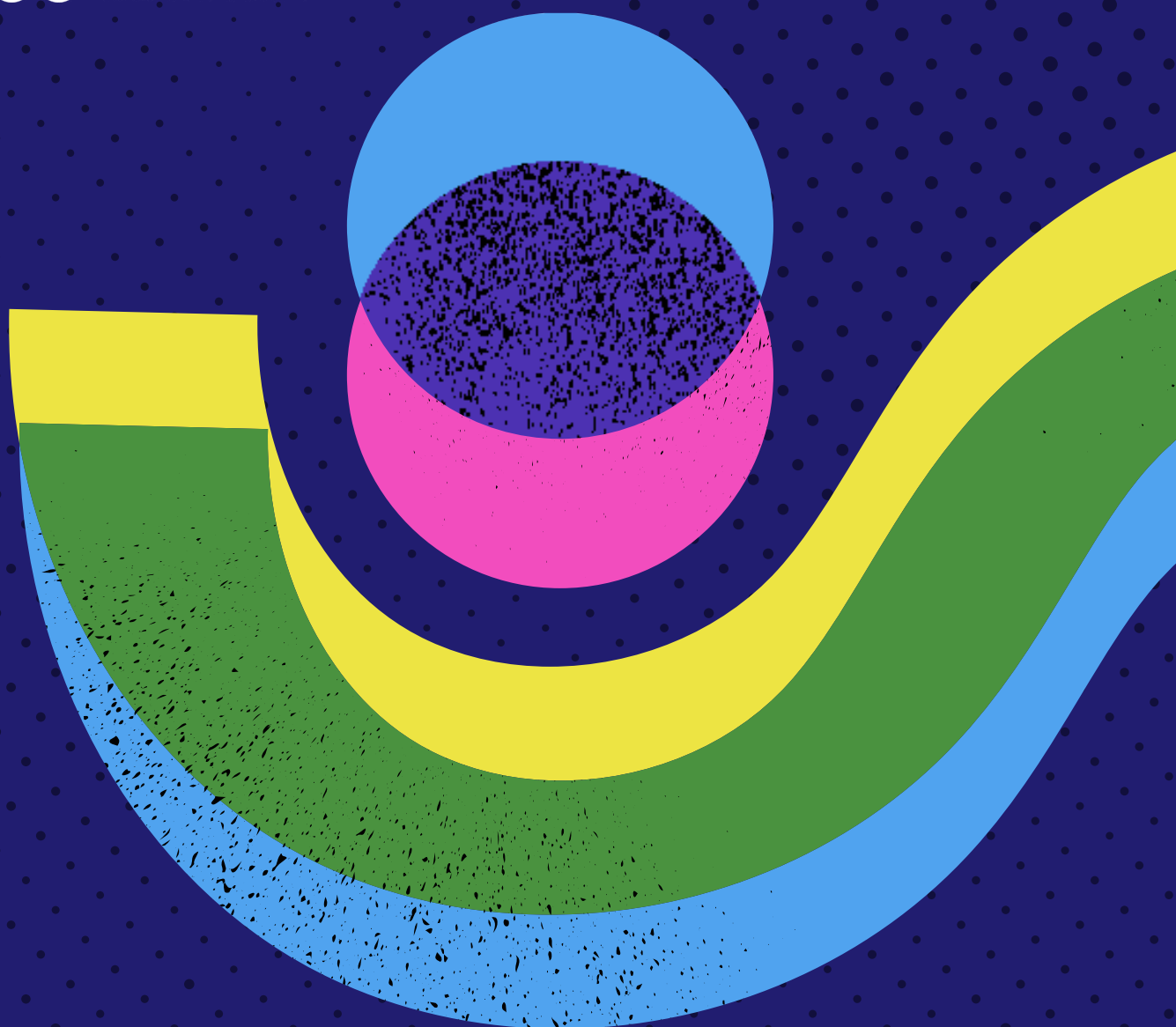


WE REBUILD WE RECLAIM

A film touring programme curated by **WE ARE PARABLE.**

Supported by  **BRITISH
COUNCIL**



WE REBUILD WE RECLAIM

"We Rebuild. We Reclaim." is a global touring programme of short films curated by We Are Parable and supported by The British Council, that explore Black British and Caribbean people's experience. Reflecting on the cultural significance of the Empire Windrush – the boat that brought over 500 Caribbean to the UK in 1948 – these short films encourage reflection on wider issues of migration and identity.

