

Black Cultural Archives Programme Listings

January – March 2015



Exhibition

Staying Power: Photographs of Black British Experience, 1950s – 1990s

15 January – 30 June 2015

Staying Power is an important exhibition featuring photographs, drawn from the V&A's collection, which begin to document the experiences of Black people in Britain in the latter half of the 20th century. From documentary to portraiture to staged allegorical photographs, *Staying Power* documents experiences from post-World War II through to the 1990s, covering topics from mass migration to hip hop fashions of south London. This exhibition asks questions about this rapidly changing cultural landscape, where identity and representation collides with music, politics, and fashion. The selected photographs are complimented by previously unheard oral history testimonies from the photographers and contributors.

The *Staying Power* project is a collaborative partnership between the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) and Black Cultural Archives. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Free admission

URL: <http://bcaheritage.org.uk/programme/exhibitions/staying-power/>

Tours, Talks and Walks

Staying Power – Exhibition Tour

Tuesday 20 January, 1pm

Examine the history behind the photographs, the stories and lives they reveal, and the significance of the new *Staying Power* exhibition for wider Black British history on this guided tour with curator Dr Kimberly F. Keith. £5, £3 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/staying-power-exhibition-tour-tickets-15191850233>

Treasures in the Archives Talks

Staying Power – Photographs and Periodicals

Thursday 15 January, 1pm

Join *Staying Power* curator Dr Kimberly F. Keith as she discusses the links between the themes in the exhibition, specific photographs on display, and periodicals in our collection. Gain a deeper understanding of the cultural and political topics presented. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/staying-power-photographs-and-periodicals-tickets-15192463066>

The Brixton Black Women's Group – the Political and the Personal on the Frontline

Thursday 29 January, 1pm

The Brixton Black Women's Group was an important part of the Black Women's movement in Britain during the 1970s and 1980s. It was a catalyst for change and a forum for political activity and discourse. Explore some of BWG's history in terms of its role as an autonomous Black feminist organisation. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-brixton-black-womens-group-tickets-15192794056>

Mangrove 9

Thursday 12 February, 1pm

The Mangrove 9 showed that it was possible to take on the authorities in the name of racial justice and win. Join Black Cultural Archives volunteer Meron Mikitu who is taking the story of the Mangrove 9 into to schools with a resource for teachers that explores how the case inspired a new generation of activists. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mangrove-9-tickets-15193001677>

Postcards from Brixton: Images of Black Cultural Archives and Brixton in the 1980s and 1990s

Thursday 26 February, 1pm

Join Douglas Parker, Brixton photographer, and discover how he has captured the history of Brixton and its people since the 1980s in his two photography books, *Love Letters from Brixton* and *Postcards from Brixton*. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/postcards-from-brixton-images-of-black-cultural-archives-and-brixton-in-the-1980s-and-1990s-tickets-15193061857>

McKenzie Photo Heritage – Every Picture You Need to Tell Your Story!

Thursday 12 March, 1pm

Anita McKenzie, founder of the first Black Picture Library in Europe, *The McKenzie Heritage Picture Archive* (1996-2007), will share images from a 1950s wedding album as an introduction to the importance of photography in documenting life-stories and affirming the power of identity. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mckenzie-photo-heritage-tickets-15193121034>

Blue Spot Radiogram

Thursday 26 March, 1pm

Staying Power photographer Charlie Phillips discusses his passion for the blue spot radiogram and his involvement in the *Staying Power* project. Free, book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/blue-spot-radiogram-with-charlie-phillips-tickets-15193264463>

Lunchtime Talks

In Conversation with Ingrid Pollard

Friday 23 January, 1pm

Join *Staying Power* curator Dr Kimberly F. Keith in conversation with photographer Ingrid Pollard. They will discuss the practice of documentary and staged, as well as issues of representation and cultural politics in both photography and the gallery space.

