
100 YEARS FROM
MISSISSIPPI
Black Reel Awards
WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY
Harlem international film festival 2021
National Black Film Festival
Best Documentary Narrative Indianapolis Black Documentary Film Festival
WINNER
WINNER BEST OF FESTIVAL
WINNER BUFFALO INT'L FILM FESTIVAL 2021
FAN FAVORITE American Black Film Festival 2021
Montreal International Black Film Festival
NOMINEE
new orleans film festival
HEARTLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
BLACK HARVEST FILM FESTIVAL 2021 OFFICIAL SELECTION
Visions of the Black Experience
LA BLACK FILMFEST Official Selection
23rd Oakland International Film Festival
DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY TARABU BETSERAI KIRKLAND PRODUCED BY GINA RUGOLO JUDD ASSOCIATE PRODUCER BARRY SHABAKA HENLEY
EDITED BY CASSANDRA CHOWDHURY MUSIC COMPOSED BY DEREK NAKAMOTO
"MARVELOUS TO ME" AND "HENRY" PERFORMED BY KEB'MO' WRITTEN BY KEVIN MOORE & JOHN LEWIS PARKER
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES SELIGMAN

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LOGLINE & SYNOPSIS

"She told us to keep fighting, to tell the truth, and have faith. She became an icon and legend in the work for truth and justice in America, and brought tears of joy to all of us with her remarkable courage."

- Bryan Stevenson, Equal Justice Initiative

Logline

"100 Years From Mississippi" is a 60-minute documentary on the life of Mamie Lang Kirkland, a 111-year-old African American woman who experienced and survived racial terrorism, segregation, bigotry and bias, yet continued to have hope, joy and love of life, full of the certainty that we can do better.



Synopsis

Mamie Lang Kirkland was seven years old when she fled Ellisville, Mississippi in 1915 with her mother and siblings as her father and his friend, John Hartfield, escaped an approaching lynch mob. John Hartfield returned to Mississippi in 1919 and was killed in one of the most horrific lynchings of the era.

Mamie's son, Tarabu, had grown up hearing stories of John Hartfield but didn't know if his mother's stories were fact or folklore until one day in 2015. Tarabu discovered an article describing Hartfield's gruesome murder before a crowd of 10,000 spectators. At that moment, the film was born.

Mamie had vowed for a century that she would never return to Mississippi. Yet with Tarabu's remarkable find, he urged his mother to finally confront her childhood trauma by returning to Ellisville. Mamie was 107 when they began the journey to connect her story to the larger impact of America's legacy of racial violence, which echoes today from Ferguson to New York, Atlanta to Los Angeles. Like many of the six million African Americans who left the Deep South, Mamie's story is a testament to the courage and hope of her generation. Her indomitable will and contagious joy of living is exceeded only by her ability to tell her story now, 111 years later. In a time of great social divisions, "100 Years From Mississippi" gives us the simple wisdom of an ordinary woman's extraordinary life.

FILM BIO'S

Tarabu Betserai Kirkland
Director/Producer



Tarabu is the director and producer for the award-winning documentary film, "100 Years From Mississippi." His diverse background as a Media Artist, Producer and Administrator includes twenty years in Public Radio having served as General Manager of radio station KPFK-FM in Los Angeles, Assistant Manager of KPFA in Berkeley where he co-founded the Third World Media Department and helped establish national radio training programs for producers of color, and General Manager of the Community Information Network.

He is also the author and composer of the musical "Jukebox" which starred Danny Glover, author and producer of the stage play "Ritual of a Bop Solo," producer of the stage play "Jungle Bells," and producer and musical co-director for the National Public Radio drama "Quiet Thunder," and has been the writer and producer for numerous radio documentary projects and video industrials.

In addition, Tarabu has worked in the cultural and social service sector as the Director of Programs at A Place Called Home, Managing Director of Great Leap, Inc., and Managing Director of the Black Theatre Artists Workshop.

Gina Rugolo Judd
Producer



Gina Rugolo Judd runs her own talent management/production company Rugolo Entertainment in Los Angeles. Prior to becoming a talent manager, Rugolo Judd was a leading entertainment publicist at Geller and Associates. She worked on publicity campaigns for clients featured on iconic television series such as "Twin Peaks,""Melrose Place," "thirtysomething," "LA Law," and "Friends."

