

GRAFFITI VERITE'

GV DOCU-SERIES

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GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (period)

A New Documentary Film From Multi Award-Winning Filmmaker Bob Bryan

FILM REVIEWS

THE BOB BRYAN EFFECT

Commentary by Wanda Coleman, Poet, Writer & Journalist

Given that I am from the African-American subculture where questions are used to intimidate, oppress and confuse, it is rare that I enjoy either conducting interviews, or being the subject of them. However, independent and direct in his manner, and radiating empathy (*without being precious or solicitous*), Bob Bryan interviews his subjects in an unforgettable manner.

Cool yet excited, all in the same moment, he asks frank, inoffensive questions of genuine interest. At times his questions are startling, because they force the interviewee to assess and summarize quickly, leaving very little opportunity for "B.S.". He does not arouse suspicion, and does not give off the impression that he has some hidden agenda other than the subject at hand. Because of his careful research, he asks questions that have not been asked 100 times before. (*In my case, he asked about how I think! This seldom happens.*) This does not mean that a Bob Bryan interview is easy. It is not, because, in my case, it demanded that I do some sharp and quick thinking on timeworn-and-worry swollen feet.

Bob Bryan may not know it, but he asks consummate "clean" questions, questions that are free of the sociological garbage of assumption, implication and innuendo - questions that told me, in my case, that he was open to what I had to say, and that if he had any preconceptions, he was keeping them to himself. The Bob Bryan experience is lean, comfortable and professional, and one of the best I've ever had.

--- Wanda Coleman, Poet, Writer & Journalist



GV21 Front Cover

This is THE "must-see" interview if you've ever loved Wanda or if you're interested in finding out what her beautiful life was all about. Includes interview plus Poetry Readings....

80 Minutes
of unadulterated magic!



THOUGHTS & REFLECTIONS

by Austin Straus, Wanda Coleman's Husband

Bob Bryan's interview with Wanda Coleman is a classic example of a sensitive, intelligent, and superbly prepared Documentarian eliciting brilliant responses from a genius poet/writer/journalist who is forced by smart questions to think deeply, eloquently and movingly.

Many moments in this film made me laugh or cry or just sit there in wonder at the depth and breadth of this woman's mind. And I was her mate for nearly 33 years!

This film is far and away the best of all the dozens of interviews Wanda ever did and I am profoundly grateful to Bob Bryan for giving me this treasure I can turn to whenever I feel like being reminded of my beloved's fantastic mind. Bob, you have created a work of art, a masterpiece of the documentary interview.

Thank you from my heart,
--- Austin Straus



"MY TAKE ON GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)"

by Jack G. Bowman, Poet / MA LMFT

GV21 is a full-on Documentary Interview with the Brilliant Poet / Writer / Journalist Wanda Coleman by Bob Bryan.

Los Angeles' "Unofficial Poet Laureate" was an edgy life-force in the poetry community during many of its ebbs and flows over the past 3 decades. Her power and talent matched only by her raw, charismatic energy as a compassionate person, completely aware in the moment, each moment of her life.

It was my pleasure to meet and hear her read several times over the years. We in the community are dumbstruck by her loss and that's why, with an act or artistic theatrical-cinematic magic, we have this film. A divine act of poetic sorcery.

Bob Bryan knows how to capture, edit and display the beauty that was this poet. We are sitting in the

living room of the master as she waves to us, pulls us into her mind, heart, perspective and philosophy.

How did Bob Bryan get that? That is his gift and it is far reaching.

For those that knew her, saw her, heard her and those generations who can now experience her, this film is the piece that will give them the clearest conception of an amazing American Artist from our time, for all time.

Thank you Bob Bryan and Farewell Wanda, you touched and changed us by your work...

