MUSIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: 
RESIDENCY AROUND THE LIBERIAN WOMEN’S CHORUS FOR CHANGE 

In presence of Dr. Toni Shapiro-Phim and Fatu Gayflor 

Monday, November 5 | 12:00-1:15pm 
Varis Lecture Hall 
Colloquium: “Expressive Culture and Social Justice” 
Cultural anthropologist Dr. Toni Shapiro-Phim will discuss her current research through selected examples of communities addressing violence through dance and music. Followed by lunch.

Tuesday, November 6 | 10:30-11:45am 
Varis Lecture Hall 
“Music and dance in Philadelphia’s diverse communities” 
Director of Programs at the Philadelphia Folklore Project, cultural anthropologist Dr. Toni Shapiro-Phim will discuss music and dance in immigrant and non-immigrant communities in the Philadelphia area through examples of applied ethnomusicology and anthropology initiatives. Held during Stephanie Khoury’s course ‘Music as Culture’.

Wednesday, November 7 | 1:30-2:45pm 
Granoff Room 271 
Guest lecture by Fatu Gayflor 
Fatu Gayflor will discuss her training and professional journey as a female singer and recording star in Liberia, West Africa, before and during the civil war. She’ll also talk about her life as an artist and immigrant in the U.S. where she co-founded the Liberian Women’s Chorus for Change. Held during Melinda Latour’s course ‘Women in Music’.

Wednesday, November 7 | 7:30-9:30pm 
Diller Performance Hall 
Screening of the documentary “Because of the War”, followed by Q&A 
In this documentary film, four brilliant singers and dancers – mothers, refugees, immigrants, survivors of Liberia’s civil wars – use their art to address injustice at home in West Africa and in exile in North America. The movie affords audiences the chance to explore relationships between traditional cultural knowledge and community well-being, especially in situations of violence and loss, and to consider how each one of us might hold the potential for constructive action in the face of indignities and inequities, within ourselves. The screening will be followed by Q&A with movie director Toni Shapiro-Phim and featured artist Fatu Gayflor.

Thursday, November 8 | 10-11:30am 
Fisher Performance Room 
Workshop on music and social justice activism 
Facilitators Fatu Gayflor and Toni Shapiro-Phim will discuss and demonstrate the use of traditional songs and dances (here from Liberia, West Africa) to foster dialogue and address social justice concerns. As part of the workshop, participants will be invited to experience the performance of collective songs and dances under the guidance of Ms. Gayflor. Followed by lunch.

All events are held at the Granoff Music Center and are open to all.

Tufts University

This residency is made possible by the Granoff Music Fund & the Tufts Diversity Fund, and supported by Tufts Africana Studies and: