

Gallery Copy

Blue Black Library
Jun 9–Oct 7, 2017

Pulitzer
Arts
Foundation

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In response to the exhibition *Blue Black*, curated by Glenn Ligon, the Pulitzer Arts Foundation has invited artists, writers, musicians, and educators to select books, albums, films, and other media to compose an interdisciplinary library. Contributors responded to the themes of blue and black by considering historical, political, formal, social, and metaphysical references.

With items ranging from bestselling novels to avant-garde jazz albums and a tarot deck, the Blue Black Library includes the selections of more than a dozen guest contributors. In addition to the books, films, records, and objects, the library also includes exhibition references and a music playlist. Interestingly, several works—such as Barry Jenkins’s 2016 film *Moonlight* or Joni Mitchell’s 1971 album *Blue*—were listed by multiple contributors. In these and other ways, the library selections reflect the complexity of the exhibition and expand upon the nuanced conversations that emerge between the works on view.

To continue these ongoing conversations, we invite you to contribute to the Blue Black Library. We will be adding new titles and playlists as the exhibition progresses; send us your suggestions by writing them on the sheet found on the record table, or by emailing programs@pulitzerarts.org.

To see a full and up-to-date list of materials in the Blue Black Library, visit pulitzerarts.org.

Guest Contributors

Brandon Anschutz is an artist and gallery director based in St. Louis, Anschutz's work concentrates on the materiality of painting and its intersection with sculpture and installation. Anschutz's work has been shown in a broad range of locations.

50 Song Memoir (2017)

by The Magnetic Fields

Album

American War (2017)

by Omar El Akkad

Book

Blue (1971)

by Joni Mitchell

Album

New York: 2140 (2017)

by Kim Stanley Robinson

Book

Parable of the Sower (1993)

by Octavia Butler

Book

Paris is Burning (1990)*

directed by Jenny Livingston

Film

"S-Town" (2017)*

by Serial and This American Life

Podcast

Victoria Donaldson is the founder/organizer of Black Cinema Club, a quarterly event featuring films and discussions on matters regarding the African diaspora. Under the moniker Cleo Jones, Ms. Donaldson co-hosts the radio program RWTHNTC with Nappy DJ Needles on 88.1 KDHX.

good kid, m.A.A.d. city (2012)

by Kendrick Lamar

Album

Let the Fire Burn (2013)*

directed by Jason Osder

Film

Mo' Better Blues (1990)*

directed by Spike Lee

Film

Moonlight (2016)*

directed by Barry Jenkins

Film

New Amerykah, Part One

(*4th World War*) (2008)

by Erykah Badu

Album

Ptah, the El Daoud (1970)

by Alice Coltrane

Album

The Epic (2015)

by Kamasi Washington

Album

Phillip Dunlap is an Iowa-born musician and educator living in St. Louis. Dunlap currently serves as Director of Education and Community Engagement at Jazz St. Louis—a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to lead its community in advancing the uniquely American art of jazz through live performance, education, and outreach.

Black, Brown and Beige (1958)

by Duke Ellington

Album

Kind of Blue (1959)

by Miles Davis

Album

Mingus Ah Um (1959)

by Charles Mingus

Album

The Shape of Jazz to Come (1959)

by Ornette Coleman

Album

Time Out (1959)

by Dave Brubeck

Album

Darby English is the author of *1971: A Year in the Life of Color* (U. of Chicago Press, 2016) and *How to See a Work of Art in Total Darkness* (MIT Press, 2007). He is the Carl Darling Buck Professor of Art History and the College at the University of Chicago.