Love, Peace and Knowledge

About Jack G Bowman, Poet / MA LMFT:

<http://www.youtube.com/JackGBowman>

<http://www.facebook.com/jackgbowman>

http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/621420.Jack_Bowman

<http://www.bluecanvas.com/jackbowman>

<http://www.amazon.com/-/e/B00F5DJ6T1>

My Poetry Books: Thanatos on a Southland Freeway (2001) Paranormal Libido (2002), Incarnate Canals of Mars (2003) Unnatural Fire (2004), Diamonds in the Sand (2007), Moths Singed by Moonlight (2008), Vision and Presence (2009), Serpents in the Stratosphere (2010), A Walk into Darkness (2011), Red Velvet Apocalypse (2012), Other Realms of Being (2013), Incandescent Silence (2014)

My Therapy Books: The 8 week Self-Esteem Workbook (2011), The Dilemmas of Men (2014), All books available at Amazon.com or www.thebookpatch.com. Original music also available on www.Amazon.com see "Jack Bowman and the VIPs", Dark Passages Vol. 1,2,3.



"THANK YOU & BRAVO!!" THE FASCINATING WORLD OF WANDA COLEMAN'S CREATIVITY by Michelle Johnson

'GRAFFITI VERITE' GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD) is an honest and in depth look at Wanda Coleman's life, work and philosophical passions. The documentary dives into her literary perspective that greatly reflects the cultural idioms of Los Angeles and its historical connection with the African American presence.

Through a series of profound exchanges - Wanda

Coleman shares her mystical outlook on life revealing both the victories and tragedies of the American society with regard to its relationship with poverty and the underserved citizens of color.

The film uncovers the fascinating world of Wanda Coleman's creativity and the spiritual aspects that have impacted her work which, as she describes, has become a medium that gives voice to the community.

She performs her poems with the jazz elements of Coltrane and the elegant sensuality of Abbey Lincoln, demonstrating her authentic place in the history books for African American artists and cultural pioneers. In the documentary, Wanda Coleman discusses Charles Bukowski and his influence over her work along with their shared beginnings from that of the working-class to their professional and creative differences with regard to the use and concept of masochism.

GRAFFITI VERITE (GV21) gives the audience a beautiful glimpse into Wanda Coleman the writer and Wanda Coleman the person, revealing both her unfiltered genius and the deep vulnerabilities held within the treasure box of her legendary work.'

Thank you again for sharing her story, it was truly a gift to me to witness her wisdom and art. Bravo!!



**REVIEW OF GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN
PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)**
by Michelle 'Chelle' Angelini

Normally, I am not one to watch or listen to interviews, but **GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS.** had me riveted to my seat in front of my computer. I could not tear myself away from Bob Bryan's unique questions or Wanda Coleman's inspiring answers. I was so drawn in by her wonderful infectious laughter, her philosophy of life, her poetry, and Wanda herself. In the process, I learned new words and ideas to inspire me as a writer.

To describe Wanda Coleman - she was vivacious, beautiful, self-assured - without being vain, and a champion to people who needed one. And not just black women, but to people of all races and both

genders. I learned from her and learned about myself through her. Her poetry drew laughter and tears from me. I learned many facts to apply to myself and to my writing.

Most of what I learned is her enthusiasm for the craft of writing. Her poem "Mastectomy" (from her book *Mercurochrome*) helped me to understand more about the physical and emotional nature of the removal of women's breasts and I was in tears by the end of her reading.

What drew me to listen with different ears when she read her poems was the emotion she poured into it. She didn't just read it; she didn't perform it - she was the poem come alive. I would love to watch this interview again to pick up anything I missed, since it was filled with so much amazing information.

GV21 is not just an interview - it is a lesson in life, love, the craft of writing, and one writer's way of surviving and overcoming what life handed her.

This documentary should be required viewing in every creative writing classroom for young and emerging poets who think they want to write poetry or anything else.

GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT will help them understand that the craft of writing is not just taking a pen to paper and splashing words onto it, but pouring everything - physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual - into the words and ideas that make it onto the page.

Because of Bob Bryan's excellent interview with a poet who will be missed intensely, I have a new-found appreciation for the craft with which I have been blessed and skilled to have as a talent. I'm honored that you allowed me to review this documentary interview. You made it extra interesting with the sound & special effects. Thank you Bob, straight from my heart.



**GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
GENIUS. (PERIOD)**
New Review from Poet Wyatt Underwood

OMG! Thank you! I never met, never knew Wanda

Coleman. Thank you for this experience of her. People at the World Stage and people in my life talk about her, and now I have some idea of who and what they mean.