Rugolo Judd has been a successful producer for many years, and is proud to collaborate with her client Barry Shabaka Henley on "100 Years From Mississippi." Rugolo Judd has been a successful producer for many years. She served as a co-executive producer on the hit comedy series "Just Shoot Me" on NBC. She was an executive producer on the series "Getting Personal" with Jon Cryer and Duane Martin. In features, she produced "Ringmaster" for Artisan Films and co-produced the critically acclaimed independent feature "Twist." Rugolo Judd is an executive producer on the recently released film "Dreamkatcher" starring Lin Shaye, Henry Thomas and Radha Mitchell and a producer of the horror sfeature "The Call" starring Lin Shaye and Tobin Bell.

Barry Shabaka Henley
Associate Producer



Veteran actor Barry Shabaka Henley draws from a rich history of acting in many high profile films, television shows and theatre productions. He most recently appeared in the hit Oscar-nominated film "A Star is Born"with Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper. He is currently starring in the new CBS Chuck Lorre comedy "Bob ♥ Abishola,"and ABC's Marvels "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." Shabaka can also be seen with Eddie Murphy in the biographical comedy "Dolemite is His Name," which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival to rave reviews. Perhaps the biggest testament to Henley's talent is his professional collaboration with director-producer Michael Mann, who has cast him in multiple projects including the films, "Ali," "Collateral," and "Miami Vice" as well as the HBO series "Luck" starring Dustin Hoffman. Henley's other film work includes starring in the big budget hits "The Terminal," "Rush Hour," "Patch Adams," "How Stella Got Her Groove Back," "Bulworth" and "Carrie" with Chloe Moretz. Born in New Orleans, Henley currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife and son.

Cassandra Chowdhury
Editor



Cassandra is an editor and producer, and the co-founder of Mindfruit Studios. Though her career started in commercials and music videos, Cassandra has refocused on documentary and educational content and seeks with each of her projects to make people think more compassionately about the world around them. Cassandra has worked with such clients as National Geographic and the Endangered Species Coalition. In 2018 Cassandra was selected as a fellow at the International Wildlife Film Festival due to her deep commitment to educational media.

Derek Nakamoto
Composer



Derek Nakamoto has been a Producer in the music industry for more than 30 years. He recorded and performed with Hiroshima of Epic Records. With June Kuramoto, he co-wrote one of the band's signature songs *Thousand Cranes*. Throughout his career, Derek has worked with industry legends including Herb Alpert, Whitney Houston, The Jacksons, Michael Bolton, and New Order. He produced Teddy Pendergrass's *Truly Blessed* and The O'Jays *For The Love*. Both records received Grammy nominations. Derek's most notable collaboration is with Contemporary Jazz Pianist Keiko Matsui. Their collaboration spans 23 albums. Notably, *Doll*, *Sapphire*, and *Dreamwalk* solidified Keiko as a force in the Contemporary Jazz genre. Internationally, his works can be heard in Waldemar Bastos's *Classics of My Soul* which features the London Symphony Orchestra and Yoko Fukimoto's (of Kodo) debut album *Morissa Komorissa*. With Yoko, Derek was commissioned to arrange *Horanero Nennero*, which was performed with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra. He has also recorded with The City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra and the New Tokyo Symphonic Orchestra with Japanese recording artist MARTH. Derek recently completed an original score for the PBS documentary *Norman Mineta and His Legacy*. He is currently arranging orchestral music for MARTH to be recorded and filmed in Prague at Smetana Hall.

Keb’ Mo’
Original Songs



Keb’ Mo’ added two original songs to the soundtrack of 100 Years From Mississippi. His self-titled release under his coined Keb’ Mo’ moniker, reached its quarter-century milestone in 2019, and over the years, Keb’ has proven that he is a musical force that defies typical genre labels. Album after album, 14 in total, he has garnered five (5) GRAMMY awards, including his most recent 2019 release, *Oklahoma*, which won in the Best Americana Album category. Keb’s list of GRAMMY recognitions continues with 12 GRAMMY nominations, in total, including his 2014 self-produced release, BLUESAmericana, earning three nominations on its own as well as a producer/engineer/artist GRAMMY Certificate for his track on the 2001 Country Album of the Year, *Timeless: Hank Williams Tribute*. The talented artist has also been awarded 14 Blues Foundation Awards and 6 BMI Awards for his work in TV & Film. Over the past two decades, Keb’ has cultivated a reputation as a modern master of American roots music through the understated excellence of his live and studio performances.



SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

“Not only a lesson in history, it is a lesson in how to live well.”