“Serves Me Right to Suffer” (1995)**

by John Lee Hooker and Van Morrison

Song

Audubon’s Birds of America

(*Tiny Folio Edition*) (2005)

by Roger Tory Peterson

Book

Black is a Color (2015)

by Raymond Saunders

Catalogue

Cosmos: A Personal Voyage (PBS, 1980)*

directed by Adrian Malone

Film

Dusk and Other Stories (1998)

by James Salter

Book

Everything That Rises Must Converge (1965)

by Flannery O’Connor

Book

Nocturne: The Art of James McNeill Whistler

(1964)

by Denys Sutton

Book

The Blue Planet (BBC, 2001)*

directed by Alastair Fothergill

Film

Olubukola Gbadegesin is a joint-appointed Assistant Professor in the African-American Studies Program and the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, Art History, at Saint Louis University. Her research interests include portraiture, photography, and the politics of representation in Africa and the Diaspora. She is currently working on a manuscript on early photographic practices in Nigeria, titled, *Picturing the Modern Self: Politics, Identity, and Self-Fashioning in Lagos, 1861–1934*.

“Afro Blue” (1959)**

by Abbey Lincoln

Song

“Deadly Force, in Black and White” (2014)

by Ryan Gabrielson, Ryann Grochowski

Jones, and Eric Sagara for ProPublica

Article

“In the Belly of the Beast”: Black Power, Anti-imperialism, and the African Liberation Solidarity Movement, 1968–1975 (2007)*

by Fanon-Che Wilkins

Book

“Redbone” (2016)**

by Childish Gambino

Song

“West African Indigo Cloth” (1978)

by Marietta B. Joseph

Article

Blues People: Negro Music in White America (1963)
by Leroi Jones (Amiri Baraka)
Book

Exhibiting Blackness: African Americans and the American Art Museum (2011)
by Bridget R. Cooks
Book

“America in Black and Blue”
PBS NewsHour Weekend Special
(PBS, 2016)
Film

Byron Kim is a painter living in Brooklyn, San Diego, and Mexico City. More often than not, his paintings use color to focus on the relationship between everything and nothing.

“Move, Daniel” (1984)**
by The McIntosh County Shouters
Song

A Field Guide to Getting Lost (2005)
by Rebecca Solnit
Book

Art as Art: The Selected Writings of Ad Reinhardt (1991)
edited by Barbara Rose
Book

Lightnin’ Sam Hopkins (1961)
by Lightnin’ Sam Hopkins
Album

Vision and Art: The Biology of Seeing (2002)
by Margaret Livingstone
Book

Yves Klein: Incandescence (2013)
by Frédéric Prot
Book

Ingrid LaFleur is an artist, curator, cultural producer, arts advocate, pleasure activist, founder of AFROTOPIA, and candidate for mayor of Detroit. Her work centers on using Afrofuturism as a tool for psychosocial healing.

Adventures in Paradise (1975)
by Minnie Riperton
Album

Black Quantum Futurism: Theory and Practice, Volume 1 (2015)
by Rasheedah Phillips
Book

Black Radical Imagination (2015)
curated by Erin Christovale and Amir George
Film

“Shrine of the Black Medusa” (2017)
by Casey Rocheteau
Tarot Cards

Siboney (2014)*
by Joiri Minaya
Film

Towards a Walk in the Sun (2012)*
by Robert Pruitt
Book

Who Fears Death (2010)
by Nnedi Okorafor
Book

World Galaxy (1972)
by Alice Coltrane
Album

Glenn Ligon is an American artist who lives and works in New York. Educated at Wesleyan University, his work has been the subject of numerous solo museum exhibitions internationally and is held in the permanent

collections of museums worldwide, including Tate Modern in London and The Museum of Modern Art in New York. Ligon is the guest-curator of *Blue Black*.

Voyage of the Sable Venus and Other Poems (2015)
by Robin Coste Lewis
Book

1971: A Year in the Life of Color (2016)
by Darby English
Book

Bound to Appear: Art, Slavery, and the Site of Blackness (2013)
by Huey Copeland
Book

Moonlight (2016)*
directed by Barry Jenkins
Film

"Still Processing" (2016)*
by Jenna Wortham and Wesley Morris
Podcast

Thanksgiving at the Vanguard (2017)*
by Jason Moran and the Bandwagon
Album

Love Is The Message, The Message Is Death (2016)*
by Arthur Jafa
Artwork

Jason Moran is a Grammy-nominated jazz musician, composer, and recording artist based in New York. The recipient of a 2010 MacArthur Fellowship, Moran's work includes the musical scores for director Ava DuVernay's documentary *The 13th*, as well as DuVernay's award-winning film *Selma*.