This is a magnificently well done interview, and the “subtitles”, and text and music are no interruption but a contribution to her speaking. Bless you for doing this. Thank you for including me in your sharing of it. Your interview is a killer way to learn. Damn, you did a good job!

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Yes! Wanda Coleman reads some of her poems and talks about herself as a poet and a human being and the journey that both required. She does so in response to the gently and respectfully probing questions of Bob Bryan,

This is how an interview should be conducted - where the interviewer has done his homework, knows his subject, and asks intelligent questions with no agenda of his own except to let the subject fully express herself.

No “*how do you feel?*” questions, and no “*and what did you think of poet X?*” questions. Bob Bryan asks questions you’d like to think you’d’ve been intelligent enough to ask.



REVIEW OF GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)
by Andthensome BC

This is a MASTER CLASS for poets and writers... A real treasure! I am viewing it now, but bursting with gratitude to see this! This is an important work!



**“A CELEBRATION OF WOMAN’S GREATNESS”
A REVIEW OF GENIUS. (TRAILER)**
by Nancy Mildren

Hey Bob, I Just Watched Your Trailer For “**THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT**” and was deeply touched - two great minds, great because of big Satyagraha-Soul force to live Self Sovereignty - self

realized courage to believe in one’s pristine assets honed and shining - individual light so bright strengthening community

A nod to Shakespeare so lusciously imbued with mind and body revelry, this woman vaporizes social constructs that would marginalize women - a laughter so rich to embody the whole space with celebration of woman’s greatness from mind to toe! Thanks!



INVITATION TO VIEW “GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)”
Written by Nancy Mildren, Artist

Thanks, Bob:) I’m excited to give this my fullest attention:) I love your keen mindedness, strong will, and generous heart :)

So what a delight to listen to your rich questions and feel her (Poet, Wanda Coleman) deeply personal answers. As an artist, it’s really inspiring the mastery of weaving our best God given talents. Wanda has now inspired me to want to re-read Friedrich Nietzsche again, especially when she was talking about “*the void staring back at her*” with such a wonderful feeling.

When she talked about some people using drugs to “get there” and the sweet way she talked about writing at her highest level... I correlated her statement and observations to my yoga practices and the zone where i get into my best creativity.”



**“A PANORAMIC INVOLVEMENT WITH THE WRITER HERSELF”
REVIEW OF THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
GENIUS.**
by Glenn R. Towery, Filmmaker, Writer

Viewing **GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS.** was a total immersion into the mind and spirit of the great and gifted poet “Wanda Coleman”. Your documentary allowed me to put on the skin of Wanda Coleman and ruminate from within. I felt as though I was having a conversation with an old wise friend in my living room over a cup of hot coffee.

More than a glimpse was to be had here, an experience,

a panoramic involvement with the writer herself dictated from her own personal words about herself, her career and the forces in the world that minted her. This documentary is a wonderful achievement Bob. Wanda Coleman lives on forever to discuss her life with us all because of the creation of **“THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT.”** Thanks for sharing.



“WATCHING IT MAKES IT SEEM LIKE SHE’S STILL HERE.”

GV21: “GENIUS”. (PERIOD)

Review by Sharon Evans, Wanda Coleman’s Sister

I just got through watching the video and really enjoyed it. I’m so glad that you did this interview. It says--and explains--a lot, and it confirms some thoughts I’ve had about Wanda. To answer your question, we have often wondered at some of Wanda’s poems and where they came from. Her speaking from “another skin” explains it. Watching it makes it seem like she’s still here.



GV21 REVIEW

by Chris Vannoy

Highly recommend it!!!



“VISITING WITH WANDA COLEMAN”

by LeVan D. Hawkins

Thanks so much for allowing me to see **“THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT. GENIUS. (period)”** I’m feeling like i have some serious living, writing, & testifying to do. So nice to spend some time with Wanda.



“FANTASTIC! BRAVO FOR YOU & BRAVA FOR HER.”

**THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
GENIUS. (PERIOD) DOCUMENTARY**

Review by Rhonda Rochelle Harper,
Publisher / Writer WUN Magazine

How do you wrangle a beautiful storm of words and wisdom? You can’t. You light a candle, turn on some really good music and enjoy the ride. I can only imagine Bob Bryan in this very setting.

