WHAT TO KNOW

- The Intersection: Woke Black Folk is a one-woman play by Funmilola Fagbamila.
- It premiered at the Pan African Film and Arts Festival in L.A. in 2018 and has been performed around the world.
- The performance will be followed by a conversation between Fagbamila and Miki Turner, an award-winning photojournalist, producer, author, and USC professor.

INTERSECTIONALITY

“A wide variety of definitions and conceptualizations of intersectionality is available on the Internet.”—Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro, *Intersectionality: An Intellectual History*

Merriam-Webster’s dictionary: “the complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination
(such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, or intersect, especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups"

Wikipedia: “a theoretical framework for understanding how aspects of a person's social and political identities (e.g., gender, sex, race, class, sexuality, religion, disability, physical appearance, height, etc.) combine to create unique modes of discrimination and privilege”

The term intersectionality is specifically traced to Black feminist scholar Kimberlé William Crenshaw, who in a 1989 legal article argued that policies and frameworks that treated race and gender as separate categories of experience and analysis failed to address the experiences of Black women: “Because the intersectional experience is greater than the sum of racism and sexism, any analysis that does not take intersectionality into account cannot sufficiently address the particular manner in which Black women are subordinated. Thus, for feminist theory and antiracist policy discourse to embrace the experiences and concerns of Black women, the entire framework that has been used as a basis for translating ‘women’s experience’ or ‘the Black experience’ into concrete policy demands must be rethought and recast.”

The concept has roots in Black feminism and women-of-color feminisms going back through the ideas voiced by the Combahee River Collective, Audre Lorde, Cherríe Moraga, Gloria Anzaldúa, bell hooks, Sojourner Truth, and many others who have articulated the complexities of identity and the understanding that systems of oppression are interconnected.

Since the term intersectionality gained mainstream attention circa 2015, a multiplicity of definitions, understandings, and arguments has abounded.

RELATIONED EVENTS (all times are PT):
- New Leaders Now: Artists Advancing Racial Justice
  Monday, October 12, at 5 p.m.
- Arts, Activism, and the Academy: Addressing Racism within Higher Education
  Tuesday, October 13, at 7 p.m.
- Radical Radical: Generating New “Woke” Words
  Wednesday, October 14, at 6:30 p.m.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Black Lives Matter is a member-led global network of dozens of chapters working to eradicate white supremacy and “to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes.” It started in 2013 when organizers Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors (a USC alum), and Opal Tometi began using the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter after George Zimmermann was acquitted of the murder of Trayvon Martin.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION
- How do you perceive your own identity? How do you think this shapes your view or experience of society?
- Did the multiple perspectives represented in The Intersection expand or complicate your prior conceptions in any way?
- What is the role of art in social change?

IF YOU LIKED THIS EVENT, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK OUT:
- The Movement for Black Lives | mabl.org
- Black Lives Matter Los Angeles | blmla.org
- USC Arts in Action | artsinaction.usc.edu
- USC Race and Equity Center | race.usc.edu
- USC Race, Arts, and Place | slab.today/2016/09/rap
- USC Student Organizations
  - American Studies and Ethnicity Club
  - Artemis at USC
Asian Pacific American Student Assembly
Black Student Assembly
Brothers Breaking B.R.E.A.D.
Latinx Student Assembly
Mixed Student Community
OUTreach
Pan African Student Association
Queer and Ally Student Assembly
Queer People of Color
Black Social Work Caucus
Social Work and the Arts Caucus
Student Assembly for Accessibility
Student Assembly for Gender Empowerment

Upcoming Visions and Voices events:
Oct. 23 Kristina Wong for Public Office: Live from Her Home!
Nov. 6-7 Live Artists Live III: Despair/Repair
Jan. 14 Behind Bars: Life and Death for Inmates in the Age of COVID-19
Feb. 3 Disclosure: A Screening and Discussion on Trans Lives (On and Off Screen)
Feb. 9 The Just and the Blind

DISCOVER MORE AT THE USC LIBRARIES

CHRISTY KANE of the USC Libraries selected the following resources to help you learn more about this evening’s event. Those with a call number (e.g., books) are physical items which you can find in our campus libraries. Those without a call number (e.g. e-books, journals, and databases) are electronic resources, which are accessible through the search bar on the USC Libraries homepage at libraries.usc.edu but may require the user to log in using their USC credentials.

BOOKS


DATABASES

Black Studies Center
The Black Studies Center provides access to several resources at once: Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience, International Index to Black Periodicals (IIBP), 10 historical African American newspapers, Black Literature Index, 100 oral history videos in History Makers, and Black Abolitionist Papers (1830-1865).
African American Studies Center (Oxford)
The Oxford African American Studies Center provides access to more than 10,000 articles by top scholars in the field. Access to the database is limited to 3 users.

JOURNALS
- Journal of Black Studies
- Callaloo

ARTICLES
- Rhonda Y. Williams, “To the Front and Center of the Field: Recent Histories of Black Women, Gender, and Black Power,” Journal of Women’s History 32, no. 2 (Summer 2020): 118-127.