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Other films of interest



A videotape by Zeinabu irene Davis
 1999, 92 minutes
 BW, VHS/DVD
 List Price \$275
 Order # AA07816

Compensation

"Illuminating and captivating...deserves the chance to reach the widest audience possible."
LA Times

Inspired by a poem written by Paul Laurence Dunbar, award-winning filmmaker Zeinabu irene Davis presents two unique African-American love stories between a deaf woman and a hearing man, each set in a different time period. These moving narratives poignantly share the struggle to overcome racism, disability and discrimination. The film also innovatively incorporates silent film techniques (such as title cards and vintage photos) to make the piece accessible to both hearing and deaf viewers.

- Sundance Film Festival
- Toronto International Film Festival
- Independent Feature Project, Gordon Parks Award, Best Director



A film by Beti Ellerson
 2002, 73 minutes
 Color, VHS/DVD
 List Price \$250
 Order # AA07822

Sisters of the Screen

"Fascinating...
 An excellent addition to collections on film, women's and African studies."
Library Journal

Exploring the extraordinary contributions of women filmmakers from Africa and the diaspora, Beti Ellerson's engaging debut intersperses interviews with such acclaimed women directors as Assia Djebar, Safi Faye, Sarah Maldoror, Anne Mungai, Fanta Régina Nacro and Ngozi Onwurah with footage from their seminal work. The film is both a valuable anthology and a fitting homage to the pioneers and new talents of African cinema.

- FESPACO (Pan-African Festival of Cinema and Television of Ouagadougou)
- Athens International Studies Film and Video Festival

About Women Make Movies

Established in 1972 to address the underrepresentation and misrepresentation of women in the media, Women Make Movies is the largest distributor of women's films and videos in the world. To get updates on upcoming theatrical dates, WMM's latest releases, festival screenings, broadcast premieres and other events please subscribe to our E-NEWS by sending an e-mail to: WMMRELEASE@wmm.com

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WMM

Films that Celebrate the accomplishments of African American Women

Beah: A Black Woman Speaks

Beah: A Black Woman Speaks, the directorial debut of actress LisaGay Hamilton, celebrates the life of legendary African-American actress, poet and political activist Beah Richards, best known for her Oscar-nominated role in *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. While Richards struggled to overcome racial stereotypes throughout her long career onstage and onscreen in Hollywood and New York, she also had an influential role in the fight for civil rights, working alongside the likes of Paul Robeson, W.E.B. DuBois and Louise Patterson.

After performing with Richards in Jonathan Demme's *Beloved*, Hamilton was compelled to get her inspiring story on film and began the project with Demme as co-producer. Hamilton's intimate interviews capture Richards' feisty passion and enduring elegance, and are woven together with a cache of archival material of her work as an actress and activist, including riveting performances of some of her most famous poems. Enlightening and moving, the film is a fitting tribute to Richards' life of integrity, leadership and service to the two cultures she loved so deeply—the arts and the African-American community.

- Nominated for a National Emmy
- AFI Film Festival, Grand Jury Prize
- Miami International Film Festival, Audience Award
- Austin Film Festival Documentary Series, Audience Award
- Pan African Film Festival
- IDA International Documentary Showcase
- International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)



A film by LisaGay Hamilton produced by Neda Armian, Jonathan Demme, LisaGay Hamilton, and Joe Viola 2003, 90 minutes Color, VHS/DVD List Price \$295 Order # AA07841

"A record of the graceful, seemingly indomitable Beah Richards... an emotional and sensitive portrait of an artist-activist who became especially iconic to generations of black thespians."
Variety

"Exceptional...this unforgettable tribute to a gifted, multi-faceted woman is an important contribution to African American history, culture and film collections."
Booklist

"* 1/2. Highly recommended."**
Video Librarian

"Hamilton has contributed mightily to a deeper understanding of African American history, women's history and the history of stage and screen."
Gerald Horne, *Author Race Woman: The Lives of Shirley Graham Du Bois*

Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders

In 1965, when three women walked into the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington D.C., they had come a very long way. Neither lawyers nor politicians, they were ordinary women from Mississippi and descendants of African slaves. They had come to their country's capital seeking civil rights, the first black women allowed in the Senate chambers for nearly 100 years.

Winner of nearly a dozen festival awards, this gripping documentary shares the untold story of the women who risked their lives in the fight for civil rights through the vivid testimony of 14 women, including Fannie Lou Hamer and Unita Blackwell (later the first black woman mayor in Mississippi). Their living testimony is a window into a unique moment when the founders' promise of freedom and justice passed from rhetoric to reality for all Americans. *Standing on My Sisters' Shoulders* reveals the commitment, passion and perseverance of the women who fought for change in Mississippi and altered the course of American history forever.

