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Detail of a bookshelf at JGPACA. Photo credit: Amaal Said

In Summer 2022, JGPACA secured a major award from the Freelands Foundation, Space to Dream fund. The Space to Dream fund enables Black-led organisations across the UK to imagine and deliver bold and impactful visual arts projects. The Space to Dream award will support the continuation of JGPACA's archival, curatorial and educational initiatives and will enable JGPACA to take crucial steps in building its capacity in response to growing public interest in the archive. In particular, the Space to Dream funding will support the organisation's long-stated ambition to enable greater public access to the archival materials, and to identify new accessible premises for the future development and preservation of the collection.



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The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema
Archive is supported by the
Freelands Foundation

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PerAnkh - The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema Archive

15 April to 4 June 2023 Raven Row Gallery (London)



The Directors of JGPACA are delighted to announce the upcoming exhibition, Per Ankh — The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema Archive to be held at Raven Row Gallery in London. It is the largest exhibition to date of the June Givanni Pan African Cinema Archive collections.

Over a period of eight weeks, Per Ankh - The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema Archive will celebrate the global perspective of the archive. The innovative exhibition presentation will allow diverse audiences to navigate JGPACA's holdings and their continuing relevance to our contemporary moment. In this way Per Ankh — The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema Archive will showcase JGPACA's ability to engage within and beyond the film, art, cultural and academic sectors.

© Zineb Sedira

The term 'Per-Ankh' is an ancient Egyptian name for learning centres that were attached to temples. These centres housed archives and libraries, and were known as 'houses of life'. JGPACA considers itself a living archive, working throughout its existence with filmmakers, academics, artists, and communities. The title reflects JGPACA's role as a centre preserving and sharing the rich heritage of Pan-African cinema.

Per Ankh — The June Givanni PanAfrican Cinema Archive' exhibition will be accompanied by a publication including contributions from Karen Alexander, Michael T Martin, Charlotte Brunsdon, Julian Petley, Imruh Bakari, June Givanni and Awa Konaté.

Tribute to Peace Anyiam-Osigwe (1969-2023)

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Early this year, the African movie industry lost one of its icons, the former filmmaker, and the founder of the Africa Movie Academy Awards, AMAA, Peace Anyiam-Osigwe. She passed away on January 9, prematurely at 54 years old, and left her mark as a pillar of the entertainment industry in Nigeria.

On the night of the 11th of February, hundreds of captains of the entertainment industry from across Africa, A-list actors and celebrities joined a ceremony intended to honour the life of a visionary leader. Peace will be always remembered as the name and face behind one of the most important spaces for the celebration of African cinemas.

June Givanni had the privilege to work with Peace as one of the international jury members of AMAA awards, along with other names such as Keith Shiri, John Akomfrah, and Amaka Igwe. "We thank her profusely and may her dear soul rest in perfect Peace". (JG)

Footage Lost and Found: A Conversation on Africa's Displaced Film Archives



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Essafi (Morocco), Nii-Kwate Owoo (Ghana) and Jean-Marie Téno (Cameroon) in conversation with Nikolaus Perneczky (Queen Mary University of London).

Drawing on their many years of experience in navigating the uniquely complex archival landscape of African cinema, these four eminent filmmakers tackled the challenges facing Africa's displaced, contested, and silenced film archives, through the lens of their own practice and critical archival engagements.

Our conversation included questions of access and copyright; the reappropriation of the visual heritage of the colonial empire; the censored and suppressed archives, and on to the call for moving image restitution.

We thank our participants and all attendees of this sold-out event, a recording of which is now available on our podcast channel and hope to continue the conversation in the months and years to come.

Tribute to Safi Faye (1943-2023)

Safi Faye left us on February 22, 2023 at age 79, in Paris. Fave will forever be remembered for her extraordinary artistic work in cinema. She was named the mother of African cinema, and dedicated herself over years to depict Senegalese women's everyday rural life, to give them voice and image. To document her own experience through those of her sisters. Her first feature length film, "Kaddu Beykat" (1975, aka La Lettre Paisanne / Letter from the Village) was the first feature by a sub-Saharan African woman to be commercially distributed. This is a special mark, considering how African filmmakers, especially women, continue to struggle to have their films distributed to this day. A lighthouse to many young directors, she will continue to guide and inspire us all, while we will continue to ensure that her and her work are deservedly placed in the history of cinema.



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Black Film Bulletin: Thirty Years On

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launched - first published in the BFI's former African Caribbean Unit, by founding editors June Givanni and Gaylene Gould. For the past two years the BFB has appeared quarterly as a supplement within the BFI's Sight and Sound Magazine. The June Givanni Pan African Cinema Archive CIC preserves some of the legacy of the original publications after the physical copies were no longer produced, and now JGPACA are gradually making them accessible on the BFB website. The June 2023 issue of Sight & Sound to be published in May 2023, will carry the latest BFB Supplement. This forthcoming issue juxtaposes the past and present, with conversations that appeared in the first issues of the BFB, with contemporary reflections from Alex Pillai; Anthony Andrews and Sarita Malik on the black cinematic landscape three decades later.

© JGPACA



© David Levene/The Guardian

Congratulations to long-time friend and supporter of JGPACA, John Akomfrah, on his selection by the British Council to represent the UK at the 60th Venice Biennale (20th April - 24 November 2024). JGPACA's relationship with Akomfrah extends into the early 1980s with his work as part of the Black Audio Film Collective, and his contributions to critical decades on the development of Black independent film making in the UK. Akomfrah also worked with June Givanni as a writer and programmer on the Greater London Council's Anti-Racist Film Programme from November '84 to March '85.

Tribute to Jim Pines

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Our dear mend and collaborator in the field of cinema and film studies - Jim Pines - left us after a long illness. Jim was cared for at home by his loving wife Janice Turner and his son James, for the last 12 years.

Jim was known for championing Black and Third Cinema both at the British Film Institute where he worked since the mid 1970s. This included a few years curating film and staging festivals at the Commonwealth Institute

A publicity shot of Jim in the Guardian announcement of his new job at the Commonwealth Institute in the 1980s.

Programmes such as the Ghana Film Week and the Nigeria Film week. In 1982 Jim coorganised with Parminder Vir the Black Film Festival. Jim continued working between the two institutions for many years until he moved into academia at the University of Luton in 1994.

Together with his BFI colleague and collaborator in film education, Paul Willemen, Jim staged the major Third Cinema Conference in Edinburgh in 1986. An international event with many filmmakers and film scholars from a number of continents. From this conference a number of seminal works were produced. Works that would later provide a bedrock of work for learning more and engaging with these film movements. These publications encouraged exploration and supported new film languages born of experimental and convention-shifting approaches to filmmaking. You all know who you are and you will no doubt be paying your respects to Jim's memory in due course.

"For me, much of what Jim encouraged me to do in the field of black film and some of what Jim himself produced, can be found in the film and educational resource centres far and wide as many who have studied film can attest", says June Givanni.

She continues: "I am sure many of you will have many more respects to pay and memories to recall of Jim and his achievements to share; and the multitude of reasons we should give thanks for his life. The legacy he has left us with in various forms will do the rest and ensure that generations to come will continue to do the same".



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