



Your media recommendations for Black History Month UK 2020

BOOKS

The Lonely Londoner by Sam Selvon

Why I've stopped talking about Race to White People by Reni Eddo-Lodge

Queenie by Candice by Candice Carty-Williams

Small Island by Andrea Levy

Girl, Woman, Other by Bernadine Evaristo

Swing Time by Zadie Smith

Black and British: A Forgotten History by David Olugosa

Race & Class in the Ruins of Empire by Akala

The Life and Rhymes of Benjamin Zephaniah by Benjamin Zephaniah

Diane Abbott: The Authorised Biography by Robin Bunce and Samara Linton

Brit(ish): On Race, Identity and Belonging by Afua Hirsch

Taking Up Space: The Black Girl's Manifesto for Change by Chelsea Kwakye and Ore Ogunbiyi

That Reminds Me by Derek Owusu

Black Tudors: The Untold Story by Miranda Kaufman

IBHM-UK recommends...

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The Lonely Londoner by Sam Selvon

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Girl, Woman, Other by Bernadine Evaristo



TV

[BBC website and BBC Iplayer](#)

The BBC have created a Black History Month portal on the BBC website which contains a variety of programmes exploring Black History and Culture.

URL: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p070rtws>

Programme includes Joan Armatrading: Me Myself I, First Encounters Black and British: A Forgotten History, Back in Time for Brixton, Beats, Bass & Bars – The Story of Grime, A Scottish Soldier: A Lost Diary of WW1.

There is also a variety of programming on BBC Iplayer from Black creators spanning the inspirational, educational and gritty.

Programmes include I May Destroy You, Noughts and Crosses, Britain's Forgotten Black History, Enterprice, Everything – The Real Thing Story, Black Classical Music: The Forgotten History, Sunny D and Whoever Heard of a Black Artist?

IBHM-UK recommends...

Britain's Forgotten Black History

Everything – The Real Thing Story

I May Destroy You

Back in Time for Brixton

Enterprice

A Scottish Soldier: A Lost Diary of WW1

The Story of Skinheads with Don Letts

Noughts and Crosses

African Renaissance: When Art Meets Power

Black Classical Music: The Forgotten History

Enslaved with Samuel L Jackson



Netflix

Netflix will be marking the month with 20 titles that it says focus on “joy, friendship and family”. The British director Adeyemi Michael has curated a collection of Black British Stories for Netflix that cover a mishmash of themes covering drama – such as Babylon and the critically acclaimed Rocks – to horror with His House and comedy with Chewing Gum and a special from Mo Gilligan.

IBHM-UK recommends...

Rocks

His House

Entitled

White Teeth

United Kingdom

Chewing Gum

Gone Too Far!

Top Boy

Gina Yashere: Skinny Bitch

Mo Gilligan: Momentum

Babylon

Sky

They are marking Black History Month with a collection of documentaries, television series and films celebrating Black British (and African American) voices. It’s a fantastic mix of ground-breaking shows Lovecraft Country and Watchmen, inspiring documentaries and movies such as Althea, Just Mercy and comedies such as the Black Lady’s Sketch Show, Bulletproof and the TV series loosely based on the childhood of Idris Elba, In the Long Run. Whilst the Sky History channel has online portal dedicated to Black History which we highly recommend (link listed below).

URL: <https://www.history.co.uk/articles/black-history>



IBHM-UK recommends...

Lovecraft Country

Bulletproof

In the Long Run

A Black Lady Sketch Show

What's My Name: Muhammad Ali

Save Me Too

Watchmen

Althea

Guerrilla

Channel 4

Channel 4 has lined-up a series of films and documentaries to celebrate Black History Month this October, showcasing a combination of influential classics and new bold visionaries. The shows commissioned are: ***Black, British and Funny; Black Hair; Black Love; Is Covid Racist? and Are Women the Fitter Sex?***

They've also teamed up with gal-dem, an online and print publication committed to sharing the experiences of women and non-binary people of colour, who will delve into Channel 4's archives to curate a Black British History collection.

The six titles that have been selected each comment on the black British experience and will be accompanied by six new short films. The new films will see members of the gal-dem community interview individuals related to the original films.

The six titles are *Just like Mohicans, Desmond's, Justice for Joy, The Event: How Racist Are You, Chewing Gum and Black Lesbian Handbook.*

Channel 4 will also be showcasing new young talent, with six new short films from black directors exploring the theme of 'Black Britain'. The films were commissioned by **Random Acts** and will be available to watch on the **Random Acts YouTube channel** (URL listed below).

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWwZGGoPLUfZmhm5zwKGHbg>

Dark Matter an experimental science documentary built on a racial metaphor, comes from award-winning director and Random Acts alumnus, Adeyemi Michael.



