

A close-up photograph of a person's open palm, facing upwards. The palm is covered in a vibrant red henna tattoo. The tattoo depicts a group of four people, likely of African descent, shown from the chest up. They are all wearing heavy, dark chains around their necks and wrists. The person at the top center has their mouth open in a shout or cry. The person on the left is looking down, and the person on the right is looking towards the center. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

THE ABOLITIONS

FESTIVAL
9th Edition

**AFRO-DESCENDANTS ART AND
CULTURE**

From MAY 4th to MAY 29th 2021

100 ECS

**100, RUE DE CHARENTON
75012 PARIS**

ORIGIN

Originally from Martinique Sylvio Meranville moved to Paris in 1999. Very quickly, he realised that the "native" French had a lack of knowledge of the West Indies' colonial history.

For Sylvio, it was important to remain vigilant on these issues and to fully integrate this history into the French national narrative, as it is our collective history.

With this in mind, he decided to create this artistic and cultural event that was held for the first time in 2004 and known as "International May 22nd" in reference to the abolition's date.

Many French people do not know that the French West Indies have a commemoration holidays linked to their struggles for Freedom, such as 22nd May 1848 for Martinique, 27th May 1848 for Guadeloupe; the same goes for French Guiana, Reunion etc...

153 years after its second Abolition, France recognises slavery as a « crime against humanity » to Christiane Taubira's law voted in 2001. Since the 10 May has become a « Commemorative Day », not yet recognised as a public holiday.



DESCRIPTION

The Abolitions Festival aims to be a cultural and exchange event combining Art, politics and philosophy. Meetings and debates are organised around the themes of the abolition of slavery and reconciliation. This festival takes the form of a biennial.

At the same time, since 2018, the Université of Réconciliations has been created in partnership with the 100ecs. The aim of this partnership is to empower students with knowledge of the culture and history of people of African descent through lectures and debates, exhibitions, film screenings, workshops, readings, artistic performances, musical and theatrical shows. These different platforms are also used to bring people to unity.



TARGETS

This event is aimed towards the widest possible audience, specifically those who are descendants of slaves, but also the descendant of slave owners. They are invited to take part in understanding this dark history, in paying tribute to the victims of the transatlantic slave trade, but more over to work towards reconciliation.

Free of charge, this event makes culture accessible to all and furthermore, allows all participants to increase the impact of their messages to a larger audience.



THE PROJECT MANAGER

Sylvio MERANVILLE



Sylvio M. was born in Martinique. He is FOUR A-RTS' founding director and a stage manager at the Wallonie Bruxelles Centre in Paris. Sylvio has been involved in the artistic and cultural world since the age of 9.

1981/1990

As a solo and group dancer, Sylvio took part in various dance competitions. His talent earned him prizes and publications in the local newspaper France-Antilles.

1987/1997

He became an organiser and host of theme evenings.

In **1996**, he settled in Canada where he became a promoter of Caribbean themed nights in an African nightclub, the "Safari Night-Club" located in Montreal.

1997/2007

He was a sound and light technician and a video director in the entertainment industry while carrying on with his studies and training with different schools such as LASER, ESRA, STRAGEFI, INA, all based in France.

Author - Director

Sylvio M. also produces documentaries, music videos, and organises every two years the "Abolitions Festival", a project entirely conceived and presented by himself, through his organisation FOUR A-RTS (Association Actions and support for Artists).

He can be described as a talent scout, since due to him, many artists have been able to develop a sustainable career.

His work in the entertainment industry with well-known personalities.

- Pascal LEGITIMUS: Lighting Assistant on Antony KAVANAGH's first One Man Show; Designer Assistant on the film « Antilles sur scène » (in which he appeared)
- Concert, by Johnny HALLIDAY at the Stade de France (Road)
- Salon de l'automobile Renault stand (Lighting Assistant for 2 years)
- Joby BERNABE: (Sound and Light Stage Manager on his Caribbean tour) – Company Christiane, Emmanuelle (Lighting Director, Martinique, Trinidad)
- Show Ina CESAIRE (Sound director)
- Pau Brasil and Pau Caraïbes: Stage manager of the shows in those cabarets based on the Champs Élysée in Paris.