100 Years From Mississippi

DATE – From Director Tarabu Betserai Kirkland and Producer Gina Rugolo Judd comes the amazing story of one woman’s return to the Deep South after fleeing a century prior to evade her father from being lynched in “100 Years From Mississippi.” Mamie Lang Kirkland’s true story of resilience, forgiveness, memory, and hope comes to PBS stations on February 1st, 2025.

Mamie Lang Kirkland was seven years old when she fled Ellisville, Mississippi in 1915 with her mother and siblings as her father and his friend, John Hartfield, escaped an approaching lynch mob. John Hartfield returned to Mississippi in 1919 and was killed in one of the most horrific lynchings of the era.

Mamie’s son, Tarabu, had grown up hearing stories of John Hartfield but didn’t know if his mother’s stories were fact or folklore until one day in 2015. Tarabu discovered a report by the Equal Justice Initiative titled “Lynching in America,” describing Hartfield’s murder before a crowd of 10,000 spectators. At that moment, the film was born.

Mamie had vowed for a century that she would never return to Mississippi. Yet with Tarabu’s remarkable find, he urged his mother to finally confront her childhood trauma by returning to Ellisville. Mamie was 107 when they began the journey to connect her story to the larger impact of America’s legacy of racial violence, which echoes today from Ferguson to New York, Atlanta to Los Angeles. Like many of the six million African Americans who left the Deep South, Mamie’s story is a testament to the courage and hope of her generation. Her indomitable will and contagious joy of living is exceeded only by her ability to tell her story more than a century later. In a time of great social divisions, 100 Years From Mississippi gives us the simple wisdom of an ordinary woman’s extraordinary life.

Executive Producer and well-known TV and film actor Barry Shabaka Henley adds powerful poetic voiceover narration along with masterful editing by Cassandra Chowdhury and an emotionally powerful music score by Derek Nakamoto with songs by the incomparable Keb’ Mo’.

100 Years From Mississippi
Documentary - Run Time: 60:25 - Not Rated

SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT



Our information:

Website: https://100yearsfrommississippi.com

Follow and tag us on social media—our social media handles are:

- @100YearsFromMississippi on Facebook
- @100yearsfrommississippi on Instagram
- Social media hashtags: #100yearsfrommississippi, #100yfm

Download film graphics/photos/social media toolkit:

- 100 Years Graphic Assets/Photos/Social Media Toolkit

Sample posts for your social media:

- Watch the award-winning documentary @100yearsfrommississippi on [insert date/s here]! You'll be inspired by the life of centenarian Mamie Lang Kirkland, who escaped a lynch mob with her family as a child, and returned 100 years later to Ellisville, Mississippi.
- We are thrilled to be presenting the award-winning documentary @100yearsfrommississippi on [insert date/s here]! This inspiring film chronicles the life of courageous centenarian Mamie Lang Kirkland, who escaped a Mississippi lynch mob with her family as a child and returned 100 years later.

Interesting facts about 100 Years From Mississippi:

- The film features interviews with Bryan Stevenson – Founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, internationally recognized human rights attorney and critically acclaimed author.
- Grammy Award winning artist Keb' Mo' sings two original songs in the documentary
- Mamie was awarded the Champion of Justice Award by the Equal Justice Initiative
- #100YearsFromMississippi has garnered six best documentary awards:
  - Best Documentary – Harlem International Film Festival
  - Best Documentary Feature – National Black Film Festival
  - Best Documentary, Narrative – Indianapolis Black Documentary Film Festival
  - Best of Festival - International Black Film Festival
  - Best Long Documentary - International Black Film Festival
  - Outstanding Independent Documentary – Black Reel Awards
- Broadcasts on over 300 PBS stations with over 650 telecasts
- Mamie lived to 111 years old

For More Information: Email: info@100yearsfrommississippi.com

RATE SHEET



100 Years From Mississippi is a mother's story that she held close for over a century, told through the lens of her filmmaker son. Mamie Lang Kirkland was seven years old when she fled Ellisville, Mississippi in 1915 with her mother and siblings as her father and his friend, John Hartfield, escaped an approaching lynch mob. John Hartfield returned to Mississippi in 1919 and was killed in one of the most horrific lynchings of the era and Mamie vowed she would never return. A century later, her son shares the story of her perilous journey north during the Great Migration and her courageous return to
Mississippi at the age of 107.

