Gay Movies and Documentaries
featuring African Descents

PART 1
Documentaries (short)
FILM TITLE: Night Star (Inkanyezi Yobusuku)
DIRECTOR: Kekeletso Khena
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: South Africa
YEAR: 2007
LENGTH: 13 mins
LANGUAGE: Zulu (English subtitles)
FORMAT: video
TRAILER: – [-]
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 21, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: Traditionally, Zulu women are isolated from their community during menstruation for a time of rest and contemplation. While she is alone, Lindiwe's dreams are disturbed by her desire for the Amamqhikiza, her 'guide' during this time. With beautiful artistry, Director Kekeletso Khena portrays this time for rest and contemplation (going to the moon).

FILM TITLE: O Happy Day
DIRECTOR: Charles Lofton
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: Mixed
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 1996
LENGTH: 6 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: – 
TRAILER: – 
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 23, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: In O Happy Day, Lofton juxtaposes images of black gay men from the 1960s and 1970s with images of Black Panther Party demonstrations as a way of intentionally revising history. The soundtrack is punctuated by a quote from Black Panther leader Huey Newton: 'There’s nothing to say that a homosexual cannot also be a revolutionary. Quite on the contrary, maybe a homosexual could be the most revolutionary...’

FILM TITLE: 24 Days In Brooks
DIRECTOR: Dana C. Inkster
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2007
LENGTH: 42 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: – [-]
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 23, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: Over the past decade the tiny town of Brooks, Alberta has been transformed from a socially conservative and primarily Caucasian town into one of the most diverse places in Canada. Immigrants and refugees have flocked here to work at Lakeside Packers—one of the world's largest slaughterhouses. As 24 Days In Brooks shows, people from widely different backgrounds can work together for respect, dignity, and change—even though getting there is not easy.
FILM TITLE: Voices Of Witness Africa  
DIRECTOR: Cynthia Black  
CATEGORY: Documentary  
SUBJECT: Gay/Lesbian  
COUNTRY: Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Rwanda, United Kingdom, Austria, USA  
YEAR: 2009  
LENGTH: 30 mins  
LANGUAGE: English  
FORMAT: Video  
TRAILER: –  
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (October 1, 2010)  •  Canadian Premiere  
DESCRIPTION: In this film, LGBT Africans tell about discovering their sexuality and about the terrors of coming out to families who are apt to disown them, or worse. They talk about their dreams and about their relationship with God. Their straight allies tell of the cost they have paid for daring to minister to these Christians who are despised by their own church leaders. And they all speak of their hope for a future in which the church listens to and values all its children, gay and straight. Desmond Tutu has called this film "a brave tribute to a God of love".

FILM TITLE: The Kuchus Of Uganda  
DIRECTOR: Mathilda Piehl  
CATEGORY: Documentary  
SUBJECT: lesbian  
COUNTRY: Uganda  
YEAR: 2008  
LENGTH: 45 mins  
LANGUAGE: English  
FORMAT: video  
TRAILER: Yes  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9MvLyhBO4FA]  ••• the whole documentary •••  
FESTIVAL: InsideOut  
DESCRIPTION: The Kuchus of Uganda is a new award-winning documentary by Swedish director Mathilda Piehl about members of Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG) for whom we are trying to raise $1,000 [also read our interview with SMUG chairman Frank Mugisha]. "Kuchu" is a Kenyan word meaning "same", and the word has been adopted by gays and lesbians in Uganda for use in public spaces, especially when they don't want other people to know what they're talking about. In one scene in the documentary, members of SMUG were invited to participate in what's supposed to have been a public debate at Makerere University College of Health Sciences, but none of the medical students, it appeared, had any interest in hearing them out, instead clobbering them with Bible verses and taunting them with insults. Awarded the Derek Oyston Campaign for Homosexual Equality Film Award at the London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, this documentary is a depressing look into one of the world's most homophobic countries today.

