

FILMS

shorts, documentaries, and feature-length films

FEATURES

[2 FISTS UP: WE GON' BE ALRIGHT \(58 MIN\)](#)

This 2016 documentary directed by Spike Lee tells the history of the Black Lives Matter Movement as told by activists and founders and takes an in-depth look at the boycott and hunger strike by University of Missouri student activists in 2015. Free streaming on The Undefeated website.

[BLACK PANTHER \(2 HOURS + 14 MIN\)](#)

This 2018 film directed by Ryan Coogler is based on the Marvel Comics character and tells the story of T'Challa, the superpowered new leader of the hidden, highly advanced African nation of Wakanda as he strives to protect his home. The film explores Afrofuturist themes and imagery. Streaming on Netflix and other sites for ~\$3.

[DETROIT \(2 HOURS + 23 MIN\)](#)

This 2017 film directed by Katherine Bigelow explores the true story of one of the most terrifying moments during the civil unrest that rocked Detroit in the summer of '67. Amidst the chaos of the Detroit Rebellion, with the city under curfew and as the Michigan National Guard patrolled the streets, three young African American men were murdered by police officers.

[DIRTY COMPUTER \(49 MIN\)](#)

In Janelle Monáe's (2018) film companion to her album of the same title, Jane 57821, attempts to break free from the constraints of a totalitarian society that forcibly makes Jane comply with its homophobic beliefs. This "Emotion Picture" centers and celebrates queer Black sexuality, identity, and futurity. Streaming on YouTube.

[FRUITVALE STATION \(1 HOUR + 25 MIN\)](#)

Fruitvale Station is a 2013 film by Ryan Coogler based on the events leading to the death of Oscar Grant, a young man who was killed in 2009 by BART police officer Johannes Mehserle at

the Fruitvale district station of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system in Oakland. Streaming on various sites for ~\$4.

I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO (1 HOUR + 35 MIN)

A 2016 documentary film directed by Raoul Peck, based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript, *Remember This House*. The film explores the history of racism in the United States through Baldwin's reminiscences of civil rights leaders as well as his personal observations of American history. Streaming free on Amazon Prime + various sites for ~\$3.

LEMONADE- THE VISUAL ALBUM (1 HOUR + 5 MIN)

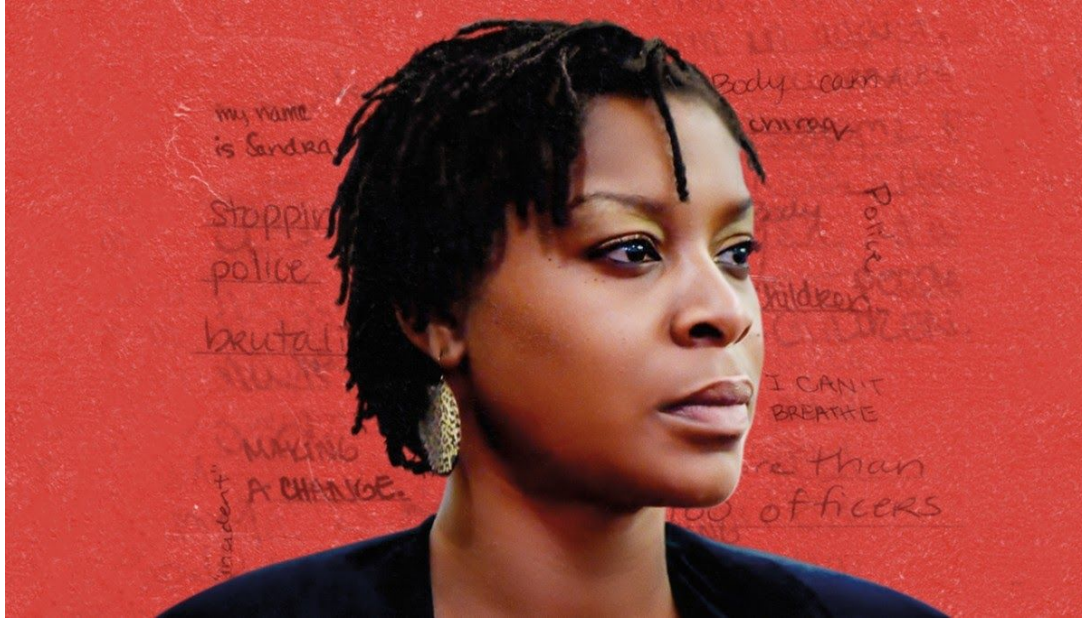
The visual companion to Beyonce's 2016 explores Black Southern womanhood alongside personal and political issues of police brutality, post-Katrina New Orleans, healing and self-discovery. Streams on Tidal and videos available on [YouTube](#).

