

Black Planet Productions collective: Jacqueline Dolly, Mark Aubert, Cyrille Phipps, Thomas Poole, Joan Baker, Donna Golden and George Sosa (Left to Right)

### NOT CHANNEL ZERO A video series produced by Black Planet Productions

"An inventive New York media collective with an afrocentric perspective and a refreshing way of combining aesthetic imagination with political savvy." - Jonathan Rosenbaum, Chicago Reader

"Not Channel Zero encourages viewers to locate and challenge the biases of television and other media." Laurie Oullette, Will the Revolution be Televised?

"NCZ jars viewers' ordinarily passive acceptance of visual images and challenges them to form their own interpretations and, most important, their own opinions." LaRose Parris, American Visions

"The show has a hyperactive style that often jolts viewers into a stimulative, occasionally witty visual escapade." Ray Smith, New York Newsday Not Channel Zero Series Black Women, Sexual Politics and the Revolution (1992) Doing What It Takes: Black Folks Getting and Staying Healthy (1994) The Nation Erupts (1992) NCZ Goes to War (1992) Our House: Lesbians and Gays in the Hood (1993) X 1/2: The Legacy of Malcolm X (1994)

# **About Black Planet Productions**

Black Planet Production was a New York City-based video collective of African American video artists formed in the early 1990s. It combined alternative television style with a critique of commercial media, using low-end, accessible technology and extremely small budgets, sometimes only fifty dollars. For three years, the collective produced regular programming for Manhattan Cable Access on the anti-war movement, homophobia in communities of color, police brutality, sexism, and urban issues in Black and Latino communities. Revising the famous Gil Scott Heron phrase, their motto was "The Revolution, Televised," asserting they were making "grassroots, Afrocentric television aiming at politics, culture, and re-education." The collective adopted Afrocentric style, form, and content, bringing hip hop strategies of slow motion, fast forwarding, and repetition to their videos as they appropriated commercial media images. Black Planet Production was founded by Thomas Poole, George Sosa and Cyrille Phipps, and members included Jacqueline Dolly, Donna Golden, Mark Aubert, Joan Baker and Art Jones.

### Ten-Point Plan

- 1. To provide a forum for the education of the African community, promoting a cultural connection among all people of the African Diaspora
- 2. To promote political, social and economic empowerment
- 3. To act as a forum to discuss issues and evaluate problems
- 4. To locate and provide resources that will develop problem solving techniques
- 5. To acknowledge the cultural contributions of Africans in the United States and abroad
- 6. To provide a provocative alternative to mainstream media
- 7. To reflect the concerns of our community and provide an outlet for their grievances
- 8. To celebrate and honor the memory of our African ancestors
- 9. To act as a creative venue for emerging artists
- 10. To provide a positive and respectful analysis of the African American community

# Interviews and Talks Available Online

Talk with Black Planet Productions Collective <a href="https://vimeo.com/856019926?share=copy">https://vimeo.com/856019926?share=copy</a>

Talk with Tom Poole and Art Jones <u>https://mediaburn.org/events/12-16-2021-virtual-talks-with-video-activists-not-channel-z</u> <u>ero/</u>

Tom Poole Interview https://www.vdb.org/titles/tom-poole-interview

Cyrille Phipps interview https://www.vdb.org/titles/cyrille-phipps-interview

Art Jones interview https://www.vdb.org/titles/art-jones-interview

# **Download Press Clippings**

https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/7pubaclcuclssjjjtemb2/h?rlkey=4n4h1w1pkf6irys0h5dqk 1f2v&dl=0



## Black Women, Sexual Politics and the Revolution

(Black Planet Productions, 1992, 29 min., Color, US)

Black women speak candidly on issues of sex, class and gender roles. The video examines how African American women deal with issues of poverty, abortion, battering and lack of health care, and addresses how women's roles in community struggle and activism are often overlooked or ignored. The video also looks at media portrayals with an emphasis on the representation of Black women in music video.

