

# AAAS50

FIFTY YEARS OF AFRICAN & AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AT HARVARD



**Friday, February 28 2020, 1:30PM**

*Memorial Church, Harvard Yard, Cambridge, MA*

**Saturday, February 29 2020, 9:00AM**

*Tsai Auditorium, CGIS South, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA*

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**AAAS.FAS.HARVARD.EDU**

# 50 Years of African and African American Studies at Harvard

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020  
HARVARD MEMORIAL CHURCH

1:30 PM: OPENING REMARKS

**Tommie Shelby**, Chair of the Department of African and African American Studies, Caldwell Titcomb Professor of African and African American Studies and Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University

1:45 PM: THE KUUMBA SINGERS OF HARVARD COLLEGE

Lift Every Voice and Sing  
Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika  
Asimbonanga  
Oh Freedom

2:00 PM: WELCOMING REMARKS

**Claudine Gay**, Edgerley Family Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Wilbur A. Cowett Professor of Government and of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

2:15 PM: ROUNDTABLE: FOUNDERS AND EARLY DAYS

**Henry Louis Gates Jr.** (moderator), Alphonse Fletcher University Professor; Director of the Hutchins Center for African & African American Research, Harvard University; **Lee A. Daniels** '71, Journalist and Writer; **Jeffrey P. Howard** '69, Founder and President of the Efficacy Institute; **Octavia Hudson** '71, CEO, Weall Media; **Orlando Patterson**, John Cowles Professor of Sociology, Harvard University; **Henry Rosovsky**, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Emeritus, Geyser University Professor Emeritus, Harvard University

4:00 PM BREAK

4:15 PM KEYNOTE ADDRESS: “Fixed and Calmly Brilliant:  
Fifty Years of African and African American Studies at Harvard”

**Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham** (introduction), Chair of the Department of History; Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and African and African American Studies, Harvard University

**Farah Jasmine Griffin** ‘85, Chair of the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies; William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies, Columbia University

5:30 PM: YOSVANY TERRY QUINTET

Dance Transformation

Ochosi

Summer Relief

Ekpé

Ileré

**Ingrid Monson** (introduction), Chair of the Department of Music; Quincy Jones Professor of African American Music, supported by the Time Warner Endowment; Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

**Yosvany Terry**, saxophonist, composer, percussionist; **Manolo Mairena**, singer and percussionist; **Julian Miltenberger**, percussionist; **Osmany Paredes**, pianist, composer and arranger; **Yunior Terry**, bassist, violinist, composer

6:00 PM ART EXHIBIT AND RECEPTION AT HUTCHINS CENTER

Dell M. Hamilton presents “The Extraordinary Commission: Student Activism and the Birth of Afro-American Studies at Harvard” at the Rudenstine Gallery, Hutchins Center, 3rd Floor

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020  
TSAI AUDITORIUM (CGIS)

8:15 AM COFFEE AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM: WELCOMING REMARKS

**Lawrence D. Bobo**, Dean of Social Science; W. E. B. Du Bois Professor of the Social Sciences, Harvard University

9:15 AM: ALUMNI REFLECTIONS

**Brandon M. Terry** '05 (moderator), Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and of Social Studies, Harvard University; **Terence Carter** '01, Co-President, Head of TV, Westbrook Studios; **Sulee Stinson Clay** '92, Chair of the Corporate Group and Managing Partner at McKennon, Shelton & Henn LLP; **Sangu Delle** '10, Entrepreneur, investor, and author; Managing Director of Africa Health Holdings; **Myles V. Lynk** '71, Peter Kiewit Foundation Professor of Law and the Legal Profession, Sandra Day O'Connor, College of Law, Arizona State University; **Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts** '00, Writer and journalist

10:45 AM: BREAK

11:00 PM: THE PHD: CHALLENGES AND POSSIBILITIES

**Tommie Shelby** (moderator); **Martha Biondi**, Lorraine H. Morton Professor of African American Studies and Professor of History; Director of the Center for African American History, Northwestern University; **Jennifer C. Nash**, Associate Professor of African American Studies and Gender & Sexuality Studies, Northwestern University; **Barbara Savage**, Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought, Department of Africana Studies, University of Pennsylvania; **Olufemi Táíwò**, Professor of African Political Thought and Department Chair at the Africana Studies and Research Center, Cornell University

12:30 PM: LUNCH BREAK

2:00 PM: KEYNOTE ADDRESS: “Contesting Africa’s  
‘Dissimilarity’: Reflections on Global African Studies”

**Emmanuel Akyeampong** (introduction), Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African American Studies; Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Center for African Studies, Harvard University

**Wale Adebani**, Director of the African Studies Centre; Rhodes Professor of Race Relations, University of Oxford

3:30 PM: BREAK

3:45 PM: SCHOLAR-ACTIVISM AND COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT

**Elizabeth Hinton** (moderator), Professor of History and of African and African American Studies, Harvard University;

**Carole Boyce Davies**, Professor of Africana Studies and English, Cornell University; **Imani Perry**, Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies, Princeton University; **Aurora**

**Vergara-Figueroa**, Director(a) del Centro de Estudios Afrodiaspóricos, Universidad Icesi; **Cornel West** ’74, Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy, Harvard University

5:15 PM: CLOSING REMARKS

Tommie Shelby

## EMMANUEL AKYEAMPONG



Emmanuel Akyeampong is the Oppenheimer Faculty Director of Harvard University's Center for African Studies and Professor of History and of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. He was appointed Loeb Harvard College Professor in July 2005.

Akyeampong is a Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (FGA), and a Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (UK). He serves as the president of the African Public Broadcasting Foundation (US), a partnership of academic researchers, African broadcasters and African producers dedicated to the production of development oriented programs for broadcast on television, radio and the Internet. He is a co-founder and director of the International Institute for the Advanced Study of Cultures, Institutions and Economic Enterprise (IIAS: [www.interias.org.gh](http://www.interias.org.gh)) based in Accra, Ghana. He served as chair of the Committee on African Studies at Harvard from July 2002 to June 2006.

## MARTHA BIONDI



Martha Biondi is Lorraine H. Morton Professor of African American Studies and Professor of History at Northwestern University, where she directs its Center for African American History. She specializes in twentieth century African American History and is the author of *To Stand and Fight: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Postwar New York City*, published by Harvard University Press, which awarded it the Thomas J. Wilson Prize as best first book of the year. In 2012, the University of California Press published her book, *The Black Revolution on Campus*, an account of the nationwide Black student movement of the late 1960s and early Black Studies movement of the 1970s. She is currently researching a book on neoliberalism, violence and Black life, focusing on Chicago since the 1980s.

## LAWRENCE D. BOBO



Lawrence D. Bobo is the Dean of Social Science and the W. E. B. Du Bois Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University. He holds appointments in the Department of Sociology and the Department of African and African American Studies. His research focuses on the intersection of social inequality, politics, and race.

Bobo is an elected member of the National Academy of Science and of the American Philosophical Society. He is also an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Board Vice-Chair of the American Institutes for Research. He has received research grants from the National Science Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Spencer Foundation.

In 2012 he received the Cooley-Mead Award from the American Sociological Association for a Career of Distinguished Contributions to Social Psychology. He is a founding editor of the *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race* published by Cambridge University Press, now in its tenth year. He is co-author of the award winning book *Racial Attitudes in America: Trends and Interpretations* (Harvard University Press, 1997, with H. Schuman, C. Steeh, and M. Krysan) and senior editor of *Prismatic Metropolis: Inequality in Los Angeles* (Russell Sage Foundation, 2000, with M. L. Oliver, J. H. Johnson, and A. Valenzuela). His most recent book *Prejudice in Politics: Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute* (Harvard University Press, 2006, with M. Tuan) was a finalist for 2007 C. Wright Mills Award.



## CAROLE BOYCE DAVIES



Carole Boyce Davies is a professor of English and Africana Studies at Cornell University. She has held distinguished professorships at a number of institutions, including the Herskovits Professor of African Studies and Professor of Comparative Literary Studies and African American Studies at Northwestern University. She is the author of *Black Women, Writing and Identity: Migrations of the Subject* (Routledge, 1994) and *Left of Karl Marx: The Political Life of Black Communist Claudia Jones* (Duke University Press, 2008). In addition to numerous scholarly articles, Boyce Davies has also published the following critical anthologies: *Ngambika: Studies of Women in African Literature* (Africa World Press, 1986); *Out of the Kumbia: Caribbean Women and Literature* (Africa World Press, 1990); and a two-volume collection of critical and creative writing entitled *Moving Beyond Boundaries* (New York University Press, 1995): *International Dimensions of Black Women's Writing* (volume 1), and *Black Women's Diasporas* (volume 2). She is co-editor with Ali Mazrui and Isidore Okpewho of *The African Diaspora: African Origins and New World Identities* (Indiana University Press, 1999) and *Decolonizing the Academy: African Diaspora Studies* (Africa World Press, 2003). She is general editor of the three-volume, *The Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora* (Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2008), and of *Claudia Jones: Beyond Containment: Autobiography, Essays, Poetry* (Banbury: Ayeibia, 2011). Her most recent monograph is *Caribbean Spaces: Escape Routes from Twilight Zones* (Illinois, 2013) and a children's book, *Walking* (EducaVision, 2016).

## TERENCE CARTER



Terence Carter was recently named Co-President of Westbrook Studios, Head of Television, by Jada Pinkett Smith and Will Smith. In this role, he oversees television production and development on behalf of the studio.

Carter joins Westbrook after serving as EVP, Twentieth Century Fox Television and FOX Network, where he was responsible for developing and overseeing "Empire," "9-1-1," "The Resident," "The Orville," "Star," "Lethal Weapon," "Gotham," "Lucifer," "Glee," "Bones," "Pitch," "X-Files," "24: Legacy," "Sleepy Hollow," "Marvel's The Gifted," and "The Following." Prior to FOX, Carter worked at NBC, where he developed such shows as "Parenthood" and "Southland."

In 2011, Carter received the honor of being profiled in Variety's "New Leaders" edition. In 2009, he was named one of The Hollywood Reporter's "Next Generation: Top 35 Executives Under 35." Carter serves on the Board of Directors for the "I Have A Dream" Foundation Los Angeles and was honored by the Ron Brown Scholar Program with an Emerging Leader Award at the 2017 American Journey Awards. Carter grew up in Washington, DC.

## SULEE S. CLAY



Sulee Stinson Clay is a corporate attorney with over 20 years' experience advising companies, investors and lenders in the areas of finance, private equity, venture capital, debt financings, commercial transactions, and mergers and acquisitions, among others. Sulee currently chairs the Corporate Group of McKennon Shelton & Henn, a minority and woman-owned law firm based in Baltimore. Sulee is also CEO of Stinson Bushnell Industries, d/b/a Burnt Meadow Hemp, a 250 acre hemp farm and CBD consumer product company based in Colorado. Sulee began her career with Kirkland & Ellis in New York and later became a Partner in the DC office of global law firm, DLA Piper. Sulee has an A.B., magna cum laude, in Afro American Studies and Visual and Environmental Studies from Harvard University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. In 1990, Sulee and seven other students staged a sit-in at University Hall to prevent the extinction of the Afro-Am Department.

## LEE A. DANIELS



During his long career in journalism Lee A. Daniels has been a reporter for WGBH-TV in Boston, a reporter and editorial writer for The Washington Post and a reporter the New York Times. He spent another decade as editor of the National Urban League's *The State of Black America*, and subsequently was founding editor of *TheDefendersOnline.com*, the blog of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Daniels collaborated with Rachel Robinson on *Jackie Robinson: An Intimate Portrait*, (1996) her memoir of her life with the baseball great; and with Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. on a collection of his speeches, *Make It Plain: Standing Up and Speaking Out* (2008). He also contributed an essay on Martin Luther King, Jr. to *Africa's Peacemakers: Nobel Peace Laureates of African Descent* (2014 ). Daniels is the author of *Last Chance: The Political Threat to Black America* (2008), and is now working on a book about America after the 2016 election. Daniels was born in Chicago and grew up there and in Boston. He is a graduate of the Boston Latin School and a 1971 graduate of Harvard College.

## SANGU DELLE



Sangu Delle is an Entrepreneur, Investor and Author. Sangu is the Managing Director of Africa Health Holdings, an innovative company based in West Africa, focused on "building Africa's healthcare future." He also serves as Chairman of Golden Palm Investments Corporation ("GPI"); an investment holding company focused on building world class technology companies in Africa. GPI has backed startups such as Andela, mPharma and Flutterwave. GPI portfolio companies have raised over \$900 million in venture financing. Sangu is the co-founder of Cleanacwa, which is a nonprofit working in underdeveloped communities in Ghana to make sure that water and sanitation, basic human rights, are provided. Sangu is a Trustee of the Peddie School, a member of the Harvard Medical School Global Health and Service Advisory Council, an Elected Director of Harvard University's Alumni Association, and an advisory panel member for AXA. Sangu graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Highest Honors) in African Studies and Economics from Harvard College, a Doctor of Law from Harvard Law School, a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard Business School and a Master's in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University. He is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the District of Columbia.

## AURORA FIGUEROA



Aurora Vergara Figueroa is the director of the Afrodiasporic Studies Center (Centro de Estudios Afrodiaspóricos) at Icesi University. She is an Afrocolombian woman who holds a PhD from the Sociology Department of the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her main research interest is the sociological study of Afrocolombians deracinated from the Colombian Pacific coast and the long *durée* of land dispossession in the world-system. Furthermore, she develops research on the Afrodiasporic feminist movement in Colombia. She is the recipient of the LASA/OXFAM America 2014 Martin Diskin Dissertation Award.

## HENRY LOUIS GATES JR.



Henry Louis Gates, Jr., is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and Director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. Emmy Award-winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist, cultural critic, and institution builder, Gates has authored or co-authored twenty-one books and created fifteen documentary films, including *Wonders of the African World*, *African American Lives*, *Faces of America*, *Black in Latin America*, and *Finding Your Roots*. His six-part PBS documentary series, *The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross* (2013), earned the Emmy Award for Outstanding Historical Program—Long Form, as well as the Peabody Award, Alfred I. du Pont-Columbia University Award, and NAACP Image Award. He now serves as chairman of TheRoot.com while overseeing the Oxford African American Studies Center. In 2012, *The Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Reader*, a collection of his writings edited by Abby Wolf, was published.

The recipient of fifty-five honorary degrees and numerous prizes, Professor Gates was a member of the first class awarded “genius grants” by the MacArthur Foundation in 1981, and in 1998, he became the first African American scholar to be awarded the National Humanities Medal. He was named to Time’s 25 Most Influential Americans list in 1997, to *Ebony*’s Power 150 list in 2009, and to *Ebony*’s Power 100 list in 2010 and 2012. Professor Gates has directed the W. E. B. Institute for African and African American Research—now the Hutchins Center—since arriving at Harvard in 1991, and during his first fifteen years on campus, he chaired the Department of Afro-American Studies as it expanded into the Department of African and African American Studies. He also is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and serves on a wide array of boards, including the New York Public Library, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the Aspen Institute, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Whitney Museum of American Art, Library of America, and the Brookings Institution.

## CLAUDINE GAY



Claudine Gay is the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Wilbur A. Cowett Professor of Government and of African and African-American Studies at Harvard University.

Her research interests are in the fields of American political behavior, public opinion, minority politics, and urban and local politics. Her research has considered, among other issues, how the election of minority officeholders affects citizens' perceptions of their government and their interest in politics and public affairs; how neighborhood environments shape racial and political attitudes among Black Americans; the roots of competition and cooperation between minority groups, with a particular focus on relations between Black Americans and Latinos; processes of immigrant political incorporation; and the consequences of housing mobility programs for political participation among the poor, drawing on evidence from the Moving To Opportunity demonstration program. She brings many of these interests to her undergraduate and graduate advising and teaching, including her courses on Post-Civil Rights Black Politics; Democratic Citizenship; and Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Immigration (co-taught with Jennifer Hochschild).

Before joining the Department of Government in September 2006, she was an assistant professor of political science at Stanford University from 2000 to 2005, and an associate professor (tenured) from 2005 to 2006. From 1999 to 2000, she was a Visiting Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California where she conducted research and published a monograph that examined voter participation in minority-dominated congressional districts.



## FARAH J. GRIFFIN



Farah Jasmine Griffin is the William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies at Columbia University and the Inaugural Chair of its African American and African Diaspora Studies Department. Professor Griffin received her BA from Harvard, where she majored in American History and Literature and her PhD in American Studies from Yale. Her major fields of interest are American and African American literature, music, and history. She has published widely on issues of race and gender, feminism and cultural politics. Griffin is the author of *Who Set You Flowin?: The African American Migration Narrative* (Oxford, 1995), *If You Can't Be Free, Be a Mystery: In Search of Billie Holiday* (Free Press, 2001) and co-author, with Salim Washington, of *Clawing At the Limits of Cool: Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and the Greatest Jazz Collaboration Ever* (Thomas Dunne, 2008). She is also the editor of *Beloved Sisters and Loving Friends: Letters from Addie Brown and Rebecca Primus* (Knopf, 1999) co-editor, with Cheryl Fish, of *Stranger in the Village: Two Centuries of African American Travel Writing* (Beacon, 1998) and co-editor with Brent Edwards and Robert O'Meally of *Uptown Conversations: The New Jazz Studies* (Columbia University Press, 2004). Her most recent book, *Harlem Nocturne: Women Artists and Progressive Politics During World War II*, was published by Basic Books in 2013. Professor Griffin has collaborated with composer, pianist, Geri Allen and director, actor S. Epatha Merkerson on two theatrical projects, for which she wrote scripts. The first premiered at the Apollo Theater in May of 2013 on the main stage, *Geri Allen and Friends Celebrate the Great Jazz Women of the Apollo*. The second, *A Conversation with Mary Lou*, premiered at Harlem Stage in March 2014 and was performed at the John F. Kennedy Center in May of 2016. In addition, Griffin's essays and articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Art Forum* and numerous other publications. She is also a frequent radio commentator on political and cultural issues. Her activism has centered on issues of education, poverty and gender equity. She currently sits on the board of *The Brotherhood/Sister Sol*, an organization that provides comprehensive, holistic and long-term support services to youth in Central Harlem.

