



Euzhan Palcy

August 13, 2009

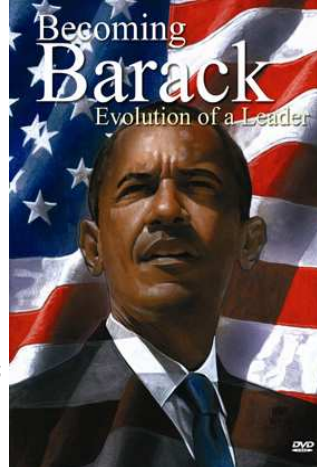
AFRICAN FILMS• "The Soul of Ashanti" will screen at 7:30 p.m. and "Aimé Césaire: A Voice of History," will screen at 9 p.m. on Aug. 17 as part of the Downtown L.A. Film Festival's African Cinema Program. A dialogue will take place before both screenings with director Euzhan Palcy ("Sugar Cane Alley," "A Dry White Season.") This event will occur at the Downtown Independent theater, 251 S. Main St., Los Angeles. Tickets are \$15 for both films and entry to the Palcy dialogue. The festival will end Aug. 22. Information: (213) 623-1929, e-mail info@dflla.com.

DVDS• The documentary "Michael Jackson: The Trial and Triumph of the King of Pop," covers the last 17 years of Jackson's life, focusing on the child molestation accusations in 1993 and the

criminal charges in 2005. The DVD explains why the jury found him innocent of all 14 counts and chronicles his activities until his untimely death. The DVD can be viewed on Warner Bros. Video On Demand, as well as amazon.com and iTunes. Information: e-mail pearljr@michaeljacksoninsider.com.

• Little Dizzy Home Video released "Becoming Barack: Evolution of a Leader" on Aug. 11. The film traces the early path of a man destined to make history and features footage from three of the earliest-known recorded interviews with the president, including never-before-seen footage. The documentary also features rare personal photos; interviews with family and a range of Chicago-area leaders in business and in grassroots community organizing. The 55-minute DVD is available for \$14.99. Information: www.littledizzyhomevideo.com, www.BecomingBarack.com.

• Warner Home Video celebrates three popular urban film classics with the deluxe edition DVD and Blu-ray debuts of "Friday," starring Ice Cube and Chris Tucker; "Set It Off," featuring Oscar nominee Queen Latifah and Jada Pinkett-Smith; and "Menace II Society," starring Larenz Tate and Samuel L. Jackson. These urban films, which include new commentaries, featurettes and director's cuts, are scheduled to be released on DVD for \$14.96 and Blu-ray for \$28.99 on Sept. 8. Information: www.whvdirect.com.



PAGEANT• The Annual Little Miss African American Scholarship Pageant will turn "Sweet Sixteen" on Aug. 16. At 4 p.m. at the Universal Sheraton Hotel, at 333 Universal Terrace Parkway in Universal City, there will be a parade of aspiring Little Misses, ages 6 to 12, along with alumni, who will display their confidence, awareness and pride before a panel of celebrity guests. The guests will include Tichina Arnold ("Everybody Hates Chris"), boxing champion Laila Ali, screenwriter Antwone Fisher and several others. Media personality Claudia Jordan will serve as host this year. LMAA is a nonprofit educational program designed to showcase the creative and academic talents of young girls living in urban centers throughout the country. LMAA has raised thousands of dollars toward the educational aspirations of its participants as well as their families. Information: www.littlemissafricanamerican.com.



J Moss

CDS• Verity Gospel Music Group released "Praise Your Way Out: Songs of Inspiration and Hope" on July 28. The 10-track disc features songs that resonate with reassurance and triumph, while providing a soundtrack for overcoming life's difficulties. Featured tracks include Hezekiah Walker & LFC's "I Need You To Survive," Yolanda Adams' "Still I Rise," and Dorinda Clark-Cole's "Take It Back," which Christianity Today called a "toe-tapping song of victory." The label is also scheduled to release singer/ songwriter J Moss' third compact disc, "Just James," on Aug. 25. The CD exemplifies the life and times of this singer, representing triumph and transformation, as well as the issue of remorse for his own shortcomings. Information: www.verityrecords.com.

ITUNES• (AP) — Jermaine Jackson's rendition of "Smile," sung at his brother's public memorial, is coming to iTunes. A judge granted Michael Jackson's estate a request to enter into an agreement with Apple to distribute the song on its popular music downloading service. The agreement calls for both the

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