

EVENT III
FEB. 8-11

BLACK LIVES IN GERMANY RESILIENCE - ART - HOPE

VIRTUAL | FILM + TALK | OCT. 2020-APRIL 2021

In solidarity with the international Black Lives Matter movement, the DEFA Film Library at UMass Amherst presents a virtual Black German Film Festival. Showcasing films by Black filmmakers, actors, scholars and activists, Black Lives in Germany: Resilience, Art and Hope offers viewers a bold and refreshing look at the diversity of the Black diaspora and contemporary Germany. Our film festival continues with three events this spring.

Each event includes a streamed film screening, followed by a live virtual discussion.
Separate login for each event. The link for film streaming will be provided one week in advance.
All virtual events in English and free and open to the public!

Event III: BLACK SPACES / BLACK VOICES

Mon - Thur, Feb. 8 – 11: STREAM THESE FILMS

REGISTER
HERE



AfroDeutsch (2001, Germany, dir. Ayassi, script Tyron Ricketts, 11 min., color, EN ST)

This short, based on Tyron Ricketts' rap song released on the Brothers Keepers' debut album, *Lightkultur*, portrays Ricketts' experience with racist violence. After neo-Nazis killed Alberto Adriano in Dessau in 2000, Germany's most famous Black rappers formed the hip-hop project Brothers Keepers, of which Ricketts was a member. Shown at Sundance Film Festival.



Winter Solstice (Wintersonnenwende, 2016, Germany, dir. Denise Ekale Kum, 7 min., color, EN ST)

The first short film by Denise Ekale Kum visualizes the inward-turned fear that can infuse our emotions, dreams and actions and explores how to overcome it.



Natsu's Treasure (Natsu no Takaramono, 2017, Germany/Japan, dir. Denise Ekale Kum, 15 min., color, EN ST)

In this award-winning film about friendship, a little Black girl wanders through the vast city of Tokyo, sometimes retrieving a discarded glittering item that, to her, is a treasure



Respringendo (2019, Germany, dir. Denise Ekale Kum, 26 min, color, EN ST)

Suza just wants to be left alone. The guitar she inherited from her father has become a relentless reminder of failure. Can social withdrawal be her solution?



Somewhere in Between Us (2019, Germany, dir. Denise Ekale Kum, 3 min., color)

The official music video for Berlin-based indie pop artist Cloudy June's first solo song, written after she left her death metal band.

Thur, Feb. 11, 12 noon (ET): LIVE VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

A discussion with the actor and founder of Panthertainment, Tyron Ricketts, and filmmaker Denise Ekale Kum. Moderated by activist Jeff Kwasi Klein. Hosted by curator Kevina King (UMass Amherst).



Tyron Ricketts is one of Germany's most successful Black actors. In addition to his music and film work, he is the founder and managing director of the production company Panthertainment and has partnered with UFA Fiction to produce films and series for the global market focusing on stories by and about People of Color. While living in New York, he worked on social media strategies against racism for Harry Belafonte.



Denise Ekale Kum is a filmmaker and a development producer at Panthertainment. The writer-director grew up in Cameroon and Germany and has lived in Brazil and Japan. Combining rich visual experiences with character-driven narratives, she infuses her work with a unique multicultural and intersectional sensitivity. In addition to working on music videos, she is currently preparing her first feature film and working on a four-part short film series shot in Berlin and Tokyo.



Moderator Jeff Kwasi Klein has worked on a wide array of projects focusing on the environment, human rights, migration and BPOC-empowerment. He is the project leader for Each One Teach One's anti-discrimination project, *Each One*, which offers advice to people of African descent in Berlin in all cases of discrimination. He is on the board of the Migration Council of Berlin and is co-speaker of the Green Party's BPOC-network *Bunt Grün*.

ORGANIZED AND PRESENTED BY THE DEFA FILM LIBRARY AT UMASS AMHERST



For more information, please visit umass.edu/defa or email Franchesca Viaud at fviaud@umass.edu