## DELL M. HAMILTON



Dell Marie Hamilton is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and independent curator whose artist talks, solo performances and collaborative projects have been presented to a wide variety of audiences in New York at Five Myles Gallery, Panoply Performance Lab, and MOCADA, as well as in the New England area at MIT, Boston University, the Museum of Fine Arts/Boston, the ICA/Boston, and the RISD Art Museum. In 2019, Dell presented her first solo show “All Languages Welcomed HERE” at Salem State University (Massachusetts) and was also included in the “Intermittent Rivers” group exhibition curated by artist and educator Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons for the 13th Havana Biennial. Working across a variety of mediums including performance, video, painting and photography, Dell uses the body to investigate the social and geopolitical constructions of memory, gender, history and citizenship. With roots in Belize, Honduras and the Caribbean, she frequently draws upon the personal experiences of her family as well as the folkloric traditions and histories of the region. She has presented her scholarly work at the Black Portraiture[s]: The Black Body in the West conference held in 2013 at the Musée Quai Branly in Paris, and at Black Portraitures II: Imaging the Black Body and Restaging Histories conference held at New York University/Villa La Pietra in Florence in 2015.

She currently works on a variety of projects at Harvard’s Hutchins Center for African and African American Research where she previously served as the assistant director. She has a B.A. in journalism from Northeastern University (Massachusetts) and completed her MFA at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University (Massachusetts). Her curatorial project “Nine Moments for Now” was ranked by Hyperallergic.com as one of 2018’s top 20 exhibitions in the U.S.

## EVELYN BROOKS HIGGINBOTHAM



Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham is the Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. She has been a tenured faculty member at Harvard since 1993, and has chaired the Department of African and African Americans Studies from 2006-2013. She is the founder and coordinator of that department's Social Engagement Initiative, an innovative pedagogy that combines rigorous academic work with on-the-ground experience. Higginbotham became the National President of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History in January 2016. This organization was founded by Carter G. Woodson in 1915. She is the co-author with the late John Hope Franklin of the ninth edition of *From Slavery to Freedom* (2010). A pioneering scholar in African American women's history, she is the author of the prizewinning book *Righteous Discontent: The Women's Movement in the Black Baptist Church 1880-1920*. She is also co-editor with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., of the *African American National Biography*.

Higginbotham is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Most notably in September 2015 she received the 2014 National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama at the White House for "illuminating the African American journey." In March 2015 she was named one of the "Top 25 Women in Higher Education" by *Diverse Magazine*. She holds the Honorary Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2014) and Howard University (2011). She was the John Hope Franklin Fellow at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, for the academic year 2013-2014. In July 2013, she received the James W.C. Pennington Award from the University of Heidelberg (Germany) for her scholarly contributions to African American Religious History. She was awarded the Star Family Prize for Excellence in Advising in May 2012 for her exemplary intellectual guidance and mentorship of Harvard undergraduates. In 2012 she received the Living Legacy Award from the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and in 2011 received the Honorary Doctorate from Howard University. In 2010, Higginbotham was inducted into the American Philosophical Society for promoting useful knowledge. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History awarded her the Carter G. Woodson Scholars Medallion in 2008, and in that same year the National Urban League awarded her the Legend Award. In 2003 she was chosen by Harvard University to be a Walter Channing Cabot Fellow in recognition of her achievements in the field of history.

## ELIZABETH HINTON



Elizabeth Hinton is Associate Professor in the Department History and the Department of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. Hinton's research focuses on the persistence of poverty and racial inequality in the 20th century United States. Her current scholarship considers the transformation of domestic social programs and urban policing after the Civil Rights Movement.

In her book, *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Making of Mass Incarceration in America* (2016), Hinton examines the implementation of federal law enforcement programs beginning in the mid-1960s that laid the groundwork for the mass incarceration of American citizens. In revealing the links between the rise of the American carceral state and earlier anti-poverty programs, Hinton presents Ronald Reagan's War on Drugs not as a sharp policy departure but rather as the full realization of a shift towards surveillance and confinement that began during the Johnson administration.

Before joining the Harvard faculty, Hinton spent two years as a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Michigan Society of Fellows and Assistant Professor in the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan. A Ford Foundation Fellow, Hinton completed her Ph.D. in United States History from Columbia University in 2012.

Hinton's articles and op-eds can be found in the pages of the *Journal of American History*, the *Journal of Urban History*, and *Time*. She also co-edited *The New Black History: Revisiting the Second Reconstruction* (2011) with the late historian Manning Marable.

## JEFFREY P. HOWARD



Jeff Howard is the founder and president of the Efficacy Institute, Inc. He also founded J. Howard and Associates, a corporate training and consulting firm that is now part of the Novations Group.

In 2008 he was appointed by the governor to the Massachusetts State Board of Elementary & Secondary Education. He is a regular presenter at the Principals' Center at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Howard has more than 30 years of experience as a staff developer and consultant to school and community leaders on systemic education reform and as a consultant to corporate executives and senior managers of Fortune 500 companies. His work is based on the idea that intelligence can be developed, challenging the still prevalent notion that intelligence is fixed and immutable.

Over the past two decades, the Efficacy Institute has developed a comprehensive set of field-tested training programs, consulting services, and materials for adults and youth. The institute's mission is to promote the academic and social development of children by helping educators, parents, and human service providers operate from a simple belief: all children can learn at very high levels if the process of education is effectively organized. The Efficacy Institute has trained more than 50,000 educators in more than 50 school districts throughout the United States.

Howard holds an A.B. from Harvard College and a Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University. His work has been published in the *New Republic*, *Daedalus*, *Education Week*, the National Urban League's *The State of Black America*, and the *Boston Globe*.

