



THE AMERICAN TOUR

In February 2015, the African Tudors Book Tour travelled to the United States during African-American Month. We travelled to various locations on the East Coast including Atlanta, North Carolina and Tennessee.

The African Tudors Book Tour was launched in the House of Commons, London in 2013 to commemorate the release of the book, *Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England, their Presence, Status and Origins* by the historian Onyeka. The tour has travelled nationwide to venues including the London Metropolitan Archives, The National Portrait Gallery, the University of Nottingham, and the Scottish National Gallery.

In 2015, we returned to Atlanta to discover how this forgotten portion of history helped to shape the history of African-Americans.

Wednesday 11th February

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Buttrick Hall 390 24th Ave S, Nashville, TN, 37240, Room: 102

JAZZY 88 WFSK RADIO, NASHVILLE

JAZZY 88 is an educational community-based radio station, owned and operated by Fisk University. Serving the public since 1973. WFSK is the first African American FM radio station on the dial in Nashville, Tennessee. Receiving numerous awards over the years, WFSK remains a favorite among jazz and contemporary music connoisseurs.

On this afternoon, Onyeka will be speaking about the African Tudor experience with Sharon Kay, host of What's the 411?

Friday 13th February

NMEMINDZ RADIO SHOW

Historian Onyeka speaks with Professor Griff and Zaza Ali
Listen again

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Robert W. Woodruff Library (main building - north side) 111 James P Brawley Drive Southwest, Atlanta, GA 30314



Saturday 14th February

WRFG 89.3 FM, ATLANTA

MEDU BOOKSTORE

Greenbriar Mall, 2841, Atlanta, GA

Medu, meaning "the power of the word," is the second largest African-American owned bookstore in Atlanta, Georgia. Since December 5, 1989.

Join us to discover the hidden history of Tudor England

AFRIKAN SOVEREIGNTY IMPERATIVE AT SWEET SPOT

675 Metropolitan Parkway, Suite 6018, Atlanta, GA, 30310

Adamsville Recreation Center



BLACKAMOORES: AFRIKAN HEROES IN HISTORY AND IN HISTORICAL FICTION

3201 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., SW, Atlanta, GA, 30311

British Author Onyeka will lecture on the presence, status and origins of Afrikans in 15th through 17th Century England (the Tudor Era: 1485-1603).

Author and Filmmaker Balogun Ojetade will lecture on the presence of - and importance of creating stories about - heroes of Afrikan descent in Science Fiction, Fantasy, Alternate History and Historical Fiction.

Onyeka and Balogun will answer questions after their lectures and will be available to sign books.

This is sure to be a great night of education and entertainment like you've never experienced before!



Sunday 15th February

HISTORIC STRATEGIES FOR GLOBAL RESISTANCE

SHOMREY HA' TORAH

1386 Ralph David Abernathy, Atlanta, GA

Tuesday 17th February

BOOK SIGNING AT MUSEUM OF THE ALBEMARLE

501 S. Water Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

Pharmacy Complex 102, 60, 1704 Weeksville Road, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Elizabeth City State is a historically black university in North Carolina, established in 1891 by Hugh Cale, an African-American representative in the N.C. General Assembly from Pasquotank County. Between 1999 and 2014, ECSU repeatedly earned national acclaim in U.S. News and World Report Magazine's ranking of best colleges in the south.

Join Onyeka as he explores how the Tudor period affected the development of post-colonial America and also the lives of modern day African-Americans.

(Our events in North Carolina were cancelled due to extreme weather conditions)



THE AMERICAN TOUR

In October 2015, the African Tudors Book Tour returned to the United States of America for a series of lectures and workshops.

Saturday 3rd October

MEDU BOOK STORE

Greenbriar Mall, 2841, Atlanta, GA

Renowned historian Onyeka in his ground breaking book 'Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England, their Presence, Status and Origins' has been researching the period (1485-1603) and the African presence in Africa and Europe before the USA existed. His research over twenty-three years proves that Africans helped to develop western society.

In this enlightening and inspiring book, Onyeka reveals what the presence, status and origins of these Blackamoors in English society means for Africans in America and how this affects our understanding of who we are now and the problems we face.

Meet the author at MEDU.

Monday 5th October

NUBIAN BOOK STORE

2445 Southlake Cir, Morrow, GA 3026

How we came to be American and forgot what we were before?

Most Americans of European ancestry can trace their origins to English, Irish, Scottish, French, Dutch and German origins. The history of these countries is well-documented and this has traditionally empowered this section of American society. But what of those people who cannot trace their origins to European nations, what of African-Americans?

The history of African-Americans tends to begin with slavery, not the nations they came from, as slavers attempted to erase from the African's mind that they had a history and a culture. But this is only part of the story. What if European nations owe their development to Africans present in those countries long before the USA was created? Surely this would be an even more guarded secret, because this secret would help you to understand why it was necessary to rewrite history.



