



The W. E. B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies at the  
University of Massachusetts Amherst Presents:



# *Art & Power*

IN

# MOVEMENT

**An International Conference Rethinking  
The Black Power and Black Arts Movements**

**November 18 – 20, 2010**



## Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the following sponsors for their generous help towards this conference:

Joel Martin, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Dean of Faculty

Julie Hayes, Dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts

Robert Cox, Head, Special Collections & Archives, W.E.B. Du Bois Library

Jay Schafer, Director, W.E.B. Du Bois Library

National Council for Black Studies

W.E.B. Du Bois Department faculty, graduate students and staff

Five College Black Studies Departments

Demetria Shabazz

Educational Collaborative

Theater Department

Priscilla Page

Marcus Gardley

History Department

Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies Program



**Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 pm **Melba Boyd, Wayne State University**  
*"Dudley Randall and Broadside Press"*  
Special Collections, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor, W.E.B. Du Bois Library

8:00 pm **Randy Weston Concert—Bowker Auditorium**  
Tickets are available at the Fine Arts Center Box Office.

**Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:00-8:30 am **CAMPUS CENTER AUDITORIUM LOBBY**  
Registration, Coffee/Tea and Fruit/Pastries

8:30-8:45 am **Opening—Amilcar Shabazz**

***Concurrent Sessions Round I***

8:45-10:00am **Amiri Baraka Panel—Campus Center, Room 162**  
Emahunn Raheem Ali Campbell, UMass Amherst  
*"Specters of Marxism: The Marxian Influence on Amiri Baraka's Cultural Nationalist Poetry"*  
Mohammad Aljayyousi, Indiana University of PA  
*"'Poems That Scream': Orality/ Aurality as a Form of Radicalism and Militancy in the Poetry of Amiri Baraka"*  
Chair: Johanna Ortner, UMass Amherst

8:45-10:00am **International Panel—Campus Center, Room 163**  
Grace Hampton and Mark Alan Herrin, Penn State  
*"Festac 77 - A Cultural Milestone"*  
Elizabeth Kai Hinton, Columbia University  
*"Nixon's War on Drugs and the Militarization of the Los Angeles Police Force: 1968-1973"*  
Robeson Frazier, University of California, Berkeley  
*"The Limits of Tricontinental Solidarity"*

Samir Meghelli, Columbia University

*“The Battle From Algiers: Transnational Solidarities and the End of Black Power Abroad”*

Matthew Birkhold, SUNY Binghamton

*“Nothing But Negation: Black Power, New Communism, and the World-Economy”*

Chair: Jonathan Fenderson, UMass Amherst

8:45-10:00am **BAM and Genre Studies—Campus Center, Room 165**

John P. Bowles, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*“The African American Performance Art Archive: Documenting Collaboration Collaboratively”*

Lloren Foster, Western Kentucky University

*“Consciousness and the Short Story”*

Aimee Glocke, University of Wyoming

*“Is the Black Aesthetic Dead?: Positing the Black Aesthetic as the Foundation for the Black Novel”*

Lars Lierow, George Washington University

*“The Black Man's Vision of the World: Rediscovering Black Arts Filmmaking and the Struggle for a Black Cinematic Aesthetic”*

Chair: Crystal Donkor, UMass Amherst

### ***Plenary Session***

10:15-11:45am **Forty Years of Black Music in the Pioneer Valley—  
Campus Center, Room 163**

Randy Weston, Musician

Glen Siegel, Magic Triangle and WMUA, UMass Amherst

Terry Jenoure, Director, Augusta Savage Art Gallery

Frederick Tillis, UMass Amherst

Chair: John Bracey, UMass Amherst

***Luncheon Plenary***

12:00-1:45pm **Malcolm X Roundtable—10<sup>th</sup> Floor Amherst Room**

Sonia Sanchez, Poet, Playwright, Teacher

Rickey Hill, Mississippi Valley State

James Turner, Cornell University

Haki Madhubuti, Poet, Publisher, Teacher

Chair: William Strickland, UMass Amherst

\*Pre-registration required.

