

FILMER

FOR ARTISTS BY ARTISTS



SCREENING 2024



South Fulton Arts

2/22/24

PLAZA
THEATRE

2/29/24

ACADEMY
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THE FILMS 2024

Rhyme Travelers • by Ethan Payne on Soul Food Cypher

For 11 years, Alex and his team at Soul Food Cypher have created safe healing spaces for MC's to come and practice their art in Atlanta. Rhyme Travelers encapsulates that legacy on a more profound emotional level, transcending mere informational content.

The Light Within • by Dr. Arshley Emile on Miriam Robinson

Follows artist Miriam Robinson as she works on her latest piece "The Light Within".

The AURA of Jenn Cornell • by Ebony Blanding on Jenn Cornell

Delves into visionary cellist Jenn Cornell's world by capturing the essence of her music and the emotions it evokes. Through a visual journey, viewers experience the transformative power of her artistry.

Art in The Paint • by Ethan Payne on Art in the Paint

Set in Adamsville, Art in the Paint -an organization working to transform communities through the revitalization of public basketball courts- works on a special project honoring a young man who was killed in the neighborhood. The film highlights the conflict resolution programs offered through the organization.

ABOUT FILMER

The South Fulton Arts FILMER Program is an annual collaboration that brings together local creative pairings, each consisting of one filmmaker and one artist or impactful community member, who serves as the subject of the film. Together, with South Fulton Arts serving as the Executive Producer, the filmmaker and the artist collaborate to create a short portrait-style documentary.



City of Kings • by William Feagins on Antar Fierce

A visual and oral story of how graffiti writing in Atlanta began, how it grew up, where it is today, and its place in the larger global graffiti community. Through rare photos and interviews with primary actors, the documentary explores the intersection of graffiti writing and Hip-Hop in Atlanta.

Just People • by Jonathan Banks on Reentry Arts Connection

Follows Reentry Arts Connection as they work to lower southern recidivism rates with art.

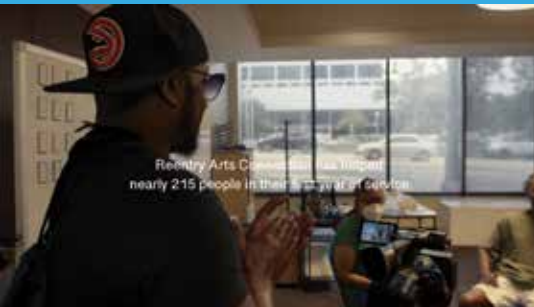
Becoming Her

by Dr. Arshley Emile on Stephanie Owens and the National Black Arts Festival

Follows Stephanie Owens, her leadership, and the impact NBAF has on Atlanta.



The FILMER Premiere is the culmination of this program, where all the films produced are showcased to audiences in South Fulton and Atlanta for a night of free and accessible community programming.



ABOUT THE SUBJECTS

ART IN THE PAINT is a nonprofit with a mission to renovate public outdoor basketball courts and install murals to strengthen communities, promote safety, inspire creativity, and encourage play. Since 2020 they have renovated over 20 basketball courts and brought over \$3,000,000 in resources to neighborhoods in need.

JENN CORNELL is a performer, composer and educator bringing cello across boundaries with her visionary style of playing, creating songs that stretch what a cello can be, and inspiring young musicians with her mentor approach to teaching. Jenn has had a diverse career as a professional musician beginning with when at age 11, she realized she desired to play cello the rest of her life. Since then, she has crossed over from classical into the genre-bending music she creates today in performance, film scoring, and education of the arts. Jenn Cornell brings joy to every aspect of her music. She believes that performance is a visual art, as well as auditory, where rhythm and movement become a dance of instrument and body. Jenn Cornell's cello stylings have also lent themselves well to other artists including double platinum *Billboard* artist B.o.B.; Michael Malarkey of the hit TV series *Vampire Diaries*; and filmmaker Chris Anthony Hamilton in the original music she composed for "Body and Son".