Writer and historian Onyeka, for twenty-three years has been collecting evidence about how Africans shaped Europe in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and how this led to the development of the USA. Onyeka has travelled all the way from England (4204 miles) and in his ground breaking book 'Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England, their Presence, Status and Origins.' explains how the history of Africans in Tudor England is fundamental in helping us understand what is happening in America today.

Tuesday 6th October

**GEORGIA PUBLIC BROADCASTING RADIO
SECOND THOUGHT RADIO SHOW WITH CELESTE HEADLEE**

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Carl and Mary Ware Building, room 213, 1540 Southlake Parkway, Morrow, GA 30260

OMENALA GRIOT AFRICAN MUSEUM

337 Dargan Pl SW, Atlanta, GA 30310

Before slavery, before the USA: The presence, status and origins of Africans in Europe and Africa

Slaves were often killed by their masters for reading so the master could continue to lie to the slave about who they were. Many African-Americans and others believe that the history of 'Black' people begins and ends in slavery. But why did the master do this?

Perhaps the reason is that Africans in Africa and the Diaspora have been integral in human development.

The history, the kingdoms and civilisations of Africans have been erased. And the presence of Africans throughout the world has been denied.

For the first time renowned author and historian Onyeka travels from England to reveal why we need to understand the history of Africans in England in the Tudor period (1485-1603) long before the USA even existed, in order for us to understand what is happening in America now.

Omenala Griot Museum is an Afrocentric teaching museum in the West End neighbourhood of Atlanta, founded in 1992. The museum offers visitors a 'hands-on' African American experience by seeing, hearing, saying, touching and doing. The museum's stated goals are to "rectify, reclaim and restore the contributions of



Black people throughout history, which have been denied, ignored and omitted." Murals line the garden walls of the museum, picturing Afrocentric subjects.

Wednesday 7th October

PEARL ACADEMY WORKSHOP

BLACKAMOORES AT GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY

33 Gilmer Street, SE, Atlanta GA. 30310

Transatlantic Blackness. Black Like Me? Comparative Discourse on Race and Identity in the U.S. and U.K

In an effort to bridge the diasporic divide between Black America and Black Britain, the Department of African-American studies at Georgia State University, in collaboration with the Auburn Avenue Research Library and Narrative Eye, will host, Black Like Me? Comparative Discourse on Race and Identity in the U.S. and U.K. This community lecture, facilitated by British writer, law lecturer and historian Onyeka, will examine contemporary cross cultural similarities and distinct differences on how race is experienced and racial identities are formed in Black communities in the United States and the United Kingdom. This conversation will also explore the historical, socio-political, geographic and cultural (etc.) roots of these similarities and differences. Onyeka, will also discuss his latest publication Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England a ground breaking exploration of the African Diaspora in Europe. This event will be held on the campus of Georgia State University.

Thursday 8th October

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Carl and Mary Ware Building, room 215, 1540 Southlake Parkway, Morrow, GA 30260

Forgotten lives, imagined pasts: why Africans in the west became Americans, and how Africans in Renaissance England were forgotten

On 5 March 1496 King Henry VII of England gave the explorer John Cabot 'free authority, faculty and power to sail to all parts, regions and coasts of the eastern, western and northern sea, under our banners, flags and ensigns, with five ships or vessels ... to find, discover and investigate whatsoever islands, countries, regions or provinces of heathens and infidels, in whatsoever part of the world placed, which before this time were unknown to all Christians.'



In 1583 Elizabeth I of England issued a charter permitting the explorer Humphrey Gilbert to establish a permanent settlement in North America, and between this date and 1607, Englishmen such as Walter Raleigh attempted to establish English colonies in what is now the United States of America. The English colony of Virginia was named after the 'Virgin Queen' Elizabeth I and people of African descent came there. Initially many of these people were living as free men and women. But after several laws were passed in Virginia culminating in the 1705 Virginia Slave Act, the status of these people changed, from indentured servants to slaves. Eventually Virginia became one of England's most lucrative colonies.

Why did it take England and the English colonists so long to establish a permanent slave system in America compared to other nations such as Spain or Portugal and how did the politics of Tudor England impact American history?

HAMMONDS HOUSE MUSEUM
AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH LIBRARY
503 Peebles St SW, Atlanta, GA 30310

Transatlantic Blackness - Bridging the Diasporic Divide between Black America and Black Briton Hammonds House Museum in collaboration with the Auburn Avenue Research Library and Narrative Eye, will host British writer, law lecturer and historian Onyeka, who will discuss his latest publication *Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England*. Challenging the hegemonic white washing of British History, Onyeka examines the presence of Blacks in Renaissance Europe with a focus on Tudor England. Methodically researched and supported by well-cited facts and primary documents *Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England*, breaks new ground in exploring the history of the African Diaspora.

