



McLean Project for the Arts

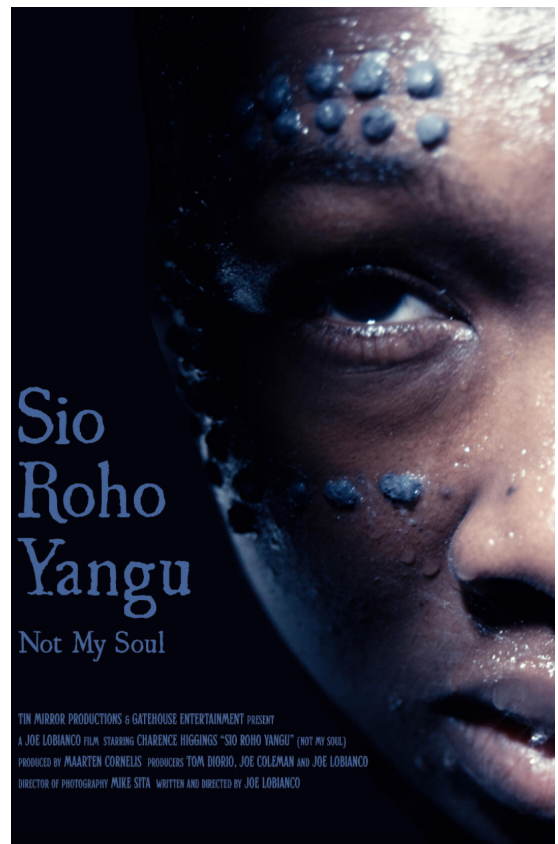
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McLean Project for the Arts to Host Screening of Independent Short Film, "Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul," Thursday, September 5, 7pm

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) will host a free Thursday, September 5, 7pm, screening of independent short film, "**Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul**," in the organization's Emerson Gallery at the McLean Community Center, McLean, VA. The short film was written and directed by multiple award-winning director Joe LoBianco. Music for the film was arranged and performed by renowned R&B vocalist and DC resident Joe Coleman.

Set in 1807, "Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul" tells the story of a young slave condemned to a sweltering hot box for her defiance, facing torment and uncertainty. Trapped in the oppressive heat, she struggles to survive, oscillating between fleeting hope and crushing despair. She draws strength from distant memories and spirituals. As her spirit is tested, the journey transforms from a desperate victim into a determined fighter, in a powerful testament to resilience and the unbreakable human will.



"Racism is a dangerous and ongoing problem in the United States," said Joe LoBianco, the writer/director for the short film project. "This is a story about an African woman enslaved in the United States in 1807 and how she survives and finally thrives through the horror of being put in a hot box as punishment. We showcase the pride, dignity and strength of this African enslaved woman. Our goal is to bring this story to the forefront with the hope that as the viewer identifies with her, we can all come one step closer to ending the blight of racism."

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Joe LoBianco, the film's writer and director, and Maarten Cornelis, producer and executive producer of the film, will be present at the screening, as well as Joe Coleman, co-producer, and Linda LoBianco, co-producer and intimacy coordinator on the film.

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About Joe LoBianco

Writer/Director, "Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul"

About Joe LoBianco

Writer/Director, "Sio Roho Yangu – Not My Soul"

Joe LoBianco is one of the founders of Tin Mirror Studios in New York, an accomplished filmmaker with a background in TV, music, and photography. His work spans international distribution, earning numerous festival awards and Oscar eligibility for his work. Joe's passion for storytelling drives his exploration of diverse narratives and innovative filmmaking techniques, which are on full display with this film. www.notmysoul.com/

About MPA

MPA Exhibits, Educates and Inspires

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is one of the mid-Atlantic region's most respected contemporary visual arts organizations. MPA provides high-quality art exhibitions showcasing the work of established and emerging artists, educational programs, art classes, MPAartfest, summer art camps, and ArtReach, an award-winning program serving students in grades K – 12, seniors, and individuals with special needs. For more information, visit www.mpaart.org.

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