FILM TITLE: Cameroun: Sortir du Nkuta  / Cameroon: Coming Out Of The Nkuta  
DIRECTOR: Céline Metzger  
CATEGORY: Documentary  
SUBJECT: gay/lesbian  
COUNTRY: France  
YEAR: 2009  
LENGTH: 52 mins  
LANGUAGE: French (with English subtitles)  
FORMAT: Video  
TRAILER: No  [Initially, there was a clip on the website balibari.com, but it was removed]  
FESTIVAL: Escales de la Rochelle 2010, Festival du film LGBT de Toulouse, FIFDH de Genève, de Paris et de Nantes...  
DESCRIPTION: In early 2006, a list denouncing the purported homosexuality of 50 influential people appeared in several newspapers – a shockwave to the Cameroonian society. Homosexuality is taboo to the point that public opinion:"There are no homosexuals in Cameroon!!!"The film offers a description of the difficult conditions sustained by this young homosexual "community" as well as the heroic fight of Alice N'Kom, lawyer for 9 imprisoned gays. "Sortir du Nkuta" means "The coming out" in a Cameroonian slang. A "nkuta" is a gunny sac.
FILM TITLE: Sisters Without Misters
DIRECTOR: Cynthia Cheeseman
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: lesbian
COUNTRY: Trinidad
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 12 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: Cinstudio 2/SBCS
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: –
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No  [not at the time of research]
FESTIVAL: –
TRAILER: No  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=eT4t9CMsUH4]  +  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=PquUtB3UpUg]

DESCRIPTION: The filmmaker decided to do a documentary about lesbians living in Trinidad, their thoughts on self discovery, religion, family etc. This installment features interviews with Lisa and Vanessa. They did not meet each other until the documentary was completed but there is a common thread running in both their interviews.

FILM TITLE: Africa’s Last Taboo
DIRECTOR: Robin Barnwell
PRODUCER: Robin Barnwell
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: gay
COUNTRY: UK
YEAR: 2010 (broadcasted date: July 12, 2010)
LENGTH: 49 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: Channel 4 (British television channel)
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No   [but available on YouTube in five parts]
FESTIVAL: –
TRAILER: No

DESCRIPTION: Gay people in Africa are facing increased persecution in a continent where two thirds of countries retain laws against homosexuals. Award-winning filmmaker Sorious Samura investigates for Dispatches what it is like to be a gay person in Africa, discovering shocking levels of prejudice and hate, driven by governments, religious organisations and communities. Samura looks at the impact extreme homophobia is having on gay people’s lives, tracking down the victims of a recent mob attack in Kenya, speaking to gay men who have spent time in prison for their sexuality and meeting African homosexuals who are often forced into secret lives. He discovers that AIDS is spreading at an alarming rate among gay men in Africa who are not being given vital sex education and health care by governments that are opposed to homosexuality. As a result, many gay men are dying needlessly. Samura goes in search of what is driving homophobia in Africa, finding Muslims and Christians working closely together to target homosexuals and visiting American pastors helping to spread anti-gay sentiment. Dispatches shows that homosexuality is not an African freedom, revealing a major, but little reported, human rights issue, in a continent where millions of gay people live in constant fear of rejection by their communities, of physical and verbal abuse, and even imprisonment.

FILM TITLE: Point d’entrée: Les réfugiés LGBT à Montréal  (Entry Point: Queer Refugees in Montreal)
DIRECTOR: AGIR / Arc-en-ciel d’Afrique / Mapping Memories
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: gay/lesbian
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 45 mins
LANGUAGE: French (with English or Spanish subtitles)
FORMAT: video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: –
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No    [not at the time of research]
FESTIVAL: Images+Nations (November 7, 2010)  •  International Premiere
TRAILER: No

DESCRIPTION: AGIR, Arc-en-ciel D’Afrique, and Mapping Memories are proud to present Entry Point: Queer Refugees in Montreal. This social media project introduced first time filmmakers from Africa, Caribbean and Central/South America to a variety of media skills in order to share their personal narratives. Offering a unique perspective regarding refugee experiences in Quebec and Canada, these 13 documentaries illustrate the complexity of being forced to leave everything connected to home behind and powerfully convey the experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and queer (LGBTQ) refugees living in Montreal.
FILM TITLE: Une vie interdite
DIRECTOR: Honoré Noumabeu
PRODUCER: Honoré Noumabeu
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: transsexual/gay
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 52 mins
LANGUAGE: French
FORMAT: video
PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: www.honorenoumabeu.com
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No [not at the time of research]
FESTIVAL: Festival de films LGBT afro-caribéens (February 12, 2011) • International Premiere
TRAILER: No [–]