2:00-3:15pm **SNCC Plenary—Campus Center, Room 163**

Judy Richardson, Filmmaker

Charlie Cobb, AllAfrica.com and Brown University

Chair: Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, UMass Amherst

***Concurrent Sessions Round IV***

3:30-4:45pm **Women and BAM/Black Power—Campus Center, Room 162**

Zahra Caldwell, UMass Amherst

*“Black Power Foremother: Abby Lincoln, Music, Image, Representation and Black Womanhood in the 1960’s”*

Julie Burrell, UMass Amherst

*“A New Nation: Alice Childress Re-scripts Black Nationalism”*

Renee M. Kingan, College of William and Mary

*“Taking It Out!”: Jayne Cortez’s Collaborations with The Firepitters”*

Luo Liangong, Central China Normal University

*“Grow to Be a BAM Womanist: Sonia Sanchez’s Evolution in the Black Arts Movement”*

Chair: Flávia Santos de Araújo, UMass Amherst

3:30-4:45pm **Ideology, Politics, and Aesthetics—Campus Center, Room 163**

Vanessa Fabien, UMass Amherst

*“The Black Arts Movement: The Performance of An Environmental Ethic Post Civil Rights”*

Donald Geesling, UMass Amherst

*“Survival Kits on Wax’: Gil Scott-Heron, The Black Arts Movement, and the Poetics of Resistance in the Age of Nixon”*

Gary Holcomb, Ohio University

*“Audre Lorde’s Queer Black Marxism: Reimagining Black Arts”*

Charles Nero, Bates College

*“The Black Arts Movement and the Black Gay Generation of 1986: The Case of Melvin W. Dixon: Poet, Scholar, Novelist”*

Chair: Ernest Gibson, UMass Amherst

3:30-4:45pm **Black Power, BAM, and Ethnic Studies—Campus Center, Room 165**

Kedong Liu and Li Fu, Harbin Institute of Technology

*“Attitudes toward Tradition in North American Ethnic Literature”*

Matthew Calihman, Missouri State University

*“Ishmael Reed and White Ethnic Revivalism”*

Markeysha Davis, UMass

*“Implicating Whiteness: Black Arts Movement Poetry and the Attack on the White Ideal”*

Chair: James Smethurst, UMass Amherst

5:00-6:00pm **CAMPUS CENTER AUDITORIUM**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Amiri Baraka

Poet, Playwright, Critic, Teacher

**Social 6:00 pm—10<sup>th</sup> Floor Hadley Room Area**

Cash bar.

**Dinner 6:30 pm—10<sup>th</sup> Floor Amherst Room**

\*Pre-registration required. Cash bar.

8:00pm **FINE ARTS CENTER, BLACK BOX THEATRE**

Theatre reading of BAM Plays. This evening of excerpts will showcase the work of seminal playwrights Amiri Baraka, Ed Bullins, and Sonia Sanchez alongside contemporary writers Lydia Diamond, Kirsten Greenridge and Lenelle Moise.

Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

8:30-9:00am **CAMPUS CENTER, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Registration Desk**  
Registration, Coffee/Tea & Fruit/Pastries

***Concurrent Sessions Round V***

9:00-10:15am **BP/BAM on Campus—Campus Center, Room 163**  
Stefan Bradley, St. Louis University  
*“Black Student Power at Columbia University, 1967-1969”*  
Tina Pierce, Denison University  
*“A Call for Black Power: A Political Analysis of Black Student  
Insurgency at the Ohio State University from 1969 to 1970”*  
Dexter Blackman, Loyola Marymount  
*“‘We are men first, athletes second’: Black Student-Athletes and  
the Black Students Movement in the Age of Black Power”*  
Chair: Donald Geesling, UMass Amherst

9:00-10:15am **Revolutionary Action Movement/Republic of New Afrika  
Panel—Campus Center, Room 101**  
Muhammad Ahmad, Temple University  
John Bracey, UMass Amherst  
Rondee Gaines, Georgia State University  
Edward Onaci, University of Illinois  
Askia Touré, Poet  
Chair: Amilcar Shabazz, UMass Amherst

