#)

Southwark. www.southwark.gov.uk/events/200286/black_history_month

Sussex University. www.sussex.ac.uk/staff/newsandevents/?id=5138

Trafford. www.cultureintrafford.org

Tyne & Wear. www.ilikemuseums.com/Page/ViewTrail.aspx?TrailId=116

Wales. www.bvsnw.org.uk

Waltham Forest. www.walthamforest.gov.uk/index/leisure/bhm.htm

Wandsworth. www.wandsworth.gov.uk/blackhistorymonth

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

To 10 October. Connected Histories. Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery. Chamberlain Square, Birmingham. Free Admission. Connected Histories is a visually stimulating and thought provoking exhibition communicating the thoughts, feelings and perspectives of young people today. The exhibition explores the contribution of Muslim communities to WWII. This history is seldom acknowledged or appreciated, and the exhibition aims to raise awareness and understanding of this shared experience and history. The project has worked with Young Muslim and non-Muslim groups to look at key events and themes through history workshops, debates and discussions - then creatively explore these through video, sound, and artwork. The groups have worked with established artists; photographer Vanley Burke and filmmaker Sima Gonsai, to explore how the multiple contributions to the war effort reflects on aspects of their own lives, experiences and perceptions of the world around them. See:

www.bmag.org.uk/events?id=820&start=6. For further info please email Tom Grosvenor on tom.grosvenor@birmingham.gov.uk or call 0121 3039414.

OMO LONDON. NIGERIA IN BRITISH PLAYWRITING: A FESTIVAL.

To 11 October

To mark the 50th Anniversary of Nigerian Independence, Oval House Theatre has been presenting a short season of work examining the identity, heritage, and legacy of Nigerian communities in the UK, and celebrating Nigerian British playwriting. The October events are listed below. To book:

Oval House Theatre, 52-54 Kennington Oval, London SE11.

Box Office: 020 7582 7680. Website/online Sales: www.ovalhouse.com (no fee).

To 9 Oct, Tues - Sat 7.45pm. Inner City Theatre presents the World Premiere of Estate Walls. Written by Arinze Kene. Directed by Ché Walker. Set in an inferior London estate, Estate Walls follows the story of Obi, a young writer who dreams of leaving. Told through rich, witty and lyrical street language, the story focuses on the young artist's conflict between his ambitions and his loyalty to his friends, who are planning a heist in which Obi refuses to take part. Meanwhile, his love for a forbidden girl adds to the complexity of his life, making him soon to enter a whole world of problems. Tickets £12/£6 concessions. Tuesday 5 October: tickets include free post-show discussions with the cast and creative team.

Monday 4 October. 6pm. Fixer by Lydia Adetunji. Northern Nigeria. When militants attack a new oil pipeline, journalists, spin doctors and consultants rush to the scene. In the middle is one man who thinks he can play them all. £5.

Tuesday 5 - Thursday 7 October. 8pm. Britiko Identity. Short plays written by young Nigerian British playwrights, led by rising star Arinze Kene, and curated by Oladipo Agboluaje and Ben Evans. Performed by Identity Drama School Britain's first Black drama school. £5

Monday 11 October. 6pm. Pandora's Box by Ade Solanke. On holiday with her streetwise teenage son in Lagos, a British-Nigerian mother is in turmoil. Should he be on the plane back to London with her? Or should she leave her only child in a strict Lagos boarding school rather than return him to the battlefields of inner London. £5.