DESCRIPTION: Despite their long stay in western countries where homosexuality is accepted, African people living in Canada have not really accepted the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community and still share the same prejudices with the large majority of those living on the African continent, according to Honoré Noumabeu, a Cameroonian born film director. What sparked his interest on this issue, was his first encounter with his colleague’s father who, much to his astonishment, happened to be a woman. “Coming from Africa where homosexuality is perceived as a witchcraft practice, against all our cultural values and even liable to a prison sentence, I arrived in Canada and met a colleague who used to speak openly about her father who was gay”.
PART 2
Documentaries (long)
FILM TITLE: Black Is... Black Ain’t
DIRECTOR: Marlon Riggs
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: gay
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 1994
LENGTH: 87 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: –
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: Yes [see Amazon]
FESTIVAL: Sundance Film Festival • [best documentary at the 1995 Sundance Film Festival]
TRAILER: Yes [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULGpzTTd-bk]

DESCRIPTION: White Americans have long stereotyped African Americans. But equally devastating to Black people’s sense of themselves have been the definitions of “Blackness” African Americans impose on each other. But is there an essential Black identity? Is there a real Black man and a true Black woman? This groundbreaking documentary boldly and publicly challenges sexism, homophobia, patriarchy, cultural nationalism and other practices that flatten, reduce, and contain the lives and experiences of African Americans. It mixes fragments of dance, music, and poetry with the testimony of those who have felt uncomfortable and even silenced within the race because their complexion, class, gender, speech, or sexuality has rendered them “not Black enough,” or conversely, “too Black.”

FILM TITLE: The Darker Side Of Black
DIRECTOR: Isaac Julien
PRODUCER: Lina Gopaul
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: violence in music
COUNTRY: UK
YEAR: 1994 (some website says 1993, but I have the movie and it says 1994)
LENGTH: 59 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: 35 mm
TRAILER: –    [–]
FESTIVAL: –

DESCRIPTION: Gangsta chic, violence and nihilism, the hard edge of Rap and Reggae increasingly dominates the image of black popular culture. This is an intelligent and provocative investigation of the complex issues raised by the genre, such as ritualized machismo, misogyny, homophobia, and gun glorification. Noted experts on black history, such as Cornel West of Princeton University, and Michael Manly, former prime minister of Jamaica, analyze the phenomenon and give insights into its development and meaning. Filmed in dance halls, hip hop clubs, and using interviews and music video clips, The Darker Side of Black takes us to London, Jamaica and the USA. Directed by award winning filmmaker Isaac Julien who made Looking for Langston, the film brings together diverse musicians as Buju Banton, Shabba Ranks, and Britain’s Moni Love. It is a long overdue examination of the “darker” side of contemporary black music.

FILM TITLE: Woubi, Cheri
DIRECTOR: Philip Brooks & Laurent Bocahut
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: Gay
COUNTRY: France / Ivory Coast
YEAR: 1998
LENGTH: 62 mins
LANGUAGE: French (with English subtitles)
FORMAT: video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: –
FESTIVAL: New York Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Film Festival, the Turin International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival
TRAILER: –

DESCRIPTION: In one of the few films with gay subject matter to emerge from Africa, directors Brooks and Bocahut turn their documentary camera onto the Ivory Coast city of Abidjan and some of its queer citizens. The cast of characters is diverse and fascinating. Seductive, upper-class Barbara presides over the Association of Transvestites of the Ivory Coast (ATCI), a tough bunch of queens who fight the sensationalistic, derogatory treatment of transvestites and gays in the local media. Laurent is a small business owner who attracts the attentions of lay-about young men called “yossi.” Vincent is a shamanic individual who speaks of his relationship with society and the spiritual world. Ferdinand Doudou serves as a cultural interpreter for the conversations and interviews in this refreshingly anti-anthropological perspective on contemporary African sexuality. In spite of Africa’s increasing identification with the international gay movement, Woubi, Cheri makes it clear that sexuality in the Ivory Coast still speaks a very unique language.
FILM TITLE: Hip-Hop: Beyond Beats & Rhymes
DIRECTOR: Byron Hurt
PRODUCER: Byron Hurt
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: violence in music
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2006
LENGTH: 61 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: WjxjZe3RhIo [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjxjZe3RhIo]
FESTIVAL: Sundance Film Festival
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: Yes  [http://www.mediaed.org/cgi-bin/commerce.cgi?preadd=action&key=226]
DESCRIPTION: Hip-Hop: Beyond Beats & Rhymes provides a riveting examination of manhood, sexism, and homophobia in hip-hop culture. Director Byron Hurt, former star college quarterback, longtime hip-hop fan, and gender violence prevention educator, conceived the documentary as a “living critique” of a number of disturbing trends in the world of rap music. He pays tribute to hip-hop while challenging the rap music industry to take responsibility for glamorizing destructive, deeply conservative stereotypes of manhood. The documentary features revealing interviews about masculinity and sexism with rappers such as Mos Def, Fat Joe, Chuck D, Jadakiss, and Busta Rhymes, hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons, and cultural commentators such as Michael Eric Dyson and Beverly Guy-Sheftall. Critically acclaimed for its fearless engagement with issues of race, gender violence, and the corporate exploitation of youth culture.
FILM TITLE: Still Black: A Portrait of Black Transmen
CATEGORY: Documentary
DIRECTOR: Kortney Ryan Ziegler
Subject: Trans
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2008
LENGTH: 77 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: sV7jeDqu55M [www.youtube.com/watch?v=sV7jeDqu55M]
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 18, 2009)
DESCRIPTION: Still Black, Kortney Ryan Ziegler’s debut documentary takes a unique look into the lives of six black transmen in a world where ‘black’ and ‘trans’ more commonly evoke an image of black transwomen. With honesty, these men challenge viewers to rethink collective notions of masculinity, gender, family and social interaction. They let us into their lives as brothers, sons, fathers and husbands while they explore race, sexuality and their own genders, and the ways these dynamics intersect. Using the participants’ humour, the director dives into the socio-cultural pathways that these men take to become more themselves. Through their eyes and recollections we glimpse what the process of transitioning has meant for their lovers and families.