One of the toughest parts of an interview is the subject. Pick the perfect subject; the interview will astound you. Pick the right documentarian; freedom of expression turns the mundane into spectacular. **THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)** is uplifting and inspiring. For those familiar with Wanda Coleman’s work it was like seeing an old friend you hadn’t seen in a while. If you are not familiar with her work, you shall soon be a fan.

Mr. Bryan endorsed the poet’s rebelliousness. Regimented questions of the status-quo weren’t existent in this documentary. This was Mr. Bryan’s gift to Wanda Coleman. Freedom.

The offerings the audience receives may have been squandered should that have been the case. He cared enough to showcase the “soul” of a poet. There were many gifts. Her irrepressible cackle is the emancipation.

An exceptional moment arrives whilst Wanda reads her own poem. She transformed from interviewee to poet. Words began to create imagery. You can see, literally see it in her face. Her expressions were that of an eager voyager setting sail on new territory. I became just as excited to ride along.

“Who anointed you voice of the people?” asks Bryan.

“The process of anointment is an organic process. You’re it or you’re not it,” replies Poet, Writer & Journalist Wanda Coleman.

This is brilliance at it’s finest. This is the type of gift that civic leaders need to embrace. She is unapologetic for her rebellious nature and voice.

There are so many “Wanda-isms” one is unprepared to absorb them in all at once. I myself grabbed a notepad and previewed the documentary again. The second time, I previewed the film as a leader, a storyteller, a woman and as a writer.

Let us not leave out the mastery of the visual effects and musical score. A Bob Bryan film without ART simply isn’t a Bob Bryan film.



**fb EXCHANGE BETWEEN MARYNA MARUSYK
AND BOB BRYAN**
**RE: GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
GENIUS. (PERIOD)**

Maryna Marusyk

Wow... this lady Wanda Coleman is amazing... An excellent interview and it shows you different but true viewpoints through her writings of poetry about the injustices and racism in the world... Powerful stuff for sure!

Bob Bryan

Thx you Maryna...

Maryna Marusyk

Your welcome Bob. Your questions were brilliant and honest hmmm. With me living in a Vancouver Canada, we don't have a large black population like you do in LA... Growing up in Vancouver in grade 4 there was one black girl who enrolled in my school and everyone loved her instantly as she was seen as exciting...

Her hair style, her skin colour and everyone so wanted to be her friend... She was very kind, funny and became an extremely popular girl... She was totally accepted... So learning about black history and culture in the US through Rhonda Harper, is a wonderful enriching journey... I always love her posts :) and am glad to be her friend.



**GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
GENIUS. (PERIOD)**

by Don Kingfisher Campbell, Poet, Educator

**A Sampling of Gems from Wanda Coleman, in
Bob Bryan's Documentary Interview:**

"It's very difficult to display your powers."

ON CREATION: "The void is beautiful."

"I'm getting old, I'm getting real old, real quick."

"I'm lucky I've gotten this far."

ON THE POEM: "It's going to live independent of you."

FOR TEACHERS: "Go to public readings of poetry."
"Bring living poets into the classroom."

"Force them to read all kinds of poetry. The delicate and the indelicate."

ON BEING A POET: "The poet is a medium."

"I'm an urban black female poet. Humanistic, eccentric, lover as a poet."

"The vast majority of us are victims of American Apartheid."

"Writing is its own performance."

ON "MASTECTOMY": "In the poem I did have breast cancer."

"I was constantly in a struggle to free myself of all of these constraints."

"Performance emerged in self-defense, and has been with me ever since."

"So many unfinished poems are published."

"We're living in a tabloid nation."

"We've become a fascistic democracy."

"My love is like mercurochrome. It's gonna hurt, but we're gonna be cool after that."

"The meta poem has its own field of energy."

"Get the PhD, baby!"



REVIEW OF THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT

by Alonzo Crawford, Actor

I looked at your film **GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT** and it is great! Thank you for turning me onto **THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT**. It was very enjoyable and informative.