Narrative Eye is an afro-centric educational organization operating out of the United Kingdom dedicated to the production and promotion of creative works that document and challenge the inequalities and injustices faced by Black People throughout the Diaspora.

Friday 9th October

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LIBRARY
409 John Wesley Dobbs Ave Atlanta GA 30312

The image of the African in European art before the USA existed

The images of the horror of slavery are indelibly marked on the consciousness of our minds; the paintings, photographs and drawings of slaves with broken backs, the torture and the pain. But what of other images of Africans which reveal that before



the USA was a nation Africans in Europe were kings, ambassadors, artists, artisans, soldiers, politicians and so on.

These images of Africans are as much a part of the history of the world as slavery is. Onyeka has travelled 4204 miles from England to reveal this history. For twenty-three years he has been researching the history of Africans in Tudor England and the rest of Europe and linking it to African civilisations such as Songhai, Benin, Timbuktu, Oyo and Kaabu. This history reveals the forgotten part of a history that was written out to make Africans slaves in America.

Onyeka is the acclaimed author of the pioneering publication 'Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England, their Presence, Status and Origins,' and this will be an exciting and visually stimulating one-off event on the importance of art and images in the shaping of identity.

Saturday 10th October

HAMMONDS HOUSE MUSEUM

503 Peebles St SW, Atlanta, GA. 30310

Transatlantic Blackness: The African Presence in the Renaissance Art of Europe Hammonds House Museum in collaboration with the Auburn Avenue Research Library and the Narrative Eye, will host The African Presence in the Renaissance Art of Europe, facilitated by British writer, law lecturer and historian Onyeka. Bringing home the adage that "art makes the absent present" Onyeka will challenge the hegemonic white washing of European History by examining the presences of African peoples in Renaissance Art, which often reflected real individuals and authentic lived experiences. Focusing beyond common representations of exoticism and enslavement, this discussion will use art to trace the existence and identities of free descendants of enslaved Africans who entered mainstream European society at all levels. It will also explore the unexamined socio-political history between Europe and Africa reflected in Renaissance images of African diplomats, merchants, scholars, and heads of state. Onyeka, will also discuss his latest publication Blackamoors: Africans in Tudor England a ground breaking exploration of the African Diaspora in Europe. Narrative Eye is an afro-centric educational organization, operating out of the United Kingdom, dedicated to the production and promotion of creative works that document and challenge the inequalities and injustices faced by Black People throughout the Diaspora.

THE SHRINE OF THE BLACK MADONNA

AMERICAN HISTORY VS ENGLISH HISTORY - BRIDGING THE GAP

946 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30310



In attempt to exert control, slave masters would use various tactics to subjugate enslaved men and women on the basis of complexion, gender and skills. This created an imaginary hierarchy and divide between African people seeing themselves as different – inferior or more entitled – than other fellow African (Black) people.

This mentality continues to express itself in the diaspora and despite many African-American scholars, such as Professor Ivan Van Sertima and Professor Runoko Rashidi, writing about the presence of African people in Medieval and Tudor England, there is still a significant gap in our understanding of one another and our history.

The experiences of African-Americans in the USA is often analysed with a sense of detachment from the experiences of Africans globally. The idea may be that our experiences are drastically different. However, if we trace the history of Africans in Britain and America we see many similarities in political, social, economic and racial issues.

Onyeka has travelled all the way from England and in this lecture, explores how African history became so fragmented. He will explore the birth of the American nation and the growth of the English nation in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The Shrine of the Black Madonna in Atlanta was founded as the ninth congregation of the Pan African Orthodox Christian Church in 1975. The denomination was originally founded in the 1950s by the Holy Patriarch Jaramogi Abebe Agyeman (born Albert B. Cleage Jr., the father of writer Pearl Cleage) in response to the theological, spiritual, and psychological needs of the African-American people of Detroit, Michigan.

Social services and the education of children are central to the Atlanta church. The shrine operates the West End Learning Center and the Shrine Cultural Center and Bookstore. The West End Community Services Center, which opened in September 2001, offers referral services to doctors, lawyers, and other volunteer professionals, as well as direct aid to residents of Atlanta's West End. The learning center teaches children about their cultural and religious heritage, as well as computer skills and other academic subjects. Similarly, the goal of the bookstore and cultural center is to promote knowledge of African and African-American heritage and art.

One of the shrine's main concerns is the Beulah Land Farm Project. The goals of this Shrine-owned farm in Abbeville County, South Carolina, are to provide food for urban communities and to open a retreat center and a boarding school on the land. The Beulah Land Farm Project embodies the shrine's values of self-sufficiency and communal living for African-Americans.