

AFAM SURVIVAL GUIDE

Michael Jordan, 1988. Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, © Walter looss Jr., Gift of Walter looss

Connecting our local and wider community

If you have anything you would like to see in the next issue,
email us at afamebu.edu

WITH 'SUMMER OF SOUL,' QUESTLOVE WANTS TO FILL A CULTURAL VOID



LISTEN IN

THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

People of color have a diverse set of interests, experiences, backgrounds and cultures. And the way we experience race and racism can be really different. So why do we continue to use big umbrella terms like "POC"? And what do we risk if we lose them?

ANGOLA'S BACKYARD REVOLUTION

This month on AIAC Radio we talk with Marissa Moorman and Paulo Flores to see how a music culture born in the quintals of Luanda helped birth a nation.



STREAMING NOW

SUMMER OF SOUL

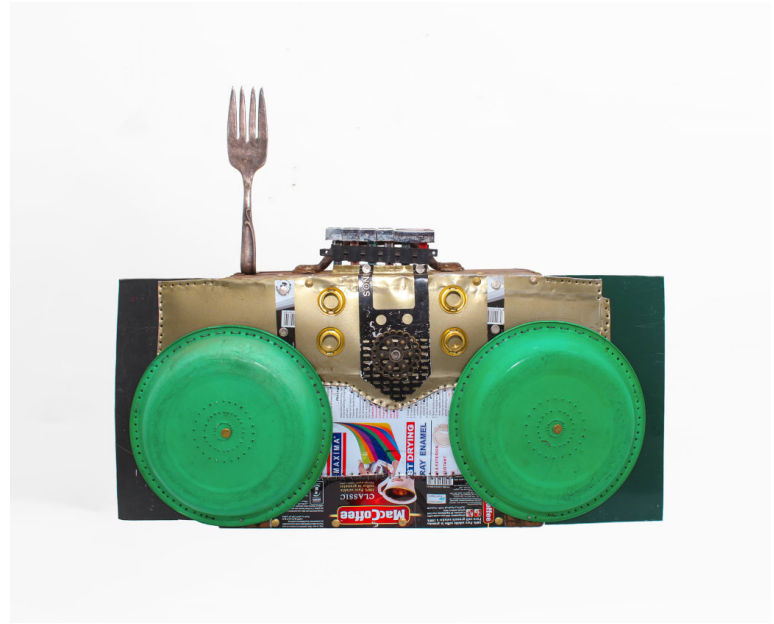
Streaming on: Hulu
In his acclaimed debut as a filmmaker, Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson presents a powerful and transporting documentary — part music film, part historical record created around an epic event that celebrated Black history, culture and fashion.

GOOK

Streaming on: Amazon Prime
Eli and Daniel, two Korean American brothers who own a struggling women's shoe store, have an unlikely friendship with 11-year-old Kamilla. On the first day of the 1992 L.A. riots, the trio must defend the store while contemplating the meaning of family and thinking about personal dreams and the future.

KENYA'S CYRUS KABIRU: 'C-STUNNER' TO THE 'BLACK MAMBA,'

Cyrus Kabiru is on a continuous journey with his art. Born in Nairobi, Kenya, the award-winning artist and sculptor best known for his "C-stunners" -- eyewear created with junk -- has turned his focus to discarded radios and a "Black Mamba" series of old bicycles, which were common in Kenya during his childhood.



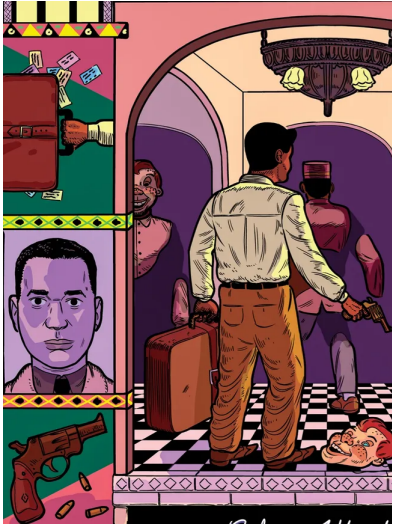
CALIFORNIA AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM APRIL BEY: ATLANTICA, THE GILDA REGION



Through this Afrofuturist lens, Bey reflects on subjects such as queerness, feminism, and internet culture in vibrant tableaux that combine living plants, video, music, photography, and oversized mixed-media paintings and textiles. The artist positions herself as an alien from the planet Atlantica, while her mission on Earth is to observe and report as an undercover agent.

Read more about the exhibition [here](#)

INTERESTING READS



THE THERESA JOB BY COLSON WHITEHEAD

They were mistaken for brothers by most of the world, but distinguished by many features of personality. Like common sense. Carney had it. Freddie's tended to fall out of a hole in his pocket—he never carried it long. Common sense, for example, told you not to take a numbers job with Peewee Gibson. It also told you that, if you took such a job, it was in your interest not to fuck it up.



HALLOWEEN BY VENETIA BLACKBURN

To this day, I feel like perverts drive Hondas. The little girl had been out of our sight for too long, and the car too. I wasn't afraid like Esperanza yet; it didn't occur to me that I should've been until I saw her lean forward on her bike and begin to pedal past me. Sometimes it's the witnessing of a horror story that makes us forget we're in one. She pedalled for the life of the little girl and our own. I pedalled just to keep up.

POSTFEMINISM IS ONLY FOR WEALTHY NIGERIAN WOMEN

TO HAVE—OR, AT LEAST, CLAIM—A SENSE OF SELF THAT IS “ALREADY EMPOWERED” OR HAPPILY UNENCUMBERED BY POWER RELATIONS, REQUIRES A FAIR BIT OF MATERIAL PRIVILEGE.

By Grace Adeniyi-Ogunyankin, Simidele Dosekun

WHAT IS WHITENESS IN NORTH AFRICA?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE TAKE THE STUDY OF WHITENESS FROM SETTLER COLONIAL CONTEXTS INTO THE POSTCOLONY?

By Leila O. Tayeb

CONVERSATIONS ON CAMPUS

IN PRAISE OF RACIST BOOKS: NOTES OF AN IMMIGRANT READER

LOUIS CHUDE-SOKEI ON THE BOOKS THAT SHAPED HIS LITERARY CURIOSITY



I'll conclude by quoting one of my favorite racists, also shaped by migration and the Caribbean, Jean Rhys. It's a surprisingly sentimental insight from a writer legendary for tragic battles against purity and belonging: "Reading makes immigrants of us all. It takes us away from home, but more

important, it finds homes for us everywhere." To make sanctuary in hostile or indifferent territory is a necessary skill. It is, I think, essential to survival in a nation stratified by race, flush with strangers and resting imperfectly on histories we may not enjoy but dare not forget.

[Read more here](#)