GV21 REVIEW

by Artist Katherine Norland

Bob, I wanted to let you know I really enjoyed your documentary. I watched it finally a couple of weeks ago. I personally don't have anywhere to screen it. But it was nice to be made aware of her work. I looked some up later and enjoyed it and even posted a bit of her on my website the end of Feb. (I'm also a poet, so I really appreciated it.)



"FRESH, RIPE JUICY HISTORY."

GV21 REVIEW

by Charles Claymore, Poet, Producer/Musician

This is fantastic, Bob. Personally, I'll have to watch

it bit at a time. There's a lot here. And as the type of poet I happen to be, I'm gonna need space for her thoughts.

You haven't skipped a single beat with the Graffiti Verite' Docu- Series. This is more than simply great work, my friend. It's History! Fresh, ripe, juicy History!



**LOS ANGELES SCREENING OF THE
WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. ,
OPEN MIC PLUS Q&A
by Bob Bryan, Filmmaker**

I had a great time at the first public screening of **THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)** at the Last Saturday of the Month Open Mic in Encino - Tarzana Public library.

For this special encounter with the General Public I decided to shave off my wannabe "Duck Dynasty" beard, clean-up and put on my big-boy-pants and shirt. For whatever reason on this day I felt surprisingly energized and light on my feet. I was Muhammad Ali ready to bob & weave, rope-a-dope and to sting-like-a-bee! I was pumped up and I was ready for whatever!!

It was a cool intimate setting at the Library where I got to hear some heartfelt poems spit during the "Open Mic Poetry Session" attended by some literary valley denizens. After 6 or 7 poets did their excellent thang I was informally introduced to say a few words regarding **THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT**. I did!

Amongst other background tidbits I spoke briefly about the circumstance of "how I came to create the documentary". I shared with the room that it was Wanda's shockingly, sudden death on November 29, 2013 that prompted me to drop the documentary I had been working on for the past 6 months or so "MYTH, MAGIC & RITUALS".

I felt guilty for not getting Wanda's interview out while she was still here (*I know she would have giggled*) but instinctively knew that I owed it to her to make sure that her legacy was not underserved and that the gen'l public had the sublime opportunity to be witness

to her fiery intellect and full-on extemporaneous & amazing personality. I knew that I possessed the quintessential Wanda Coleman Interview. so it had to be done IMMEDIATELY!

Anyway, we screened the first 45 minutes of the film and did some Q & A. Afterwards, we returned to the remainder of the "Open Mic Poetry Session." The poets were surprisingly honest and autobiographical. It reminded me about the inherent "Power" behind "Words." I'm sure Wanda would have felt very moved. Me? I felt deliciously liberated to be "myself" and open up and flow...I thoroughly enjoyed the interaction.

It was a great time and I was thrilled and honored to hear the films' feedback (*all good*) by the audience. I ended up confessing to all kinds of intimate mental psychological insecurities & peccadilloes as well as my dynamic approach to the creative background process of interviewing the inimitable Poet/Writer/ Journalist Wanda Coleman.

"First you prepare like crazy by reading and viewing everything Wanda has ever done. Then, be prepared to throw it all out the window when confronted by the dynamic reality of Wanda's powerful, eclectic awe-reducing personality."

After part 2 of the "Poetry Readings" we adjourned the gathering but not be 4 returning to a number of outliner Q&A's from new fans of the film. I remember sharing some insight into the nature of REALITY and the relevance or connection with THE DREAM EXPERIENCE. "Who can say which state is more Real?"

When we finally wrapped the event I got to chop-it-up with Wyatt, Christopher Marshall and his Poet Friend Matthew Snyder. It was really delightful mixxing the historical substance of Hip-Hop with straight up Literary Page Poetry. During the "Open Mic" Matthew spit his really fun and personal Poems. Hip-Hop vs. Perception vs. Remembrance of Real Hip-Hop. It was Dope! (my review). I believe that this was Matthews' "Poetry comin' out party." Welcome to the real world MS!

All in all, this promising and stimulating first

screening suggests that I may be comin' outta "the bat cave" more often to mingle and create tactile connections with the folks. Delightful time!

