

WHO WE ARE

A Chronicle of Racism in America

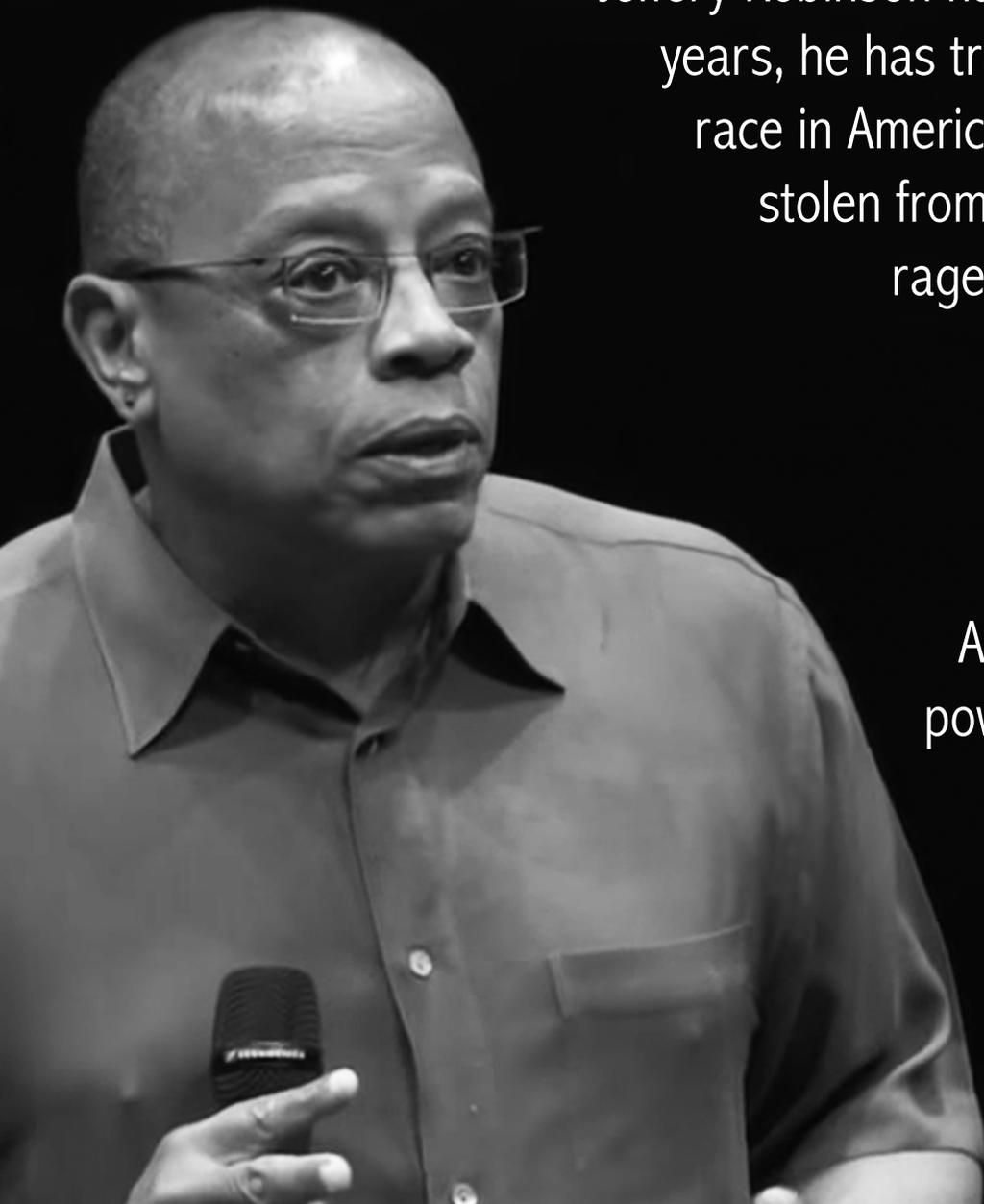
The secret history of our country hides in plain sight

Synopsis

On the evening of Juneteenth, June 19, 2018, at New York City's historic Town Hall theater, Jeffery Robinson will tell the truth about our nation's history. This night of bitter truths and transcendent performances will lift us up and shake us to the core. ***Who We Are – A Chronicle of Racism in America*** will be the basis for a feature documentary on the history of racism in America, a provocative and terrifying, yet intellectually exhilarating, look at the hidden history of this country as a means for understanding the complexities of the world we inhabit today.



JEFFERY ROBINSON



For over three decades, attorney (and now ACLU Deputy Legal Director) Jeffrey Robinson has devoted his career to racial justice. In recent years, he has travelled the country speaking hard truths about race in America. “Our history,” he tells audiences, “has been stolen from us.” Weaving heartbreak, humor, passion, and rage, Robinson takes us through this stolen history, showing us how the legacy of slavery and U.S. imperialism impacts every aspect of our society.

