

Parallel Worlds: Films by Ephraim Asili
Tuesday, November 1st, 7:00 PM
Keefe Campus Center Theater

I. “Forged Ways,” 2011, 16mm on video, color, sound, 15 min

“Photographed on location in Harlem, and various locations throughout Ethiopia the film oscillates between the first person account of a film maker, the third person experience of a man navigating the streets of Harlem, and day to day life in the cities and villages of Ethiopia.” -EA

II. “American Hunger,” 2013, 16mm on video, color, sound, 19 min

“Oscillating between a street festival in Philadelphia, the slave forts and capitol city of Ghana, and the New Jersey shore, “American Hunger,” explores the relationship between personal experience and collective histories. American fantasies confront African realities. African realities confront American fantasies. African fantasies confront American realities. American realities confront African fantasies...” -EA

III. “Many Thousands Gone,” 2015, 16mm on video, color, sound, 8 min

“Filmed on location in Salvador, Brazil (the last city in the Western Hemisphere to outlaw slavery) and Harlem, New York (an international stronghold of the African Diaspora), “Many Thousands Gone” draws parallels between a summer afternoon on the streets of the two cities. A silent version of the film was given to jazz multi-instrumentalist Joe McPhee to use an interpretive score. The final film is the combination of the images and McPhee’s real time “sight reading” of the score.” -EA

IV. “Kindah,” 2016, 16mm on video, color, sound, 12 min

“Shot between the Maroon village of Accompong, Jamaica, and Hudson, New York, the alternately sparse and exultantly polyrhythmic “Kindah” is part of a series of films examining the filmmaker’s relationship to the African diaspora. The title alludes to the mango tree that symbolizes common kinship in the Jamaican Maroon culture.” -EA

TRT ca. 54 min

Conversation between Andrew Ritchey and Ephraim Asili to follow screening. Thanks to Andrew Ritchey for organizing this program in conjunction with the “Black Radical Imagination” screening at Smith College on November 2nd.