

## A TWO-HUNDRED YEAR AFFAIR – AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY IN PARIS

*For further reading and viewing...*



Author Chester Himes

**This list includes authors and creatives who have spent significant time or who have been affected by sojourns in Paris and France. This is not an exhaustive list, but a starting point!**

Mary Church Terrell, *A Colored Woman in a White World*, Washington, D.C.: Ransdell, 1940.

W.E.B. Du Bois, *An ABC of Color*, New York: International Publishers (1963, 1989).

Addie Hunton and Kathryn Johnson, *Two Colored Women with the American Expeditionary Forces*, (New York), 1920. The experiences of two YMCA workers sent to France to aid African-American troops serving in WWI.

Claude McKay, *Banjo*, New York: Harper & Bros, 1929.

Langston Hughes, *The Big Sea (autobiography)*, 1940, New York: Hill and Wang, 1968.

Michel Fabre, *From Harlem to Paris: Black American Writers in France, 1840-1980*, Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1991.

James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son*, Boston: Beacon Press, 1955 renewed 1983.

Ollie Harrington, *Why I Left America and Other Essays*, University Press of Mississippi, 1993.

James Campbell, *Paris Interzone – Richard Wright, Lolita, Boris Vian and Others on the Left Bank, 1946-60*, London: Secker & Warburg, 1994.

Gertrude Stein, *Three Lives*, (1909), New York: Dover Publications, 1994

**\*\*The story 'Melanctha' led Richard Wright to Stein, who became his doorway to Paris.**

Petrine Archer-Straw, *Negrophilia - Avant-Garde Paris and Black Culture in the 1920s*, London: Thames & Hudson, 2000.

Chester Himes, *The Collected Stories of Chester Himes*, Da Capo Press; 1 edition, 2000

Marcus Bruce, *Henry Ossawa Tanner – A Spiritual Biography*, New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 2002.

*Josephine Baker in Art and Life: The Icon and the Image*, Bennetta Jules-Rosette. University of Illinois Press, 2007.

Jake Lamar, *Rendezvous Eighteenth*, New York: St. Martin's Minotaur, 2003.

**\*\***Jake, novelist and former journalist with Time magazine, has lived in Paris since 1991 and this is was first in a series of works set in Paris, and his beloved Montmartre neighborhood.

Trica D. Keaton and Tyler Stovall editors , *Black France/France Noire, The History and Politics of Blackness*, Duke University Press, 2012.

Jake Lamar, *Ghosts of Saint-Michel*, New York: St. Martin's Minotaur, 2006.

Tyler Stovall. *Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light*, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012

Rashida K. Braggs, *Jazz Diasporas: Race, Music, and Migration in Post-World War II Paris*. University of California Press, 2015.

T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting, *Bricktop's Paris, African American Women in Paris between the Two World Wars*, SUNY Press, 2015

Linda Hervieux, *Forgotten - The Untold Story of D-Day's Black Heroes, At Home And At War*, Harper Paperbacks, 2016. Print and Digital Audiobook.

Tom Reiss, *The Black Count: Glory, Revolution, Betrayal, and the Real Count of Monte Cristo*,

Biography of General Thomas-Alexandre Dumas. Crown Publishing Corp, 2012.  
Pulitzer Prize for Biography.

### **Movies**

*The Price of A Ticket*, by Karen Thorsen. On James Baldwin with many scenes in Paris.

*Black Boy*, by Madison Lacy for Mississippi Television as part of the Eyes on the Prize Series.

*Harlem In Montmartre*, by Dante James (2009) for PBS Television

*Round Midnight*, by Bertrand Tavernier (1986). Stars Dexter Gordon based on the Paris life of Bebopper Bud Powell. Academy Award for Best Original Score – Herbie Hancock.

*A Rage In Harlem*, 1991. Directed by Bill Duke and loosely based on Chester Himes' novel of the same name, written in Paris. The movie stars Forest Whitaker, Danny Glover, Robin Givens and Gregory Hines.

### **DVD series**

*When African Americans Came To Paris* 2012-2015. A 2-part series of short videos on pioneers from WWI to post-WWII. By Blue Lion Films. Ideal for the classroom/at-home education/targetted screening or for viewing segment by segment (duration 5-7 minutes each).

**Part 1** – WEB Dubois and the 1900 Paris Exposition, Henry Ossawa Tanner, The Harlem Hellfighters, Lt. James Reese Europe, Jazz Comes To Paris, 3 Women Artists.

For Information and to Order: <https://www.africanamericansinparis.com/about-cnog>

**Teacher's Guide Available.**

**Part 2 The Stars** – Josephine Baker, Sidney Bechet, Harlem Renaissance and Negritude Writers.

Information page and DVD Order : <https://www.africanamericansinparis.com/about-part-2>

### **Documentary**

***Paris Noir – African-Americans in the City of Light.*** 1 hour documentary. Blue Lion Films, 2016.

*Paris Noir: African Americans in the City of Light* is the most comprehensive and compelling documentary existing on the remarkable migration of pioneering African Americans to France and the impact both cultures had on each other.

Weaving stories and themes from World War I, the Jazz Age of the 1920s up to the German occupation of WWII, *Paris Noir* is thought-provoking storytelling that resonates in today's social and political climate.

More than a historical documentary, *Paris Noir* reveals the beginning of worldwide assertion of African American culture.

Directed, written and edited by critically-acclaimed documentary filmmakers Joanne Burke and David Burke, *Paris Noir* blends rare photographs and archival footage, exciting period music, and insightful commentary by leading scholars and experts.

It has been screened throughout the U.S., in France and in Canada, including at the Smithsonian Museum of African-American History and Culture.

View trailer, Order DVD, **Stream and Purchase Institution License** :  
<http://www.africanamericansinparis.com/>

**Film Companion Book** – *Paris Noir-African Americans In The City of Light*  
83-page museum quality book full of rare photos, engaging text, institutional source of archives list, augmented reality access to additional footage.

To preview and order <http://www.africanamericansinparis.com/>



*Walking The Spirit Tours®*

*Black Paris & Beyond*

ASK ABOUT OUR TOURS - CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES - EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Web [www.walkthespirit.com](http://www.walkthespirit.com) Email: [info@walkthespirit.com](mailto:info@walkthespirit.com)