ANTAR K. FIERCE Sometimes operating under the nom de plume "Cole Only", Fierce was born and raised in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, New York in 1971. In 1985, Fierce became captivated by the intricate, highly stylized writings adorning the NYC subway and embarked on documenting, collecting, and archiving them. This passion led him to notice and document similar styles upon his move to Atlanta, Georgia in 1989 to attend Clark Atlanta University. Fierce graduated with a B.A. in History and spent the next 20 years working as a Training Instructor and Customer engagement manager. In 2015 he co-founded the Right Track Program, an educational organization that uses the traditional Hip Hop disciplines to inspire creativity for learners of all ages. With his work at The Right Track Program, Fierce realized it was his calling to combine his passion for training with his experience in graffiti art. His goal is to advance the idea that creativity, art, and technology can work together to include authentic learning and equity and ensure the educational experience is made so that all people can thrive.

NATIONAL BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL is a nonprofit organization with a mission to expose, educate, engage and entertain audiences by presenting and supporting art and artists of African descent. Founded in 1987, NBAF is committed to continuing its legacy of providing stellar artistic and educational programs in music, dance, film, visual arts, theater, and the literary arts. Based in Atlanta, GA, NBAF is recognized as the oldest multidisciplinary arts organization in the United States focused exclusively on the arts and on artists of African descent. In 2008, the United States Congress recognized NBAF for its importance to the "cultural fabric of greater Atlanta and all of America."

STEPHANIE OWENS As the Executive Director and Director of Public Programs at NBAF in Atlanta, GA since 2019, Stephanie has led the organization in cultivating vibrant community-oriented programming. Before her role at NBAF, Stephanie served as the Executive Director of the P&J Foundation in Vallejo, CA, where she focused on empowering middle and high school students through education and mentorship programs. Beyond her professional endeavors, Stephanie has been actively involved in community initiatives, co-founding Anchor of Hope Ministry and serving as a Career Pathway Trust Consultant at Solano Community College.

REENTRY ARTS CONNECTION connects people impacted by the justice system to the healing and life-changing power of the arts. The Reentry ARTS Connection was established in Atlanta, Georgia, in the Spring of 2021, by co-founders Curtis Alexander King, CEO, and Gary Yates, Creative Director. With combined experience, King and Yates have spent over 50 years of service and patronage in the arts. They understand, on a personal and professional level, how the arts can be transformative and have life-long effects on individuals and communities. The Reentry ARTS Connection seeks to serve individuals impacted by the justice system by creating platforms, places, and possibilities where their creative voices can be expressed through the arts.

MIRIAM ROBINSON is a queer, neurodivergent working artist. Born in the Middle East and raised in the South, she is now based in Atlanta. She holds a welding certification, a BA in Studio Art, and a background in sculpture fabrication. In the fall of 2020, Miriam devised the idea for the piece “The Light Within,” which would be the first large-scale installation work she would complete. The piece was introduced in its first iteration at Artfields 2021, where the response was strong, but the work needed further refinement. Over the next 18 months, Miriam diligently honed her creation, which notably placed 2nd in the Dogwood Regional Exhibition in Knoxville, TN. Miriam unveiled the fully evolved iteration of “The Light Within” at the Echo Contemporary Art Gallery in Atlanta, GA in January 2023.

SOUL FOOD CYPHER is a non-profit organization that utilizes freestyle rap and lyricism to transform individuals and communities. SFC showcases the positive aspects of rap through cypher events, tournaments, and community outreach, to provide lyricists (rappers) with a safe and nurturing environment where their voice and artistry can grow. SFC aims to solidify the art of freestyling as a genuine aesthetic to the wider artistic community and carry this rich tradition to the next generation.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



JONATHAN BANKS is an award-winning copywriter, photographer, and filmmaker in Atlanta committed to the art of storytelling. He’s been capturing and sharing storied images of the people and places within his various communities for the last decade. Banks’ photography has been featured in international publications and has exhibited consistently since 2016. Influenced by the work of photographers like Gordon Parks and Jamel Shabazz, Jonathan aims to connect with his community on a very intimate level. Inspired by life itself, everything and everyone has a story, and he considers it an honor to use his creativity to help tell them. He currently resides in the West End, specifically, Ashview Heights: one of the city’s first planned African American neighborhoods, established in 1920.