MOONLIGHT (1 HOUR + 51 MIN)

Moonlight is a 2016 American coming-of-age drama film written and directed by Barry Jenkins, based on Tarell Alvin McCraney's unpublished play *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue*. The film presents 3 stages in the life of the main character; his youth, adolescence, and early adult life. It explores both the difficulties he faces, while offering a tender portrait of Black queer love.

SAY HER NAME: THE LIFE AND DEATH OF SANDRA BLAND (1 HOUR + 43 MIN)

This 2018 film directed by Kate Davis and David Heilbroner explores the death of Sandra Bland, a politically active 28-year-old Black woman who, after being arrested for a traffic violation in a small Texas town, was found dead in her jail cell three days later. Streaming on HBO.



SORRY TO BOTHER YOU (1 HOUR + 51 MIN)

This 2018 film directed by Boots Riley is magic-realist dark comedy and scathing critique of American racial capitalism. The film follows a young African-American telemarketer who adopts a white accent to succeed at his job. Swept into a corporate conspiracy, he must choose between profit and joining his activist friends to organize labor.

STAY WOKE: THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT DOCUMENTARY (38 MIN)

“Stay Woke: The Black Lives Matter Movement” is an original 2016 documentary film that chronicles the evolution of the Black Lives Matter movement through the first person accounts of local activists, protesters, scholars, journalists and others. Directed by Laurens Grant; streams free on YouTube.



[STRONG ISLAND \(1 HOUR + 37 MIN\)](#)

Directed by Yance Ford (2017) Strong Island chronicles the arc of a family across history, geography and tragedy - from the racial segregation of the Jim Crow South to the promise of New York City; from the presumed safety of middle class suburbs, to the maelstrom of an unexpected, violent death. Streaming on Netflix.

[THE BLACK POWER MIXTAPE 1967-1975 \(1 HOUR + 32 MIN\)](#)

This 2011 documentary film, directed by Göran Olsson, examines the evolution of the Black Power movement in American society from 1967 to 1975. It features footage of the movement shot by Swedish journalists in America with appearances by Angela Davis, Bobby Seale, Huey P. Newton, Eldridge Cleaver, and other activists, artists, and leaders central to the movement. Streaming on various sites for ~\$3.

[THE HATE U GIVE \(2 HOURS + 12 MIN\)](#)

Based on the novel by Angie Thomas, The Hate U Give is a 2018 film directed by George Tillman Jr. The movie tells the story of Starr Carter, who lives in two worlds: the low-income Black neighborhood where she resides and the mostly white prep school she attends. This uneasy balance is shattered when she witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood friend by a policeman. Begins streaming Jan 2019.

[THE STUART HALL PROJECT \(1 HOUR + 35 MINUTES\)](#)

'The Stuart Hall Project' directed by John Akomfrah (2013) is the intimate and engaging portrait of Stuart Hall, the Jamaican born public intellectual and co-founder of the New Left Review, whose work in cultural studies profoundly influenced the political landscape and academic landscape. Streaming on BFI Player and on [Vimeo](#).



THIRTEENTH (1 HOUR + 40 MIN)

13th is a 2016 American documentary by director Ava DuVernay. The film explores the "intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States;" it is titled after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which freed the slaves and prohibited slavery, with the exception of slavery as punishment for a crime. Streaming on Netflix.

TIME: THE KALIEF BROWDER STORY (6 45-MIN EPISODES)

This (2017) Netflix series directed by Jenner Furst traces the tragic case of Kalief Browder, a Bronx teen who spent three horrific years in jail, despite never being convicted of a crime. Streams on Netflix.

WHAT HAPPENED, MISS SIMONE? (1 HOUR + 41 MIN)

WHAT HAPPENED, MISS SIMONE? is a 2015 Netflix original directed by Liz Garbus that uses recently unearthed audiotapes, recorded over the course of three decades, of Nina telling her life story to various interviewers and would-be biographers. From over 100 hours of these recordings, the film weaves together Nina's narrative, told largely in her own words.