Thanks again Wyatt Underwood for the invite. I really missed meeting your wife Linda Underwood, but it was so so sweet seeing you both "rock" the multiple prolonged kisses outside the library, as she dropped you off. (I had just pulled into the parking lot and was still sitting in my car when I witnessed "The Moment"). Sexy gal you got there Wyatt. Very romantic moment... TO BE CONTINUED

Next Screening date: April 20th at BEYOND BAROQUE in Venice. It should be interesting. NEWS AT ELEVEN!



THE ARGONAUT NEWSPAPER

PORTRAIT OF A POET

Posted April 16, 2014
by The Argonaut in This Week

DOCUMENTARIAN BOB BRYAN

SCREENS HIS CINEMATIC SNAPSHOT OF WANDA COLEMAN AT THE VENICE LITERARY HAVEN SHE CHERISHED *by Michael Aushenker*

When documentary filmmaker Bob Bryan heard of poet Wanda Coleman's passing on Nov. 22, all his plans came to a screeching halt.

"There was no Thanksgiving. There was no Christmas. There was no sleep," Bryan said. "There was no nothing. I was obsessed with Wanda Coleman. I was possessed."

Before Coleman died, Bryan had been knee-deep in another project, but he immediately switched his focus to a long-gestating idea: "**THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS**," based on a filmed 2006 interview. Bryan screens and discusses his completed film on Sunday at Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center in Venice, a longtime creative outlet and community for Coleman until her death at 67.

"Wanda, she stood out always every time she read,"

poet Exene Cervenka, also of the band X, previously told The Argonaut about Coleman's participation in the literary scene at Beyond Baroque. "She was often imitated. Her cadence became the way everybody tried to read."

Coleman's first poetry collection was published in 1977. Over the next 39 years, she published more than 20 books of poetry, fiction and essays. Her 1998 poetry collection "Bathwater Wine" won the Lenore Marshall National Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets and catapulted her to national attention.

"Wanda was close to all of our hearts," Sherman Pearl, vice president of Beyond Baroque, said after her death. "She had the most articulate voice of Los Angeles that I know of. [In 2012] she was given our annual award for achievement in poetry."

Bryan had harbored the idea of doing a film about Coleman since finishing his documentary "**The Odyssey**," in which "she was obviously one of the flavors of the Los Angeles poetry scene." Cast alongside 30 other poets in that film, Coleman received about seven minutes of screen time. But he could not forget his conversation with Coleman for that project. She stood out.

What Bryan found most mesmerizing about Coleman was her uncanny chameleonic powers. "She would put on the skin of other people and write about that point of view," he said.

One poem she wrote in the voice of a woman who had undergone a mastectomy felt so authentic that people consoled her after a reading. Except that Coleman had never experienced it firsthand.

"She stopped denying and let people assume things and went with it," Bryan said. During their conversation on film, Coleman "was in top form," he said. "Physically and mentally, she was at the top of her game. She was successful but still very hungry."

Bryan is now back to finishing up his earlier project, a film called "Myth, Magic and Miracles," for release later this year. But in a way, Bryan had found the myth, magic and miracle he had been looking for

in that 2006 footage he had shot of Coleman at her brother George Evans' home.

"It's the most holistic interview that you'll ever hear in your life," Bryan recalled. "We laughed, we cried. If you want to know who she really is, there it is."

Bryan's documentary is not concerned with retracing well-traveled territory of Coleman's biographical history.

"This is more about the motivations, the ideas, the methodology [of Coleman]," he said. "Who you are is more engaging than the bloody details. It's a snapshot in time."

"THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS" screens at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice. Free, but donations welcome. Call (310) 822-3006 or visit beyondbaroque.org. For information about other screenings, visit graffitiverite.com.

--- [michael\(at\)argonautnews.com](mailto:michael(at)argonautnews.com)

<http://argonautnews.com/portrait-of-a-poet/>



EVENING WITH DON KINGFISHER CAMPBELL (DEAD POETS SOCIETY PART 1)

by Bob Bryan, Filmmaker (Creator of GV21)

First of all thank you Pasadena Public Library and Don for presenting a full screening of **"GV21 WANDA COLEMAN: GENIUS. (PERIOD). interview documentary"** at the gorgeous Donald Wright Auditorium. It was an honor!