FILM TITLE: Beyond Gay: The Politics of Pride
DIRECTOR: Bob Christie
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: Gay
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 85 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: AVkz2lEf2w [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVkz2lEf2w]
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (September 24, 2010)
DESCRIPTION: A moving portrait of international LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi, and Transsexual) struggles for human rights. Beyond Gay reflects an emerging trend in which those listless and stagnant Pride celebrations return to their fiercely flamboyant roots by expressing an international solidarity with oppressed LGBT people everywhere. As Tomasz Baczkowski, President of Warsaw Equality Parade eloquently states, if it’s a movement, a pride movement, then we should move something.

FILM TITLE: Why Us? Left Behind And Dying
DIRECTOR: Claudia Pryor
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: –
COUNTRY: USA, Afrique du Sud
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 86 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: – [–]
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (September 23, 2010) • Canadian Premiere
DESCRIPTION: This is the story of a group of inner-city African-American high-school students who explore why HR/AIDS so disproportionately impacts African Americans and Africans more than any other group. In their journey, they learn about the stories of people living with and affected by the disease and the social, cultural and scientific reasons as to why the disease so deeply impacts their community, while sharing their own personal stories.
FILM TITLE: Beyond Labels
DIRECTOR: Jaime Sylla
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: gay
COUNTRY: UK
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 60 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: –
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No
FESTIVAL: London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival (March 30, 2010) • International Premiere
TRAILER: No

DESCRIPTION: Beyond Labels’ is directed by Jaime Sylla, project manager for GMFA’s Big Up project, which receives Big Lottery funding to create sexual health interventions for Black gay men in London. Big Up works with volunteers, most of whom are Black gay men, to help develop its projects. These volunteers helped conceive and develop many of the themes explored in ‘Beyond Labels’. Jaime’s last film, ‘No Magic Bullet’ premiered at the LLGFF in 2007. This latest film aims to explore how racism, homophobia, HIV and issues around immigration all have an impact on the construction of a healthy identity for Black gay men. The film offers inspiring diverse voices who share their alternatives to the invisibility of stigmatisation which many have experienced within their own communities and families. This world premiere screening at the LLGFF will be followed by a discussion with the director and some of the film’s participants, as well as representatives from Big Up.

FILM TITLE: Call Me Kuchu
DIRECTOR: Katherine Fairfax Wright & Malika Zouhali-Worrall
PRODUCER: Malika Zouhali-Worrall
CATEGORY: Documentary
SUBJECT: gay
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2012
LENGTH: 87 mins
LANGUAGE: English/Luganda (subtitled)
FORMAT: video

PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: –
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: http://callmekuchu.com
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: No
FESTIVAL: Berlin Film Festival, HotDocs, Los Angeles Film Festival, Frameline Film Festival
TRAILER: Yes [http://callmekuchu.com/trailer/]