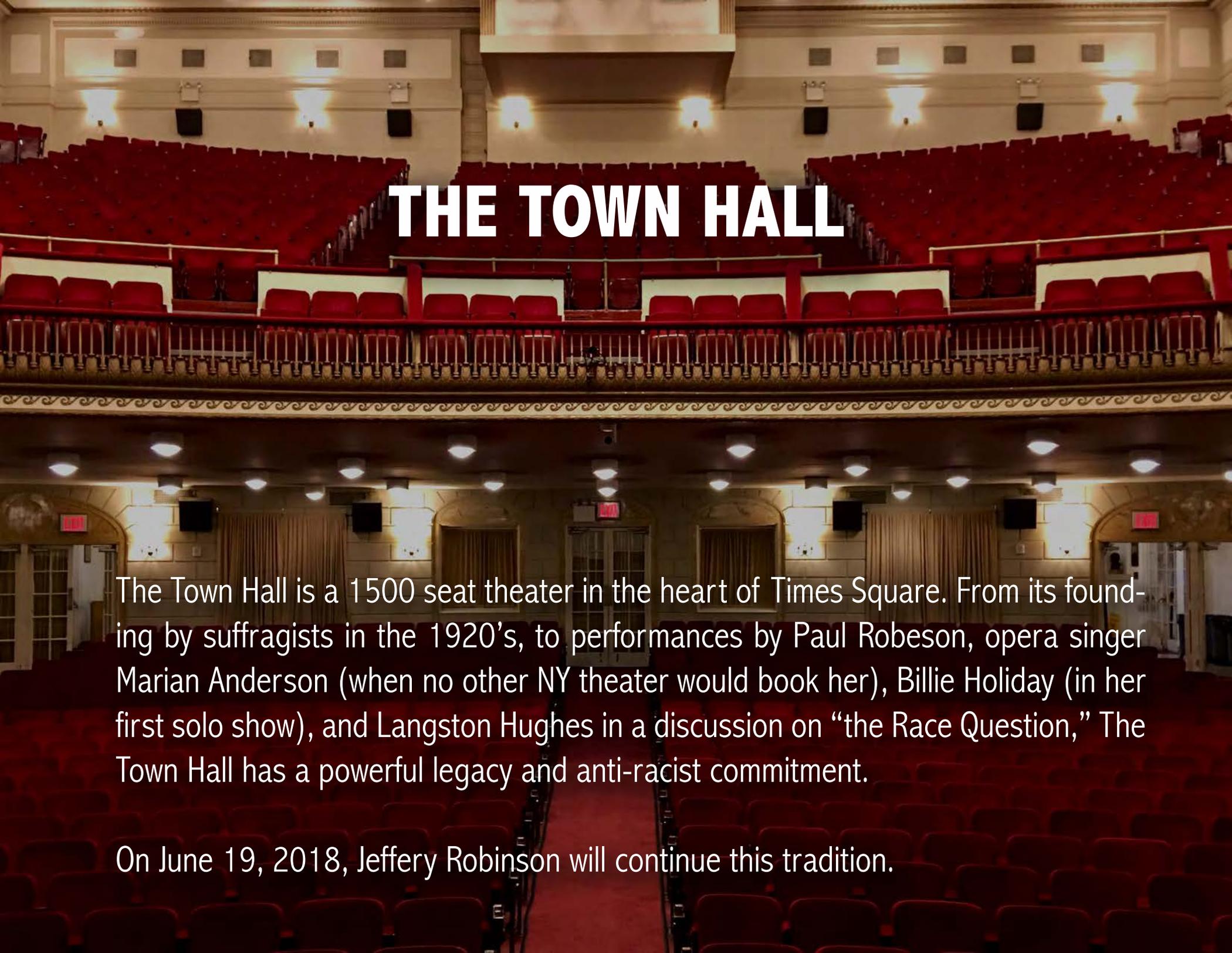
A trial lawyer by training, Robinson has crafted a powerful closing argument, exhorting his listeners to acknowledge where we come from and face who we are. His words lay bare an all-but-forgotten past, as well as our shared responsibility to create a better country in our lifetimes.

The Moment is Now

Black lives continue to be lost at the hands of law enforcement, hate crimes are on the rise, voting rights laws are being dismantled, immigrants are demonized, and dissent is criminalized.

In Robinson's words, "We are at a tipping point. The walls that we build between each other based on race, based on wealth, they are not high enough to keep the tide back. And if we don't deal with this, it will tear us apart."