Sylvio M. as an artist, tries with his humble means, to invest and create artistic and cultural products. According to him, this environment favours exchange, sharing and diversity.

GUILAINE ARTS



- Visual Artist
- Partnered with Four A-rts

Guilaine Arts, a French self-taught visual artist based in the UK, is originally from Guadeloupe. Born into a family where music and crafts were at the epicentre, she has been imbued from an early age with artistic influences that nourish her inspiration.

She uses her emotions, what she has learnt over time and her self-discovery as the catalyst for her art. Since the beginning of her artistic career, Guilaine's main concern has been to defend the black women who have been stigmatised and marginalized.

Aware of the identity related suffering that black women experienced, Guilaine through her art, seeks to reinvent norms that would allow them to reappropriate their power. As victims of the ideological codes of an exclusionary society, these women live with contempt for themselves which in turn, generates traumas that further develop into intergenerational legacies. By reappropriating their personal identity these women could finally enjoy a psychological freedom that has been hindered for too long.

The art created by the masters of the Renaissance has always fascinated Guilaine due to the compositions and further technical work. However, due to the primary depiction of the white male and its representation of the patriarchy where the ideal woman was subordinate to her male counterpart and conformed to the Eurocentric standards of beauty, she felt unable to identify with it. Her message is not only to reconstruct this 'ideal' but also to awaken these women's minds, bringing them towards an awakening that will further contribute to their emancipation. The black women depicted within her art, carry the memory of her ancestors' teachings on ways in which to heal oneself and promote self-love.

The approach that Guilaine takes towards her artwork is closely linked to her Afro-Caribbean origins. The ethereal creations which she depicts on the canvas are synonymous with cultural acceptance which she has struggled with. Guilaine believes that the true way to heal yourself lays within. The elements within each piece are meant to not only empower, but also to provoke a form of reflection and conversation that can relate to others. The figures within her work, when combined with the bright colours, represent the dissociation of the human mind with the surrounding world when one truly connects with their emotions.

The resulting representation is a world of feminine power that largely transcends the canvas in two dimensions. In order to bring to light the ethereal depth within her work, as an expression of her inner thoughts and feelings, Guilaine adds a luminescent glow to the skin which brings a unique balance to the composition through the contrast that it has to the background, allowing her to introduce various blends of textures on the canvas.

Through the composition, the artist manages to create an image of the fluctuations of contemporary society. Guilaine draws energy from her life as a woman of colour, which she then transmits through her work. Her figures embody something in all of us. They serve as conduit to an inner struggle within our society which the artist depicts through her use of abstract art. Guilaine believes that art is and always will be to encourage communities to engage critically with each other in order to move towards social inclusion and empowerment.

Guilaine's art has been showcased in exhibitions such as Collision of art in London, TEAM annual exhibition in Coventry, Roots Culture identity art exhibition at Congress House in London, NUT convention/exhibition in Birmingham, outdoor exhibition in Pennsylvania USA, Confinement 2.0 online exhibition. She has also exhibited at Jonaquest Art Gallery in London. Currently her artwork can be found at the Birmingham Contemporary Art Gallery.

ZITA HOLBOURNE



- Award winning visual artist
- Designer
- Art curator
- Poet/ Author/Writer
- Community activist
- Human rights campaigner

Zita Holbourne is an award winning visual artist, designer, art curator, author, poet and writer as well as an experienced trade union and community activist and human rights campaigner.

She is the National Vice President of the Public & Commercial Services Union, the co-founder & National Chair of Black Activists Rising Against Cuts (BARAC) UK, elected to the TUC Race Relations Committee and on the Board of Advisors for Initiative for Equality. Zita founded the Roots, Culture, Identity Art collective and curates exhibitions to showcase the art of young black and migrant artists.

She campaigns against discrimination and cuts in the arts and culture sectors. She also campaigns for equality, freedom, justice and human rights through art, poetry and activism. She is often described as a political artist and a griot of the struggle.

