

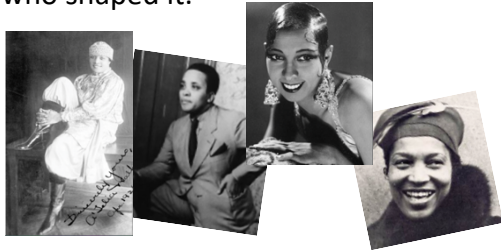


National OLOC Zoom Event
Women of the Harlem Renaissance
A Multimedia Presentation

Thurs. February 18, 2021



After World War I, Black people flocked to New York City from the American South and the Caribbean Islands. Many settled in Harlem, and from 1918 to the mid-1930s, they created a cultural, artistic, and intellectual revolution that influenced other artists around the world. At the time, it was called The New Negro Movement, and many brilliant women were a part of it. Who were they, and what did they do? In this presentation Jorjet presented the experiences and unique talents of a number of these women - many of them lesbian or bisexual, all of them groundbreaking. This was a glimpse into this historic, dynamic era and into the lives of the amazing Black women who shaped it.



Presented by Jorjet Harper

Writer, editor, artist, and author of Lesbomania and Tales from the Dyke Side, Jorjet is the granddaughter of Minnie Buckingham Harper, the first woman of African descent to become a legislator in the United States.

Recommended Reading:

When Harlem was In Vogue by David Levering Lewis

Josephine Baker: The Hungry Heart by Jean-Claude Baker

Women Discussed in the Zoom Presentation

(Many performances can be found on YouTube)

Ma Rainey
Bessie Smith
Mamie Smith
Ada 'Bricktop' Smith (recorded in later life only)
Alberta Hunter
Josephine Baker
Ethel Waters
Adelaide Hall
Gladys Bentley (*including an appearance on the Groucho Marx TV show*)
Jackie 'Moms' Mabley
Ella Fitzgerald
Billie Holiday
Lena Horne
Hazel Scott
Sister Rosetta Tharpe, (*see especially the first rock and roll song, Strange Things are Happening Every Day*)
Florence Mills (*No recordings, but several videos about her life*)

Other Harlem Renaissance era women featured:

Bessie Coleman, pilot
Jessie Fauset, writer and novelist
Gwendolyn Bennett, writer, editor, artist
Ernestine Rose, librarian
Regina Anderson, Louella Tucker and Nance Ethel Ray, literary salon
Zora Neale Hurston, writer and anthropologist
Nella Larson, novelist
Dorothy West, writer
Laura Wheeler Waring, artist
Lois Mailou Jones, artist
Augusta Savage, sculptor
Eva Jessye, choral conductor and musical director
Madame CJ Walker, businesswoman, cosmetologist
A'Lelia Walker, business woman and salon host
Pig Foot Mary (Lillian Harris Dean), businesswoman, street vendor