DESCRIPTION: Uganda, a country where over 40 per cent of its citizens are Roman Catholic, has become ground zero in an American evangelical war on the “homosexual agenda.” Enter David Kato, a veteran activist who’s been working tirelessly to repeal his country’s homophobic laws and liberate his fellow gay and transgendered citizens—called “kuchus”—from persecution. Kato’s mission is intensified when a new anti-homosexuality bill proposing death for HIV-positive gay men is introduced. Meanwhile, the country’s newspapers are outing kuchus under headlines such as “HOMO TERROR! We Name and Shame Top Gays in the City.” Kato is one of the few to publicly denounce these actions, insisting “if we keep on hiding, they will say we are not here.” Call Me Kuchu documents the courageous efforts of Kato and his team to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The result is both a hard-won victory and a devastating loss for the international gay community.
PART 3
Educational Film
« Plus je m’acceptais, moins j’étais accepté. » Cette réplique, c’est Nico qui la dit dans le film H… muet. Mais cette phrase, nous l’entendons souvent dans la vraie vie, et c’est dommage. C’est pour cette raison que le cinéma forum H… muet a été créé. Le film H… muet est destiné aux adolescents(es) et aux intervenants des milieux scolaires, communautaires, loisirs et sport. Il soulève l’influence et le rôle de l’entourage des jeunes dans l’acceptation de leur orientation sexuelle. H… muet vise à encourager les différents milieux jeunesse à préparer des environnements favorables aux diversités sexuelles en luttant contre les préjugés à l’égard de l’homosexualité. En dénonçant certains comportements homophobes, il contribuera à permettre aux adolescents(es) qui se questionnent sur leur orientation sexuelle de surmonter leur peur d’en parler.
PART 4
Fiction (short)
FILM TITLE: Animal Drill
DIRECTOR: Patrick Murphy
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Gay
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 23 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (September 24, 2010) • International Premiere

DESCRIPTION: To please his homophobic father, Buck Jackson tries out for his father’s alma-mater basketball team. But basketball tryouts and the “Animal Drill” are a nightmare for Buck, as he is forced into physical battle with the team’s alpha male, Tyson. Each day is worse, leaving Buck heavily bruised and beaten, but his defiant father will not let him quit.

FILM TITLE: Jackson Parish
DIRECTOR: Edward McDonald
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Gay
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 13 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (October 2, 2010) • International Premiere

DESCRIPTION: Love, hate, pride and prejudice. The tensions that many closeted gays feel toward their families are explored while set against the lingering ghosts of Southern racial prejudice. A young man returns to his roots to discover the values of heritage and tradition.

FILM TITLE: Amazon Women
DIRECTOR: Kiara C. Jones
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 15 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (October 2, 2010) • International Premiere

DESCRIPTION: Sexy, sassy Brie and her best friend, Asha, are in for a night they will never forget. After too many disappointments from men, Asha is at her wit’s end. When she goes to Brie for comfort, she discovers that the answer to her problem may be closer than she imagined.
FILM TITLE: Tout le monde a raison d'en vouloir à sa mère
DIRECTOR: Pauline Mulombe
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: Belgium
YEAR: 2010
LENGTH: 10 mins
LANGUAGE: French (with english subtitles)
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (October 2, 2010) • North-American Premiere
DESCRIPTION: The story of three sisters of African descent who, in less than 48 hours, will be confronted with all their darkest complexes and secrets. How will an African mother, whose principles and culture are in total opposition, face, in the span of a couple of days, what her daughters have in store for her.

FILM TITLE: Z-Yaanbo
DIRECTOR: Sophie Kaboré
PRODUCER: –
CATEGORY: Fiction (drama)
SUBJECT: transexual
COUNTRY: Burkina-Faso
YEAR: 2011
LENGTH: 34 mins
LANGUAGE: French
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: Yes [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUMaptEC7qw]
FESTIVAL: Massimadi: Festival de films LGBT afro-caribéens (February 6, 2011) • International Premiere
DESCRIPTION: «Zi-Yaanbo est un mot d’une langue locale au Burkina Faso, qui signifie « se donner un surplus de liberté ». Il s’appelle Abdou et revient de France pour voir sa famille au Burkina Faso. Mais chez lui, quelque chose a changé: Abdou arbore maintenant maquillage, vernis à ongles et vêtements de femmes. Son père, imam, ne l’entend pas de cette oreille. L’histoire de ce jeune homosexuel est le sujet d’un film de Sophie Kaboré. Cette jeune réalisatrice a également subi les conséquences du rejet de l’homosexualité après la sortie de son film. Elle raconte en effet que certaines personnes de son entourage se sont éloignées d’elle pour avoir touché à un thème tabou. Elle a dû quitter le Burkina Faso pour se retrouver en Côte d’Ivoire, où les événements en lien avec les élections présidentielles l’ont trouvée, en janvier 2011. Son film, réalisé dans des conditions difficiles, sera présenté pour la première fois dans le festival Massimadi 2011.
PART 5
Fiction (long)
FILM TITLE: Black Aura On An Angel
DIRECTOR: Faith Trimel
PRODUCER: Faith Trimel
CATEGORY: Fiction (Thriller)
SUBJECT: lesbian
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2004
LENGTH: 64 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: video
PRODUCTION / DISTRIBUTION: CustomFlix
OFFICIAL WEBPAGE: www.blackauraonanangel.com
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE: Yes   [see Amazon]
FESTIVAL: New Fest (New York), Cinefable (Paris), Out On Film, Reel Affirmations (DC), Image Out...
TRAILER: Yes    [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8SROkUg-js]
DESCRIPTION: When Angel meets Phaedra, she is instantly captivated with such a beautiful, mysterious woman. The two embark on a torrid affair and soon fall passionately in love. Shortly after, Phaedra begins having jealous rages over Angel’s imagined infidelities. Angel dearest friend and psychic, see what Angel cannot, warns her to get out, but she is in too deep. Black Aura on an Angel explores sensuality, insanity, and salvation and asks the question, “If you try to save someone, can you lose yourself?”