***Concurrent Sessions Round VI***

10:30-11:45am **New Scholarship Panel—Campus Center, Room 163**  
Peniel Joseph, Tufts University  
Margo Crawford, Cornell University  
William Strickland, UMass Amherst  
Ibram H. Rogers, Rutgers University  
Chair: James Smethurst, UMass Amherst

10:30-11:45am

**Print Culture I—Campus Center, Room 101**

Jonathan Fenderson, UMass Amherst

*“Renovating the Black World: Afro-Modern Festivities & Black Arts Internationalism, 1966-1977”*

Seth Markle, Trinity College

*“Reading for the Revolution: Drum and Spear Bookstore, Africa and Black Power Constructions of Popular Memory”*

Christopher Tinson, Hampshire College

*“Harlem, New York! Harlem, Detroit! Harlem, Birmingham!”: Liberator Magazine and the Chronicling of Translocal Activism, 1963-1967”*

Brian Purnell, Bowdoin College

*“Agitate, Educate, Organize: Black News and the Intersection of Black Art and Black Power Politics” 1969-1983”*

Chair: Dayo Gore, UMass Amherst

***Luncheon Plenary***

12:00-1:45pm

**CAMPUS CENTER, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Marriott Center**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Sonia Sanchez

Poet, Playwright, Teacher

\*Pre-registration required.

***Concurrent Sessions Round VII***

2:00-3:15pm

**Local People—Campus Center, Room 163**

Candy Tate, Clark Atlanta University

*“Visualizing Cultural Politics: Atlanta’s Neighborhood Arts Center (1975-1990)”*

Rickey Hill, Mississippi Valley State

*“The Bogalusa Movement: Self-Defense and Black Power In the Civil Rights Struggle”*

Ian Rocksborough, University of Toronto

*“Memory, Cultural Fronts, and Black Public History in Cold War Chicago”*



Ashley Farmer, Harvard University

*“Working Towards the Community is Our Full-Time Focus”: Muriel Snowden, Black Power, and the Freedom House, Roxbury, MA”*

Chair: David Swiderski, UMass Amherst

2:00-3:15pm

**Continuing the Legacy: Artists and Aesthetics of the Black Arts Movement in Dialogue with Contemporary African American Artists and Artistic Practice—Campus Center, Room 101**

Lydia Diamond, Boston University

Kirsten Greenidge, Playwright

Marcus Gardley, UMass Amherst

Djola Branner, Hampshire College

Michael Simanga, Fulton County Arts Council

Chair: Priscilla Page, UMass Amherst

2:00-3:15pm

**Print Culture II—Campus Center, Room 162**

Zachary Manditch-Prottas, Columbia University

*“The Revolution Will be Published: The Role of Prison Literature within the Black Power Movement”*

Tim Robinson, Old Dominion University

*“Society of Umbra and Umbra Magazine”*

Trevor Joy Sangrey, University of California at Santa Cruz

*“Politics on Paper: Origins and Uses of Pamphlet Literature in the Black Power Movement”*

Chair: Jason Hendrickson, UMass Amherst

***Tribute to Writers & Poets Session***

3:30-5:00pm

**Campus Center, Room 165**

Book signings by authors.

3:30-4:30pm

**Campus Center, Room 163**

**Film Screening:** “Scarred Justice: The Orangeburg Massacre 1968”

5:00-6:15pm

**Plenary Panel: Legacies of Black Power and Black Arts—  
Campus Center, Room 163**

Judy Richardson, Filmmaker

Amiri Baraka, Poet, Playwright, Critic, Teacher

Sonia Sanchez, Poet, Playwright, Teacher

Nelson Stevens, UMass Amherst

Eugene Redmond, Southern Illinois University

Askia Touré, Poet

Chair: William Strickland, UMass Amherst

**Dinner**

On Your Own

**Please note:**

No responsibility is accepted by The University of Massachusetts Amherst or organisers of the conference for any loss of property or personal injury. Participants are therefore advised not to bring valuables to the conference and to arrange their own insurance against accident and loss of property.

\*Various sessions will be videotaped for rebroadcasting.