AMERICA, ~~1968~~ 2015

The image shows the interior of The Town Hall theater. The foreground is filled with rows of red seats. In the middle ground, there is a balcony with a decorative railing, also featuring red seats. The background shows the theater's facade with several arched doorways and windows, illuminated by warm lights. The overall atmosphere is that of a grand, historic performance space.

THE TOWN HALL

The Town Hall is a 1500 seat theater in the heart of Times Square. From its founding by suffragists in the 1920's, to performances by Paul Robeson, opera singer Marian Anderson (when no other NY theater would book her), Billie Holiday (in her first solo show), and Langston Hughes in a discussion on "the Race Question," The Town Hall has a powerful legacy and anti-racist commitment.

On June 19, 2018, Jeffery Robinson will continue this tradition.

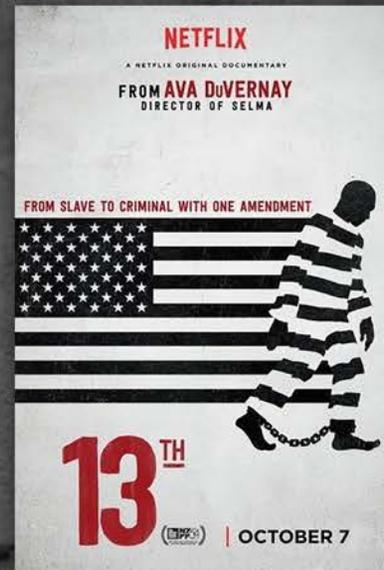
Market Comparisons

Films covering some similar subjects and themes, or that share a similar aesthetic, with *Who We Are* that have won critical acclaim and also had extensive educational outreach campaigns.



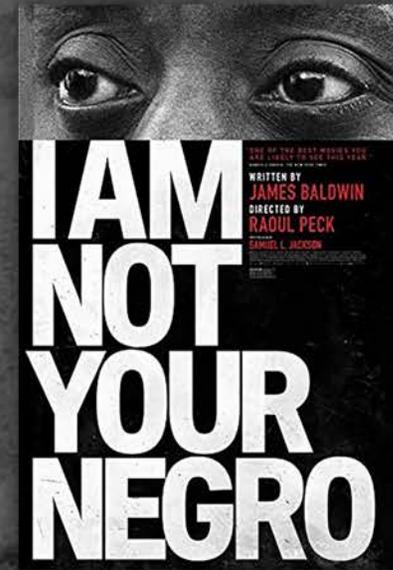
An Inconvenient Truth

Won, Best Documentary Feature, 2006 Academy Awards.



Thirteenth

Nominated for Best Documentary Feature, 2017 Academy Awards.



I Am Not Your Negro

Nominated for Best Documentary Feature, 2017 Academy Awards.

Outreach & Distribution

JUNE 19

We will invite those most impacted by Robinson's words including 200 seats reserved for high school students from the charter school, Facing History and Ourselves; 100 seats for students from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 50 for members of law enforcement, from prosecutors to beat cops; and 50 for formerly incarcerated persons.

DOCUMENTARY

Our distribution plan includes a festival run and broadcast of the 90-minute documentary on television or streaming service.

Our goal is to engage diverse American audiences and to inspire them to dig deeper into our collective history and to share that history with others. Our outreach plan and engagement campaign includes the development of a website and social media campaign, special event screenings with Jeffery Robinson and other influencers who participate in the June 19 performance, as well as the coordination of free school screenings across the country, reaching middle, high school, and college students. We will partner with a diverse group of educators to design a middle and high school curriculum, as well as a general audience "screening toolkit" so that **Who We Are** can be used in classrooms and at community events across the country. Segments of the history that Robinson relates will be broken down into discrete lessons that will be freely available for educators, students, and others.from the

Production Team



Gbenga Akinnagbe
Producer/Director

Gbenga Akinnagbe was born in Washington, D.C. to Nigerian parents and grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland. He is the second oldest of six children, one older sister and four younger brothers. Gbenga Akinnagbe's career defining turn as "Chris Partlow" in *THE WIRE* led to numerous runs on cable and network including *24: LIVE ANOTHER DAY*, *BARBERSHOP*, *THE FOLLOWING*, *NURSE JACKIE*, and *THE GOOD WIFE*.

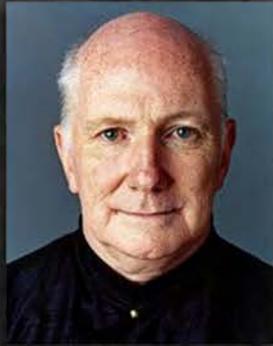
Most recently, he had a great supporting role in Kathryn Bigelow's *DETROIT* set against the backdrop of Detroit's 1967 riots. In addition, he reunited with David Simon for a lead series regular role on *THE DEUCE* for HBO opposite James Franco and Maggie Gyllenhall. He recently wrapped shooting the lead role on *STARBRIGHT* with Ted Levine (*SHUTTER ISLAND*) and John Rhys-Davies (*THE LORD OF THE RINGS*), as well as *ALL THE DEVIL'S MEN* opposite Milo Gibson (*HACKSAW RIDGE*) and William Fichtner (*THE DARK KNIGHT RISES*), and the indie comedy *EGG* opposite Christina Hendricks (*MAD MEN*), Anna Camp (*PITCH PERFECT*), and Alysia Reiner (*ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK*).