"Confronting a wrongheaded ideology based on a male point of view, ego, and capitalist greed, not human need, several African-American women argue forcefully for radically different perspectives." Diane Carson, The Riverfront Times

Screenings Juror's Choice Award, Black Maria Film Festival Women in the Director's Chair Touring Program University of Illinois University of Toledo Women's Center at Northwestern University Yale University Walker Art Center Women's Resource Center at Washington University Northern Illinois University Black Cinemateque, Dallas American Film Institute National Video Festival Institute of Contemporary Art The Third Wave International Women's Film and Video Festival Women in the Director's Chair International Film & Video Festival Black International Cinema, South Bend and Berlin Forum for Contemporary Art African American Women Behind the Camera, Brooklyn Museum

Executive Producers George A. Sosa Thomas Poole Cyrille Phipps

Producers Michele McKenzie Cyrille Phipps

Camera Cyrille Phipps Michele McKenzie Joan Baker Tracy Williams

Production Crew Jacqueline Dolly Donna Golden

Research Michele McKenzie

Editors Michele McKenzie Cyrille Phipps

Editing Facilities Educational Video Center On-line Editor Marc "Mack Daddy" Gaynor

Special Thanks Educational Video Center Downtown Community TV Center Rise and Shine Productions NCZ Posse Jackie Edwards

Music L.L Cool J James Brown Public Enemy Shabba Ranks The Last Poets Bell, Biv, Devoe Steve Coleman

Much Respect to me Sistren Queen Mother Moore Assata Shakur Angela Davis Jeanne Noble Barbara Smith Audrey Lourde Paula Giddings Shirley Chisolm Ida B. Wells Sojourner Truth Harriet Tubman Rosa Parks Winnie Mandela

Black Plane Productions Copyrigh 1991



### Doing What It Takes: Black Folks Getting and Staying Healthy

(Donna Golden, Producer: Black Planet Productions, 1994, 23 min., Color, US) Black communities are disproportionately affected by cancer, heart disease, low birth weight and infant mortality rates. Facing political, economic and racial barriers to good health, this video documents the anger and mistrust in the Black community towards the medical establishment based on a history of abuse and lack of access.

#### **Screenings**

DuSable Museum of African American History

Thanks to all the people who appeared in this tape and talked with us about their health Senmut Nazalima Digna Justin Louis Jones Dr. Monica Sweeney Ulysses Kilgore Marco Dynamite Chris Clairesa Wista Linwood Collins T'wana Blanca All the people on Fulton Mall All the people on 125th Street Thanks to Genesis 1:27 The Park Slope Food Coop Where some of the footage was shot

Special Thanks to Educational Video Center (where I did the editing)

Cynthia Lopez - Deep Dish TV (she kept extending my deadline!)

Camera Persons Sound Persons Intrepid Reportes Donna Golden Aisha Hakim-Dyce Diana Murillo Cyrille Phipps DaShawn Pretlow

Produced and Edited by Donna Golden

For... Not Channel Zero Mark Aubert Donna Golden Art Jones Tom Poole George Sosa



### The Nation Erupts

(Black Planet Productions, 1992, 60 min., Color, US)

Focusing on nationwide responses in the wake of the Rodney King verdict. Grassroots producers across the country reflect on the media coverage of the resulting L.A. uprising and its aftermath. Community members grapple with their feelings about their own actions as they debate what is right vs. wrong, what is perception vs. reality.

"Not Channel Zero...offers the most sophisticated and complex reading of the riots and the Holliday videotape to date."

—John Hanhardt, Whitney Museum 1993 Biennial at the Whitney Museum of American Art

"A powerful example of how alternative production and sophisticated media critique can work through video."

-Laurie Oullette, Will the Revolution Be Televised?

<u>Screenings</u> Images, Festival of Independent Film and Video, Toronto

Deep Dish T.V. Network presents

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Deep Dish T.V. The First Public Access Satellite Network

Not Channel Zero presents

The Nation Erupts

Not Channel Zero

Coordinating Producer/Editors Donna Golden "The Hippie Chick" Thomas Poole "Not Uncle Tom" Art Jones "Art"

Writer/Editor George Sosa "The Media Wilder"

Research Kim Barker

The Rest of the NCZ Posse Cyrille Phipps "Revolutionary Sista" Mark Aubert "Makabu"

NCZ members missing in action Jackie Dolly Joan Baker

Animation/Title Cheché Martinez

Titler Joe Friendly

Music Mix Mark Aubert Richard Hood

Special Special Shout Outs Cynthia Lopez Paper Tiger TV

Special Shout Outs Dee Dee Halleck

Richie Perez Beth Lamont Studio Mary Ying Welsh Paul Garren Third World Newsreel Bob Wyrod Phil Bertelsen Niki Harmon Chris Hoover Laura Vural Niampo Filmworks Alert Video Productions Christ Nicholson Charlie Rasmussen Fiona Boneham

