

# AFROFUTURISM

## A PRIMER

### Films:

Sorry to Bother You, Boots Riley, 2018

Black Panther, Ryan Coogler, 2018

Get Out, Jordan Peele, 2017

The Girl with All the Gifts, Colm McCarthy, 2016

Pumzi, Wanuri Kahiu, 2009

The Brother from Another Planet, John Sayles, 1984

Afro Samurai, Fuminori Kizaki, 2007

### Music:

Sun Ra - composer, poet, philosopher, book: This Planet Is Doomed; film: Space Is The Place

Janelle Monae, musician, "The ArchAndroid," "The Electric Lady"

Ibeyi, musicians, album: "Ibeyi"

Blitz The Ambassador, musician, album: "Soul Rebel," "Diasporadical"

### Videos:

Thriller - Michael Jackson and John Landis, 1983

The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly) - Missy Elliott and Hype Williams, 1997

Give Me Some More - Busta Rhymes and Hype Williams, 1998

California Love - Tupac, Dr. Dre and Hype Williams, 1996

Lemonade - Beyonce Knowles, Kahil Joseph, Melina Matsoukas and others, 2016

# BOOKS

## Fiction

Samuel Delany – Aye and Gomorrah (1967), Dhalgren (1975)

### Octavia Butler

- **Stand Alone Books:** Kindred (1979), Fledgling (2005);
- **Patternist Series:** Wild Seed (1980), Mind of My Mind (1977), Clay's Ark (1984), Survivor (1978), Patternmaster (1976)
- **Xenogenesis Books:** Dawn (1987), Adult Rites (1988), Imago (1989)
- **Parable Books:** Parable of the Sower (1993), Parable of the Talents (1998)
- **Collections:** Bloodchild (1995), Unexpected Stories (2014)

Tananarive Due – My Soul to Keep (1988)

Tomi Adeyemi – Children of Blood and Bone (Legacy of Orisha #1) (2018)

Steven Barnes – Lion's Blood (2002), Zulu Heart (2003)

Jennifer Marie Brissett – Elysium (2014)

Tobias Buckell – Crystal Rain (2006)

Bill Campbell – Mothership: Tales from Afrofuturism and Beyond (2013)

Nicky Drayden – Prey of Gods (2017)

Nalo Hopkinson – The Brown Girl in the Ring (1998), Midnight Robber (2000)

N.K. Jemisin – The Fifth Season (2015)

Walter Mosley – Futureland: Nine stories of an imminent future (2001)

Nnedi Okorafor – Who Fears Death (2010), Binti (2015), Binti: Home (2017), Binti: The Night Masquerade (2018)

Deji Bryce Olukotun – Nigerians in Space (2014)

Rasheedah Phillips – Recurrence Plot (2014)

Sun Ra – This Planet is Doomed (2011)

Nisi Shawl – Everfair (2016)

Rivers Solomon – An Unkindness of Ghosts (2017)

Sheree Renee Thomas – Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora (2000)

Colson Whitehead – The Underground Railroad (2016)

### Comic Books

Black (Kwanza Osajyefo)

Black Panther (Christopher Priest, Reginald Hudlin, Ta-Nehisi Coates)

Destroyer (Victor LaValle)

Milestone Comics (Icon, Static, Hardware, Blood Syndicate)

### Non-Fiction

Afrofuturism: the World of Black Sci Fi and Fantasy Culture (2013) – Ytasha L. Womack

Afrofuturism 2.0: The Rise of Astro Blackness (2015) – Alondra Nelson and Reynaldo Anderson

Octavia's Brood: Science Fiction Stories from Social Justice Movements (2015) – Adrienne Maree Brown and Walidah Imarisha

More Brilliant Than the Sun – Kodwo Eshun

The Sound of Culture: Diaspora and Black Technopoetics – Louis Chude-Sokei

Emergent Strategy – adrienne maree brown

Speculative Blackness: The Future of Race in Science Fiction – André M. Carrington

Black Quantum Futurism: Theory and Practice Vol. 1 – ed. Rasheedah Phillips

Mark Dery essay “Black to the Future” (1994) – coined the term “Afrofuturism”

## MUSIC

Sun Ra – “Space is the Place” (1973)

Parliament – “Mothership Connection” (1975)

Outkast – “Aquemini” (1998)

Janelle Monae – “The ArchAndroid” (2010), “The Electric Lady” (2013)

Drexciya – The Quest (1997)

Erykah Badu – Baduizm (1997)

Flying Lotus – 1983 (2006)

## FILMS

The Brother from Another Planet (1984) – John Sayles

District 9 (2009) – Neill Blomkamp

PUMZI – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWMtgD9O6PU>

INTERVIEW with Wanuri Kahiu – [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIR7L\\_B86Fc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIR7L_B86Fc)

Wanuri Kahiu Ted Talk on Afrofuturism –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvxOLVaV2YY>

Janelle Monae Dirty Computer Emotion Picture –  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdH2Sy-BINE>

## VISUAL ART

Jean-Michel Basquiat – Molasses

Antonio Lopez – fashion illustrations

Tim Fielder – graphic artist, “Black Metropolis” exhibit

Niama Safia Sandy – curated “Black Magic: Afro Past/Afrofutures” exhibit

King Britt – curated “Moondance: A Night in the Afrofuture” exhibit (2014)

Joshua Mays – Tells Stories in Murals

Lina Iris Viktor – A Rising Star

Rachel Stewart – jewelry maker

Ingrid Lafleur

# African American Speculative Fiction

Martin Delany  
Blake, or the Huts of America (1859)

Charles W. Chesnutt  
The Conjure Woman (1899)

Frances Harper  
Iola Leroy (1892)

Sutton Griggs  
Imperium in Imperio (1899)

Pauline Hopkins  
Of One Blood (1902)

Edward A. Johnson  
Light Ahead for the Negro (1904)

W. E. B. Du Bois  
"The Comet" (1920)  
"Jesus Christ in Texas" (1920)

Zora Neale Hurston  
Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937)  
Mules and Men (1935)  
Tell My Horse (1938)

George Schuyler  
Black No More (1931)

Henry Dumas  
Echo Tree: The Collected Short Fiction of Henry Dumas (2003)

Amos Tutuola  
The Palm Wine Drinkard (1952)  
My Life in the Bush of Ghosts (1954)