FILM TITLE: Young Soul Rebels
DIRECTOR: Isaac Julien
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: mixed
COUNTRY: UK/France/Germany/Spain
YEAR: 1991
LENGTH: 105 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: 35 mm
TRAILER: C48N4TBsBdQ    [www.youtube.com/watch?v=C48N4TBsBdQ]
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival) (May 22, 2009)
DESCRIPTION: Chris and Caz, close friends since childhood, are disc jockeys on an all-black pirate radio station called Soul Patrol, which broadcasts its funk message from an East End garage. They are shocked by the death of their friend TJ, who has been murdered while cruising the park at night. Chris soon realizes that a ghetto blaster found in the park by his little sister contains a recording of the killer’s voice. An unapologetically urban drama, this seminal queer film by renowned filmmaker, Isaac Julien, addresses social issues pertaining to race and class. Selected as an inspirational work by this year’s Canadian Spotlight Artist Dana Inkster, Young Soul Rebels deserves to light up the screen once again for contemporary audiences.

FILM TITLE: Drool
DIRECTOR: Nancy Kissam
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2008
LENGTH: 88 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –    [www.traileraddict.com/trailer/drool/trailer]
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival) (May 17, 2009)
DESCRIPTION: The trailer park love child of Thelma and Louise and The Opposite of Sex, Drool is an outrageous dark comedy that will leave audiences salivating for more, with its simple message that life’s biggest obstacles can be overcome with a good foundation...and matching lipstick and mascara. Anora Fleece (Laura Harring from Mulholland Drive) has got it bad. She’s trapped in an abusive marriage to a racist bastard. Her disrespectful kids, Tabby and Little Pete, treat her like a subservient maid. She loses herself in daydreams of a perfect romance. The problem is, people in these parts don’t like cocoa-skinned anything, but that doesn’t stop Imogene and Anora from bonding over coffee. Soon, they are doing more than just bonding. But when Anora’s husband, Cheb, finds them all hell breaks loose. Anora and Imogene load the kids into the Kathy K car and head out on a ‘family’ road trip to bury the past and learn some practical make-up tips. Director Kissam deftly balances humour and honest emotion in her depiction of a family that overcomes its prejudices and insecurities to become stronger together-thanks to the assistance of a very friendly neighbour.
FILM TITLE: Toe To Toe
DIRECTOR: Emily Abt
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: USA
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 104 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (September 30, 2010) • Canadian Premiere

DESCRIPTION: The story of a love/hate relationship between lacrosse mates Tosha and Jesse, two senior girls at a competitive Washington, D.C. prep school. Tosha is a fiercely determined African American scholarship student from Anacostia, one of Washington’s poorest areas, while Jesse is a privileged, but troubled, white girl from Bethesda, who deals with promiscuous tendencies that pull her toward self-destruction. The two forge a close and genuine friendship on the field, but that bond is tested when the obstacles presented by societal circumstances threaten to tear them apart.

FILM TITLE: Hermafrodita
DIRECTOR: Albert Xavier
CATEGORY: Fiction
SUBJECT: –
COUNTRY: Dominican Republic
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 85 mins
LANGUAGE: Spanish (with English subtitles)
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –
FESTIVAL: Montreal International Black Film Festival (September 30, 2010) • Canadian Premiere

DESCRIPTION: Based on a true story, Maria was born with male and female genitals in the picturesque mountains of a small town in the Dominican Republic. Dealing with sexual identity and the discrimination of her family, she struggles to keep her first love relationship with La Melaza, a refugee from the Capital. Until her best friend Wanda, declares war with Melaza over Maria.
PART 6
Experimental
FILM TITLE: Dana Inkster's Shades of Brown: An Ode to Madame Morrison
DIRECTOR: Dana C. Inkster
CATEGORY: Experimental
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2009
LENGTH: 3 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –    
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 23, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: 'It hasn’t been film, or video, or objects of beauty...above all else, my practice has been inspired by how
my world was transformed the moment I finished reading Toni Morrison’s Jazz. Before those last two pages, there was
chaos. After, there was calm.’ In addition to Jazz, Dana C. Inkster cites Derek Jarman’s Blue as a key influential work. An
exclusive, one-time-only screening for Inside Out’s Canadian Spotlight!

Dana C. Inkster is an influential Canadian documentary filmmaker and artist who incorporates an eclectic mélange of
styles into her work, which engages with issues of identity politics, race, class, sexuality and social justice— and finds its
audience in many worlds, from major film festivals to indie media art events. Her first film, Welcome to Africville (1999),
won awards and international critical acclaim for its skillful portrayal of the personal and cultural dislocations born out of
the destruction of Africville, a small Halifax community. She has since directed films that draw on documentary and
narrative traditions, creating a spellbinding body of work. This program includes a short by Charles Lofton selected by
Dana C. Inkster, and a brand new video she crafted specifically for this event.

FILM TITLE: The Art of Autobiography: Redux I
DIRECTOR: Dana C. Inkster
CATEGORY: Experimental
SUBJECT: –
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 2006
LENGTH: 5 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –    
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 23, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: The Art of Autobiography: Redux I is a riveting experiment with narrative and a statement on lesbian
ethnic identity, made through the use of an extreme close-up on a set of eyes.

FILM TITLE: Welcome to Africville
DIRECTOR: Dana C. Inkster
CATEGORY: Experimental
SUBJECT: Lesbian
COUNTRY: Canada
YEAR: 1999
LENGTH: 15 mins
LANGUAGE: English
FORMAT: Video
TRAILER: –    
FESTIVAL: Inside Out, Toronto LGBT Film And Video Festival (May 23, 2009)

DESCRIPTION: The year 1999 marked the 30th anniversary of the destruction of the Halifax community known as
Africville. Welcome to Africville, the first fiction film to have been set in this historical site, gives insight into the hearts
and minds of four residents on the eve of their community’s destruction. Meshell Ndegeocello composed the soulful
original score.
PART 7
More films
documentary

- Apostles Of Civilized Vice (doc) (1999) (104 mins) GAY
- B.D. Women (doc) [1994] (20 mins) LESB
- Born In Flames (doc) (1983) (90 mins) LGBT
- Born This Way (doc) (2012) (84 mins) GAY
- Black/Womyn:Conversations with Lesbians of African Descent (doc) (97 mins) LESB
- Color Adjustments (doc) (1992) (86 mins) GAY
- Ethnic Notions (doc) (1986) (XX mins) GAY
- Être soi-même (doc) (2011) (15 mins) LGBT
- Everything Must Come To Life (doc) (2002) (25 mins) LESB
- Forbidden Fruit (doc) (2000) (30 mins) LESB
- God Loves Uganda (doc) (2011) (90 minutes) REL/LGBT
- Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100 (doc) (1999) (60 mins) LESB
- New Black, The (doc) (2013) (82 mins) G/L
- No Regret (doc) (1992) (38 mins) GAY
- Noir et homosexuel: identité sous silence (doc) (2012) (12 mins) G/L
- Of Men And Gods (Des hommes et des Dieux) (doc) (2002) (G/L
- On The Downlow (doc) (2007) GAY
- Paradise Lost (doc) (2004) (24 mins) LGBT
- Paris Is Burning (doc) (1990) TRANS
- Portrait de la militante Kasha Jacqueline (doc) (16 mins) LGBT
- Say My Name (doc) (2009) (12 mins) LGBT
- Taboo Yardies (doc) (2011) (79 mins) LGBT
- That’s Me (2001) (7 mins) DRAG
- Tongue Untied (doc) (1989) (55 mins) GAY
- Venus Boyz (doc) (2001) (102 mins) DRAG
- Whisper Not (doc) (2011) (25 mins) LESB