What I remember best was the readings of Wanda's Poetry by the assembled Poets:

- TERESA MEI CHUC
- BEVERLY M. COLLINS
- REGINA HIGGINS
- LALO KIKIRIKI
- MINA V. KIRBY
- TOTI O'BRIEN
- *and* CHRIS WESLEY

Doing their talented best to channel Wanda whilst

owning the intentions was a privilege and sincere pleasure for me to witness. Seeing the smiles on their faces as I presented each one with a copy of **GV21** after their reading was more that worth the price of admission for me.

Head nods, aha, laughter, affirmations punctuated the 87 min screening. The room was eclectic..

It was the PERFECT evening to be amongst "Poets who love Poetry." The place to be! "Wanda Lives! Her voice is strong!" Thanks Don for being the man who makes Poetry sing!!!



SCREENING OF THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT by Teresa Mei Chuc (Poet)

"I am so glad I made it to the screening of **WANDA COLEMAN. GENIUS.**, a great documentary by Bob Bryan. I was mesmerized by the interview and Wanda's reading of her poem, "Mastectomy," gave me **CHILLS**. I never heard anyone do a riff on Shakespeare the way Wanda Coleman did. And I'm so glad I got to read one of Wanda's poems for the tribute reading.

Thank you, Don, for organizing the tribute reading. Thank you so much, Bob, for a copy of the DVD!! I will always treasure it."



WANDA COLEMAN & GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD)

POETIC DIVERSITY
volume 11 number 1
Marie Lecrivain, Executive Editor
<http://www.poeticdiversity.org/main/>

National Poetry Month.

In issues past, I've written about this way too much. Enjoy it! However, I'd like to take a moment to pay my respects to one of L.A.'s best poets (past/present/future). I'm speaking of Wanda Coleman, who, sadly for many who knew and revered her, passed away in

the latter half of November 2013.

There are many poets, including myself, who benefited from Coleman's words and wisdom. I didn't know her personally beyond having attended a few of her performances at Beyond Baroque, and reading her books. She made a lasting impression on me.

When she was the guest poetry editor for another seminal SoCal publication, The Los Angeles Review, she sent out an email call for submissions. I screwed my courage to the sticking place and submitted five poems through the mail. I sweated about it for weeks. For me this was a BIG deal.

Three weeks later, I found my return SASE in my mail box. On the envelope flap was written one word - "Yes." I was thunderstruck. I've written acceptance/rejection letters, as well as received hundreds in the last 10+ years. This one was my favorite. I still have the envelope, the acceptance letter, and the memory of one of L.A. greatest poets giving my words a voice. Like so many poets, I'm gratefully in her debt.

If you get the chance, I'd like to recommend you purchase a copy of **GV21: THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT. GENIUS. (PERIOD)**. It's a great documentary directed by Bob Bryan, who's dedicated more than a few years filming and representing the best of the L.A. poetry scene. You'll be glad you did.

<http://www.graffitiverite.com>



GV21 REVIEW

by Doug Knott, Beyond Baroque

Bob, I saw your wonderful and profound Wanda Coleman interview movie (**GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT**) at the Vision Theatre in Leimert Park.

I knew Wanda and her relentless intelligence, and you really captured her thought & energy!

Good work and good luck.

REVIEW OF GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (PERIOD) *by Pegarty Long, Poet, Filmmaker*

Hello Bob,

I am just overwhelmed after seeing your film on Wanda. I love it! It brought me closer to her than any interview of her I have ever seen. I feel like crying. As I understand from the credits, not only did you ask the most thought-provoking questions you also did camera. Not only did she answer your questions with the depth that was Wanda, you shot her beautifully. You were right on her face and stayed there so I felt that she was with me.

Thank you for this most amazing work of art. Thank you for preserving the beautiful, intense, angry and loving poet extraordinaire Wanda Coleman for us all.

Did she ever see this? I couldn't read the year that it was finished. I'm sure she would love it. Now I'm going to try to go to sleep if I can. I'm so revved up by your film.

Maybe Wanda will come to me in a dream because of it. She has before."

Good morning! I woke up thinking of your film and of Wanda. Yes, touching from one soul to another is always what I'm up in making films .