To 7 November. Exhibition Hydrarchy: Power and Resistance at Sea. Gasworks Gallery, 155 Vauxhall St, London, SE11. Mathieu K. Abonnenc, Goldin+Senneby, Laura Horelli, Melanie Jackson, Anja Kirschner and David Panos, Paul McCarthy, Uriel Orlow, Femmy Otten, Christodoulos Panayiotou, and João Pedro Vale. Group exhibition that approaches historical and contemporary examinations of the sea and the offshore as contested cultural, political, legal and socio-economic territories. Focusing on specific events, situations and mythologies attached to past and recent maritime history, the works address power relations at sea and the forms of resistance and survival developed as a response. Works in the exhibition include: (1) *Polly II: Plan for a Revolution in Docklands* (2006) a satirical fictional video loosely based on John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera*. The work is set in the near-future where London has been flooded, high-end high-rises are being looted, financial speculation is spiralling and the dispossessed are literally adrift. In this context, a revolution against the ruling class led by lower class Londoners and dissidents is under way. (2) *The Middle Passage* (2006) by Mathieu K. Abonnenc refers to the forcible journey of African people to the New World from the 16th to the 19th century, using a sequence of extracts from a range of Hollywood movies. (3) Christodoulos Panayiotou's *(Untitled) Act II: The Island* (2008) is part of a triptych made of folded theatre backdrops about a ship possibly departing to and returning from the European colonies. Further details on: www.gasworks.org.uk/exhibitions/detail.php?id=564. Gasworks explains that the exhibition title was revived by radical historians Peter Linebaugh and Marcus Rediker in *The Many-Headed Hydra: Sailors, Slaves, Commoners, and The Hidden History of the Revolutionary Atlantic* (2001). The term 'hydrarchy' is used to "designate two related developments of the late seventeenth century: the organisation of the maritime state from above.

WILLIAM CUFFAY Play by Sam Dowling.

**Tuesday 5 & Friday 8 October. 11am and 2pm.
Friday 15 & Saturday 16 October. 11Qam, 2pm & 7.30pm.**

Nettlefold Hall, 1 Norwood High Street, West Norwood, London, SE27.

Part of Lambeth Black History Month

£12.50 full price; £9.50 concessions. Bookings: Phone 07906 136 958 or visit

www.hayleydtheatre.com to buy tickets in advance. Nettlefold Hall, 1 Norwood High Street, West Norwood SE27. See 5 October.

Mother Country. Talks by Stephen Bourne

Black People on the Home Front 1939-1945

Tuesday 5 October. 5-6.30pm. Brandon Library, Maddock Way, Cooks Road, SE17.
Contact: 020 7525 2000. marcus.holdaway@southwark.gov.uk

Wednesday 13 October. 7pm. Brixton Library, Brixton Oval, London, SW2. Free.
Bookings: Phone 020 7926 1075 to book your place in advance.

Saturday 16 October. 2pm. Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Rd, London, SE1.

Thursday 21 October. 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place
London, WC2H.

ICS/BASA SEMINAR

Tuesday 12 October. 6-7.30pm. History and Contributions of African Churches in Britain. Rev. Israel Oluwole Olofinjana will trace the history of African Churches in Britain, explore why Africans are starting churches in the UK and their contributions to the British society. Rev. Olofinjana's recent book *Reverse in Ministry and Missions: Africans in the Dark Continent of Europe* will be available at a reduced price. Rev. Olofinjana is the minister of the Crofton Park Baptist Church, Brockley Grove, Lewisham. The Seminar is held at Institute of Commonwealth Studies, Senate House, University of London, Russell Square, London WC1. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to pre-book/register. Contact: marikasherwood@sas.ac.uk.

Monday 4 October. 6.30-8pm. Cliff Pereira. Africans in Asia. Tooting Library, 75 Mitcham Rd, London, SW17. Born in Mombasa, a third generation Kenyan Goan, Cliff came to Britain in 1971. He is an author and authority on the Bombay Africans and Goan diaspora, and a member of BASA. Free - booking advisable on 020 8871 7175.

Thursday 7 October. 2pm. Do ethnic minorities get social justice? A historical perspective. Gary Craig, Emeritus Professor of Social Justice at Hull University. Old Local Studies Library, (First floor Central Library, Albion Street, Hull). Free admission by ticket only due to limited space, available from the counter in The Central Lending Library; Tel: 01482 210000

Friday 8 October. 12-4pm. Launch of Wakefield Black History Month. St Swithun's Community Centre. Full details of events on: www.wakefieldvcs.org/edi/cms/news/article/?id=399. Contact worker: Ayo Bakare, Voluntary Action Wakefield District. 01924 367 418. ayo.bakare@vawd.org.uk.

