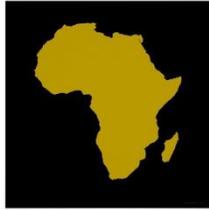


For Immediate Release: July 1, 2020
August Wilson's Ground Lecture Series: "**August and Africa**"
September 24, 2020
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We are Africans who have been in America since the 17th century. We are Americans, but we are – first of all--we are Africans. There is no way that you can dispute the fact that we're African people, and we have a culture that is separate and distinct from mainstream white America's culture. . . . Part of what our problem as blacks in America is that we don't claim that. Partly, you see, because of the linguistic environment in which we live. . . . My idea is that somewhere, sometime in the course of the play, the audience will discover these are African people. They're black Americans, they speak English, but their world view is African.
~August Wilson

The August Wilson Society proudly presents the second lecture in its *August Wilson's Ground Annual Lecture Series: "August and Africa"*

Washington DC – August Wilson was adamant about the need for African Americans to "find their song" by embracing their "Africanness." During its second groundbreaking lecture in the newly launched *August Wilson's Ground Lecture Series*, the August Wilson Society (AWS) will apply another interdisciplinary lens to illuminate yet another often-undetected and underdiscussed subject that undergirds August Wilson's American Century Cycle plays: the influence of Africa. "August and Africa" will gather some of the world's foremost voices on African and African American cultural studies, including Molefi Asante, Paul Carter Harrison, Sandra Richards, Omiyemi Artisia Green, and Nemata A. Blyden, to discuss various manifestations of Africa in Wilson's body of dramatic work. This lecture and moderated panel discussion will form the basis for a larger discussion about race and racism in America and the artist's role in addressing it.

Compelled by an overabundance of caution due to the unpredictable nature of the ongoing pandemic, AWS will utilize Zoom web conferencing features to host "August and Africa" at <http://www.augustwilsonsociety.org> Additional details including how to register for and to access this event will follow.

For more information, contact the August Wilson Society at www.awilsonsociety@gmail.com; visit the website at www.augustwilsonsociety.org; or dial us at 202- 642-9659.



The August Wilson Society is an interdisciplinary community of educators, visual and performing artists and practitioners, students, and theatre lovers who remain dedicated to commemorating August Wilson's legacy by promoting the studying, teaching, researching, performing, and ultimately the safeguarding of the rich narrative of the African American past that Wilson has bequeathed to us in the form of 10 plays that chronicle the stories of African Americans from 1904 to 1997.