

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

African American Films Featured

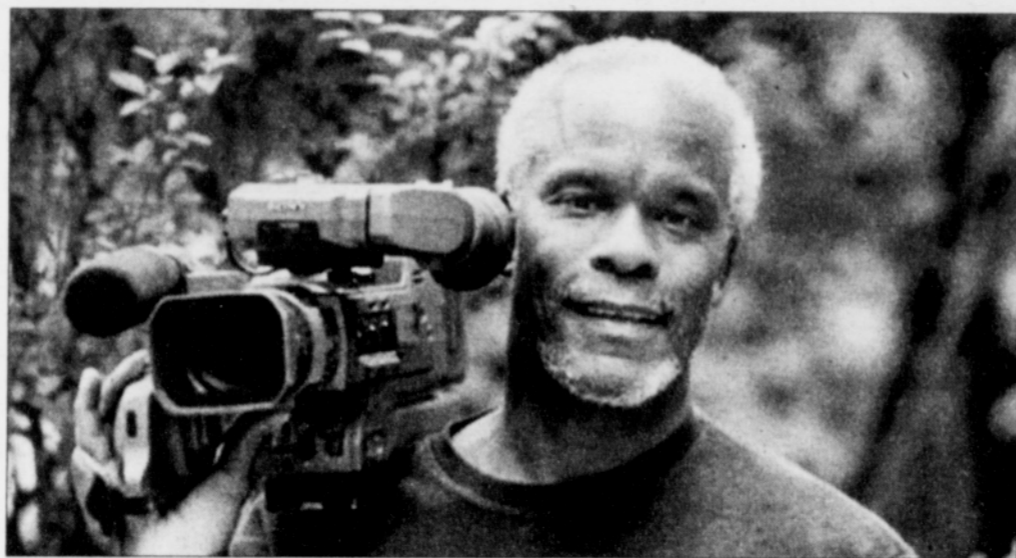
McMenamins theaters host four day festival

The 2nd annual PDX African American Film Festival, produced by Astoria Productions and McMenamins, will be held Thursday, Nov. 11 through Sunday, Nov. 14 at McMenamins Bagdad Theater, 3702 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.; plus special programs at McMenamins St. Johns Theater, 8203 N. Ivanhoe St. and Mission Theater, 1624 N.W. Glisan St.

Tickets are \$3 each; minors are welcome with an adult. For details, see pdxaaff.com or mcmenamins.com.

The films reflect the best offerings from both national and local filmmakers.

FreedomRiders by acclaimed filmmaker Stanley Nelson, was a hit at the recent Sundance Film Festival. The screening of another award-winning film, Up From The Bottoms: The Search For The American Dream, will be the film's West Coast premiere. Highly acclaimed, it is the production of Jim & Rod Schaub and is narrated by the great Cicely Tyson.



Award-winning filmmaker Stanley Nelson.

Another highlight will be the presentation of *Stubborn as a Mule!* which examines the moral, legal, economic, and psychological issues that embody the fight for African American reparations. Following the movie, the filmmaker, Miller Barger Jr., will be on hand for a Q&A session.

From the pool of local talent, bring the award-winning film *Imagining Home: Stories of Columbia Villa* by Sue Arbutnot and Richard Wilhelm. Another notable local production is *Her Name Was Mary*, a short film by Portlander Liz Vice, about a child's effort to reverse one result of the institution of racism.

The Festival kicks off Thursday, Nov. 11 with a tribute to Lena Horne, the legendary African American

actor and singer, who died earlier this year. Her early classic, *Stormy Weather* (1943) will be screened at McMenamins Mission Theater, with a start time of 6 p.m.

This year's festival also includes a Youth Film Festival, featuring the submissions of local filmmakers, aged 17 and under.

One more offering is a musical offshoot that carries forth the same celebratory message of African American film heritage. On Sunday, Nov. 14, beginning at 8:30 p.m., local jazz legend Ron Steen and band will perform notable compositions from African American films from over the decades. This special event will be held at Clyde's Prime Rib Restaurant and Bar, 5474 N.E. Sandy Blvd.



Second Act for Pee-wee Herman

(AP) -- The red bow tie is back. The white chunky loafers are, too. So is that too-tight gray suit. The Secret Word today is: Comeback. Pee-wee has returned from exile.

"I think it's full circle. I view it even a little fuller, I guess. I feel that it's full circle in that I can come back around to a really good place where

I was. As opposed to having my career end on this really sour note," says Reubens during an interview.

Reubens, now 58, has popped up all over New York to drum up attention for "The Pee-wee Herman Show," which officially opens Nov. 11. Everywhere he goes, people say: "Welcome back!"

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