Saturday 9 October. 2-3pm. Heritage walk led by Arthur Torrington to Joanna Vassa's graveside. Abney Park Cemetery, Stoke Newington High Street, London, N16. A member of the Clavering Congregational Church (where she and her husband Henry Bromley) ministered will also be present. Arthur writes: 'Having visited the Church in Essex some months ago, I saw evidence that Joanna and Henry collected signatures for the Abolition campaign and that they held church services on August the first each year. The event is held in association with Abney Park Trust. The grave was discovered on 7 October 2004 by Professor Vincent Carretta and his wife Pat.

CALL MR ROBESON EVENTS

October 7: Hastings. St. Mary In the Castle (Home in Barack) Further info: www.afropartynight.co.uk

October 13 - 15: Clwyd Theatr Cymru, Mold, Wales

October 16: Wyeside Arts Centre, Builth Wells

October 18: Lakeside Theatre, University of Essex (Home in Barack)

October 22: The Big Pit, Blaenavon, Wales (Schools Presentation)

October 23: Blaenavon Workmen's Hall, South Wales

October 24: Liverpool Philharmonic Hall (Rodewald Suite)

BLACK LIKE ME. Songs by Black Composers.

With Darryl Taylor (countertenor), and Raewyn Bailey (piano).

October 31. The Plaza, Stockport

Tayo Aluko and Friends, 24-26 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5RY. 0151 707 8187.

www.callmrrobeson.com

Blog: <http://tayoaluko.blogspot.com>.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Call-Mr-Robeson/215829476823.

Wednesday 13 October. 5.15-6.30pm. Interconnected Worlds: an Event Showcasing the British Library's African, Caribbean and 'Making Britain' Materials. Experience first-hand a

selection of the rich heritage held by the British Library Discover the story behind 'Making Britain' and how South Asians shaped the nation, 1870-1950. Meet and talk with British Library curators and members of the 'Making Britain' project. Themes of enslavement, abolition and empire, the end of empire and the beginnings of independence, and the rich cultural and scientific material produced by and about Africa, the Caribbean and South Asia. While the event is free, places are strictly limited and **booking is essential**. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis and if you wish to attend please contact philip.hatfield@bl.uk.

Saturday 16 October. 3pm. A Charmed Life. The Story of Jamaican Born RAF Wartime Serviceman Eddie Noble 1917-2007. Fundraising event by Memorial 2007 and Every Generation for the Memorial Statute to Enslaved Africans. Chair: Lord Paul Boeteng. Free entry, but donations requested. National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Lane, London, WC2. www.memorial2007.org.uk.

HISTORY DETECTIVES - WEST MIDLANDS

The HLF funded History Detectives Project researching the Black History of the West Midlands 165-1918 has come to an end.. Its exhibition is touring the West Midlands during Black History Month.

Friends Institute, 220 Moseley Road, Highgate, Birmingham - 2-3 October, 12-4pm
Wolverhampton Art Gallery - 2 October 11-4pm (limited exhibition)
Handsworth Library, Birmingham - 4-5 October
Kings Heath Library, Birmingham - 12-15 October
Hall Green Library, Birmingham - 18-22 October
Balsall Heath Library, Birmingham - 25-26 October
Birmingham City Library - All October (including discussion groups at Birmingham archives, 11 and 25 Oct, book through city archives)

The project has also produced a publication, exhibition, calendar, postcards and bookmarks which it hopes will help raise funds for further work. The publication contains 14 narratives of the experiences of individuals that our volunteers have researched in detail, as well as information on the project and a timeline of the nearly 200 people that we have found to date. The exhibition is available to be toured after October. Further details from David Callaghan, Heritage Officer - SCAWDI. 0121 4407778. dav.callaghan@gmail.com.

Monday 18 Oct. 7pm. Handsworth Songs - film screening. Talk: Joel Karamath on Black British Cinema. Side Cinema, 1-3 Side, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1(Newcastle Quayside opposite Akenside Pub). Handsworth Songs is an award winning documentary filmed in Handsworth and London during the riots of 1985. From director John Akomfrah and the pioneering Black Audio Film Collective, it seven awards including the BFI John Grierson Award for Best Documentary. Followed by film maker Joel Karamath who will be discussing the early pioneers of Black British Cinema and their legacy. Free entry, booking required: Please call 0191 277 2298 or email michael.mchugh@twmuseums.org.uk.