Shout Outs Xav Laplae Tony Avalos NCZ supporters NCZ Family Members The Spirits

**Contributing Producers** Southside TV "Ex-officer" Lincoln Richman "Save our Cities Rally" Rise and Shine "Rodney Cries" Michael Hayes "Who's Next" WYBE-CH 35 "Speak Out" Tony Cokes "Black Celebration" Flying Focus Video Collective "Police Reform & Civilian Review" "American Righst, American Rites" Portia Cobb "No Justice... No Peace" Nabil Antoine "What Color Am I" Scat "Search on Sight" Todd Price "Race and Injustice" Dora Kidd "Busride" Neighborhood Network News "Rodney King Verdict Reactions"

Additional Footage provided by David Loeb Weiss Neighbor to Neighbor

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Richie Perez "East Oakland Forum" May Ying Welsh "Post Riot Demon in K-Touwn" Linda Mabalot Taiji Mayagaud John Esaki "Street of New York" DNA Music "Gimme Some More" James Brown & The JB's (People Records) "Fire" Ohio Players (Polygram Records) "My Favorite Things" John Coltrne (Atlantic Records) "Fite dem back" Linton Kwesi Johnson (Island Records) "Times Running Out" Last Poets "Just a Friendly Game of Baseball" Main Source (Quest Records) "Violence & Non Violence" Malcolm X (Paul Winley Records) "Winter in America" Gil Scott Heron (Artista Records) "Inoperative" Mark Aubert & Richard Hood (Black Planet) "No" Prince (Paisley Park) "Black in America" MC Supreme "Misere" Michael Nyman "So What Cha Want" Beastie Boys (Capital Records) "Hootchei Kootchies " Steppenwolf (MCA) "Hazy Shade Criminal" Public Enemy (Def Jam/Columbia)

"Steady Mobin"

Ice Cube (Priority)

"Get the F\*\* Out of Dodge" Public Enemy (Def Jam/Columbia) "We are the World" USA for Africa "Hands Worth Revolution" Steele Pulse (Mango/Island) "The Queen is Dead" The Smiths (Sire) "Cop Killer" Ice-T (Warner Brothers) Deep Dish TV Network **Executive Director** Caryn Rogoff Programming Director Cynthia López **Operations Manager** Ioannis Mookas Quincentenary Project Coordinator Yvette Nieves-Cruz Quincentenary Outreach Coordinator **Beverly Singer** Deep Dish TV Interns Light Buggiani Jason Livingston Ilana Navarro J.C. Sylvan Robert Wyrod Special Thanks Dan Barry Anne Brav Sue Sende Cole Jesse Drew Mike Eisenmenger The Guardian Mark Kuebel

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Lillian Jimenez

Kathy Klemendore Beth Lamont Carla Leshne Paula Manley CheChé Martinez Media Network Alliance for Community Media Paper Tiger TV Paper Tiger TV West Maria Perez Steve Pierce Jesikah Maria Ross Cathy Scott Martha Waller Rika Welsh **Gloria Williams** 

Deep Dish is made possible by hundreds of individual contributions of time and resources, and by funding from: John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation William Lloyd The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts The Nathan Cummings Foundation The Arts Forwawrd Fund The Threshold Foundation The Rockefeller Foundation

And with public funds from

The National Endowment for the Arts And The New York State Council on the Arts



## NCZ Goes to War

(Black Planet Productions, 1992, 30 min., Color, US)

An examination of the Persian Gulf anti-war movement and its scant coverage in the mainstream media. NCZ went out in the streets and documented the response from activists, demonstrators, journalists and others in the movement.

### **Screenings**

First Place, Community Video, Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame First Place, Hometown Video Award Signals exhibition, Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) Dallas Video Festival

Not Channel Zero The Revolution, Televised Cyrille Phipps "Revolutionary Sista" Thomas Poole "Not Uncle Tom" George Sosa "The Media Wilder"

**Executive Producers** 

Producers Jacqueline Dolly "Blacque Jacque"

Media Wlider

Cameras Media Wilder Blacque Jacque Revolutionary Sista Not Uncle Tom Joan Baker Herbie Quinones Gulf Crisis TV Project

Editors Media Wilder Blacque Jacque Not Uncle Tom

Public Relations and Community Outreach Joan Baker

NCZ Intro Directed by Not Uncle Tom

Featuring Messenger Lisette Sosa Uncle Willy Himself Guy in the office Al Drears

NCZ Theme Performed by Steve Coleman

Special Thanks to

Allah/God/The Spirits Dorrie Brooks Rise & Shie Productions Laural Vural Third World Newsreel