"(What Did I Do To Be So) Black and Blue" (1930)**
by Ethel Waters
Song

"Black Blues" (1983)*
by Henry Threadgill Sextet
Song

"Blue Cellophane" (1945)**
by Duke Ellington
Song

"Blue" (1985)**
by Geri Allen
Song

"Buck" (1967)**
by Nina Simone
Song

"DNA." (2017)**
by Kendrick Lamar
Song

Killer of Sheep (1978)*
directed by Charles Burnett
Film

Duro Olowu is a renowned fashion designer and curator based in London, whose womenswear collections are shown twice a year during London Fashion Week. Mr. Olowu also recently curated the exhibition *Making & Unmaking* at the Camden Arts Centre in London, which featured the work of over 70 contemporary artists.

"Brilliant Corners" (1957)**
by Thelonious Monk
Song

Aja (1977)
by Steely Dan
Album

The Art of African Textiles (1997)

by Duncan Clarke

Book

Black Girl (1966)

directed by Ousmane Sèmbène

Book

Blue (1971)

by Joni Mitchell

Album

Daughters of the Dust (1991)

directed by Julie Dash

Film

Diva (1981)

directed by Jean-Jacques Beineix

Film

Elis (1972)

by Elis Regina

Album

Farm (2002)*

by Jackie Nickerson

Book

I Shot Andy Warhol (1996)*

directed by Mary Harron

Film

Irving Penn: Photographs of Dahomey 1967

(2004)

by Frances Herskovits

Book

Keep Me In Mind (1970)

by Miriam Makeba

Album

Live! (1971)

by Fela Ransome-Kuti and the Africa '70 with

Ginger Baker

Album

Making & Unmaking (2016)

by Duro Olowu

Book

*Man with a Blue Scarf: On Sitting for a
Portrait by Lucian Freud* (2010)

by Martin Gayford

Book

Paris Blues (1961)*

directed by Martin Ritt

Film

Pieces of a Man (1971)

by Gil Scott-Heron

Album

Tank (1998)*

Magazine

The Bluest Eye (1970)

by Toni Morrison

Book

The Fire Next Time (1963)

by James Baldwin

Book

The Man Died: Prison Notes of Wole Soyinka
(1971)

by Wole Soyinka

Book

The Red Shoes (1948)*

directed by Michael Powell

Film

The Romantic View (2015)*

Magazine

Waiting for Happiness (2002)*

directed by Abderrahmane Sissako

Film

Stella Paul is an art historian educated at Harvard University and the University of Southern California. Prior to her twenty-four year tenure at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she served as Museum Educator-in-Charge of Exhibitions and Communication, she ran the Southern California efforts for the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art. Paul lives in New York City.

Blue: The History of a Color (2001)
by Michel Pastoureau
Book

Bright Earth: Art and the Invention of Color (2002)
by Philip Ball
Book

Chromaphilia: The Story of Colour in Art (2017)
by Stella Paul
Book

Color and Culture: Practice and Meaning from Antiquity to Abstraction (1999)
by John Gage
Book

Color Chart: Reinventing Color, 1950 to Today (2008)
by Ann Temkin
Book

Colori: Emotions of Color in Art (2017)
by Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev
Book

Colour after Klein: Rethinking Colour in Modern and Contemporary Art (2005)
by Jane Alison
Book

Colour (2008)
by David Batchelor
Book

How Culture Conditions the Colours We See (1985)
by Umberto Eco
Book

Il Libro dell'arte (c. 1400)
by Cennino d'Andrea Cennini
Book

Interaction of Color – 50th Anniversary Edition (2013)
by Josef Albers
Book

Primary Sources: Selected Writings on Color (1991)
by Patricia Sloane
Book

Carl Phillips is the author, most recently, of *Reconnaissance* (winner of the PEN/USA Award in Poetry and the Lambda Literary Award in Poetry, 2016) and *Wild Is the Wind*, forthcoming from Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2018.