Zita has exhibited art at diverse venues from the Tate & Congress House to cinemas and conferences and she has performed poetry at a broad range of events from radio and TV the Houses of Parliament and Glastonbury.

She is a founding member of BAME Lawyers for Justice, author of Striving for Equality Freedom and Justice and featured in the award-winning book, Here We Stand; Women Changing the World and winner of the UK National Diversity Awards Positive Role Model for Race. She has performed at Glastonbury, in the UK Parliament and at Nelson Mandela's official UK memorial service.

JANICE • M • WHYNE



- Writer
- Development Practitioner in Indonesia

Janice M Whyne - Writer-in-Progress / Community Development Practitioner / Currently based in Indonesia Janice Whyne is a community development practitioner, currently based in Indonesia working in marginalised communities.

She is a Londoner by birth, a Jamaican by heritage and upbringing. She's been writing from early childhood; from prose filled Christmas cards to songs and poetry. Writing gives expression to her thoughts; enabling the processing and recording of how she feels and wishes to respond to events that occur.

She also writes in order to create the possibility for change. Words have transformative power. People can be encouraged in their ongoing journey, strengthened by knowing someone identifies with their experience; challenged to choose a new direction and so on.

Recently, much of her poetry has been initiated by something heard while in conversation or that stood out in something she was viewing or listening to. She regards the poem that evolves as both a form of response, and an articulation of the heart expressions of others.

One of her pieces, 'Humanity' was in response to the murder of George Floyd (May 2020). The engagement with it on social media highlighted how the written and spoken word can articulate the innermost thoughts of strangers, speak to injustice; be a balm where needed.

She ventured into the world of Spoken Word five years ago; participating in her first open mic at the Poetry Cafe, London in 2016. She was 1st runner up of the Ubud Writers & Readers Festival Poetry Slam 2019 and was one of the featured poets for 100 Thousand Poets for Change's Global Reading in June 2020.

SABREES GULLAH



• Visual Artist / Gallery Owner

Sabree is an award winning National and International Gullah artist who paints about her upbringing in the Gullah culture with at least 15 siblings. She is originally from Lake City, SC, making her a "Freshwater Geechee"- a person who lived inland. Her art can be seen throughout the Gullah Geechee Territories and in her Gullah Art gallery at the Savannah, GA City Market. Additionally, her work has been featured in newspaper articles, magazines, podcasts, radio shows and PBS' latest "American Portrait" series for her diligence in preserving the Gullah culture.

Her work tells a visual story about the traditions of the Gullah culture that are still in practice today. It also reflects her current experiences living within the Gullah Geechee Territories. Healing, Honorable and Highly Spiritual intentions are infused in her pieces offering enlightenment, joy, celebration and a deeper sense of connection that promotes the everlasting preservation of the Gullah culture."

9th Edition 2021

EXHIBITION

KRIS D'AFRIKANTILLES
GUILAINE ARTS (UK)

ZITA HOLBOURNE (UK)

RHODA FISHER (UK)

TRIBUTE

Romain GANER
And the Ancestors

MEETING

Serge DIATANTU
Mathieu MERANVILLE
Mathieu GAMA Régine CHARDON

PROJECTIONS

Théâtre de la TRAVERSIERE

Citoyen Bois d'ébène

Les Couleurs du Court

Métrage#3 **Film Festival @**
100ecs

CONCERT

Shein B

Janice Whyne (UK)

Max CILLA

NEG LYRICAL

DEBATE

Emmanuel GORDIEN

9th Edition 2021

All programming will be showcased on line via Facebook live, Youtube...



K R I S D ' A F R I K A N T I L L E S

In partnership with the Negpos gallery, “Kris d'Afrikantilles” exhibition brings together photography made by Malian artists and sculptures made by the Afro-descendant West Indian artists. The mixture of those two disciplines gives us an art full of singularities.

Kris, a story teller, comes from the school of “Yé Kri Yé Kra”, a cry launched by the griot to attract the public's attention onto his story. Here, the artists are emitting their "Kri" through their works; capturing our gaze, sharing with us their understanding of the world.