## OCTAVIA HUDSON



Octavia Hudson has worked in a few institutions: in politics and public policy, in media, in human service organizations, in philanthropy and in education. In all of these institutions, Hudson has watched sincere people with goodwill change to fit the culture of the institution. Goodwill gives way to money and status mission creep. None of us is immune. We all, to some degree, are social beings who want to fit in, molding ourselves to the social, economic and media institutions that dominate our lives. The challenge is to stay true to the values we cherish. Institutions change people more than people change institutions.

## KUUMBA SINGERS



Kuumba is a Swahili word that means to create and in our community we take that to mean doing what we can with what we have to leave a space better than we found it. This mission permeates and motivates our performances, our community work, and our unabashed celebration of Black art. We firmly believe that Black art sustains and directs our culture; it reminds us of our past, makes us mindful of the present, and gives us hope and guidance for the future. And we are committed—now more than ever before—to celebrating and magnifying it wherever we go. As we head into our 50th year of existence, we hope to continue to renew and revive this commitment.

## MYLES V. LYNK



After serving on the Faculty-Student Committee to Establish the Afro-American Studies Dept. in 1969, Myles served as a VISTA Volunteer in the notorious Pruitt-Igoe housing project in St. Louis, MO. He graduated from Harvard with honors in May 1971. Myles then worked for a year as a social worker at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston before serving as a volunteer at a hospital in Uganda, East Africa, through the Harvard Africa Volunteer Project.

Myles attended Harvard Law School, where he served on the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau and as a law clerk to the Hon. Shimon Agranat, Chief Justice of Israel, at the 1975 World Peace Through Law Conference Demonstration Trial. After law school Myles served as a law clerk to the Hon. Damon J. Keith on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and in the Carter Administration as a Special Assistant to U.S. Secretaries of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph A. Califano, Jr., and Patricia Roberts Harris, and as an Assistant Director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff. He subsequently practiced federal administrative law in Washington, DC. In 1982 he served as an Assistant Special Counsel to the House of Representatives' investigation into the "House Pages' Scandal." In 1985 he became the first African-American partner at the law firm of Dewey Ballantine, LLP. Among his many public service activities Myles served on the Board of Directors of the Council on Legal Education Opportunity ("CLEO"), as the first chair of the Committee on Pro Se Litigation of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia and as a founding member of the D.C. Commission on Opportunities for Minorities in the Legal Profession. He was appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States to two terms on the Civil Rules Advisory Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States and was elected president of the District of Columbia Bar.

From 2000 to 2020 Myles was the Peter Kiewit Foundation Professor of Law and the Legal Profession at Arizona State University, specializing in civil procedure, business law and legal ethics. In 2020 Myles joined the District of Columbia Courts' Office of Disciplinary Counsel, in charge of the appellate division.

Myles served as an Appointed Director on the Board of Directors of the Harvard Alumni Association and Myles now serves on the Board of the Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Institute and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American Law Institute, where he served on its governing Council. He is a past chair of the American Bar Association's ("ABA's") Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice and its Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, and currently serves on the ABA's Board of Governors. Myles is a recipient of the ABA's Spirit of Excellence Award and Father Robert F. Drinan Award, the National Bar Association's Presidential Service Award, the Arizona Black Bar's Excellence in Diversity Award, and the State Bar of Arizona's Service to the Profession Award. Myles is married to Julie A. Lynk and they are the proud parents of two daughters.



## MANOLO MAIRENA



A native of Costa Rica, Manolo came to the U.S at the age of sixteen. He settled in Worcester, Massachusetts and began his musical career at the age of 21 as a singer and percussionist, performing traditional Puerto Rican music with Miguel Almestica and Los Pleneros del Coco. Since then, Manolo has worked with some of the best bands in New England, including Tropical Sound, Mango Blue, Gonzalo Grau y La Clave Secreta, Manguito, Obini Tumbao, Balatón, I-level, Combo Sabroso, Eguie Castrillo Orquesta, and even his own band. Exposed to the diversity of Boston and inspired by his own musical heritage, Manolo became a true learner of Afro-Caribbean and Latin American music. Over time Manolo also developed as a singer and has been part of many diverse and significant projects. He had the opportunity to record, as a guest artist, a medley of Boleros as tribute to the late Tito Rodriguez with renowned percussionist Eguie Castrillo & His Orchestra. He was also the lead singer in Frutero Moderno by La Clave Secreta, which was nominated at the 51st Grammy Awards in the category of best Tropical Album. Other projects where he was also one of the lead singers was with Gonzalo Grau & Plural and Mango by Alex Alvear and Mango Blue. He also recorded in La Pasión según San Marcos as a soloist from the composer Osvaldo Golijov, where he has performed in many parts of the world with this project. Manolo was also given the Berklee Urban Service Award for Performance of the Year 2010 with Fausto Cuevas and his Orchestra, La Moderna, During the Tito Puente Latin Series.

## JULIAN MILTENBERGER



From Philadelphia, PA, Julian Miltenberger is a sophomore in the Harvard/Berklee dual degree program. He studies jazz drumming with Ralph Peterson at Berklee, and Afro-Cuban percussion with Yosvany Terry at Harvard. He has performed with Yosvany Terry and Jason Palmer, and plays weekly at Wally's Jazz Cafe in Boston, MA. Julian also plays in an ensemble under New York Times award-winning pianist Kris Davis through Berklee's Jazz and Gender Justice Institute. He plans on attending Berklee's Global master's program and moving to New York City to play professionally upon graduation.

## INGRID MONSON



Ingrid Monson is Quincy Jones Professor of African American music at Harvard University. She has served as Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities at Harvard and chair of the Department of Music. Monson is the author of *Freedom Sounds: Civil Rights Call Out to Jazz and Africa* (Oxford University Press, 2007), winner of the Woody Guthrie Award of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music; *Saying Something: Jazz Improvisation and Interaction* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996) winner of the Irving Lowens Book Award of the Society for American Music; and an edited a volume entitled *The African Diaspora: A Musical Perspective* (Garland/Routledge 2000). Her article, "Hearing, Seeing, and Perceptual Agency" (*Critical Inquiry* 2008) explores the implications of work on cognition and perception for poststructural theoretical issues in the humanities.

