



Daughters of the Dust: The Making of an African American Woman's Film

By Julie Dash

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In the winter of 1992, nearly one hundred years after motion pictures were invented, the first nationally distributed feature by an African American woman was released in the United States. The film tells the story of an African American sea-island family preparing to come to the mainland at the turn of the century. In her richly textured, highly visual, lyrical portrayal of the day of the departure, Julie Dash evokes the details of a persisting African culture and the tensions between tradition and assimilation. *Daughters of the Dust: The Making of an African American Woman's Film*, which includes Dash's complete screenplay, describes the story of her extraordinary sixteen-year struggle to complete the project.

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Editorial Review

Review

A haunting film rich in visual beauty. A mystical examination of what it means to honor and cherish family.
-- *Siskel & Ebert, "At the Movies"*

Daughters of the Dust is a beautiful book to delight the most demanding tastes. It is also an important book--the history of film is incomplete without it. -- *Toni Morrison*

Daughters of the Dust very much has a power all of its own. -- *Los Angeles Times*

About the Author

Julie Dash is an American filmmaker. Her 1991 film *Daughters of the Dust* was the first full-length film by an African American woman with general theatrical release in the United States. *Daughters of the Dust* was included in the National Film Registry in 2004.

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