“Back to Black” (2006)**
by Amy Winehouse
Song

“Black is the Color of My True Love’s Hair” (1965)**
by Nina Simone
Song

“Blue Blackness (Smooth Edit)” (2003)
by Alan Smithee
Song

“Fool to Cry” (1976)**
by Rolling Stones
Song

"This Bitter Earth" (1964)**

by Aretha Franklin

Song

In the Heat of the Night (1967)*

directed by Norman Jewison

Film

On Being Blue: A Philosophical Inquiry (1976)

by William H. Gass

Book

The Bluest Eye (1970)

by Toni Morrison

Book

Eugene B. Redmond is the author and editor of twenty-five volumes of poetry, plays, and hybrid works. He is the recipient of fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pushcart Prize, and the American Book Awards, among others. Redmond is an Emeritus Professor of English at Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville and the Poet Laureate for East St. Louis.

"Sweet/Black Dada Nihilismus" (1964)**

by Amiri Baraka & The New York Art Quartet

Recording

"Point from which Creation Begins": The Black Artists' Group of St. Louis (2014)

by Benjamin Looker

Book

26 Ways of Looking at a Black Man and Other Poems (1969)

by Raymond R. Patterson

Book

Afro Horn Mix (2012)*

by Francisco Mora Catlett, et al.

Album

Black Pearls: The Poetry of Maya

Angelou (1969)*

by Maya Angelou

Recording

Black Rainbows: The Colors and Self-Images of African American Girls (2008)*

directed by Marie A. Celestin-Young

Film

Black Spirits: Festival of New Black Poets in America (1972)

by various artists

Album

Drumvoices Revue, Vol. 17 (2012)*

edited by Eugene B. Redmond

Book

Drumvoices Revue, Vol. 3 (1993)*

guest-edited by Jayne Cortez

Book

Eighty Moods of Maya & Other Photo-Poetic Moments (2008)*

edited by Howard Rambsy II

Book

Folk Music of Ethiopia (1951)*

by various artists

Album

Goodbye, Sweetwater: New and Selected Stories (1958)

by Henry Dumas

Book

Let Loose on the World: Celebrating Amiri Baraka at 75 (2009)*

edited by Ted Wilson, et al.

Book

New Beginnings (2017)*

by Montez Coleman

Album

Treasure Shields Redmond, a Mississippi native, is a poet, speaker, diversity and inclusion coach, and social justice educator. You can purchase her book, *Chop: A Collection of Kwansabas for Fannie Lou Hamer*, at www.FemininePronoun.com.

"After Mecca": Women Poets and the Black Arts Movement (2004)
by Cheryl Clarke
Book

Black Queer Studies: A Critical Anthology (2005)
edited by E. Patrick Johnson
Book

Carmen and Geoffrey (2005)
directed by Nick Doob
Film

Eat Out More Often (1970)**
by Rudy Ray Moore
Album

For My People (1969)
by Margaret Walker
Book

Four-Pack of Royal Crown Hair Dressing

Good Things to Eat, As Suggested by Rufus (1911)
by Rufus Estes
Book

Sojourner Truth collectible doll*

Songs My Mother Taught Me (2015)**
by Fannie Lou Hamer
Recording

Speak, So You Can Speak Again: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston (2004)
by Lucy Anne Hurston
Book

The Black Book (African-American History) (1974)
by Middleton A. Harris, et al.
Book

The Negro Motorist Green-Book (1940)
by Victor H. Green
Book

The Sequence Party (1983)
by The Sequence Party
Album

Rebecca Wanzo is an associate professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and associate director of the Center for the Humanities at Washington University. She is the author of *The Suffering Will Not Be Televised: African American Women and Sentimental Political Storytelling* (2009) and various essays about race, feminism, popular culture, and political discourse.