Production Team



Emily & Sarah Kunstler
Producers/Directors

Emily Kunstler and Sarah Kunstler run Off Center Productions, a company that produces documentaries exposing injustice in the criminal justice system. The sisters founded Off Center in 2000, and have produced, directed, and edited a number of documentaries, including “William Kunstler: Disturbing the Universe,” an award-winning feature documentary, which premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, screened in over 40 other festivals, was released theatrically in 26 cities, and opened the 2010 season of POV on PBS. Their films have contributed to campaigns to stay executions, convince decision makers to reopen cases, and exonerate the wrongfully convicted.



Allan Buchman
Producer

Allan Buchman founded the Culture Project, a non-profit, NYC-based theater company known for focusing an artistic spotlight on injustice. Producing political plays such as *The Exonerated* and *Guantanamo*, the *New York Times Magazine* calls Buchman, “the master of political stagecraft.” Buchman created initiatives such as *Women Center Stage Festival*, a multi-week series of productions dedicated to women's contributions to the arts, *IMPACT*, a political arts festival, and *Blueprint for Accountability*, an ongoing initiative to encourage the public to hold our leaders and ourselves accountable for the events of the past and the conditions of the future. Buchman avows that the highlight of his 20-year career is his ongoing relationship with the United Nations, where he has produced 2 major events in the UN General Assembly Hall: a concert commemorating the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, and a concert to celebrate the work of the Peacekeepers on UN Day.

Production Team



Vanessa Hope
Producer

Vanessa Hope began her film career in China, where she has produced multiple award-winning films in China including Wang Quanan's "The Story Of Ermei" (Berlin Film Festival, 2004) and Chantal Akerman's "Tombee De Nuit Sur Shanghai" (Berlin Film Festival, 2007). Her feature documentary directorial debut, "All Eyes And Ears," premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2015, and was released in December 2016. Her U.S. producing credits include Zeina Durra's "The Imperialists Are Still Alive!" (Sundance Film Festival, 2010); Joel Schumacher's "Twelve" (Sundance, 2010); and the Academy award shortlisted feature documentary, "William Kunstler: Disturbing The Universe" by Sarah and Emily Kunstler (Sundance, 2009).



Ivy Climacosa
Graphic Designer

Design Action Collective is a worker-owned and managed cooperative and a union shop that provides graphic design and visual communications for progressive, non profit, and social change organizations.

Ivy Climacosa, Graphic Designer: Ivy is a graduate of San Francisco State University's Art Education and Asian American Studies program and studied graphic design at City College of San Francisco. She's been organizing in the Bay Area Filipino community for the last ten years and currently organizes with Babae-GABRIELA USA and serves on the board of the Filipino Community Center in San Francisco.

Raymond Gilliar
Communication Strategist

Raymond Gilliar is a strategist specializing in criminal justice at the American Civil Liberties Union. Prior to joining the ACLU he worked in direct-market advertising and New York electoral politics. He received his B.A. in History from Dartmouth College, and was a Sudikoff Foundation grant recipient for post-graduate language studies.



Andrea Crabtree
Special Assistant
to Jeffery Robinson

Andrea Crabtree has been a paralegal for criminal defense lawyers for almost 30 years with over 15 of those years committed to working with Jeffery Robinson, in private practice and now at the ACLU in NYC. She has dedicated much of her time to issues such as crisis intervention, abolishing the death penalty, and influencing the criminal justice system by supporting those who are caught in it.

Presented by



LIBERATED PEOPLE

Liberated People is a production company and lifestyle brand designed to inspire people to act. Founded in 2012 by actor and activist Gbenga Akinnagbe (*The Wire*, *24*, *The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3* and *The Savages*) LP highlights the liberation dates of nation states around the world. Dates of Liberation unite us as global citizens through our common struggle for liberation in all its forms, both personal and political. By intersecting art, culture and politics LP helps to create change in the world. Liberated People has the goal of mobilizing the demobilized populace in an effort to further the cause of global citizenry. Through information and broadening the scope of dialogue we aim to empower the masses with the knowledge that our struggles unite us more than our differences. Together we have the numbers and strength to create a fairer and more just global society. Speak truth to power.

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Thank you for your interest

CONTACT

Emily Kunstler

516-500-2638

info@off-center.com