

You are invited to a presentation of the movie Fences, with Denzel Washington and Viola Davis.

There will be an introduction to the play and a period for questions and answers after the viewing of the movie. The audience will be given handouts of questions to facilitate the discussions.



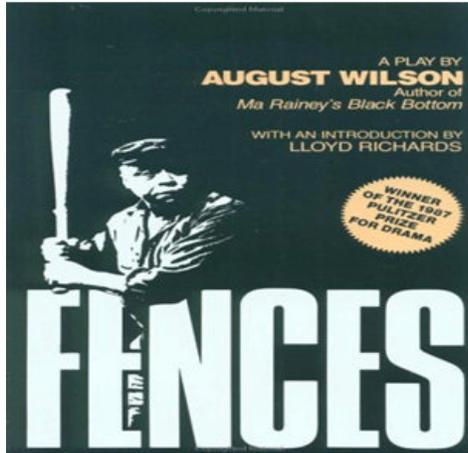
When April 20, 2017 at 12:30 in Taconic Hall 103
April 20, 2017 at 5:00 in Taconic Hall 103
April 21, 2017 at 12:00 in Dutchess Theatre
April 21, 2017 at 4:00 in Dutchess Theatre

Presented by HGE and Dr. Weldon McWilliams
 BHS and Dr. Mehmet Kucukozer
 English and Dr. Gail Upchurch and
 Jacqueline Goffe-McNish

Sponsored by Student Activities and Academic Affairs.

There is no charge to view this film.

AAUW's invitation come through our Diversity Initiative.



ABOUT THE PLAY FROM JACKIE GOFFE-MCNISH

The famous play Fences, by August Wilson, has been made into a movie and is being shown at the theaters in the Galleria. This play is taught extensively in universities and colleges in Literature, History, and Sociology classes. It addresses the role of Black men in American society and the many barriers, real and imagined, to their upward mobility. The relationship of fathers and sons, the exclusion of Black men from sports in the early history of America, and the impact of the prison system on the life of the Black man are the surface issues immediately seen in the play.

The play also forces us to question the impact of institutional racism, present in the very fabric of our society, on the goals and aspirations of 'People of Color' in the time the play was written and even now. It addresses most of the issues and ideas present in 'Literature of the Other' such as masking, veiling, double consciousness, the role of religion, search for El Dorado, Sisyphean experience, and assimilation.

The fence as a symbolic device questions the assumption that fences exclude or protect. The main character struggles to complete the fence, and battles social, emotional, psychological, and eventually physical death. We begin to understand the seeming futility of fighting the system and the feeling of inevitability experienced by many people who are marginalized in the American society.

Racism affects intimate spaces that is the unsettling of safe spaces like home and marriage, the relationship between father and son. There is clearly an intersection of Gender, Class, Race and Family. The Symbolic Import of the 'Fence' cannot be overlooked. The play also addresses the role race played in the time period, and the meaning and ideal of marriage at that time and the patriarchal/matriarch relationship.