WHOSE STREETS? (1 HOUR + 30 MINUTES)

Whose Streets? is a 2017 documentary film about the killing of Michael Brown and the Ferguson uprising. Directed by Sabaah Folayan and co-directed by Damon Davis, the film follows the seven main characters, particularly Hands Up United's cofounder Tory Russell, Brittany Ferrell, a nurse and young mother, and David Whitt, a recruiter for civilian organization Cop Watch. Streaming on various sites for ~\$3.

SHORTS

films, interviews, TED talks, music videos, etc.

A CONVERSATION ON RACE (VARIOUS)

A 2015 series of short films both produced by the New York Times and crowdsourced about race and identity.



[A CONVERSATION WITH MY BLACK SON \(5 MIN\)](#)

In this short (2015) NY Times Documentary, Geeta Gandbhir and Blair Foster interview a series of parents about having “the talk” with their Black sons. To keep their sons safe, these parents navigate if/how to tell the children they love about the risks being targeted by the police, simply because of their skin color.

[A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO SCHOOL SAFETY \(13 MIN\)](#)

This short documentary by Debbie Southorn that follows a charter school working actively to disrupt the school-to-prison-pipeline through Kingian nonviolence.

[AMERICA AFTER CHARLESTON \(VARIOUS\)](#)

Moderated by PBS NEWSHOUR’s Gwen Ifill, AMERICA AFTER CHARLESTON (2016) is a one-hour town hall meeting that explores the many issues propelled into public discourse after the 2015 tragedy at Charleston’s Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The site also includes short video interviews with writers and scholars such as Shaun Harper and Jelani Cobb.

[ARE PRISONS OBSOLETE? \(4 MIN\)](#)

A short video dialogue with Angela Davis that summarizes some of the key arguments from her 2003 book, *Are Prisons Obsolete?*



BLACK LIVES MATTER: A SHORT EXPERIMENTAL FILM (9 MIN)

This 2018 film by Rosella Joseph features 6 dancers set against audio and video of police violence. The film is a visceral body movement exploration of the black pain and despair in the face of police brutality. Streaming on AfroPunk.

#BLACKMENDREAM (44 MIN)

#Blackmendream (2014) is an experimental documentary that mines the psycho-emotional landscape at the intersection of blackness and masculinity. The film, shot in black and white, features nine men from diverse backgrounds with their backs turned away from the camera. They openly discuss the obstacles they have faced as young black men, such as depression, parental neglect, and racial discrimination. [6-minute excerpt available to stream here.](#)

DON'T TOUCH MY HAIR (4 MIN)

This music video by Solange Knowles Alan Ferguson and Solange Knowles accompanied her 2016 album "A Seat at the Table." The entire 21-track album and this video in particular explore the large and daily violences experienced by Black women while asserting new aesthetic and conceptual ways toward freedom.



[FINDING CONNECTION: YOUTH ACROSS THE DIASPORA \(12 MIN\)](#)

POPPYN (Presenting on Perspective On Philly Youth News) is an award-winning youth news program based in Philadelphia. [Finding Connection: Youth Across the Diaspora](#) (2018) is a digital dialogue between Black youth in the U.S. and South Africa.

[FROM #BLACKLIVESMATTER TO BLACK LIBERATION \(15 MIN\)](#)

In this TEDx Talk Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor links the murder of Freddie Gray (150 Years prior to the day of the unconditional Confederate surrender to the Union Army) and police brutality to expose the factual chasm between formal equality and actual freedom.

[GREATER THAN THE SUM \(6 MIN\)](#)

This 2014 documentary short by Jason R. A. Foster pairs the words of young Black scholars Jamia and Rashad, and the visuals of the non-tourist New Orleans to offer a glimpse into Black girlhood and adolescence in today's society. Streaming on Vimeo

[GROWING ROSES IN CONCRETE \(14 MIN\)](#)

This TEDx Talk by scholar, educator and activist focuses on Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, a form of complex and continually activated PTSD that impacts significant numbers of urban youth.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARSHA! (14 MIN)

Happy Birthday, Marsha! is a 2018 film about iconic transgender artist and activist, Marsha "Pay it No Mind" Johnson and her life in the hours before she ignited the 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York City. Written and directed by Reina Gossett and Sasha Wortzel.

