

The Politics of Black Beauty in Bahia



SHORT FILM AND LECTURE BY DR. ANGELA FIGUEIREDO

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

6-7:30 PM

TUTTLEMAN 105

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One of the biggest attractions before carnival in Salvador is Black Beauty Night, an event held by the carnival association afro-bloco Ilê Ayê, during which a black woman is chosen to represent the Deusa do ébano Ebony Goddess. Every year, the public made of a majority of black Salvador residents, a few tourists and local whites, wonder about the criteria of beauty guiding the selection process. Attempting to unveil the mystery, we visited Ilê's wings of black beauty production and recorded the hairdos, turbans, clothes and make ups, as well as the counter-discourse on beauty and affirmative words of identity asserted in the statements of the 16 candidates to the title.

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