K R I S D ' A F R I K A N T I L L E S

EXHIBITION @ 100 ECS



PHOTOGRAPHERS

- Aboubacar TRAORE
- Abdou DIALLO
- Amsatou DIALLO
- Bintou CAMARA
- COL
- H. DICKO

VISUAL ARTISTS

- Guilaine Arts (UK)
- Zita Holbourne (UK)
- Rhoda Fisher (UK)
- Romain GANER
- Denis HERELLE
- Sandrine PLANTE
- JC K-Bô
- Jean-Marc BOUDINE
- WilberteDESSALINES
- HICHAM et Sylvio MERANVILLE
- Régine CHARDON

K R I S D ' A F R I K A N T I L L E S

EXHIBITION @ U M C E B O G A L L E R Y

THE MALIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS

The UMCEBO is an art gallery based in the 12th arrondissement of Paris, that was launched during the spring of 2016, under the impetus of Safy and Cyrille Varet. They have been involved in humanitarian work on the African continent for nearly 15 years, and have brought together artists and designers who are sensitive to their approach, particularly with the projects they develop for the Association "Dessine l'Espoir".

In this small space dedicated mainly to photography, exhibitions on themes linked to their personal commitment (social or environmental issues, bringing cultures together, etc.) follow original collaborations with artists from all horizons.



John KALAPO



Kani SISSOKO

K R I S D'A F R I K A N T I L L E S

L E R O Y M E R L I N E X H I B I T I O N Paris 12eme

THE MALIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS

The corporate Leroy Merlin, on the avenue Daumesnil in Paris, makes its windows available for the installation of very large format photo prints, offering high visibility of the event.

Fatoumata DIABATE

Fatoumata started her career at the “Centre de Formation Audiovisuel Promo-Femmes”, which supported her integration in Bamako centre of photographie (CFP) between 2002 and 2004. She worked there as a technical assistant in the silver photo laboratory until 2009. Since then, she has gained international recognition and has participated in group exhibitions and solo exhibitions. As a portrait and social photographer, my work focuses mainly on women and also the younger generation.



