



The legendary Gordon Parks honored on 90th birthday in Harlem by 90 photographers



The Chicago Alliance of African American Photographers (CAAAP) was well represented during the 90th birthday, celebration and tribute to the legendary Gordon Parks (center with his signature white mustache and hair) in Harlem recently. African-American photographers from across the country came out for this epic event. The event was hosted by The Exposure Group, African American Photographers Association. Not only was Gordon Parks a contributor to the arts by his award-winning photography, but he was an author, poet, filmmaker, musician, composer, editor and writer. CAAAP was represented by Bob Black, Milbert O. Brown, Jr, John White, Bobby Sengstacke, Brent Jones, Ovie Carter and Michael Bracey. More photos on page 2,3.

“The Journey” exhibit moves to the new Beverly Arts Center, 111th & Western, Chicago, IL. January 24-February 28, 2003. For more details call: 773-445-3838.



Quarter I meetings 2003:

January 19; February 16; March 16
2-4 p.m., Sundays
South Side Community Art Center*
3831 South Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL

**If meeting venue changes (advance notification of venue changes will be made via e-mail, regular mail and/or telephone)*



The weathered fingers of Harrison Bankhead on bass, pleasures listeners during the Spirit Journey Musical held at Hyde Park Union Church on Chicago’s southside. This is one of the many photographic images of the Chicagoland area African-American community that will be on exhibit at the new Beverly Arts Center starting January 24, 2003. photo/Bill Scott



*Organizer of the event, Jason Miccolo Johnson, (center) introduces the man of the hour, the "Dean" Gordon Parks, to the group of 90 photographers who helped celebrate his 90th birthday.
photo/Michael Bracey*



*Chicago Sun-Times photographer (right) John H. White hugs friend and former Chicagoan, New York Times photographer Michelle Agins at the Gordon Parks group photo shoot in Harlem.
photo/Michel Bracey*

Deadline dates for CAAAP newsletter

Quarter II 2003:

March 16, 2003

Quarter III:

June 22,, 2003

Quarter IV:

September 22, 2003

Please submit items for newsletter to Douglas Griswold: P.O. Box 1594, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-7306 or at DougGris@msn.com. Newsletter submission sheets are available at each monthly meeting.



New Journey images

The deadline for new works is now. Please note: Journey images should have been taken within the years, 2000, 2001, or 2002 and must be related to the Chicago area African American community. Direct your material to Milbert O. Brown, Jr., Director of the Journey Project. E-mail: mmbrown912@AOL.com.

A big THANKS to John H. White for giving each CAAAP member a Christmas present, an autographed copy of his book, The Final Journey of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. That was a nice gesture that everyone appreciated. The man with a good eye has a good heart as well. Thanks John.



CAAAP photographers, (standing, l-r) John H. White, Michael Bracey, Brent Jones, Bob Black; (seated next to Parks), Milbert O. Brown, Jr., help Gordon Parks celebrate his 90th birthday in New York City. (not pictured but in attendance, Bobby Sengstacke and Ovie Carter). photo/Hillary Garrison

Book Review



By Douglas Griswold

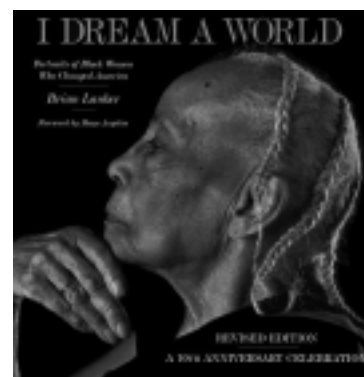
I Dream A World: Portraits of Black Women Who Changed America, is compelling combination of strong photographic images and deep rooted and inspiring words (as told by the women who are portrayed in this book) about the life, struggles, successes and failures of 75 Black women that changed the world. Through the great work of photographer Brian Lanker and great stories shared by these great Black women, you can't help but to feel a part of history. The world has felt and will continue to feel the impact they have made, whether living or deceased. This book, I say without blinking an eye, is a must have for our future generations of African-Americans in particular and all generations of people the world over.

The 11"x11" photographs (for the most part) capture something unique about each woman. They are well done. The photographs speak volumes and the words they share about their lives speak just as much if not more.

As Lanker said in the preface: "When I met each woman, I proceeded the first with the interview, which gave us a chance to get to know each other. I had no list of questions, but I was interested in each person's childhood and family. I asked about their earliest experiences with racism and sexism, and which seemed the more prevalent in their experience. What did they do to combat discrimination, given the legality of much of it until the reform of the sixties? Were they hopeful for more success, their art—and their failures as well. But I also let the interviews, which averaged three hours, go where the women wanted to take them.; I discovered a world of wit and wisdom, and philosophies of work and life...

Next came the challenge of bringing that world and my new-found understanding of the women into the photograph. This is always the hardest part. Normally the

portraits were taken on the next day, in a session that lasted anywhere from thirty minutes to several hours. The amount of time spent photographing didn't have a direct



influence on the success of the photograph. Where it took several hours for just the right light for the portrait of Rosa Parks, it took a few brief minutes for everything to come together for Septima Clark."

The original, which debut in 1989, is hard to find. But used copies are available. Currently, the 10th anniversary issue is on sale and it has the latest updates on the life and times of these great women.

Some other noteworthy comments about the book:

A celebration of great African-American women, *I Dream a World* presents compelling portraits of 75 women who have changed our nation and our times. This handsome volume will be cherished as a tribute to some of the most inspiring individuals in the ranks of black history and the women's movement. —**Ingram** *This text refers to the Paperback edition.*

I Dream a World is a collection of stunning black and white photos of 75 Black women who followed their dreams. (Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Brian Lanker arranged these photo shoots over a two year period, collecting stories from the women along the way.) Alongside each woman's full-page photo are her stories, shared bits and pieces of her life and who she is. Each, in combination, creates an eloquent reflection of a woman who managed to create a life of meaning and beauty, even in the face of extreme hardship and prejudice. -**Ilene Rosoff**



During a November field trip, CAAAP members study the massive photographs of Andreas Gursky at the Museum of Contemporary Art. Some of these digital creations ranged in sizes from 6ft to over 16ft.. photo/Israel Wright

Bracey awarded Fellowship

CAAAP President Michael Bracey has been awarded an Illinois Arts Council Fellowship for his documentary photography project titled, **Africans within the Americas (AWA)**. AWA is a photographic exploration showcasing lifestyles and commonalities among people of African descent who live within the Americas. His timeline is divided into thirds, with the second beginning February 2003 with a visit to Brazil. By August 2003 he will complete two-thirds of the project with visits to Haiti, Cuba, Belize and Panama. Completion is slated for April 2004. Congratulations Michael and keep us posted!



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