

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, 26 September 2011

# **UPRISING:**

## **BLACK RESISTANCE ON SCREEN**

*Black History Month season on protest & politics*

A series of films & discussions examine the uprisings experienced by people of African origin separated by time and two continents. The selection ranges from the civil rights struggle in **THE HELP** and **BLACK POWER MIXTAPE** to corrupt politics & exploitation in Ghana and Congo in **BLOOD IN THE MOBILE** and **AN AFRICAN ELECTION**. **THE INTERRUPTERS**, in following ex-gang members intervening in violence plaguing their community, provides insight into the recent London riots.

**THE NEW BLACK** launched its second film club in June earlier this year with the premiere of *The First Grader*. Its first film club is situated in Cottons Restaurant in Islington but due to the demand for more black titles and a larger capacity seating, a site in a cinema became necessary. So the additional venue became Stratford East Picturehouse which is located on the gateway to the 2012 Olympic Games. The first screening was followed up by *The Story of Lovers Rock* in September and creating a programme for Black History month was the natural next step.



**THE INTERRUPTERS** is a year in the life of three “violence interrupters” from the CeaseFire organisation of Chicago. They work intimately in their communities to intervene in potential incidents before they erupt into full-blown violent episodes and eventually stop the plague of violence sweeping their communities (*dogwoof Ambassador screening*).



**BLOOD IN THE MOBILE** exposes how the minerals used to produce mobiles are very rare, most are sourced from mines in the Eastern DR Congo which are run by warlords who then use the funds to finance their private armies. By purchasing these conflict minerals the companies are financing a civil war that according to human rights organisations has been the bloodiest conflict since World War II (*dogwoof Ambassador screening*).



**THE HELP** is about an aspiring author during the civil rights movement of the 1960's decides to write a book detailing the African American Maid's point of view on the White families they work for, and their hardships they go through on a day to day basis (*in partnership with Rapture Film Club*).



**AN AFRICAN ELECTION** depicts a world plagued by stolen elections, secret government agendas, and a renewed interest in the exploitation of African natural resources, what value does democracy offer, particularly in the tumultuous region of West Africa? For Ghana, a nation that has been Africa's barometer of political stability, democracy may mean the difference between peace and prosperity—and murderous chaos under military coup (*dogwoof Ambassador screening*).



**BLACK POWER MIXTAPE** is an award winning compilation feature documentary that displays the story of the African-American community 1967-1975, the people, the society and the style that fueled a change. Told with sparkling, beautiful and deep footage, lost in the archives in Sweden for 30 years.

These screenings are a commentary on when protest can get out of control or be a vehicle for social change.

**Ends**

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## Editor's Notes

### \*Special mention\*

Please include the following along with the Dogwoof logo -

'An African Election is released on 25 November and Blood in the Mobile on 21 October in selected cinemas'

**The New Black (TNB)** is a network of black filmmakers, exhibitors, educators and distributors in London and spread across the regions.

<http://www.thenewblacknetwork.co.uk/black-history-month.html>

**Rapture** is a film club for faith and family-friendly audiences screening inspirational films.

[www.rapturefilmclub.co.uk](http://www.rapturefilmclub.co.uk)

### **Dogwoof - Good with Film**

Dogwoof is the leading UK independent film distributor for documentary and social issue films. Previous successes include Black Gold, widely credited with shifting Starbucks' position on fairtrade; The Age of Stupid, which led to the 10:10 campaign; The End of the Line, which was largely responsible for Marks & Spencer and Pret a Manger changing their tuna policy; and (in partnership with The Co-operative) the Oscar® Nominated Burma VJ, which on the eve of the 64th Birthday of detained former leader Aung San Sui Kyi, was the first film ever to be screened at No. 10 Downing Street. More recent Dogwoof films include the 2011 Oscar® Nominated documentaries Restrepo, which stands as iTunes highest selling documentary in the UK, and Gasland which exposes the toxic practices of the natural gas industry. As well as achieving great success with these titles, Dogwoof is unique in that it identifies a double bottom-line and sees the potential of film to bring about social change. They recently launched a new website [www.goodwithfilm.com](http://www.goodwithfilm.com) and the Ambassadors programme which seeks to empower local entrepreneurs to screen Dogwoof films prior or during the films' commercial release. For further information please visit [www.dogwoof.com](http://www.dogwoof.com).

<http://goodwithfilm.com/screenings/events/an-african-election>

### **Programme**

Where: Stratford East Picturehouse  
Salway Road, Stratford, London E15 1BX

Tickets: £5 each or £15 for a cinema pass to all films

When: Thursday, 06 October 2011 | The Interrupters  
Thursday, 13 October 2011 | Blood in the Mobile  
Tuesday, 18 October 2011 | The Help (Rapture Screening)  
Thursday, 20 October 2011 | An African Election  
Thursday, 27 October 2011 | Black Power Mixtape

Times: Doors open @ 7pm  
Films start @ 8pm

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