



BAM 2018 Winter/Spring Season

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

BAM hosts the 2018 Brooklyn Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Jan 15

Free community event features prominent civic leaders and a keynote address by writer and educator Jelani Cobb

Music performances by Martha Redbone and The Brooklyn Interdenominational Choir

Patrisse Cullors and asha bandele to discuss new book *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*, following the Tribute

Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams to serve as Master of Ceremony

Presented by BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music), Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, and Medgar Evers College of The City University of New York

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)

Jan 15 at 10:30am

Free (tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-seated basis starting at 8am)

Dec 14, 2018/Brooklyn, NY—BAM will host the free annual Brooklyn Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 15 at 10:30am in the Howard Gilman Opera House (Peter Jay Sharp Building, 30 Lafayette Ave) with civil rights activists, musicians, civic leaders, and the public for a communal commemoration and reflection of the life and legacy of Dr. King. The 32nd edition will feature writer and educator Jelani Cobb as keynote speaker. Additional free events are also scheduled on the BAM campus over the weekend, including an “Unbound” book launch of *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*, by Patrisse Cullors and asha bandele.

BAM President Katy Clark said, “The fact that this event continues to draw the biggest crowd in New York City on Martin Luther King Day year after year shows his enduring significance in our society. His messages are a comfort in times of sorrow, a rallying cry in times of turmoil, and a testament to our ability to lift each other up when we set our minds to it.”

The keynote speaker this year is *New Yorker* staff writer and Columbia University School of Journalism professor **Jelani Cobb**. Author of *Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress*, among others, Cobb is known for his clear elucidation on the complexity of race in American society.

The Tribute features music performances by **Martha Redbone** and **The Brooklyn Interdenominational Choir**. Brooklyn Borough President **Eric L. Adams** serves as the master of ceremony. Additional participating civic leaders will be announced in January.

A complementary program and part of the BAM and Greenlight Bookstore's *Unbound* book launch series is the reading and discussion of *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*, co-written by Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors and author/journalist asha bandele.

The day-of events include a film screening of Spike Lee's *4 Little Girls*, and the annual community art exhibition, "Picture the Dream," featuring works by students from the New York City Housing Authority. Two BAMcafé Live performances by **Angela Johnson** kick off the weekend event. (Details below.)

All events are free. The Tribute tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-seated basis starting at 8am in the BAM Howard Gilman Opera House lobby. For further information, please call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100 or visit BAM.org.

For media access to the event (including interview requests), please contact David Hsieh at dhsieh@BAM.org or 718.724.8027.

Additional Events

BAMcafé Live (30 Lafayette Ave, 2nd fl)

Angela Johnson

Jan 12 & 13 at 9pm

Singer/songwriter/arranger/producer **Angela Johnson** has recorded six solo albums, including *Naturally Me* (2014) which hit *Billboard's* Heatseekers chart. She was a member of Cooly's Hot Box, a New York band active from the mid-'90s through the mid-2000s. Her songs are rooted in classical R&B but infused with a sense of contemporary social urgency.

Unbound: Patrisse Cullors and asha bandele (Fishman Space, 321 Ashland Pl)

Launch of *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*

Co-presented by BAM and Greenlight Bookstore

Jan 15 at 1pm

From one of the co-founders of Black Lives Matter, Patrisse Cullors, and award-winning author and journalist asha bandele, comes a poetic memoir and reflection on humanity. Necessary and timely, this memoir asks us to remember that protest in the interest of the most vulnerable comes from love.

Film: *4 Little Girls*, directed by Spike Lee, 1997 (BAM Rose Cinemas, 30 Lafayette Ave)

Jan 15 at 1pm

On September 15, 1963, four African-American Sunday school students, aged 11 to 14, were killed in a racially-motivated bombing at a Birmingham, Alabama church. Lee's longtime dream project is an "immensely dignified and moving" (*The New York Times*) account of both the crime and, most poignantly, the lives of the girls who died, amounting to a soul-shaking portrait of what was lost that terrible day, as well as its significance within the larger civil rights movement.

Art exhibition in Diker Gallery (30 Lafayette Ave, 2nd fl)

Jan 13—Feb 9

For the 10th year in a row, BAM partners with NYCHA to offer free art workshops to children living in Brooklyn public housing residences. This year, students from the Atlantic Terminal Community Center created original artwork inspired by Dr. King's dream of freedom and equality.

About the Speakers and Artists

Jelani Cobb writes about the enormous complexity of race in America. In 2015, he received the Sidney Hillman Prize for Opinion & Analysis Journalism for his *New Yorker* columns, in which he combined “the strengths of an on-the-scene reporter, a public intellectual, a teacher, a vivid writer, a subtle moralist, and an accomplished professional historian.”

Cobb teaches at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He is also a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, where he has penned a remarkable series of articles about race, the police, and injustice. His articles include *The Anger in Ferguson*, *Murders in Charleston*, and *What We Talk About When We Talk About Reparations*. He is the recipient of the 2017 Walter Bernstein Award from the Writer’s Guild of America for his investigative series *Policing the Police*, which aired on PBS *Frontline* in 2016.