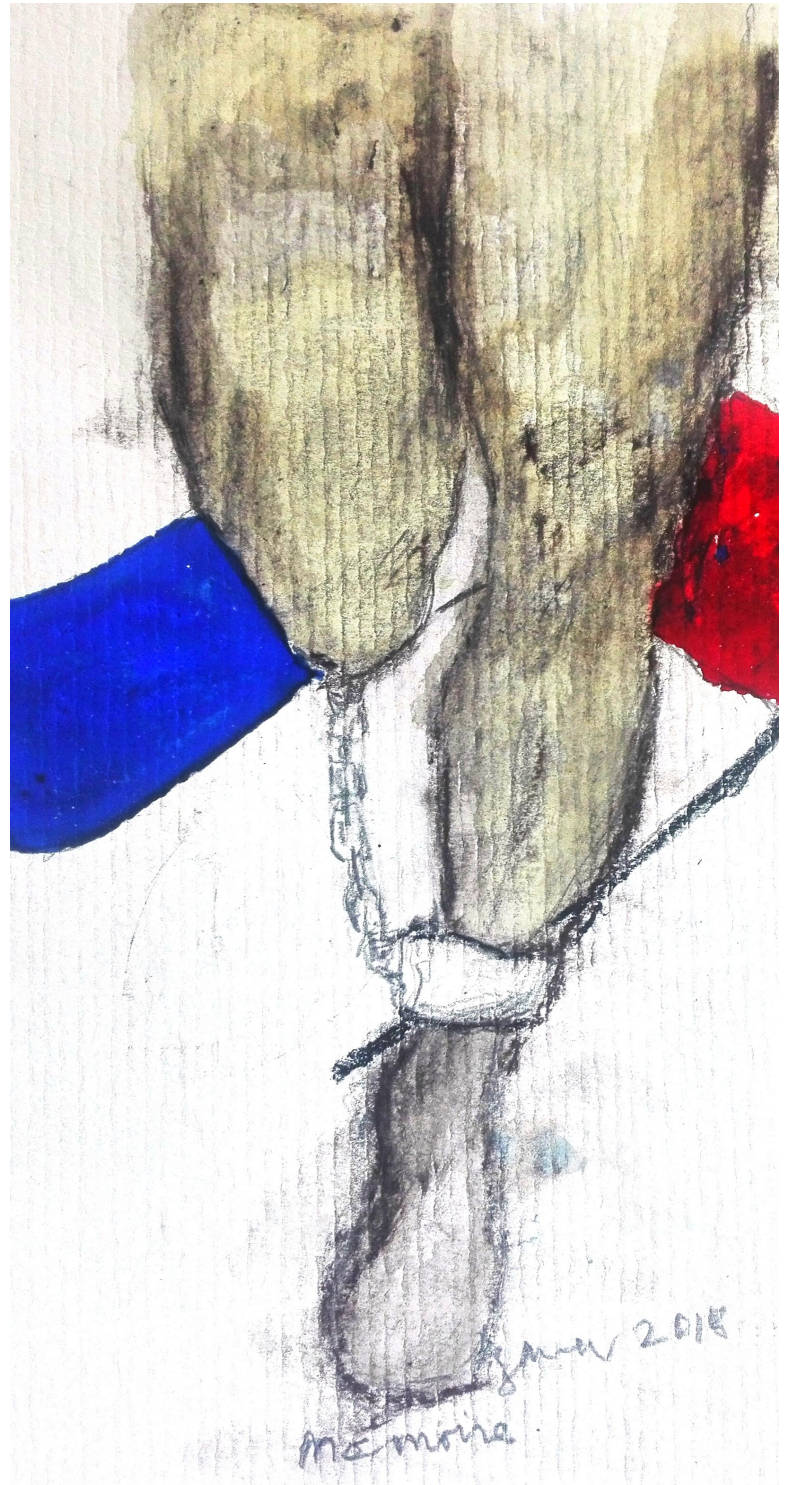
ROMAIN GANER

TRIBUTE

We will pay tribute to Romain Ganer who recently passed away. An artist from the West Indies, who never ceased to bear witness to the problems of acculturation (in Africa and the Caribbean).

Like anthropology his work is evidence of forgotten cultures, through visual arts. Painting, sculptures, installations, sketches: thirty years of his artistic activities. His art is formed of a collection of evidences of our past.