The people responsible for rebuilding the UK after a traumatic world war, were sometimes treated with disdain and prejudice. But in the face of such hostility, they created communities, built careers across a variety of industries where they created (in many cases, "reclaimed") spaces that not only reminded them of home, but also reflected their new reality, one which treated them as 'other'.

Those who arrived on the Windrush and similar vessels from the Caribbean around that time found that opportunities to build a life in the United Kingdom often afforded to other members of the public (such as housing and employment) were hard to come by; however, by supporting one another through community, Caribbean people who had travelled to the UK were able to build a life for themselves.

While 'We Rebuild. We Reclaim.' is responsive to the social and cultural impact and legacy of Windrush, the films also speak to wider questions of migration and identity. As the children and grandchildren of the Windrush generation find their place in the world, we would like our programme to explore the question of what the concept of home means for them; these descendants of Windrush are subjected to discrimination in the same ways, albeit more concealed, but going back to their parents' country of origin doesn't quite feel like home either.

TOURING FILM PROGRAMME

TURNING POINT: CEDRIC'S STORY: JAMAICA 1920



It's early morning. A water break during the harvest of a dense tall sugarcane field. Machete sharpener and former soldier Cedric Dunn (Ashley D. Gayle) is a survivor of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. He recounts his experiences, facing down taunts of 'wartime coward'. But his insights are also profound challenges to notions of Black inferiority.

9 minutes | 2021 | UK | Sweet Patootee Arts,
Director: Tony T

TURNING POINT: BEULAH'S STORY: JAMAICA 1920



It's noon. Meal break in the harvest of a dense tall sugarcane field. Women labourers crowd the ox cart of long-lost Beulah Towne (Suzette Llewellyn). Charismatic Beulah gives a bawdy account of her adventures in Panama, living and working as a man. She learned to 'pass', gained a wife and lovers, and went from fear to living... but can she live and work here without hiding.

11 minutes | 2021 | UK | Sweet Patootee Arts,
Director: Tony T

TURNING POINT: VELDA'S STORY: BARBADOS 1920



It's mid-morning. A country town's vibrant open-air market pauses on the arrival of a bedraggled fugitive. Velda Moe (Veronica Beatrice Lewis) is an agricultural labourer wanted on a charge of 'assaulting a White overseer in pursuance of his duty'. She's ready to go to jail so her mother can keep her job and home on the plantation. But she'll have her say first.

11 minutes | 2021 | UK | Sweet Patootee Arts,
Director: Tony T

TURNING POINT: CEPHUS' STORY: BARBADOS 1920



It's mid-afternoon. Gossips forget fugitive Velda's bold show that morning when a quarrel erupts to delight the busy open-air market. 'Rich-mahogany' General Store Manager, Cephus Carter (Paterson Joseph) models his new hat to onlookers. Then his 'light caramel' sweetheart, Peroosha Bryce, tongue-lashes him for selling rum that disgraces her First World War-veteran brother. Cornered in public, he must choose – 'Blackness' or 'betterment'?

9 minutes | 2021 | UK | Sweet Patootee Arts,
Director: Tony T



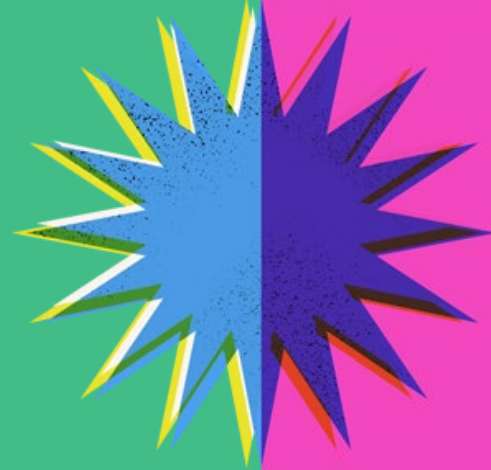
All four films must be programmed and viewed together as one body of work.
This project was supported by Arts Council England and British Museum & Art Gallery



“We Rebuild. We Reclaim” is supported by the British Council as part of the wider programme “The Future of Creativity”, a British Council programme which opens a space for the diverse voices of the UK and the Caribbean to come together to reimagine the future working across arts and education. In the context of the Windrush anniversary this programme recognises the significance of Windrush as a key point of Caribbean and UK cultural fusion and the connections it brought between these cultures and seeks to strengthen these connections based on mutual understanding.