She has been a Guggenheim Fellow (2009-10), a Marta Sutton Weeks Fellow at Stanford Humanities Center (2009-2010), a Walter Channing Cabot Fellow (2008), and a Radcliffe Institute fellow in 2012-2013.

Her current project is, *Kenedougou Visions*, a book about Malian balafonist Neba Solo. Monson's articles have appeared in *Ethnomusicology*, *Critical Inquiry*, *Journal of the American Musicological Society*, *Black Music Research Journal*, *Women and Music*, and several edited volumes. She began her career as a trumpet player. She also plays piano and Senufo balafon.

## JENNIFER C. NASH



Jennifer C. Nash is Associate Professor of African American Studies and Gender & Sexuality Studies at Northwestern University. She is the author of two books: *The Black Body in Ecstasy: Reading Race, Reading Pornography* (Duke UP, 2014) which was awarded the Alan Bray Prize from the GLQ caucus of the Modern Language Association, and *Black Feminism Reimagined: After Intersectionality* (Duke UP, 2019), which was awarded the Gloria Anzaldúa Prize from the National Women's Studies Association. She is also the editor of *Gender: Love* (MacMillan, 2016). She has published articles in *Signs*, *American Quarterly*, *Feminist Studies*, *Feminist Review*, *differences*, *GLQ*, and *Theory & Event*. During the 19-20 school year, she is an ACLS/Burkhardt fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study where she is completing her third book, tentatively titled *Birthing Black Mothers: Black Maternal Politics in an Age of Black Lives Matter*.

## OSMANY PAREDES



Osmany Paredes is a pianist, composer and arranger. At the age of eight he began the classical piano career at the Olga Alonso Vocational School of Arts in his hometown of Santa Clara, Cuba. Nevertheless, his first contacts with the music were to the 3 years through his father Guillermo Paredes, percussionist of the Orchestra of Modern Music of Santa Clara, that taught to him about the diverse rhythms and Afro-Cuban styles. In 1991 he graduated with honors at the National School of Arts (ENA), in Havana. He then joined the Orquesta América, which allowed him to travel to Venezuela. When he returned, he joined the jazz group of Bobby Carcassés and then to the Orchestra of Maestro Enrique Jorrín (creator of Cha-Cha-Cha) with which he had the opportunity to reach Mexico in 1992. In this stage of 11 years of work in Mexico, he shared the stage with musicians like Israel "Cachao" López, Jerry González, Celio González, Diego "El Cigala", "Patato" Valdés. Osmany moved to the United States in 2003 to Boston and has since collaborated and/or recorded with artists such as Richard Bona, Jeff "Tain" Watts, Giovanni Hidalgo, Roy Hargrove, Yosvany Terry, Jane Bunnett, Arturo Sandoval, Issac Delgado , Among many others. He currently resides in New York City, where he has his jazz group. Osmany has toured throughout Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Australia, Asia, performing at the most important jazz clubs and festivals. Osmany has three solo albums: "Osmany Paredes Con Menduvia", "Passages" and "Trio Time".

## ORLANDO PATTERSON



Orlando Patterson is the Cowles Professor of Sociology at Harvard University. His academic interests include the comparative study of slavery, freedom and race, the cultural matrix of poverty in the US, and the problem of underdevelopment in the Caribbean, especially Jamaica. Before coming to Harvard he held faculty appointments at the London School of Economics and the University of the West Indies, his alma mater. His eight academic books include *Slavery and Social Death* (1982), *Freedom in the Making of Western Culture*, (1991), *Rituals of Blood: Consequences of Slavery in Two American Centuries* (1998), and *The Confounding Island: Jamaica and the Post-Colonial Predicament* (2019), as well as three novels and several short stories, all set in Jamaica. As a public intellectual he served for 8 years as Special Advisor to Prime Minister Michael Manley of Jamaica in the attempt to establish a democratic socialist regime there. He has also advised two American presidents and has written widely in the British and American press, especially the New York Times, where he served as a guest columnist for several weeks. He was a founding member of Cultural Survival, one of the leading advocacy groups for the rights of indigenous peoples around the world, and was for several years a board member of Freedom House, a major civic organization for the global promotion of freedom and democracy.

His awards include the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship of the ASA and the National Book Award for non-fiction. He was a visiting member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, a Guggenheim fellow, and has been a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences since 1991. He holds the Order of Distinction, Commander Class, from the government of Jamaica.

## IMANI PERRY



Imani Perry is the Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies and faculty associate in the Program in Law and Public Affairs and Gender and Sexuality Studies at Princeton. Perry has written and taught on a number of topics regarding race and African American culture. Using methods of discussion and analysis from various fields of study—including law, literary and cultural studies, music, and the social sciences—Perry’s work often focuses on multifaceted issues such as the influence of race on law, literature and music. In her work, Perry has taken on complicated and timely issues. In her 2011 book, *More Beautiful and More Terrible: The Embrace and Transcendence of Racial Inequality in the United States*, for example, Perry discusses the ongoing intersection of race and politics in America. Perry is also the author of *Prophets of the Hood: Politics and Poetics in Hip Hop* and *May We Forever Stand: A History of the Black National Anthem*, a cultural history of the black national anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing.” Her biography of Lorraine Hansberry, *Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant Life of Lorraine Hansberry* as well as *Vexy Thing: On Gender and Liberation* were published in 2018. Perry has published numerous articles in the areas of law, cultural studies and African American Studies. She also wrote the notes and introduction to the Barnes & Noble Classics edition of *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth*. Perry received a bachelor’s degree from Yale University. From there, she went on to obtain both her J.D. from Harvard Law School and a Ph.D in the history of American civilization from Harvard University.

