

Symposium + Film Screening

Toni Morrison

Fellowship Inauguration

February 28-29, 2024 | Location: The Africa Hall, Sharjah ([Map](#))

Register to attend our two-day program celebrating the life and legacy of literary icon Toni Morrison!

Program

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm | Welcoming Remarks

- **Hoor Al Qasimi** – President, The Africa Institute, Global Studies University (GSU), and Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, U.A.E
- **Salah M. Hassan**, Director, The Africa Institute, Global Studies University (GSU), Sharjah, U.A.E; Distinguished Professor, Cornell University, U.S.A

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm | Song Performance by Al-Multaqa Chamber Orchestra

3:30 pm – 3:40 pm | Introductory Remarks

- **Ford Morrison** – Architect, Producer, Cinematographer

3:40 pm – 4:40 pm | Film Screening

- **The Foreigner's Home (2018 | 57 minutes)**

Directed by Rian Brown and Geoff Pingree, and produced by Ford Morrison, Toni Morrison's son, "The Foreigner's Home" delves into her 2006 Louvre exhibition, using exclusive footage and archival materials to illuminate her profound insights on race, identity, and the transformative power of art.

4:40 pm – 5:40 pm | Panel Discussion

- **Ford Morrison** – Architect, Producer, Cinematographer
- **Margo Crawford** – Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania

Moderator: Meg Arenberg, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, The Africa Institute (GSU)

5:40 pm – 6:00 pm | Coffee Break

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Keynote

Farah Jasmine Griffin – William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American Studies, Columbia University

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Panel Discussion

- **Farah Jasmine Griffin**– William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African American Studies, Columbia University
- **Manthia Diawara** – University Professor of Comparative Literature and Cinema Studies, New York

Moderator: Salah M. Hassan, Director, The Africa Institute, Global Studies University (GSU), Sharjah, U.A.E; Distinguished Professor, Cornell University, U.S.A

Thursday, February 29, 2024

11:00 am – 11:10 am | Introductory Remarks

- **Philathia Bolton** – Inaugural Toni Morrison Senior Fellow, The Africa Institute (GSU), Associate Professor of English, The University of Akron

11:10 am – 1:10 pm | Film Screening

- ***Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am (2019 | 120 minutes)***

Directed by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, “Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am” offers an intimate exploration of Morrison’s life and work, featuring interviews with renowned figures like Hilton Als, Angela Davis, and Oprah Winfrey.

1:10 pm – 2:30 pm | Lunch

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Panel Discussion

- **Riché Richardson** – Professor of African American Literature, Cornell University
- **Philathia Bolton** – Inaugural Toni Morrison Senior Fellow, The Africa Institute (GSU), Associate Professor of English, The University of Akron

Moderator: Surafel Wondimu Abebe, Assistant Professor of Performance Studies and Theory, The Africa Institute, (GSU)

3:30 pm – 3:40 pm | Song Performance by AI-Multaqa Chamber Orchestra