Over the course of 2023, The Future of Creativity will create platforms to share learning and experience through cultural events such as film screenings and radio broadcasts and events which bring together creative professionals, teachers and students to reflect, share learning, and opportunities for a wide and diverse range of expressions, opinions and feelings and to shape what the next 75 years should look like.

Anthony Andrews & Teanne Andrews, curators, We Are Parable



THE ARRIVAL

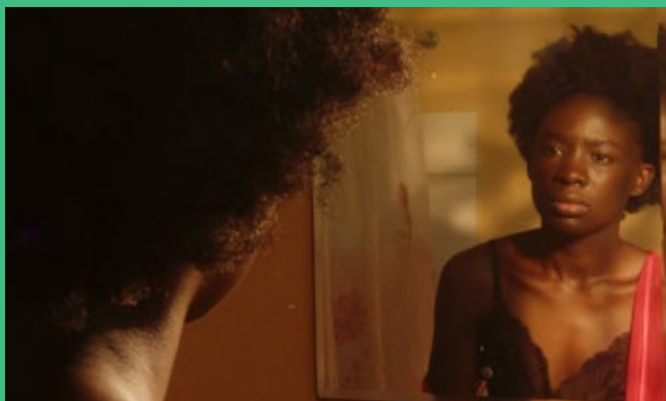


A young Jamaican woman arrives to Britain in 1962 to start a new life with her husband, but she carries a secret that could jeopardize everything.

17 minutes | 2018 | UK | Annetta Laufer



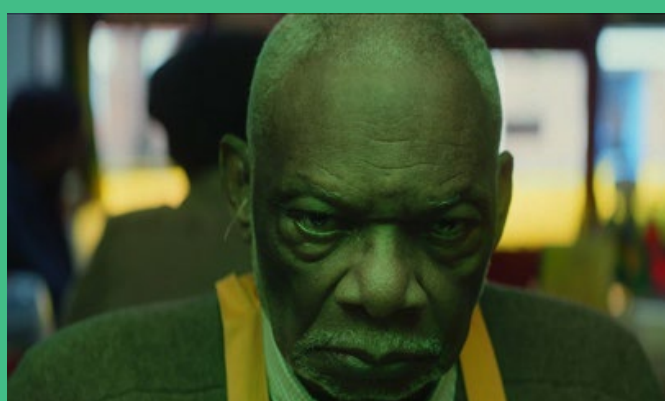
TIME TO GO



Reality begins to unravel for Hyacinth when a woman claiming to be her daughter arrives at her doorstep on her wedding anniversary.

8 minutes | 2022 | Jamaica | Gemmar Mcfarlane

JERK



A Jamaican man of the community battles depression and disillusionment

9 minutes | 2018 | UK | Raine Allen Miller

OUT OF MANY



Teenage Jamaican girl ‘Asha’ encounters a traumatic experience which ultimately jolts her into reality.

14 minutes | 2020 | Jamaica | Rebecca Williams

MY MAXI



Marcus seeks a closer relationship with his parents, eventually mustering the courage to tell them about his sexual-orientation and journey of self-identity. However, things take a turn when his over-enthusiastic father takes his new relationship with his son to a whole other level...

4 minutes | 2021 | Trinidad and Tobago | Andrei Pierre

DOUBLES WITH SLIGHT PEPPER



A coming-of-age story centred around Dhani, a young street food vendor who must decide if he will help save his estranged father from dying.

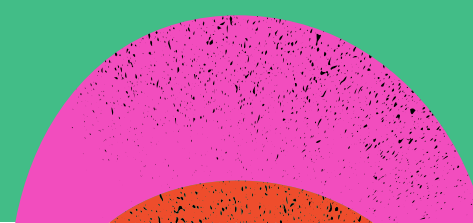
15 minutes | 2011 | Trinidad and Tobago | Ian Harnarine

CARONI



A young West Indian nanny in New York City wants to reunite with her daughter back in Trinidad for her birthday party.