"Am I Blue?" (1929)**
by Ethel Waters
Song

"Never to Dream of Spiders" (1986)
by Audre Lorde
Poem

"Sonny's Blues" (1957)
by James Baldwin
Short story

"Story Books on a Kitchen Table" (1976)
by Audre Lorde
Poem

Bayou, Vol. 1 and 2 (2009)
by Jeremy Love
Graphic novel

Black is Blue (2014)*
directed by Cheryl Dunye
Film

Blue Collar (1978)*
directed by Paul Schrader
Film

Moonlight (2016)*
directed by Barry Jenkins
Film

Nobody and Other Songs (1981)
by Bert Williams
Album

We Stories is a St. Louis-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting inclusive children's literature and providing families with resources, connections, and opportunities for advancing racial equity.

Blues Journey (2003)
by Walter Dean Myers
Book

It Jes' Happened: When Bill Traylor Started to Draw (2012)
by Don Tate
Book

Jazz Day: The Making of a Famous Photograph (2016)
by Roxane Orgill
Book

The Bat Boy and His Violin (2001)
by Gavin Curtis
Book

The Great Migration: Journey to the North (2010)
by Eloise Greenfield
Book

Underground: Finding the Light to Freedom (2015)
by Shane W. Evans
Book

Wings (2000)
by Christopher Myers
Book

* Item not featured in on-site library

** Selection featured in Spotify playlist,
available at pulitzerarts.org

Staff Recommendations

Awaken, My Love! (2016)

by Childish Gambino
Album

“Black Spiderman” (2017)**

by Logic ft. Damian Lemar Hudson
Song

blisters (2017)

serpentwithfeet
Album

“Blue Bayou” (1954)**

by Roy Orbison
Song

Bluets (2009)

by Maggie Nelson
Book

*Blutopia: Visions of the Future and Revisions
of the Past in the Work of Sun Ra, Duke
Ellington, and Anthony Braxton* (1999)

by Graham Lock
Book

Bo Diddley (1955)

by Bo Diddley
Album

Ceremonies (1992)

by Essex Hemphill
Book

Chromophobia (1997)

by David Batchelor
Book

“Come Out” (1966)**

by Steve Reich
Recording

Equilibrium (2002)*

directed by Kurt Wimmer
Film

*Eva Taylor and Clarence Williams’s Blue Five:
1925–1926* (1926)

by Eva Taylor and Clarence Williams
Album

Fahrenheit 451 (1953)

by Ray Bradbury
Book

Fantastic Sagas (2013)

by Robert Pruitt and Matthew Johnson
Book

Gathering Blue (2000)

by Lois Lowry
Book

Homegoing (2016)

by Yaa Gyasi
Book

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (1969)

by Maya Angelou
Book

I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem (1986)

by Maryse Condé
Book

Indigo (1998)

by Jenny Balfour-Paul
Book

Kind of Blue (1959)

by Miles Davis
Album

On Being Blue: A Philosophical Inquiry (1976)

by William H. Gass
Book

One (2008)
by Kathryn Otoshi
Book

*Special thanks to Alice Blue Collective
for providing fresh flowers for the library.*

Oreo (1974)
by Fran Ross
Book

Peetie Wheatstraw LP (1975)
by Peetie Wheatstraw
Album

Reflections in Blue (1987)
by Sun Ra
Album

"Saint Louis Blues" (1929)**
by Bessie Smith and Louis Armstrong
Song

Tape Two (2013)
by Young Fathers
Album

The Black Book of Colors (2008)
by Menena Cottin
Book

The Dress Lodger (2010)
by Sheri Holman
Book

The Girl Who Fell From the Sky (2011)
by Heidi W. Durrow
Book

Voices in the Night (2015)
by Steve Millhauser
Book

*What a Wonderful World: The Magic of Louis
Armstrong's Later Years* (2012)
by Ricky Riccardi
Book

About the Pulitzer

The Pulitzer Arts Foundation presents experimental, progressive, and multidisciplinary exhibitions and programs, inspiring audiences to think differently about art and its relationship to their lives. Deeply committed to serving the St. Louis community, the Pulitzer has become an integral part of both the Grand Center Arts District and the broader cultural and civic landscape of St. Louis.

Location

3716 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
@pulitzerarts
pulitzerarts.org

Hours

Wednesday, 10am–5pm
Thursday, 10am–8pm
Friday, 10am–8pm
Saturday, 10am–5pm

Free Admission & Parking

