

CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS

SPOTLIGHT ON BELIZE, CUBA/BRONX

PLAY, JANKUNU PLAY

Friday, December 7, 2018 at 2 pm

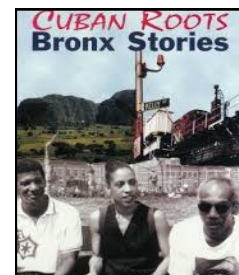


The Garifuna are a Central American people of West African and Native American (Arawak and Carib) descent. **Play, Jankunu Play**, directed **Oliver N. Greene, Jr.** introduces the viewer to *wanaragua*, a three-fold system of masked Christmas processions commonly called Jankunú, where music, dance, and art reflect the past to empower the future. (Belize, 2016, 47 min, English, Spanish | Dir. Oliver N. Greene, Jr.

Introductory Talk by Jose Avila, President, Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc., and General Manager, GALENT Entertainment.

CUBAN ROOTS/BRONX STORIES

Friday, December 28, 2018 at 2 pm



Cuban Roots/Bronx Stories: An Afro-Cuban Coming of Age Story, directed by **Pam Sporn**, highlights the experiences of an Afro-Cuban family of Jamaican/Cuban descent, who migrated to the United States. Through candid interviews, the family reflects on cultural, political, and racial identity -of what was left behind in Cuba and, what was discovered in the Bronx. (Cuba/New York, 2000, 57 min, NR, English | Dir. Pam Sporn)

Introductory Talk: **Dr. Teresita Levy**, Associate Professor, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, and Director of the Center for Global Engagement, Lehman College.


First come, first served
Program Room | Doors open at 1:30 PM



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GUEST SPEAKERS



JOSÉ FRANCISCO ÁVILA, President, Garifuna Coalition USA, Inc., and General Manager, GALENT Entertainment (producers of the Garifuna Music Awards). He is an amateur cultural anthropologist specializing in the curation of the Garifuna tangible cultural heritage and he is the Director of the Garifuna Renaissance Arts and Culture Center which aims to resurrect Garifuna art and culture in New York City.

In July 2018, Mr. Ávila was appointed by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, to the first Advisory Board of the City's Night Economy. He holds a *Smithsonian/Folkways Certification in World Music Pedagogy*, and is an alumnus of the Coro New York Immigrant Civic Leadership Program and the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in Italy.



TERESITA LEVY, PH.D., Director, Center for Global Engagement, and Associate Professor, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, Lehman College.

Professor Levy earned her Ph.D. in History in 2007 from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and has been at Lehman since then. Her book, *Puerto Ricans in the Empire: Tobacco Growers and U.S. Colonialism* was published by Rutgers University Press in 2014. She is currently at work on a new research project, examining the movement of people within Puerto Rico, from 1898 to 1940. She continues to be involved in the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies at the Graduate Center, where she advises students enrolled in the Master of Liberal Arts program.

ABOUT **CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS**

CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS is a bi-monthly program at Mid-Manhattan Library celebrating the history and culture of Caribbean people in our city and around the world. Explore their myriad contributions in the performing and visual arts, literature, sports, history, medicine, entertainment, cinema, politics, religion and more.



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