7 minutes | 2017 | Trinidad and Tobago | Ian Harnarine



HOW IT WORKS

The films are cleared for non-commercial screenings. We encourage partners to organise activities alongside screenings eg discussion, music or spoken word performance, or a DJ set. We Are Parable will be curating a playlist that compliments the film programme, and the curators and filmmakers may be available for online introductions and panels.

If you are interested in the programme, please contact We Are Parable via email at info@weareparable.com. They can provide you with links to preview the films on Vimeo.

Films will be available as downloadable files from Vimeo. We Are Parable can provide synopses, stills, and SRT English and Spanish subtitle files.

In addition, we offer a guide of 'wraparound events' that complement the screenings and speak directly to the wider themes of the programme that we have mentioned above. Ideally, we would like to create the opportunity for artists to provide a response to the idea of either 'rebuilding' or 'reclaiming' space. This could take the form of a spoken word, musical or movement performance to engage the audience with. This is also to encourage festivals or venues to curate discussions that enable participants and the audience to engage in some of the areas that both the programme and its subsequent films evoke. We believe that by allowing these wraparound events to flourish, the conversations that emerge from the programme will endure, leading to what we hope will be a more detailed understanding of Black Cinema from around the world.



ABOUT WE ARE PARABLE

We Are Parable is an award-winning platform that provides opportunities for global audiences to experience and respond to Black Cinema in culturally relevant and unique ways.

Over the past 10 years, We Are Parable has established itself as a platform that celebrates Black Cinema by creating unforgettable events in the UK and around the world.

www.weareparable.com

ABOUT THE BRITISH COUNCIL

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities, working with over 100 countries across the world. Arts is a cornerstone of the British Council's mission to support peace and prosperity by building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and countries worldwide.

www.britishcouncil.org/film



FURTHER RESOURCES:

These films should be seen as an entry point for further discussion about the legacy of UK and Caribbean communities. As curators, We Are Parable have collated a list of additional resources which hopefully provide context to some of the films shown. Please note that the following section is informational purposes only and not endorsed by We Are Parable and the British Council.

THE RUNNYMEDE TRUST

The UK's leading independent race equality think tank.

www.runnymedetrust.org

WINDRUSH 75

The Windrush 75 network aims to make 2023 a year of celebrations to mark the 75th anniversary of the Windrush. Everybody is invited to take part. The network helps to broaden public recognition of the contribution of the original Windrush Pioneers, as well as increasing public understanding of the history of race and migration to Britain across the decades.

www.windrush75.org

WINDRUSH FOUNDATION

Windrush Foundation is a registered charity that designs and delivers heritage projects, programmes and initiatives which highlight African and Caribbean peoples' contributions to UK public services, the Arts, commerce, and other areas of socio-economic and cultural life in Britain and the Commonwealth

www.windrushfoundation.com

BLACK CULTURAL ARCHIVES

Archive and heritage centre, devoted to the histories of people of African and Caribbean descent in Britain.

www.blackculturalarchives.org

STEPHEN LAWRENCE FOUNDATION

The Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation exists to inspire a more equitable, inclusive society and to foster opportunities for marginalised young people in the UK.

www.stephenlawrenceday.org

SIR LENNY HENRY CENTRE FOR MEDIA & DIVERSITY

An independent new body working to achieve accurate representation of all sections of society across contemporary UK media.

www.bcu.ac.uk/media/research/sir-lenny-henry-centre-for-media-diversity

THE WORLD REIMAGINED

The World Reimagined Learning Programme empowers schools, colleges and community groups working with young people to create a future where racial justice is better understood. Created with artists, teachers and educationalists, our Learning Programme is an experiential and transformative journey for students, teachers and school communities.

www.theworldreimagined.org

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

JAFTA

Non-profit association representing the interests of the Film & TV industry of Jamaica.

www.jaftaonline.org

FILMCO TT

Non-Profit organisation in Trinidad and Tobago, formed out of the shared belief that creative, audio visual work has value in terms of its ability to be a conduit to creative and artistic expression.

www.filmco.org

SWEET PATOOTE ARTS

SWEET PATOOTE ARTS is rooted in a passion for storytelling and Caribbean heritage. We are driven by a shared belief that everyone has a story to tell; and storytelling can be a social catalyst for multicultural audiences to participate in, learn from and engage with.

www.sweetpatoote.co.uk/sweet-patoote-arts