**>>>Friday 21st May
@ The 100 ecs**



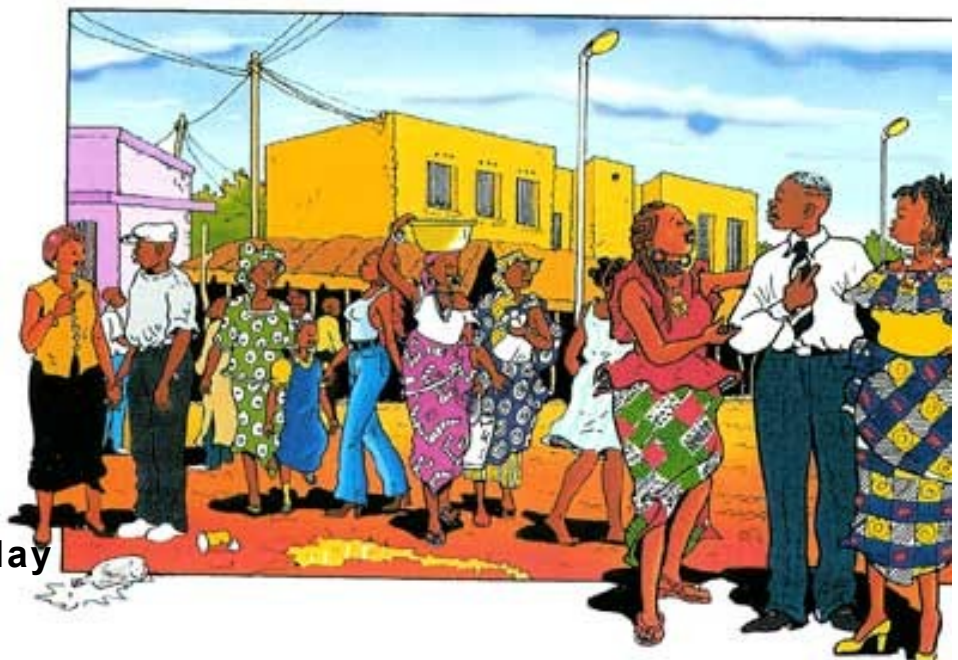
SERGE DIANTANTU

BOOK SIGNING

Born in Mbanza-Ngungu, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Serge Diantantu attended Saint-Pierre Primary School in Kinshasa, where he obtained a Brevet d'Aptitude Professionnelle (a vocational diploma) in carpentry and cabinet making. Serge arrived in France in 1981 with the intention of continuing his university studies.

However, he soon embarked on a career as a television and cinema decor designer. Shocked by the ravages caused by AIDS around the world, Serge Diantantu then put his talent to the service of prevention against this scourge. He thus created his first comic book, "Attention Sida". The esteem aroused by the success of this book encouraged the author to continue on the path of comics to tell the true African story, often little-known, with the sensitivity and look that only a native of Africa can express.

His style, Mindélô, gives his drawing all its authenticity. With his pen, Serge Diantantu also retraces the life of the oldest African prisoner of consciousness, Simon Kimbangu, whose life reflects the character of colonisation in the Belgian Congo and in sub-Saharan Africa in general.



>>> samedi 08th May
@ 100ecs

CONFERENCE

SPEAKERS

Emmanuel Gordien, Chair of CM98

CM98 was an organisation that was created the day after the march that happened on May 23, 1998, a silent demonstration that mobilised more than 40,000 men and women from the West Indies, Reunion, Guyana and Metropolitan France, for the recognition of slavery as a crime against humanity. Today, CM98, a national association that bears in its name the importance of this march, is the only organisation that has been able to do so. Since this march, it has initiated actions that are carried on today for the defence and rehabilitation of the memory of the victims of colonial slavery.

Juliette Sméralda, sociologist, researcher and consultant.

She works mainly on social, cultural and identity issues within West Indian societies, as well as on questions of slavery, colonisation and discrimination. One of her books, "Peau noire, cheveu crépu, l'histoire d'une aliénation" (Black skin, kinky hair, the story of an alienation), has been a huge success.

Myriam Cottias, an historian, director of research at the CNRS, (Coordinator of the Agence Nationale de la Recherche)

"Slavery reparation, compensation et indemnity (Europe- Americas-Africa) (XIXe-XXIe)". Myriam Cottias is the director of the International Research Centre on Slavery and Post-Slavery.

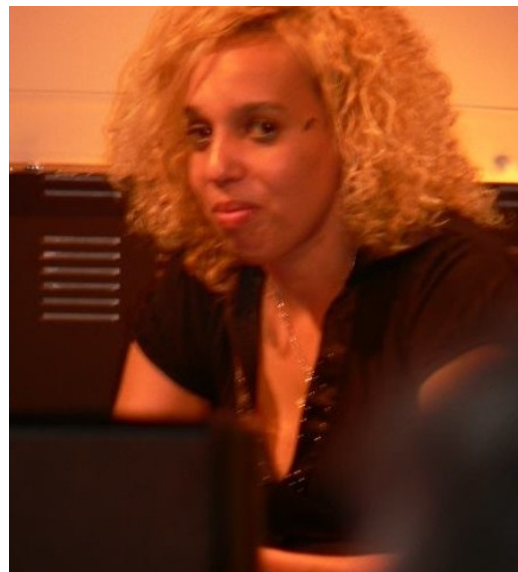
**>>> samedi 08 mai
au 100ecs**

CONCERT

THE ARTISTS

Shein B, Slammer

Author and performer, Shein B fights against injustice, racism, precariousness, dictatorships in the South and the North, and against abandonment. To lead her fight, she has used nothing but her slam poetry, words and rhymes. Settled for 8 years in the 18th arrondissement of Paris, Shein B is from Valenciennes. Her family is of Algerian origins. A gymnast, she had to stop practising due to an accident. Little by little, she rebuilt herself. Today this former professional gymnast literally jumps, bounces and juggles with words.