Cobb was formerly associate professor of history at the University of Connecticut, where he was director of the Africana Studies Institute. He has received Fellowships from the Fulbright and Ford Foundations. He is the author of *Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress*, *To the Break of Dawn: A Freestyle on the Hip Hop Aesthetic*, and *The Devil & Dave Chappelle and Other Essays*. His forthcoming book is *Antidote to Revolution: African American Anticommunism and the Struggle for Civil Rights, 1931*.

For the past three decades, **Eric L. Adams** has served the residents of the city of his birth as a police officer, state senator, and coalition builder. In November of 2013, he was elected Brooklyn borough president. Born in Brownsville and educated in the City’s public school system, Adams is committed to ensuring Brooklyn’s bright future by helping each and every Brooklynite reach his or her full potential. Throughout his career, he has been an effective advocate for Brooklyn, bringing people and communities together to create progressive change, and working with both the private and public sectors to invigorate the borough’s economy by encouraging job growth and investment in every neighborhood. Whether his beat was on the street or in the halls of government, Adams has always looked out for Brooklyn’s working families and sought to protect our most vulnerable residents. He believes that government works best when everyone has a chance to be heard, and he has resolved to use his office to provide an opportunity for diverse groups to work together for the common good.

Since the beginning of his first term as the highest-ranking elected official in Brooklyn, Adams has worked to make the popularity of Brooklyn’s brand translate into prosperity for the more than 2.6 million Brooklynites that call the borough home. He is a big believer in the power of connections, of bringing together people in need of services with resources that have long existed but have been underutilized. Adams has opened Brooklyn Borough Hall in ways unprecedented, allowing thousands of people to connect for the first time with government and civic life. His agenda cannot be defined by a short list of issues: he is committed to addressing the wide range of concerns facing Brooklynites. Adams maintains residences in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Prospect Heights, where he has resided for over 20 years. He enjoys riding the streets of Brooklyn on his bicycle, meditation, and exploring new places and cultures.

Martha Redbone is one of today’s most vital voices in American Roots music. A multi-award-winning musician, the charismatic songstress is celebrated for her tasty gumbo of roots music embodying the folk and mountain blues sounds of her childhood in the Appalachian hills of Kentucky mixed with the eclectic grit of her teenage years in pre-gentrified Brooklyn. With the power of her gospel singing African American father’s voice and the determined spirit of her Cherokee/Shawnee/Choctaw mother, Redbone broadens all boundaries of Americana. Her latest CD *The Garden of Love—Songs of William Blake*, produced by Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founder/Grammy Winner John McEuen, is “a brilliant collision of cultures” (*New Yorker*) and features Martha’s magnificent voice, Blake’s immortal words and a masterful cornucopia of roots music (folk, country, piedmont blues, gospel, bluegrass, soul, and traditional Southeastern Native American).

From grassroots beginnings with residencies at the original Living Room NYC, then Joe's Pub and nationally at powwows across Indian Country in support of her debut album *Home of the Brave* ("Stunning album, the kind of woman who sets trends"—*Billboard*), Redbone has built a passionate fan base with her mesmerizing presence and explosive live shows. Her album *Skintalk* is described as the soulful sound of "Earth, Wind and Fire on the Rez" (*Native Peoples* magazine) and is recognized as an example of Contemporary Native American music in the Library Collection at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Redbone is a recipient of the NEFA National Theater Project Creation and Touring Grant and National Performance Network Creation Fund and Lincoln Center. Redbone is a 2015/16 Fellow of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation.

The Brooklyn Interdenominational Choir (BIC) is an ensemble committed to bringing people together through artistic expression. Members are encouraged to appreciate and celebrate the diverse cultures which make our world great. Founder Frank A. Haye, conductor, choral director, flutist, composer, and producer, says, "BIC is a group of performing ambassadors that will spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ through song in the tri-state area, as well as throughout the United States and abroad." BIC records and ministers in different venues, including churches, temples, festivals, concert halls, convention centers, clubs, street fairs, and private functions. All members of BIC receive world-class musical training and opportunities for fellowship with artists from diverse ethnic, religious, and social backgrounds. Its motto is simple: "One Great City, One Great Choir to the Glory of God."

Contemporary and traditional songs are included in BIC's musical repertoire. Community outreach has included classes in fitness centers, vocal performance, music theory, ear training, master classes, and private music lessons. BIC has sung for worship services, interfaith/peace gatherings, concerts, community events, yoga, ecology, and green festivals, philanthropic groups, fraternal associations, and artistic organizations such as Celebrate Brooklyn!, the Mark Morris Dance Group, and the Brooklyn Philharmonic. In addition, BIC performed on televised shows for CBS, NBC, TBN, and HBO. As members of the May 2016 cast of *Hope and A Future* at the BRIC Arts Media House, BIC appeared in a play about creating self-sufficient communities in Haiti. BIC was a featured artist in *We Care for Humanity's Global Officials of Dignity Awards Gala* at the United Nations in August 2016, and in September 2016's Central Park Vigil for Peace and Ecology.

Credits

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Delta is the Official Airline of BAM. The Brooklyn Hospital Center is the Official Healthcare Provider of BAM.

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General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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