The Muse by Anna Fearon provides an intimate insight into how women and non-binary people of colour see themselves.

The Gift by Dumas Haddad delves into the world of grime in 2003, looking at its roots and origins before it became what it is today.

Ajamu: Joyful Insurrection by Stephen Isaac Wilson looks at how queer photographer and artist Ajamu x has explored subversive intimacy and black gay kink and sexuality from the 80s until now.

Everything Feels Like Water by Theresa Lola tackles the sensitive topic of mental health through music and visual metaphor.

Wither by Antoine Marc uses the medium of dance to explore how we are constantly evolving and the way that defines who we are.

[IBHM-UK recommends...](#)

Black, British and Funny

Black Hair

Black Love

Black Lesbian Handbook

Chewing Gum

Desmonds

ITV2 and ITV hub

ITV will mark Black History Month with specially commissioned new shows and channel branding throughout October. ITV's on-air branding will be designed by Black artists including Hamed Maiye, Neequaye Dreph Dsane, King Owusu, Alfie Kungu and Carleen De Sözer as part of ITV Creates project.

The four programmes are: ***IRL with Team Charlene, Alison Hammond: Back to School, Sorry I Didn't Know, Craig & Danny: Funny, Black and on TV.***

All Black History Month content will be available on ITV Hub, along with updated programmes including David Harewood-presented film In the Shadow of Mary Seacole and Martin Luther King by Trevor McDonald, alongside acclaimed documentary First Among Equals: The Laurie Cunningham Story, and the true crime film The Murder of Stephen Lawrence . Comedy shows include Timewasters, Kate and Koji, Don't Hate the Playaz, The Ty and Ky Show and All About the Bants.



IBHM-UK recommends...

IRL with Team Charlene

Craig and Danny: Funny, Black and on TV

Timewasters

Don't Hate the Playaz

First Among Equals: The Laurie Cunningham Story

The Murder of Stephen Lawrence

Unsaid Stories

Britbox

Black History Month will be marked with a collection of documentaries, television series and films celebrating Black British voices. Documentaries in the collection include Mo Farah: Race of His Life, Shirley: The Shirley Bassey Story, Africa and Britain: A Forgotten History and the series Africa presented by Ade Adepitan. TV series featured include all six seasons of Desmonds (1989); the classic sitcom set in a Peckham barber shop, and the second season of super sharp sketch show Famalam (2019). Films including Mike Leigh's Secrets and Lies (1996) starring Marianne Jean-Baptist and Playing Away (1986), a comedy of manners from Horace Ové starring Norman Beaton complete the collection.

IBHM-UK recommends...

Babymother

An Audience with Shirley Bassey

The Murder of Stephen Lawrence

Famalam

Playing Away

Undercover

NW

Small Island

Walter's War

Mo Farah: Race of His Life

Secrets and Lies



Together TV

Together TV will be marking Black History Month with their HEROES season of programmes which include documentaries such as Nine Nights and Sticks & Stones that are airing in the UK for the first time. Throughout the month, National Caribbean Heritage Museum Museumand will be Digital Guest Editing the site, curating and sharing the best stores from the Black British community.

The programmes include Lost Legends: Black History Month; Nine Nights; Young, Gifted and Classical; Mandela, My Dad and Me; and Sticks and Stones.

IBHM-UK recommends...

Nine Nights

The Story of Lovers Rock

Generation Revolution

Mandela, My Dad and Me

MOVIES AND DOCUMENTARIES

Yardie available on BBC Iplayer

United Kingdom available on Amazon Prime and Netflix

Gone too Far available on Amazon Prime and Netflix

Pressure available on BFI Player subscription service

Burning an Illusion on BFI Player subscription service and Sky

Story of Lover's Rock available on Amazon Prime and Together TV

Adulthood available on Amazon Prime

Blue Story available on Amazon Prime

The Weekend on Amazon Prime

Belle on Amazon Prime

Self-Made (Netflix)

Becoming (Netflix)

Moonlight (Amazon Prime)

Queen and Slim (Amazon Prime)



Get Out (Amazon Prime)

Harriet (Sky)

Just Mercy (Sky)

Black Klansman (Netflix)

Malcom X (Amazon Prime)

Do the Right Thing (Sky)

Coming to America (Sky)

Boomerang (Amazon Prime)

Color Purple (Sky)

Confirmation (Sky)

Waves (Amazon Prime)

The Last Black Man in San Francisco (Sky)

If Beale Street Could Talk (Sky)

The Best Man (Sky)

Selma (Sky)

Hidden Figures (Sky)

Blade (Sky)

Black Panther (Sky but in the cinemas too for the whole of Black History Month!)

Sorry to Bother You (Sky)

Rosewood (Sky)

Top Five (Sky)