Max CILLA, flautist

Since 1970, the jazzman from Martinique has been introducing the younger generations to the music played by the slaves.



Neg LYRICAL, rapper

Born in 1974 in Fort-de-France, Martinique, Neg Lyrical grew up in a family where art plays an important role. It is through literature and history that he developed his understanding of the society in which he grew up. His knowledge, led him onto the path of rapping, which he used as a way of sharing his new found knowledge.

He is driven by his passion for writing and was inspired by the pioneers in the field such as Public Enemy, Run DMC, Krs One or Gang Starr. All these references of the American rap helped him refine his musical style; a skilful fusion between traditional sounds in Martinique and the flow of the greatest MCs of the time.

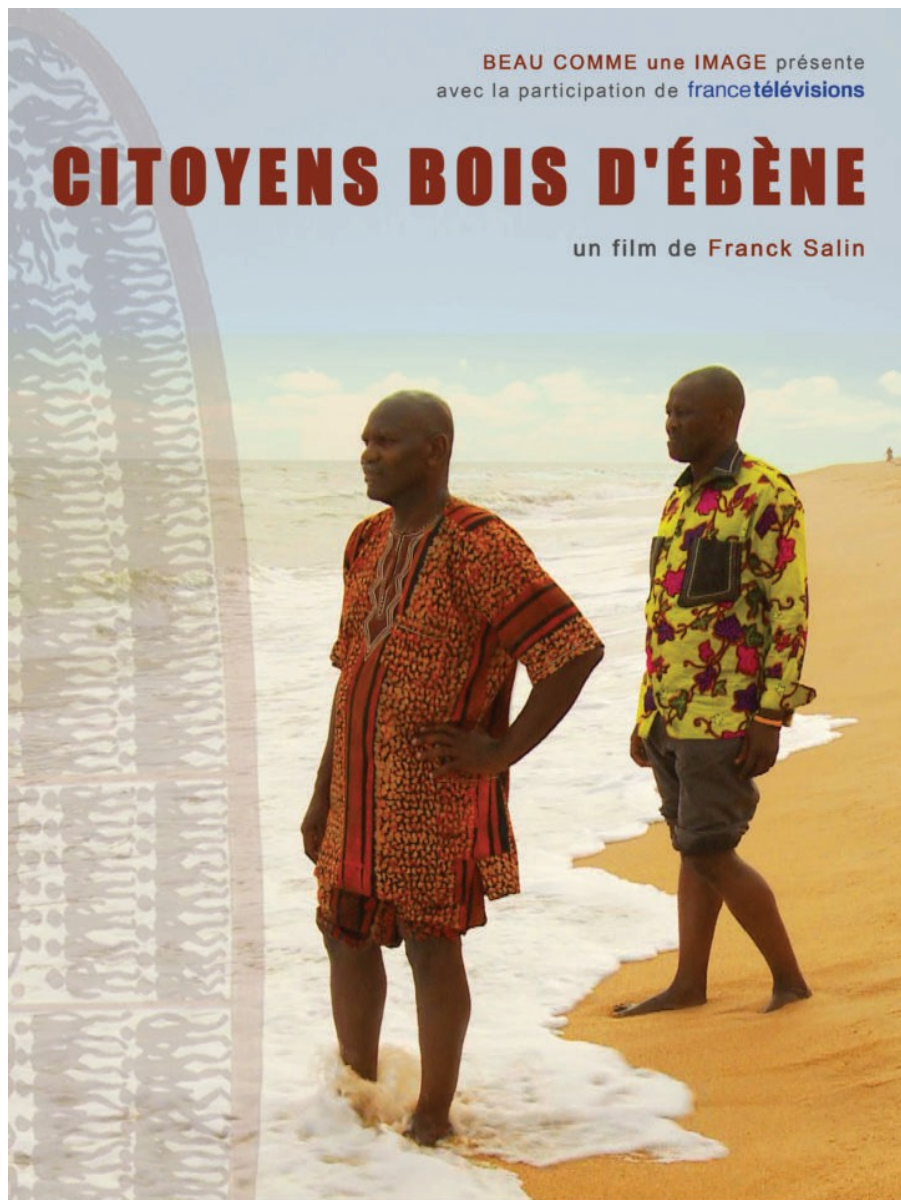
Neg Lyrical has been since then not only a pioneer in the field but also a master thinker in terms of rap and lyrics.