Wednesday 20 October. 1pm. Collect, Protect, Connect - A 2-year review of the World Oral Literature Project. Lecture by Mark Turin. Turin is a linguistic anthropologist and Research Associate at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, where he directs both the recently established World Oral Literature Project www.oralliterature.org an urgent global initiative to document and make accessible endangered oral literatures before they disappear without record, and the Digital Himalaya Project www.digitalthimalaya.org which he cofounded in 2000, as a platform to make multi-media resources from the Himalayan region widely available online. Room 301, LSE Library, 10 Portugal St, London, WC2. Tea, coffee and biscuits available from 12.30pm, and feel free to bring your own brown bag lunch. For further information contact Marilyn Glanfield, meg23@cam.ac.uk, 01223 334398. Organised by SCOLMA (UK Libraries and Archives Group on Africa).

Monday 25 October. 6.30-9.30pm. Our memories of the uprisings of the 1980s revisited.

British Library Conference Centre Auditorium. £6 (full price); £4 (concessions), including reception. Frequently characterised as 'racial riots', the uprisings of the 1980s in Bristol, Brixton, Toxteth and Moss Side were significant reactions to the politics of late twentieth century Britain. This event will bring together a panel of witnesses to offer a range of memories about the uprisings and to reflect on their context and legacy. The audience will have an opportunity to share their own memories and to discuss the socio-historical background to these events. Chair: Dr. Gail Lewis. The panel: Linda Bellos, Wally Brown, Kunle Olulode, Prof. Louis Kushnick, Dr. Anandi Ramamurthy and Sean Creighton. Further details (inc. booking) on www.bl.uk/whatson/events/event113718.html.

Tuesday 26 October: 6 for 6.30-8.00pm. Voices in the Wilderness or a Loud Conversation? Rethinking the Early Quaker Debate about Slavery. Brycchan Carey, Reader in English Literature, Kingston University. Historians of the abolition of the slave trade have usually depicted early antislavery Quakers as 'voices crying out in the wilderness' or as outsiders whose views were at odds with the mainstream of Quaker thought. Their writings and protests, it is often argued, had 'little impact' until the 1750s when John Woolman and others brought about a transformation in Quaker attitudes to slavery. In this talk, Brycchan Carey questions this view, and argues that early Quaker discussions about slavery were more central and widespread than is often recognised. Far from being lone voices, early antislavery Quakers had both impact and influence within the Society of Friends and beyond. Registration free but essential at www.quaker.org.uk/quakerhistory. For all enquiries please contact the Quaker Centre quakercentre@quaker.org.uk. 020 7663 1030/31. Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1.

Tuesday 26 October. 7pm. The Prodigal Son - film screening plus Culture Shock showreel. Discovery Museum, Newcastle, Blandford Square, NE1. Rastafarian filmmaker Kurt Orderson retraces his Grandfather's epic journey from Barbados to South Africa in the 1890s, and explores his involvement in the Universal Negro Improvement Association. In Caribbean Patois and English. Free entry, booking required: Please call 0191 277 2298 or email michael.mchugh@twmuseums.org.uk.

FILMS AT BFI Saturday 30 October

11am. Nigeria Day. Archive Nigeria. The untold history of Naij in words and rare footage. National Film Theatre. The event is free to ticket holders for The Figurine, subject to availability.

2pm. The Figurine Araromire + shorts from new directors. Nigeria 2009. Dir Kunle Afolayan. 120Min. Groundbreaking thriller in which a mysterious charm changes the lives of three friends. + selected shorts from new Nigerian directors.

British Film Institute. Tickets £5. Please book in advance to avoid disappointment website: www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi_southbank. Tickets can be booked online (except for free events) or telephone the BFI Southbank Box Office on 020 7928 3232. The Box Office is open daily between 11:30 am - 20:30 pm. BFI Southbank, Belvedere Road, South Bank, London, SE1 8XT.