EBONY BLANDING is an award-winning writer/director from Atlanta, Georgia whose work seeks to tell stories about Black girls and women coming-of-age on their own terms. Through narrative, experimental, and documentary film, Blanding meditates on Black folks living in the south and the mythical figures that live within the yoke of physical and spiritual worlds. Co-founder of the art film house, House of June, Blanding has presented films at educational institutions including Spelman College, Emory University, and John H. Hopkins University. Her work has screened at the Atlanta Film Society, Capetown International Film Festival, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, among others. Colorfully crafting scenes meditative in intimacy and colorfulness to explore the complexities and possibilities of female relationships on screen, Ebony’s work seeks to amplify Black women, Black people, and humanity existing in fullness cinematically.

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ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



DR. ARSHLEY EMILE is an award-winning documentary director and cinematographer with 7 years to his credit. His love and passion for filmmaking was something he was aware of as early as 8 years old, but it was not until he embarked on his dissertation on racism in public schools, that he realized that his admiration for visual arts spanned well beyond the classroom. Today Dr. Emile is a full-time creator. He has been selected for numerous film festivals and has recently won Best Documentary for 2022 at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival. Furthermore, Dr. Emile has projects ranging from television news programs, corporations,

music videos, public school settings, as well as nonprofit organizations. His primary focus is to help portray the black and brown community in a more positive light as opposed to the narrative historically perpetuated by the general public. He is competent in all aspects of the production process from the initial stages of researching and organizing production to script writing, interviewing, camera, and editing. Dr. Emile hopes to one day film and produce feature films and to have his own soundstage campus where both young and seasoned filmmakers can gather and create.



WILLIAM FEAGINS, JR. was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He first discovered his love for film while studying at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh, where he was able to create music videos for local hip hop artists as his school projects. In 2006, William filmed & directed his first documentary, *The Art of Life*, for independent hip-hop artist, ChaRon Don. Soon after, William relocated to Atlanta—its rich arts and music scene made it a perfect place for him to create and grow as an artist. Feagins' cinematography and direction often reflects the realism of the subject matter.

His passion for film and hip hop has inspired his love for film, but his extensive portfolio has matured into documentaries that beautifully chronicle the complexities of the human experience through the lens of Black and Brown people. Feagins' unique style continues to evolve as he finds more beautiful and innovative ways to tell a story.



ETHAN PAYNE is a documentary filmmaker based in Atlanta, Georgia. His work has been featured in *Pitchfork*, *Stereogum*, *Oxford American*, *ArtsATL*, *Southern Foodways Alliance*, and *The Bitter Southerner*. His award-winning short documentaries have made international festival rounds and his first feature-length documentary *The Green Flash* is in post-production.



ART IN THE PAINT

Ethan Payne

Executive Producer: South Fulton Arts
Featuring: Coop, Deonte Bridges, Sara Sullivan, Carol A. Bowman, Aysha Pennerman, Messiah Rowe, Liberty Clemons

THE AURA OF JENN CORNELL

We Are The Sun Productions

The AuraWeaver Team: Judah Andrews, Charlotte Watts, Raina Gars
Executive Producer: South Fulton Arts
Director: Ebony Blanding
Producers: Ebony Blanding, Brandon Williams
Director of Photography: Alvin Mcbean
Assistant Director: Reeyana Sehgeh
Gaffer: St. John
G&E: Jeshua Williams
Editor: Brandon "Puncho" Williams
Sound Mixer: Bailey I. Gafeney
Production Assistants: Laila Harrison, Jalen Parham, Kenya Simms, Christopher Doomes
Music: Jenn Cornell "Untitled"
Special Thanks: Ian Marceca, Rise Studios, Dogon Lighting & Grip, Chris Anthony Hamilton

BECOMING HER

Timberhouse Films

National Black Arts Festival

Executive Producers: South Fulton Arts, Stephanie Owens, Stephanina Emile, Yuriko Gomez, Jeancarlo Gomez
Director: Dr. Arshley Emile
Director of Photography: Dr. Arshley Emile
Cast: Ashlee Haze, Stephanina Owens, Tracey Lloyd, Taiyo Obafemi, Trulee Ginyard, Nikki Harris, Ludacris, Tiffany Latrice Williams
Camera B: Austin Robinson
Sound: Marcus Zunith
Gaffer: Jeancarlo Gomez
Grip: Akasha Ali