Mamie's son, Tarabu, had grown up hearing stories of John Hartfield but didn't know if his mother's stories were fact or folklore until one day in 2015, he discovered an article describing Hartfield's murder before a crowd of 10,000 spectators. At that moment, the film was born.

Like many of the six million African Americans who left the Deep South, Mamie's story is a testament to the courage and resilience of her generation. It is also a story of the larger impact of America's legacy of racial violence that must continue to be told to remind the world of what we should never revisit.

One of the great challenges we face as a country are the consequences of our failure to own up to the legacy of slavery and racial violence and our inability to talk about it honestly. And avoiding honest conversation about this history has undermined our ability to build a nation where racial justice can be achieved.
So, let's talk about it.

Book a Screeening and Conversation with the Director:

1. Joining a class/panel Online
Screening Fee & Zoom Q&A with Director $575/1 hour

2. Public program with film and Director Q&A and/or Panel
Screening Fee & In-person conversation with the Director: $1500/1-1:30 hrs
Touring fees outside Los Angeles may include: Transportation, accommodations, per diem.



Tarabu Betserai Kirkland - Director/Producer. Tarabu's background as a Media Artist, Producer and Writer includes twenty years in Public Radio having served as General Manager of radio station KPFK-FM in Los Angeles, Assistant Manager of KPFA in Berkeley where he co-founded the Third World Media Department and helped establish national radio training programs for producers of color, and General Manager of the Community Information Network. He is also the author and composer of the musical "Jukebox" which stared Danny Glover, author, and producer of the stage play "Ritual of a Bop Solo," producer of the stage play "Jungle Bells," and producer and musical co-director for the National Public Radio drama "Quiet Thunder." Tarabu has received Best Documentary awards for 100 Years From Mississippi at film festivals in Harlem, Houston, Nashville, Indiannapolis and the Black Reel Awards, and Fan Favorite awards in Miami, Buffalo and Monteal.
"100 Years From Mississippi."

Full Press Kit Available at:
https://100yearsfrommississippi.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/100-Years-From-Mississippi-EPK-5-22.pdf

Previous presentations include: UC Berkeley, St. Mary's College, University of Michigan, UCLA, Scripps College, El Camino College, Oklahoma State University, Loyola Marymount University, California Institute of Technology, UC Riverside, UC San Diego, Reed College, University of Washington and international screenings in Japan (Doshisha University-Kyoto, Kyoritsu Women's University-Tokyo, Kita Kyushu City University-Kokura and Nanzan University-Nagoya)

Broadcasts on over 300 PBS stations nationwide with over 650 teleccasts

Tarabu Betserai Kirkland
Producer/Director

Gina Rugolo Judd, Barry Shabaka Henley
Producers

Mamie Kirkland, Harrsison Engle, Ellie Kanner,
Paul & Nicole Mones,
Patty Hirota-Cohen & Lewis Cohen,
Julie Mount & Kat Taylor
Executive Producers

Bryan Stevenson, Lynda Obst, Andres Alegria,
Brenda Friend Brandt,
Robert Nakamura & Karen Ishizuka
Advisors

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PRESS

100YEARSFROMMISSISSIPPI.COM

100 Years From Mississippi Trailer
https://vimeo.com/487946256

STREAMING **EDUCATIONAL LICENSING**

100 Years From Mississippi Digital Stills

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14rXSDaBNDP5l2aLQYlfj-hJKOobePh_i?usp=sharing

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES

https://www.facebook.com/100YearsFromMississippi

https://www.instagram.com/100yearsfrommississippi/

PRESS

BUFFALO NEWS (11/17/22)
NY TIMES
INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER
ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT
THE GRIOT
ONLINE Q&A INT'L BLACK FILM FEST
TELEVISION ACADEMY
SHARON K SOBATTA PODCAST
HOUSTON MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE Q&A
EAST BAY EXPRESS
THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN
THE MAINICHI NEWSPAPER (JAPAN)

DEADLINE
BUFFALO NEWS (10/02/21)
BUFFALO NEWS (10/10/21)
ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION
NASHVILLE SCENE
VIMOOZ.COM
FILMS GONE WILD
THE REAL
BROADWAY WORLD
SPECTRUM ONE NEWS
KSPC FM

Contact Email:	**info@100yearsfrommississippi.com**
Format:	**Dolby 5.1, ASPECT FLAT 1.78.1. 23.98 FPS 16*9**
Run Time:	**60:25**

LAURELS





























