

AFROS & AUDIO VIRTUAL PODCAST FESTIVAL

Black Audio Dramas Exist

Description:

Don't call it a comeback, audio dramas have been here for years. As Black creatives continue to develop and publish scripted audio stories, it's important to understand, support and invest in this expansive genre.

Audio dramas written, produced, casted, and directed by Black creatives is something we love to see! Join this engaging panel with a few of the members of "Black Audio Dramas", a collective of Black fiction podcast creators. This panel will help demystify the process of audio scriptwriting, casting voice actors, environmental sounds/SFX, etc. while also sharing the realities, wins, and challenges of being a fiction podcast creative.



MODERATOR & PANELISTS:

Moderator:

TBD

Panelists:

Brooklyn Native, **Aisha Casey** is living out her second act in Los Angeles, California. Working in network television for several years, Deadbeats is her first Audio Drama series she created as a proof of concept. With a background in corporate finance and criminal justice and a PHD from Motherhood University, Aisha pulls her stories from years of life experience for richer, for poorer and every which way in-between.

Crystal "Xperience J" Judkins is a self-published author from Alexandria, Virginia. She is also a poet, songwriter, freelance voice over artist and all around creative. Crystal is the co-founder of Two Pens and a Grind Publications, where she continues to self-publish diverse and creatively provocative reads for all to enjoy.

Most recently, she wrote and produced two scripted podcast series (audio dramas), "Past Due Audio Series" and "Kiss: The Audio Series." She has plans of using her love of sound to create innovative audio experiences that will change the face of audio dramas forever.

Yhane Smith is an award-winning filmmaker, writer, producer, folklorist, film festival founder, an A'Leila Bundles Community Scholar at Columbia University and nine-time Lower Manhattan Cultural Council grant recipient.

In 2019, Yhane independently produced and launched *Harlem Queen*, an audio drama based on Madame Stephanie St. Clair, "Numbers Queen" and patron of the Harlem Renaissance. Harlem Queen is listed as a Top Podcast on Apple Podcasts Fiction and on Discover Pods' 14 Audio Drama Podcasts to Get You Hooked on Fiction. *Harlem Queen* recently made an appearance on the ABC primetime documentary, The Story of Soaps.

Yhane was born in Hammonton, New Jersey, the "Blueberry Capital of the World", and now calls Harlem her home.

LOGISTICS:

Date/Time: Saturday, November 14th: 2:50 PM – 3:45 PM

Format: Panel