- Pan African Film Festival, Best Documentary
- African American Women in Cinema Film Festival, Best Documentary
- Savannah Film and Video Festival, Special Jury Prize
- Atlanta Film Festival, Audience Award
- Long Island Film Expo, Humanitarian Award



A film by Joan Sadoff, Dr. Robert Sadoff and Laura J. Lipson, 2002, 60 minutes Color/BW, VHS/DVD List Price \$295 Order # AA07825

"A film every American should see and never forget."
William Ferris, PhD, *Former Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)*

"A moving, must-see film."
Jacqueline Bobo, *Professor of Women's Studies and Black Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara*

"A powerful, must-see slice of American social history. Highly recommended."
Video Librarian

"If you can show just one film on the Civil Rights Movement, this should be the one. Ella Baker, Fannie Lou Hamer, Unita Blackwell and countless others at last get the recognition they deserve."
Priscilla Murolo, *Director of the Women's History program, Sarah Lawrence College*

Love & Diane

One of the most acclaimed documentaries of 2003, Jennifer Dworkin's groundbreaking film *Love & Diane* presents a searingly honest and moving examination of poverty, welfare and drug rehabilitation in the United States today. Filmed in New York City over a five-year period, Dworkin documents the struggles of three generations of the Hazzard family as they face a myriad of emotional, financial and personal challenges.

Love & Diane is at its heart a highly charged story about a mother and daughter searching for love, redemption and hope for a new future. While caught in a devastating cycle of teen pregnancy and the bureaucracy of an over burdened welfare system, they demonstrate an inspiring resiliency and ability to find strength during the most desperate times. Without falling into stereotypes of welfare and poverty, *Love & Diane* casts a fair, non-judgmental eye on the Hazzards and presents a forgotten, but very real side of the American experience.

This film is a presentation of the Independent Television Service (ITVS) with funding by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).

- Sundance Film Festival
- New York Film Festival
- Independent Spirit Truer Than Fiction Award
- Locarno Int'l Film Festival, Golden Leopard
- One World International Film Festival, Best Documentary
- Full Frame Documentary Festival, MTV/news/docs Award



A film by Jennifer Dworkin 2002 Broadcast Cut: 113 min. Director's Cut: 155 min. (VHS only) Color, VHS/DVD List Price \$295 Order # AA07814

"Editor's Choice....intense, uncompromising, intimate, this highly empathetic family epic is nonfiction cinema at its very best."
Booklist

"Highly recommended...an extraordinary piece of humanistic filmmaking about love, motherhood, [and] family."
Educational Media Reviews Online

"Extraordinary."
The Nation

"Dworkin's compelling documentary immerses you so intensely in the problems of the Hazzards... you feel almost like a member of the household."
The New York Times

The Edge of Each Other's Battles: The Vision of Audre Lorde

This moving tribute celebrates the legendary black lesbian feminist poet Audre Lorde (1934-1992), one of the most celebrated icons of feminism's second wave. Lorde inspired several generations of activists with her riveting poetry, serving as a catalyst for change and uniting the communities of which she was a part: black arts and black liberation, women's liberation and lesbian and gay liberation.

Nowhere was this more apparent than the groundbreaking "I Am Your Sister Conference" which brought together 1200 activists from 23 countries to use Lorde's work to address transcultural understandings of race, gender, sexuality and class. Featuring candid interviews with conference organizers and thrilling footage of the inimitable Lorde herself, *The Edge of Each Other's Battles* brings Lorde's legacy of poetry and politics to life and conveys the spirit, passion and intensity that remains her trademark.

- San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival
- IMMAGINARIA International Lesbian Film Festival
- Women in the Director's Chair, Chicago
- New York Lesbian & Gay Film Festival
- The Black Women's Arts Festival, Philadelphia



A film by Jennifer Abod 2002, 59 minutes Color, VHS/DVD List Price \$325 Order # AA07833

"Recommended."
Library Journal

"This splendid video should be presented in every history, literature, GLBT, and Women's Studies classroom."
Blanche Wiesen Cook *Historian* and Claire Cook *Playwright*

"The depth of discussion is intensely satisfying... The footage of Lorde in Abod's film is superb."
Feminist Collections

"A valuable addition to the growing body of work on Audre Lorde."
Fahamisha Patricia Brown *Associate Professor College of Staten Island, CUNY*