Mucho Thanks to Black Consciousness Movement (718) 712-5447 Carol Bullard Joan Morgan Herbie Quinones Mr. Dolly Brooklyn Bronx Manhattan Kevin Miller Cathy Scott Naadu Kevin Powell Jacke Edwards Ada Gay Griffin Ed Daniels Black Rock Coilition Lisette Sosa Seku Sundiata Mrs. Poole Al Drears Melissa Fernandez And all our families for their love and support



## Our House: Lesbians and Gays in the Hood

(Black Planet Productions, 1993, 28 min., Color, US)

Up front and in your face interviews with Black gays and lesbians provide an uncompromising look at homophobia, racism, alienation and empowerment for queer African Americans. This riveting documentary powerfully contextualizes gay and lesbian experience within the African American experience.

### **Screenings**

Honorable Mention, Public Affairs Documentary, Prized Pieces International Film & Video Competition Lesbian Film Festival, Berlin San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival International House NewFest, New York Lesbian & Gay Film Festival American Film Institute National Video Festival London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival The Third Wave International Women's Film and Video Festival A Not Channel Zero production

NCZ Presents This show is dedicated to the Memory of: Audre Lorde Donald Woods Cliff Goodman

NCZ Members Mark Aubert Donna Golden Art Jones Cyrille Phipps Tom Poole George Sosa

Produced and Edited by: Cyrille Phipps Donna Golden

Special thanks to: Jacqueline Dolly Laura Vural - Rise & Shine Productions Joan Nestle - Lesbian Herstory Archives Che-Ché Martinez



## X 1/2: The Legacy of Malcolm X

(Black Planet Productions, 1994, 45 min., Color, US)

Set within the context of current African American struggles, this video examines the historical and contemporary legacies of Malcolm X. Using mixed media and experimental audio, X & 1/2 explores Black pride, unity and self-defense, a new generation's interpretations of his heritage, and a popular culture which commercializes his memory.

<u>Screenings</u> Flaherty Film Seminar San Francisco Museum of Modern Art New York Video Festival Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens International Video Week, Switzerland The Mint Museum of Art Through the Lens, WYBE

Produced by Black Planet Productions Black Planet is: Mark Aubert Donna Golden Art Jones Cyrille Phipps Thomas Poole George A. Sosa

X <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>: The Legacy of Malcolm

Executive Producers Cyrille Phipps Thomas Poole George A. Sosa

Supervising Producer George A. Sosa

Writers Cyrille Phipps Art Jones Thomas Poole George A. Sosa

Additinal Writing Regi Allen

Camera/sound/off-line editing Cyrille Phipps Art Jones Omar Pollard George A. Sosa

Additional Cameras Ilana Navarro Thomas Poole

Additional Sound Devorah Hill Thomas Poole

On-line Editing Regi Allen Research Ollar Pollard George A. Sosa

The struggle as always continues

Much thanks to: Afief Regi Allen EJ Blksun Brooklyn The Bronx Melodie Calvert Brian Camp Meredith Carey The Careys Shue Lee Change CUNY-TV DCTV December 12th Movement Deep Dish TV Sheila Dennies Peggy Dye Tim Frank Ada Griffin Robert Haggins **Oona Haggins & ACCAD** Danny Hamilton Ted Hardin William Harrigan Dee Dee Halleck Hallwalls Chris Hill Devorah Hill Johnson Cultural Center Lorna Johnson Cathering Kim Roland Legiardi-Laura Manhattan Arn Mcconnell

Louis Messiah MNN Iris Morales National Black Programming Consortium Ilana Navarro Neon Inc. Nkiry Books Gil Noble Nuyorican Poets Cafe Ohio State University Paper Tiger Television Laorse Parris Planet Brooklyn Omar Pollard The Real Deal **Rise & Shine Productions** Scribe Victor Sanchez The Sosas The Spirits Third World Newsreel Urban Images

Vanderbilt University Laura Vural May Ying Welsh The Whitney Museum Peter Wilson Dr. Raymond Winbush Reggie Woolery All our Friends & Families who've helped us along the way We love you (on the strengf)

Thank you Wexner Center for your invaluable support In Producing this Program

Funded in part by NYSCA The Paul Robeson Fund The Northstar Fund The Rockefeller Foundation

@1994 Black Planet Productions