**>>> samedi 22 mai
au 100ecs**

PROJECTION

THEATRE DE LA TRAVERSIERE



A documentary film by Franck Salin
(BCI, France Télévisions, 2018).

Running time: 1h20

>>> Tuesday 4th May @ 7:00pm

PROJECTION

CITOYENS BOIS D'EBENE

Dr Emmanuel Gordien

Dr Emmanuel Gordien is an activist. Through his organisation, CM98, he is restoring the history of the forgotten names of the French west indians' enslaved ancestors, in order to rehabilitate their memory. An approach closely linked to his personal quest. He has found Georges, the slave who first, after abolition, bore his surname: Gordian. With him, we follow in his grandfather's footsteps, in Ile-De-France, Guadeloupe and Benin. A human adventure bearing immense hopes: those of an appeased memory and a reconciliation of the descendants of slaves with Africa, France and their own past.

Franck Salin

A documentary film by Franck Salin (BCI, France Télévisions, 2018). Running time: 1h20

Franck Salin, known as Frankito, born in 1973 in Guadeloupe, is a journalist and director specialising in documentaries on the Caribbean and Africa. He has worked with many media including RFI, RFO, ARTE, TV5 Monde and Afrik.com. His documentaries, "L'Appel du tambour" (Trace - Palaviré Productions, 2009) and "Sur un air de révolte" (Trace - Palaviré Productions, 2013) have been programmed in several festivals.

Also a writer, he is the author of two novels, "L'homme pas Dieu" (Ecriture editions, 2012, Prix Carbet des Lycéens 2013) and "Pointe-à-Pitre-Paris" (L'Harmattan, 2000). As a playwright, he wrote "Bòdlanmou pa lwen", the first play in Creole presented at the Comédie Française (2007). It was awarded by the "Concours d'Ecritures Theatrale competitions Textes en Parole and Etc. Caraïbes"

PROJECTION

Les Couleurs du Court Métrage #3



Another highlight of the festival "les Couleurs du Court Métrage".

"Les Couleurs du Court Métrage " is a cosmopolitan festival. Its aim is to promote self-produced short films dealing with themes raised by the multicultural space in which we live in France. It also aims to highlight the contributions of people from different origins and cultures. The festival wishes to open a space for meeting and exchange for cinema and multimedia content's enthusiasts. Open to all French-speaking film and video makers, it is organised by the organisation FAISCEAU CONVERGENT.

From the 15th to 16th May, the 3rd edition of the festival will be presented at the 100ecs' Theatre Hall and will offer a selection of short films. A number of self-produced short films, produced by some talented film directors dealing with cultural diversity, LGBT people and disability

FAISCEAU CONVERGENT



SATURDAY 15th & SUNDAY 16th MAY 2021
100 ECS PARIS



LES COULEURS DU COURT

THE FESTIVAL'S THIRD EDITION



Present

- Within the framework of the **Abolitions Festival**, organised by **Four A-rts** at the **100ecs Paris**, we have the honour of receiving the third edition of the Festival "**Les Couleurs du Court**" putting in the spotlight France's diversity.
- Open to all French-speaking filmmakers and videographers, the festival "**les couleurs du court**" is organized by the association **FAISCEAUX CONVERGENT**.
- Its vocation is to promote self-produced short films from 3 to 20 minutes in 3 categories: Fiction, Documentary and Animation.
- The festival "**Les Couleurs du court**" wishes to open a space of meeting and exchange for those who hold a passion for cinematography and multimedia contents.
- Partners consist of: the Bibliotheque Nationale de France (BNF), the Club Audiovisuel de Paris (CAP), TASVU, DIVIPASSION, BITIVOD, CINEFAC, UAICF, CEUX DU RAIL and CINEAFRO-CINEMAFROSO

COME AND DISCOVER THE TALENT OF THESE FILMMAKERS

IBnF

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PARTNERS