I think that's the power of film. And you certainly did it to me and I'm know to many others with **GV21**. I'm sure that's one gigantic chair/throne that Wanda is occupying in heaven.

Hi, Wanda! I loved Bob's film on you!

--- Pegarty Long, Filmmaker

Film Background:

I have an MFA from UCLA Film Dept. My films are surreal avant-garde "cutting edge". I have a horror-fantasy feature, "The Irish Vampire Goes West" aka "An Irish Vampire in Hollywood" (name changed by the distributor, on IMDb. Wanda and Austin were both at the premiere).

I've recently completed a supernatural sci-fi thriller screenplay titled: "Once in the Dear Dead Days" that is currently being shopped around.

I have a FB pages for each of the films and my company is: Raven Productions™ www.raven-productions.com



GV21 REVIEW
BY LOS ANGELES POET LAUREATE
LUIS RODRIGUEZ
Review by Luis Rodriguez

**GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT:
 GENIUS. (PERIOD)**

A Documentary by Filmmaker Bob Bryan

It was uniquely powerful. I never saw an interview like that. But it also captured something essential about Wanda.

Knowing her for thirty years before she passed, the interview showed her fierceness with language, ideas, but also the mastery she has on what she does and how she does it.

Great work!

--- Luis Rodriguez, Poet & Writer

Author of ALWAYS RUNNING, 2015 Los Angeles Poet Laureate



REVIEW OF WANDA COLEMAN FILM

by Mello-Re Houston

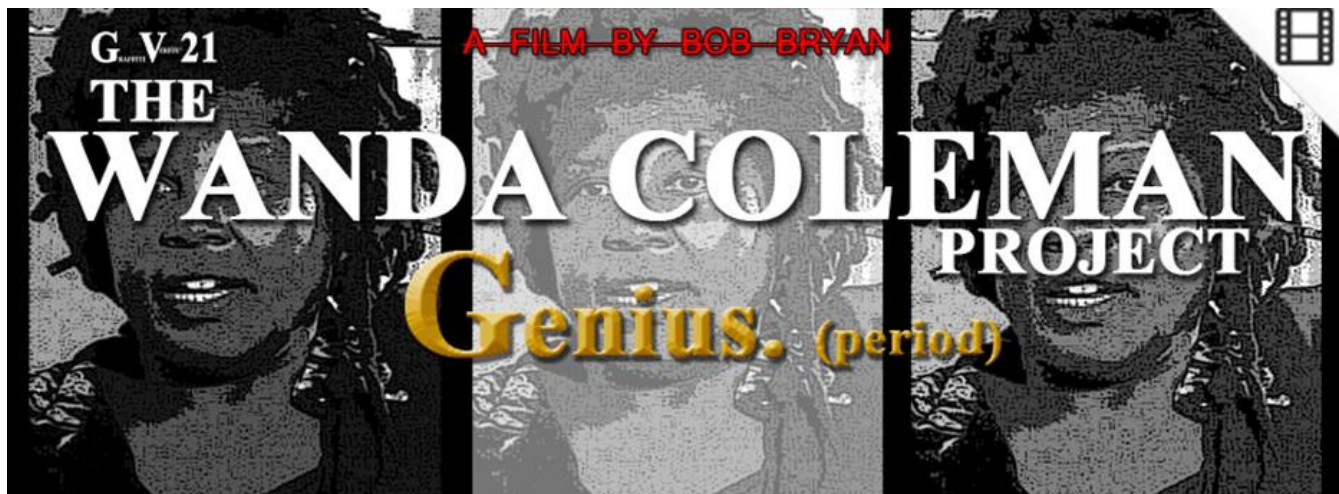
Excellent event. The Film **GV21: THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT** by filmmaker Bob Bryan really showed the committed artist Wanda Coleman. Her genius.



GV21 REVIEW
by Carol Mallier

Bob, I had no idea you were responsible for the Wanda Coleman documentary.

I had the pleasure of meeting Wanda about a year before her passing. This work is amazing and so wonderfully done. You Rock man!!





DVD
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GV21 THE WANDA COLEMAN PROJECT: GENIUS. (period)

GV21 Web Page

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For Festival & Film Reviews, please contact Loida at bryworld@aol.com



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