

# Alumni Exchange

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES



# Black Americans and Popular Media: A Black History Month Conversation

Jane Rhodes, Professor and Head Department of Black Studies

# Race and Media--The Contestation over Images

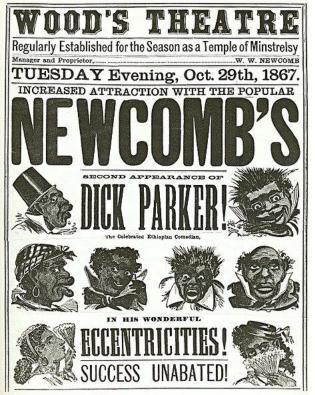
Representations of Blacks in Mainstream Media

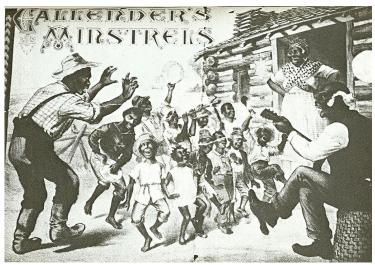


Black Responses to Mainstream Representations



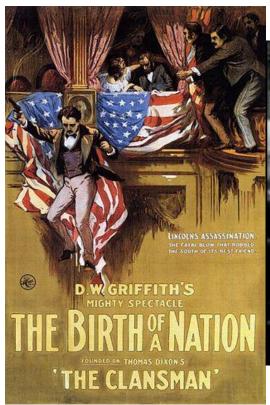
# Black Americans central to the history of American popular culture: Minstrelsy







# Defense of Slavery launches the Film Industry









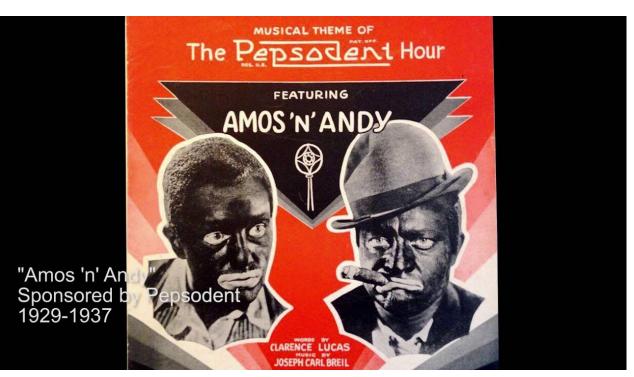
# Insult and mimicry central to the emergence of talking cinema

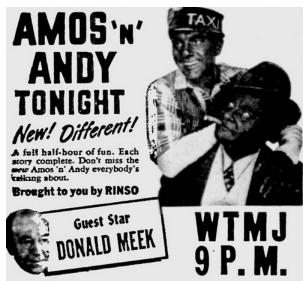






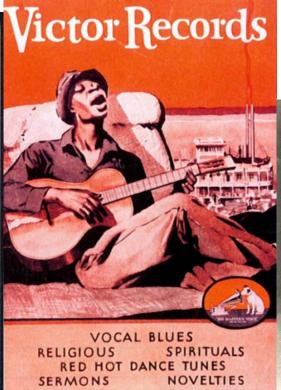
#### Radio--A new medium continues minstrel theme





Music Recording--a segregated, yet profitable industry



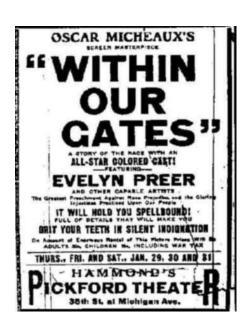




## From Blues, to Jazz, to R&B and beyond



#### Black Americans respond on screen



Black Independent Cinema:

Oscar Micheaux--1920s-40s





## Bringing dignity to limited roles







## 1970s--Black independent filmmaking





### Meanwhile--an emerging medium: television

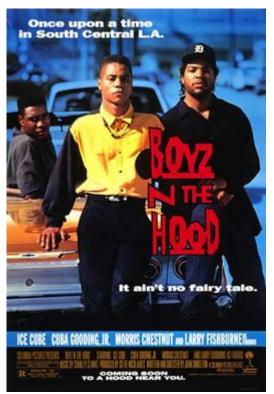








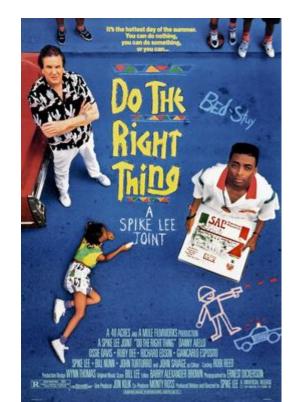
By the 1990s--content shifted to gritty urban context



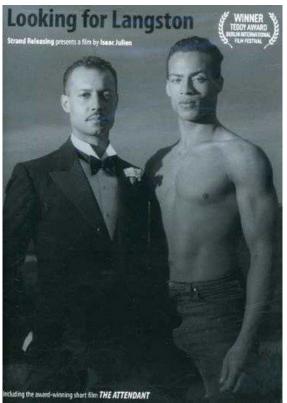




# Complementing the rise of hip hop--new generation of independent filmmakers





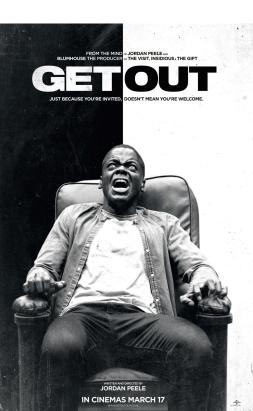


#### 21st century context for Black American cinema



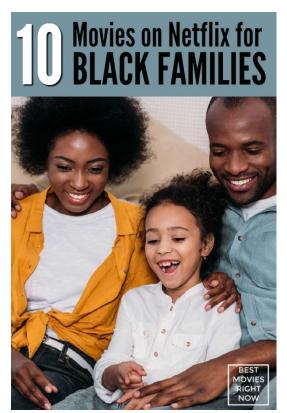
### Black authorship, black control, alternative images







### Today's (lockdown) media landscape





9 Movies To Watch On Hulu In June 2020 Starring Black Leads

POPCORNANDTEQUILA.COM









Is more, better???? Discuss