## SHARIFA RHODES-PITTS



Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts is a writer whose work has appeared in *Transition*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *Vogue* and *Essence*, among others. She has received awards from the Rona Jaffe Foundation, the Lannan Foundation and the New York Foundation for the Arts. Originally from Houston, TX, she graduated in 2000 from Harvard University and was a Fulbright Scholar in the United Kingdom. Rhodes-Pitts is writing a trilogy on African Americans and utopia; her first book, *Harlem Is Nowhere*, was published in 2011 by Little, Brown & Company and Granta Books (UK). It was named to *The New York Times* list of 100 Notable Books for 2011 and nominated for a 2012 National Book Critics Circle Award.



## HENRY ROSOVKY



Henry Rosovsky is the Geyser University Professor Emeritus at Harvard University. His fields are economic history, Japanese economic growth, and higher education. He served as Chairman of the Economics Department at Harvard from 1969 to 1972, as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences from 1973 to 1984, and again from 1990 to 1991. He was also a member of the Harvard Corporation ("Fellow of Harvard College") from 1985 to 1987, and Acting President in 1987. In 2000 he co-chaired the Task Force on Higher Education and Society sponsored by the World Bank and UNESCO. Its report was published as *Higher Education in Developing Countries: Peril and Promise*. Rosovsky is the author and editor of numerous books and articles on Japanese and Asian economic development. His publications on higher education include *The University: An Owner's Manual*.

## BARBARA D. SAVAGE



Barbara D. Savage is an historian and the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of America

Social Thought in the Department of Africana Studies of the University of Pennsylvania. She was invited to serve as the Vyvyan Harmsworth Visiting Professor of American History at the University of Oxford in 2018-2019. At Penn, among many other commitments, she was elected the inaugural chair of the Department of Africana Studies, after many years of work with her colleagues to help achieve departmental status.

Savage is currently writing an intellectual biography of Professor Merze Tate, an African American woman who pioneered in the fields of diplomatic history and international relations during her tenure at Howard University from 1942 to 1977. Her essay on Tate is included in *Toward an Intellectual History of Black Women* (2015), a collection she co-edited with Mia Bay, Farah J. Griffin, and Martha S. Jones. Her book, *Your Spirits Walk Beside Us: The Politics of Black Religion* (2008) was the winner of the 2012 Grawemeyer Prize in Religion. She also is the author of *Broadcasting Freedom: Radio, War, and the Politics of Race, 1938-1948* (1999) which won the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Award. In addition, she is co-editor of *Women and Religion in the African Diaspora* (2006) with R. Marie Griffith.

Savage received her doctorate in history from Yale in 1995, and also holds a law degree from Georgetown University and an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia. Prior to entering graduate school, she worked in Washington, DC as a Congressional staff member and as a member of the staff of the Children's Defense Fund. During graduate school, she served as Director of Federal Relations, Office of the General Counsel at Yale University.

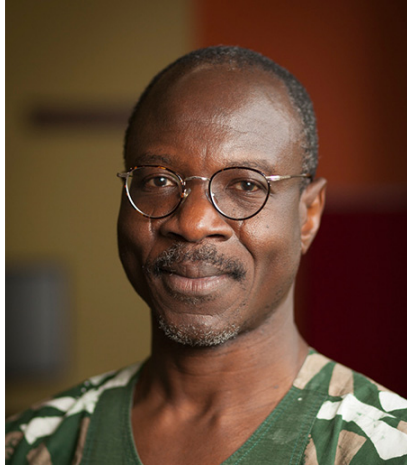
## TOMMIE SHELBY



Tommie Shelby is the Caldwell Titcomb Professor of African and African American Studies and Professor of Philosophy at Harvard University. He is also Chair of Harvard's Department of African and African American Studies. He is the author of *Dark Ghettos: Injustice, Dissent, and Reform* (Harvard University Press, 2016), which won the 2018 David and Elaine Spitz Prize for best book in liberal or democratic theory and the 2016 Book Award from the North American Society for Social Philosophy. He is also the author of *We Who Are Dark: The Philosophical Foundations of Black Solidarity* (Harvard University Press, 2005). He and Derrick Darby coedited *Hip Hop and Philosophy: Rhyme 2 Reason* (Open Court, 2005). Most recently, Shelby and Brandon M. Terry coedited *To Shape a New World: Essays on the Political Philosophy of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Harvard University Press, 2018).

Shelby's writings focus on racial justice, economic justice, and criminal justice and on the history of black political thought. His numerous articles have appeared in journals such as *Philosophy & Public Affairs*, *Ethics*, *Political Theory*, *Critical Inquiry*, *Du Bois Review*, *Critical Philosophy of Race*, and *Daedalus*. He was awarded an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship (2017-18) and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

## OLUFEMI TAIWO



Olúfẹ̀mi Táíwò is current Chair and Professor of African Political Thought at the Africana Studies and Research Center, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, U.S.A. His research interests include Philosophy of Law, Social and Political Philosophy, Marxism, and African and Africana Philosophy. Táíwò is the author of *Legal Naturalism: A Marxist Theory of Law* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996; Paperback 2015), (Chinese Translation, 2013); *How Colonialism Preempted Modernity in Africa* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010) and *Africa Must Be Modern: A Manifesto* (Ibadan: Bookcraft, 2012), (North American Edition, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2014). He was joint editor with Olutoyin Mejiuni and Patricia Cranton of *Measuring and Analyzing Informal Learning in the Digital Age* (Hershey, PA: IGI Global, 2015). His writings have been translated into French, Italian, German, and Portuguese. He has taught at universities in Canada, Nigeria, Germany, South Korea, and Jamaica.

## JUNIOR TERRY



Yunior Terry is a bassist, violinist, composer, educator and cultural bearer. Regarded as one of New York City most sought-after bass player, Yunior Terry is recognized for his big sound, versatility, and contagious rhythm. Terry began classical training at age seven in Camagüey, later graduating from the National School of Art (ENA) in Havana with a double major in violin and bass. In Cuba, he performed violin with the National Philharmonic Orchestra. Terry holds a B.A. from California Institute of Arts, M.A. from Rutgers University and is a former Van Lier Fellow. His rich influences were expanded by teachers Charlie Haden, Kenny Davis, Derek Oles (Poland), Rajeev Taranath (India) and Alfred Ladzekpo (Ghana). Terry has taught masterclasses and workshops at Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music, India; Bates College, Monash University, Australia; Harlem School of the Arts; Berklee College of Music; Banff Music Center, Canada; Stanford Jazz Workshop and The New School. Currently Terry is Clinical Assistant Professor of Music at New York University.

Terry is bandleader and sideman who has performed with Steve Coleman, Jerry Gonzalez and the Fort Apache, Chucho Valdes, Jeff 'Tain' Watts, Dafnis Prieto, Eddie Palmieri, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Lila Downs, Michele Rosewoman, Xiomara Laugart, Andy Narell and Ravi Coltrane among others. He was also part of the Latin Jazz All Stars project. Terry's impressive recording history has seen him featured on a number of award-winning albums including Lila Downs's 'One Blood' (Latin GRAMMY winner), Jane Bunnett's 'Embracing Voices' (Juno winner) and Yosvany Terry's 'New Throned King' (GRAMMY-nominated). Terry leads his own band "Son de Altura", created to innovate as well as to preserve the legacy of Cuban music; releasing his first album as a leader "Mi Bajo Danzón " published by Palo Santo Music.

## YOSVANY TERRY



Since his arrival in New York in 1999, Cuban saxophonist/percussionist/composer Yosvany Terry has been making a difference in contemporary music. His innovative work, a unique confluence of Cuban roots music and jazz, “has helped redefine Latin jazz as a complex new idiom. -- “The New York Times” Born into a musical family in Camaguey, Cuba. Yosvany went on to classical music training in Havana at the prestigious National School of Arts (ENA) and Amadeo Roldan Conservatory. After graduating, Yosvany worked with major figures in every realm of Cuban music including pianists Chucho Valdes, and Frank Emilio and the celebrated nueva trova singer/guitarist Silvio Rodriguez. From his earliest days in New York, Yosvany has been welcomed by a broad range of artists in the jazz and contemporary music community; playing with, Steve Coleman, Rufus Reid, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Roy Hargrove, Vijay Iyer, Jeff “Tain” Watts, Avishai Cohen, Baptiste Trotignon, Eddie Palmieri, and Gerald Clayton.

Yosvany has continued his music education in New York, he studied composition, orchestration and counterpoint with Leo Edward, Rudolph Palmer. Yosvany has received a number of commissions as well as grants to support both his performance and composition work. He is a recipient of the prestigious Doris Duke Artist Award of the class 2015. His ‘New Throned King’ album received a Grammy Award Nomination for “Best Latin Jazz Album”. He has taught at prestigious institutions across the United States and Canada including The New School, Stanford, Princeton and Columbia. In 2015, Yosvany joined the full time faculty at Harvard University as Senior Lecture and Director of Jazz Ensembles in the Department of Music.

## BRANDON M. TERRY



Brandon M. Terry is Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and Social Studies at Harvard University. He earned a PhD with university distinction in Political Science and African American Studies from Yale University, where he was also a Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellow and a recipient of the Sterling Prize, in 2012. Prior to Yale, he graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College with an AB in Government and African and African American Studies and received an MSc in Political Theory Research as a Michael von Clemm Fellow at Corpus Christi College at the University of Oxford.

His current research project sits at the intersection of political theory, history, and African-American Studies. Tentatively titled, *The Tragic Vision of the Civil Rights Movement*, it is a reconstruction of the philosophical foundations of historiographical debates concerning the African-American civil rights movement, and an attempt, through a synthesis of methods drawn from political theory, philosophy of history, literary theory, and African-American Studies, to articulate the normative significance of these historical narratives, given the widespread invocation of the example of the civil rights movement in contemporary political theory and public philosophy. An essay from this project recently won the Best Paper award from the Foundations of Political Theory section of the American Political Science Association and the Alex Willingham Best Political Theory Paper Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists. In addition to this project, Brandon is also working on a thematic philosophical study of black nationalist thought in the United States tentatively titled, *Sovereignty, Soulcraft, and Suffering* and other research projects on the political thought of Martin Luther King, Jr. and civil rights historiography. He has written or provided commentary for NPR, WGBH, The Huffington Post, The Baltimore Sun, The Point, The Nation, Time, MTV News, and more.

## WALE ADEBANWI



Wale Adebaniwi is the Rhodes Professor of Race Relations and Director of the African Studies Centre at Oxford University, United Kingdom. He is also a Fellow of St Antony's College, Oxford. He is the author of *Yoruba Elites and Ethnic Politics in Nigeria: Obáfémi Awólówò and Corporate Agency* (CUP, 2014) and two other monographs and (co)editor of six books, including *The Political Economy of Everyday Life in Africa: Beyond the Margins* (James Currey, 2017).



## CORNEL WEST



Cornel West is Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University, jointly appointed in the Department of African and African-American Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and in the Divinity School . West is a prominent and provocative democratic intellectual. He has taught at Yale, the University of Paris, Princeton, and, most recently, at the Union Theological Seminary. He graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Harvard in three years and obtained his MA and PhD in philosophy at Princeton. He has written 20 books and has edited 13. He is best known for his classics *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters*, and his memoir, *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud*. He appears frequently on the Bill Maher Show, CNN, C-Span, and on Tavis Smiley's PBS TV Show. He made his film debut in the Matrix—and was the commentator (with Ken Wilbur) on the official trilogy released in 2004. He also has appeared in over 25 documentaries and films including *Examined Life*, *Call + Response*, *Sidewalk*, and *Stand*.

He has made three spoken word albums including *Never Forget*, collaborating with Prince, Jill Scott, Andre 3000, Talib Kweli, KRS-One, and Gerald Levert. His spoken word interludes were featured on Terence Blanchard's *Choices* (which won the Grand Prix in France for the best Jazz Album of the year of 2009), *The Cornel West Theory's Second Rome*, Raheem DeVaughn's Grammy-nominated *Love & War: Masterpeace*, and most recently on Bootsy Collins' *The Funk Capital of the World*. Cornel West has a passion to communicate to a vast variety of publics in order to keep alive the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.—a legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice.



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