Honoring Paul Robeson

The Clark Virtual Museum

NEWSLETTER

September 29, 2023

The Clark Virtual Museum
"More Than A Museum, We Honor The Life and Legacy of Our Ancestor

What's New

• The Clark Virtual Museum features a new exhibit honoring the life and legacy of Paul Robeson, the first Black movie star! The Robeson exhibit premieres September 30th!

Paul Robeson, incomparable star of stage & screen, orator, singer, lawyer, scholar, athlete author and freedom fighter! He was "the tallest man in the forest"



Visit The Clark Virtual Museum Open 24 Hours a Day/ 7 Days a Week

The Clark Virtual Museum honors the life and legacy of Paul Robeson

Paul Leroy Robeson was the first Black movie star in America! He was 6 foot, 3 inches in height, handsome, intelligent and multi-talented! Robeson was called "the tallest man in the forest". Robeson was a genuine American hero. He spoke out against racism and injustice regardless of the consequences. He marched for the civil rights of Blacks, coal miners, steel workers and common people in America and abroad.

Robeson attended Rutgers College where he was an All-American football player. He graduated valedictorian of his class and went on to play football in the NFL. Robeson enrolled in Columbia University Law School and earned his LLB. After graduating from Columbia University Law School he worked in a law office. During that time he appeared in several all-black musicals which helped to launch his career as an actor and performer.





Paul Robeson "The Incomparable"

Robeson's acting career spanned nearly 50 years. At the height of his career he was one of the highest paid performers in America. His most acclaimed acting performances included "Othello," "Showboat," "Song Of Freedom", "Proud Valley" and "The Emperor Jones". Robeson commanded the attention of his audience. His oratory and deep bass baritone voice was unique and incomparable! Tens of thousands of people came to concert halls to hear him sing. Robeson captivated his audience with songs such as "John Henry", "Ol Man River" and "Go Down Moses". His performances were instrumental in elevating Black spiritual songs into mainstream music.

Robeson's history of supporting civil rights causes caught the attention of the U.S. government, J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI. He and his wife Elanda were under constant FBI surveillance. After Robeson visited Russia he was called to testify before The House Un-American Activities Committee. The committee repeatedly questioned him on whether he was a communist. Robeson refused to answer the question and iinvoked his 5th amendment rights! Robeson said "You want to shut up every Negro who has the courage to stand up and fight for the rights of his people, for the rights of workers and I have been on many a picket line for the steelworkers too. And that is why I am here today."

The U.S. State Department revoked Robeson's passport preventing him from traveling abroad for his concerts. Under an air of suspicion recording companies destroyed Robeson's albums and shelved his movies. His concerts were canceled and his ability to make a living as a performer was severely impacted. Eventually Robeson's passport was reinstated but the damage done would never be rectified. Even today Robeson's extraordinary accomplishments are still not fully recognized and applauded!

To learn more about Paul Robeson view our exhibit in The Clark Virtual Museum. Also read the following books by Paul Robeson "Here I Stand"; "Paul Robeson Speaks, Writings, Speeches, Interviews 1918-1974"; and "Paul Robeson -Negro"





What's Hapening At The Clark Virtual Museum Book Store?

Our 2024 Clark Virtual Museum Calendar is now available for purchase in the Clark Bookstore. This item is a 8 ½ inch X 11 inch print. The price is \$9.99 plus shipping/handling. The Clark Bookstore offers a variety of great books that are in stock now! Purchase "Chronicle Of The Seventh Son Black Panther Mark Clark"; "Being On The Planet Anthology Series and more!

We make purchasing easy! Use your credit card, debit card or via cashapp to \$SisterRoseMorris. Send us an email to clarkvirtualmuseum@yahoo.com

Archived Newsletters Going Online January 2024

Starting January 2024 archived Clark Virtual Museum newsletters will be available for review right on our website. Our subscribers will continue to receive a current edition of the newsletter via email!

To Our Loyal Patrons and Subsribers

As a loyal patron and subscriber of The Clark Virtual Museum Newsletter you're on the top of our list to receive news, information, and updates! We value your feedback and We look forward to you being a part of our success!

Best Regards, Rose X (Clark) Morris,, Founder and Curator of The Clark Virtual Museum https://ClarkVirtualMuseum.com