I AM SEAN BELL (11 MIN)

Young boys reflect on the Sean Bell tragedy, speaking out about their fears and hopes as they approach manhood in a city where the lives of young black men are often cut short. Directed by Stacey Muhammad, streaming free on YouTube.



INTERSECTIONALITY 101 (3 MIN)

A short 2016 claymation introduction to intersectionality by Teaching Tolerance.

PIER KIDS: THE LIFE (VARIOUS)

Pier Kids: The Life is a documentary by Elegance about the homeless gay and transgender youth of color who call the Christopher Street Pier home. While the film does not appear to be complete, viewers can explore several short pieces on the [Pier Kids' YouTube channel](#).

POST-RACIAL AMERICA: A CHILDREN'S STORY (4 MIN)

Written and performed by poet A Scribe Called Quess? through his words and the use of pictures, video clips and sound bites of the racially motivated murders that have transpired over the last several months/years, this film (2014) implores the viewers to have an honest conversation about race in this newly dubbed "post-racial society". Streaming on Vimeo.

THE DANGER OF A SINGLE STORY (20 MIN)

This TED Talk by novelist Chimamanda Ngozie Adichie tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice -- and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding.



THE FUTURE WAS COLLECTIVE (28 MIN)

A 28-minute talk with Adrienne Maree Brown (Writer, social justice facilitator, healer, doula and pleasure activist) about using collaborative ideation and science fiction to imagine radical racially just futures.

THE HUNTED AND THE HATED: AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE NYPD'S STOP-AND-FRISK POLICY (13 MIN)

A secret audio recording of a stop-and-frisk in action sheds unprecedented light on a practice that has put the city's young people of color in the NYPD's crosshairs. Documentary by The Nation, streaming free on YouTube.

THIS IS AMERICA (4 MIN)

This Is America is a 2018 song by rapper Childish Gambino (Donald Glover) with a music video directed by Hiro Murai. The song addresses issues of gun violence in the United States, the high rate of mass shootings in the United States, along with longstanding racism and discrimination against African Americans.

THREE WAYS TO SPEAK ENGLISH (4 MIN)

Jamila Lyiscott is a “tri-tongued orator;” in this spoken-word essay “Broken English,” she celebrates — and challenges — the three distinct flavors of English she speaks with her friends, in the classroom and with her parents. As she explores the complicated history and present-day identity that each language represents, she unpacks what it means to be “articulate.”



TONI MORRISON REFUSES TO PRIVILEGE BLACK PEOPLE IN HER NOVELS (7 MIN)

In this excerpt of an interview with Charlie Rose, Toni Morrison discusses the way she felt when interviewer Bill Moyers asked her when she would write about white people, as if this was something she should be interested in doing. She refuses to accept the idea that writing about Black people is not "real writing," and that Black writers must engage with white characters or the white world in order for their writing to be legitimate.

UNEQUAL OPPORTUNITY RACE (4 MIN)

This animated video uses a (running) race as a way to illustrate the structural obstacles (slavery, school to prison pipelines, racist curriculum and testing, etc.) that youth of color face, while white "runners" are on a fast track, given all kinds of gifts to help them along (e.g. inheritances).

UNNATURAL CAUSES (VARIOUS)

Unnatural Causes is a 7-part PBS documentary series focused on the links between racism, public health and premature death. Episodes cover issues including environmental racism, impacts of financial and racialized stress on health, increased pregnancy risks for Black women and more. Streaming 1.99/ episode on [Vimeo](#) and the PBS site offers free clips and discussion guides.

THE URGENCY OF INTERSECTIONALITY (20 MIN)

This (2016) 2TED talk by critical race scholar and activist Kimberle Crenshaw explains her groundbreaking theory of intersectionality and the urgency of its application in these times.

WE DESERVE BETTER (12 MIN)

We Deserve Better is an informational video produced by FosterBear Films in association with BreakOUT! focused on violent policing in the LGBTQ community in New Orleans.



WORD WARRIORS (4 MIN)

Aja Monet's poem read by her as a video contribution to the [#SayHerName](#) campaign, a necessary continuation of the Black Lives Matter movement focusing on overlooked police violence against women.