Saturday 30 October: 9.30am-3.15pm. Gathering Our Physical Histories Conference. Broadcasting Place, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9EN. Organised by the Afrikan Curriculum Development Association in association with the Leeds Bi-Centenary Transformation Project, and Leeds Metropolitan University School of Sociology and Social Sciences, and supported by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Leeds West Indian Centre. Do you own or hold items or collections of African, Caribbean or West Indian artworks, writings, music or other Africana? Wondering what to do with them, what they are, what they are worth? How to store or safely deposit them but still want access? Do you want your material to be seen by future generations, but afraid they will end up on a skip?! £10 for conference registration, including lunch & refreshments. Bookings by Friday 22 October. Regional conference on the future of Black collections and archives in private and public hands. The organisers want to find out what collections and items are out there, what people want to do with them and the various methods to conserve and display them to the public. Hear from experts about keeping collections in

archives, museums, galleries and on the internet. Free Identifying & Valuing Seminars, 1.30-2.15pm. Conference booking details. Conference limited to 100 delegates, please book early to avoid disappointment! £10 registration fee includes refreshments, lunch & seminars. Group bookings of 3 or more, £7.50 each. This conference is not suitable for children or young people under 16. Stalls 9am-4pm. We still have places for stalls. We are especially interested in stalls displaying or selling Africana, clothing, jewellery, Africancentric books, artefacts, and crafts made in the diaspora We are also interested in organisations, archives, museums, galleries and internet agencies wishing to promote their work. To request a booking form or stall costs details, contact Dr Carl Hylton - carl@leedsbicentenary.com. 0113 262 2270. All Bookings close Friday 22 October.

30 October. 3-4.30pm. Black and Asian British History. Talk by Kathy Chater. Tooting Library, 75 Mitcham Rd, London, SW17. For centuries Black and Asian people have been coming to Britain for a variety of reasons. A few, like Olaudah Equiano, who wrote his autobiography, have become well-known but most simply became part of British life. They married and had families and their descendants live among us today. Come and find out about these invisible settlers and the detective work needed to uncover their lives. Dr Chater has written extensively on Black and family history, and is Editor of BASA's Newsletter. Free, but booking essential - (020) 8871 7175. Part of Wandsworth BMH.

Monday 1 November. Mary Seacole - a one woman show. White Bear Theatre, Kennington Park Rd, London, SE11. Proceeds going to the Mary Seacole Memorial Statue Appeal. Part of Lambeth BHM.

B A S A



BLACK & ASIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

ENCOURAGING THE INTEGRATION OF THE BLACK & ASIAN CONTRIBUTION TO BRITISH HISTORY

BASA:

- encourages research & disseminates information on the history of Black and Asian peoples in Britain.
- campaigns on educational, archival, museum and other relevant issues. It holds general research and education related conferences and works with other organisations, for example as partners and consultants with the National Archives.

Membership. Members receive:

- a Newsletter in July, November and March, which contains original articles, information on research, parish records, historic figures, BASA activities, book and resource reviews, etc.
- an Information Bulletin emailed in PDF format.

Newsletter

- Part of BASA membership.
- Available on subscription to those who do not wish to be members.
- Back issues are available for purchase: see details of contents on website.

To become a member or newsletter subscriber please complete the relevant form.

Website: www.blackandasianstudies.org.uk

- Contains details of BASA's activities and campaigns, including on policy matters, membership details, publications written or published by members, list of contents of Newsletters, original documents, and a discussion forum.
-

BASAJISC - BASA@jiscmail.ac.uk

- Email discussion group which is open to anyone, regardless of whether they are BASA members or not.
- This alerts people to forthcoming events and publications and is also used to discuss issues and request information.
- To join go to www.jiscmail.ac.uk, select BASA from the A-Z index, and add your name and email address.

Parish and Other Records. Archivists, family and other historians send us information from parish, jail, workhouse, hospital and military records, as well as newspapers, which are published in the Newsletter, and which are being developed into a database project.

Contacting BASA

BASA, ICS, Room 236, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street,
London, WC1E 7HU; or visit www.blackandasianstudies.org.uk.
