



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Marc Chery  
619-236-5817

### **SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY SCREENS “BLACK ORPHEUS”** *Month-long Activities Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Beloved International Film*

**SAN DIEGO** – The San Diego Public Library will host a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary screening of the film *Black Orpheus* on September 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 in the 3rd floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. The screening is part of a month whole of activities programmed to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this classic Oscar-winning film endeared to many as one of the best musicals ever made. There will also be a screening of the Brazilian 1999 remake *Orfeu* as well a presentation on the original Greek myth and a book discussion of *The Einstein Intersection*, the award-winning science fiction novel by science fiction luminary Samuel Delany, which is based on the legend of Orpheus. (See attached)

Directed by Marcel Camus, *Black Orpheus* is the award-winning cinematic retelling of the “Orpheus and Eurydice” legend set during Carnival in Rio de Janeiro with Orpheus a streetcar conductor and Eurydice a bumpkin attempting to escape a jilted lover’s wrath. From the moment of its first appearance, this bittersweet Afro-Brazilian romantic tragedy has charmed audiences the world over with its beauty, color and music. Ushering the infectious bossa nova beat to the U.S., at the dawn of the modern civil rights movement, this classic film portrayed a rich and vibrant black diaspora culture that resonated in a most profound way with the civil rights aspirations of a broad cross-section of Americans.

Composer, pianist, essayist, and poet, Professor Delores Fisher, of SDSU, will facilitate an audience discussion after the film. Her credits include literary magazines, collaborative poetry readings in the U.S. and in Tijuana, Mexico, local theater, cable TV, and various Internet sites.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

**Black Orpheus 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Screening**

OTHER EVENTS:

Wednesday, September 23, 6:30 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Wangenheim Room

**Mythology Talk Celebrating 50 years with *Black Orpheus*: TO HELL AND BACK: The Legend of ORPHEUS & EURYDICE with Charles Chamberlain, Ph.D. of UCSD**

A discussion of the “Orpheus and Eurydice” legend—a return to the classic story to help understand the basis of the forthcoming film and book discussions.

Sunday, October 4, 2 pm, auditorium

**Film screening: “ORFEU”**

Legendary Brazilian director Carlos Diegues’ 1999 recasting of the Orpheus myth in the shantytowns of Rio de Janeiro during the annual Carnival celebration.

Sunday, October 7, 6:30 pm, Wangenheim Room

**Book discussion Celebrating 50 years with *Black Orpheus*: THE EINSTEIN INTERSECTION with Dr. Stephen Potts, Ph.D. of UCSD**

A discussion of the novel “Einstein Intersection” by best-selling science fiction luminary Samuel Delany.

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