CITY OF KINGS

wfjrFILMS x Steel Wheels 360

Directed by: W. Feagins, Jr.
Executive Producer: South Fulton Arts
Producers: Antar Fierce, W. Feagins, Jr.
Director of Photography/Editor: W. Feagins, Jr.
Soundtrack: Scott "Smash Money" Mullens
Sound Mixing: Amound "AJ" Jackson
Special Thanks: Kwajelyn Jackson, Goldi Gold, Sheree Swann, ATLPHip.com, Omega L. Ruth, Jr., Atlanta Beltline, Scott Mullens, Lisa Watts-Thurston, DJ Housecat, Dr. Arshley Emile, A-Dot, ATL Style Writers Jam
Writers: 4Sure, Cans, Dr. Dajs, Forza, iBeam, Klepo, Nels, Rayse, Sever, Snare, Totem, Whims, Atomik, Canon, Dtek, Gas, Ink Heads, Koast, Newer, Red Eye Mob, Shie, Snax, UCA, Yups, Baser, Chase, Elbon, Gums, Ishine, Kresr, Nomad, Sade, Sir Jane, Soral, UTL, Zerzy, Bonez One, Chum, Enzo, Gutme, Jaz, Lern, Panic, Save, Sir Leon, Sparky Z, The United Kings, Bops, Cole, Even, Haze Uno, Jelzo, Meka, Peak, Sayer, Skapezilla, Stak, Vayne, Burn Unit, Croke, Factor, Hense, Jeks, Mibs, Psycho Kings, SB, Skie Kaos,

FILM CREDITS

Taiko, Vile, Caes, Dozer, Forge, Hopes, Just, MTH, Rad, Seimr, Slawter, Tear, Wage
Muralists: Jasmine Williams, Matt Letrs, Alexander Glustron, Killamari, Big Teeff, Faatimah Stevens, Fabian Williams, Thomas Turner, SOFAHOOD, Demetri Stefan, Victor Walker, Gaia, Margo Perkins, Tommy Bronx, Zuzly Mathurin, ARRRADDICT, Hiero Veiga, Shannon Willow, Dan Cooper, Earth mamma, Jeks, AG, Tehimi Cambron, Ash Hayner, George F Baker, III, Chris Wright, Cameron Moore

JUST PEOPLE

A Journey Brave film
Journey Brave Creative
NOLOOK Productions

Director/Editor: Jonathan Banks
Executive Producers: South Fulton Arts, Jonathan Banks
Producer: Nick Claytor
Director of Photography: Brandon Andersen
Drone Operator: Ponce Delamar
Special Thanks: Reentry Arts Connection, Curtis Alexander King, Garry Yates, Immanuel Laidlaw, Ralston Earle, Jr., Miya Bailey
Music Provided by: THE SAMPLE LAB
Sound Engineer: Gopal Swamy
Motion Graphics: Rodney Johnson II
Color Grade: Moonshine Post

THE LIGHT WITHIN

Timberhouse Films

Executive Producers: South Fulton Arts, Miriam Robinson, Dr. Arshley Emile, Jeancarlo Gomez
Director: Dr. Arshley Emile
Director of Photography: Dr. Arshley Emile
Cast: Muid Ghani, Zion Emile, Marcus "Zunith" Dixon, Lacey Longino, Genesis "Gigi" Gomez
Sound: Paul Yates
Gaffer: Jeancarlo Gomez
Grips: Max Erin James, Austin Robinson

RHYME TRAVELERS

Ethan Payne

Executive Producer: South Fulton Arts
Producer: Alex "Cost" Costa
Featuring (in order of appearance): Joe "Jr" Frazier, Kyle Baxter as "Kaedus Hines," Alex "Cost" Acosta, Daryl "D-Real" Patrice, Malik "Question ATL" Wilson, Michael "Mike The Zukeeper" Adams, Eric "Zano Bathroom" Ludgood Jr.
Camera Assist: John Swint



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