£5, £3 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/in-conversation-with-ingrid-pollard-tickets-15193436979>

Defining the Black Community Landscape

Friday 20 February, 1pm

Take a closer look at some of the myths and realities that have become commonplace to what is understood to be the 'Black community'. Explore the constructs of urbanism, politics, and cultural difference. £5, £3 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/defining-the-black-community-landscape-tickets-15193689735>

Controlling Media Representation

Friday 20 March, 1pm

Unearths some of the adverse experiences British African communities have encountered when negatively portrayed in the media. This important discussion considers some of the strategies that could be used to eradicate and challenge negative stereotypes. £5, £3 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/controlling-media-representation-talk-tickets-15193752924>

Workshops

Community Archive Workshops

Tuesday 20 January & Tuesday 17 February, 10.30am

During the course of daily life everyone creates their own individual archives which can include records such as letters, photographs, and diaries. In this taster workshop learn to identify archival material and what you can do to preserve your own archive collection.

£7, £5 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-archive-workshops-tickets-15198572339>

Café Club Lates

One Love in the Archives – An Alternative Valentine's Night

Thursday 5 February, 7pm – 11pm

One Love is a signifier of universal love expressed by all people for all people. Impress the ones you love and play with alternative expressions of love. Speed date by reading love letters of a bygone era, make *One Love* handcrafted cards with Quilting Mafia and use upcycling to create your own personalized jewellery. Have your

image of love taken with family, friends or your valentine by iconic Ghanaian photographer James Barnor. Enjoy this alternative valentine's evening with drinks and a live DJ in the Café. £20, £15 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cafe-club-late-one-love-in-the-archives-an-alternative-valentines-night-tickets-15198273445>

Fly Girls, B Girls and Home Girls: The First Wave of Female UK Hip Hop

Thursday 12 February, 7pm – 11pm

An evening of conversation, memories and dance, marking the beginning of a long term project in collaboration with THEME art house. This project documents the female MCs, dancers, promoters and fly girls, such as South London's Cookie Crew amongst others, who made the scene when Hip Hop first hit our shores in the 1980s. Featuring an in-conversation with Donna She-Roc from the pioneering all female group She-Rockers, and DJs playing the sounds of the era into the night. £20, £15 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cafe-club-late-fly-girls-b-girls-and-home-girls-the-first-wave-of-female-uk-hip-hop-tickets-15198464015>

Representation – 'AFIWE' Narratives 1950-2000

Thursday 26 March, 7pm – 11pm

Hear writer, playwright, fine artist, and curator Dr Michael McMillan as he brings his personal interpretation to the photographs of iconic and prominent British photographers, including Armet Francis, Ingrid Pollard, Normski, Jennie Baptiste, Neil Kenlock, Syd Shelton, and Gavin Watson. Immerse yourself in the tunes of the era and make a personal oral history response to the photographs. £20, £15 concessions. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cafe-club-late-representation-afiwe-narratives-1950-2000-tickets-15198525198>

Special Events

Claudia Jones – 100th Anniversary of Her Birth

Saturday 28 February, 12.00pm – 6.00pm

Founder of the *West Indian Gazette* and regarded as the 'Mother of the Notting Hill Carnival', this study day is a chance to look back at the prolific life of Claudia Jones, social justice activist, community organiser, and political campaigner. Hear from the activists, biographers, writers, filmmakers, publishers, journalists, historians, and carnivalists who knew her best. £30, £25 concessions, £15 students. Book online.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/claudia-jones-100th-anniversary-tickets-15193862251>

Black British Feminism: Past, Present and Futures

Saturday 14 March, Black Cultural Archives, 12.00pm – 3.30pm

This one-day conference respectively attempts to trace Black feminist journeys and legacies into the present. Centred on cross-generational dialogue, this interactive programme encourages reflection, celebration and a return to an activist-centred movement. View films in the Cinema of Collective Black Resistance; examine Black British feminism in the archives, and explore Black feminist activism on a tour around Brixton. This event is in collaboration with Body Narratives.

£20, £25 concessions, £15 students (Limited student tickets available, early booking is advisable)

The day continues at the Karibu Centre with the Wisdon Circles; collective conversations on the future of Black British feminism, followed by drinks, music and networking until late.

Saturday 14 March, Karibu Centre, Brixton, SW9 7PH, 4.00pm – 12.00am

Free, no booking required.

URL: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/black-british-feminism-past-present-and-futures-tickets-15193929452>

Venue listing:

Black Cultural Archives, 1 Windrush Square, Brixton, SW2 1EF

020 3 757 8500

@bcaheritage

www.bcaheritage.org.uk

Contact:

Monique Baptiste-Brown monique@bcaheritage.org.uk