fiction

- 2012 (fiction) (2009) (158 mins) (‘unofficial’ aging gay couple) GAY
- Dakan (fiction) (1997) (87 mins) (dou. filming) GAY
- Blueprint (fiction) (2007) (75 mins) GAY
- Boys In The Band, The (fiction) (1970) (118 mins) GAY
- Broken Hearts Club (fiction) (2000) (94 mins) GAY
- Brother To Brother (fiction) (2004) (94 mins) GAY
- Caged aux folles (fiction) (1978) (87 mins) (meaning gay: brief appearance) DRAG
- Change (fiction) (2011) (24 mins) GAY
- Death At A Funeral (fiction) (2010) (92 mins) (brief moments) GAY
- Finding Me (fiction) (2009) (115 mins) GAY
- Fri (fiction) (2010) (108 mins) LGBT
- Float (fiction) (2007) (34 mins) GAY
- Get On The Bus (fiction) (1996) (120 mins) (Black Les movie with two gay characters) GAY
- Jumping The Broom (Noah’s Arc) (fiction) (2008) (101 mins) GAY
- Omar (fiction) (2009) (9 mins) GAY
- Pariah (fiction) (2011) (86 mins) LESB
- Precious (fiction) (2009) (110 mins) (brief moments) LESB
- Proteus (fiction) (2001) (97 mins) (South Africa) GAY
- Rag Tag (fiction) (2006) (98 mins) GAY
- Reception, The (fiction) (2005) (80 mins) GAY
- Round Trip (fiction) (2003) (95 mins) LESB
- Sarang Song (fiction) (2006) (23 mins) LESB
- Stonewall (fiction) (1995) (99 mins) DRAG
- Triple Minority (fiction) (2005) (15 mins) LESB
- To Wong Foo Thanks for Everything... (fiction) (1995) (109 mins) DRAG

television

- Hotel Babylon (seasons 1-4) (character: Ben Truman) GAY
- Noah’s Arc (seasons 1-2) (characters: Noah, Alex, Ricky, Chance, Walt...) GAY
- Shirts & Skins (reality TV) GAY
- Six Feet Under (seasons 1-5) (character: Keith Charles) GAY
- True Blood (seasons 1-6) (character: Lafayette Reynolds) GAY
BORN THIS WAY (New York premiere + QA with filmmakers)
Shaun Kadlec and Deb Tullmann—Cameroon—2012—84m—doc—In English and French with English subtitles
There are more arrests for homosexuality in Cameroon than in any other country in the world. With intimate access to the lives of four young gay Cameroonians, Born This Way steps outside the genre of activist filmmaking and offers a vivid and poetic portrait of day-to-day life in modern Africa. This is a story of what is possible in the global fight for equality.
Friday, June 21, 9:15 pm, Film Society of Lincoln Center
Saturday, June 22, 7:00 pm, IFC Center

THE NEW BLACK (New York premiere + QA with filmmaker)
Yoruba Richen—US—2013—82m—doc
The New Black tells the story of how the African American community is grappling with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) rights in light of the marriage equality movement and the fight over civil rights. We meet activists, families, and clergy on both sides of the campaign to legalize same-sex marriage in Maryland, a state with a 30 percent African-American population. Through this story, the film examines homophobia in the black community's institutional pillar—the black church—and reveals the Christian right wing's strategy of exploiting this phenomenon in order to pursue an anti-gay political agenda. The New Black takes viewers into the pews and onto the streets as it tells the story of the historic fight to win marriage equality in Maryland and charts the evolution of this divisive issue within the black community.
Wednesday, June 19, 7:00 pm, IFC Center
Thursday, June 20, 6:30 pm, Film Society of Lincoln Center
TRIPLE MINORITY (lesbian) (english) (15 mins) (directed by Amber Sharp) (February 2005)
Official website and Trailer
http://www.tripleninoritythemovie.com/story.html

OMAR (gay) (french) (9 mins) (directed by Sebastien Gabriel) (July 2009)
link for the film:
http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x9z98b_omar-court-metrage-contre-lhomophob_shortfilms

SARANG SONG (lesbian) (english) (23 mins) (directed by Tamika Miller) (January 2006)
Synopsis and pictures:
http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0756709/

BLACK WOMYN
http://blackwomynfilm.com/Media.html

BLUEPRINT (http://sasod.blogspot.com/2010_06_01_archive.html)
Kirk Shannon Butts, USA, 2007, 75 minutes, English

some links


even more films