

The Wolfe Institute

*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
in cooperation with the Department of Africana Studies, the Diversity Projects
Development Fund, Brooklyn College Office of Diversity & Equity Programs,
the School of Visual, Media and Performing Arts, and the Department of Film,
present*

Conversations on Race and Performance: Reverberating Minstrels



11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Echoes of Minstrelsy in American Films

Moderator: Prudence Cumberbatch

Panelists: Ray Allen, George Cunningham, Racquel Gates

12:50 - 2:05 p.m. Spike Lee's Vision: Challenging the Minstrel Trope

Moderator: Paula Massood

Panelists: Mustapha Khan, Mia Mask, Michele Wallace

4 - 5 p.m. Keynote Address

Speaker: filmmaker Spike Lee

Spike Lee is a writer, director, actor, producer, and author who revolutionized the role of Black talent in cinema. Widely regarded as a premiere African-American filmmaker, Lee is a forerunner in the 'do it yourself' school of independent film. An avid sports enthusiast, Lee recently completed a one-day 18-camera documentary shoot focusing on NBA standout Kobe Bryant. Another current project, *Passing Strange* – the critically acclaimed Broadway musical - follows the travels of a young African American musician in search of himself. His most recent theatrical release is *Red Hook Summer*. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, and raised in Brooklyn, Lee returned south to attend Morehouse College. After graduation, he returned to Brooklyn to continue his education at New York University's Tisch School of Arts in Manhattan, where he received his Master of Fine Arts Degree in film production. He founded 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks, based in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn. Additionally, Lee has authored six books on the making of his films, including a children's book entitled *Please, Baby Please* with his wife Tonya Lewis Lee, and most recently authored a retrospective book about his film career entitled, *That's My Story and I'm Sticking To It*.

**Monday, February 25, 2013
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Gold Room, sixth floor
Brooklyn College Student Center
Campus Road and East 27th Street**

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