

Here are 50 black LGBTQ+ films to watch for Pride Month

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Joey Guerra June 16, 2020 Updated: June 26, 2020, 1:03 pm

Pride is a very different kind of celebration this year.

The coronavirus has halted large gatherings. Several cities have canceled parades and festivals altogether. Many will be celebrating **online**.

Here's another idea -- have yourself a film festival. Digital platforms have given audiences access to LGBTQ+ films that were once hard to find. The **Dekkoo** streaming service is dedicated to all LGBTQ + content, including movies and original programming.

Here's a list of black LGBTQ+ films that you can queue up. **Click to view their trailers!!**

"Tangerine" (2015)

This darkly funny buddy comedy stars **Houston native Mya Taylor** and Kitana Kiki Rodriguez as trans sex workers chasing down a pimp boyfriend.

"Paris is Burning" (1990)

The documentary chronicling ball culture in New York City, featuring black and Latino performers, is a classic.

"Moonlight" (2016)

A coming-of-age drama presented in three stages of a young black man's life, dealing with sexuality and identity. It won the Oscar for best picture.

"Blackbird" (2015)

Homosexuality, religion, African-American culture and small-town mentalities intersect in this story of a high school student who denies his attraction to men. Oscar winner Mo'Nique plays a deeply religious mother in denial.

"The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson" (2017)

Activist Victoria Cruz explores the suspicious death of her friend Marsha P. Johnson, who was at the forefront of the Stonewall Riots.

"Strike a Pose" (2016)

This sweet documentary revisits the dancers who were part of Madonna's Blond Ambition Tour and her own "Truth or Dare" film.

"The Queen" (1968)

A chronicle of the 1967 Miss All-America Camp Beauty Contest, featuring the legendary Crystal LaBeija.

"bwoy" (2017)

"Rent" star Anthony Rapp stars as a closeted, married man in an obsessive online relationship with a young Jamaican man.

"Bessie" (2015)

Queen Latifah portrays legendary singer Bessie Smith, who had relationships with men and women.

"Blind Faith" (1998)

The son of a black policeman is arrested for murdering a white man. The young man is defended in court by his uncle, who discovers there is much more to the case that everyone refuses to talk about.

"Brother to Brother" (2004)

An art student, who is thrown out of his home because he's gay, befriends a homeless man who was a pivotal gay figure in the Harlem Renaissance.

"The Color Purple" (1985)

Steven Spielberg's award-winning adaptation of Alice Walker's novel stars Whoopi Goldberg as Celie Harris, who overcomes immense trauma throughout her life.

"Children of God" (2010)

A film that tackles homophobia in the Caribbean, it follows two Bahamian men who fall in love and the wife of a secretly gay pastor.

"Dakan" (1997)

Two West African men fall in love and deal with extreme fallout in their families.

"Dirty Laundry" (2006)

A young gay man discovers he has a son and returns home to his conservative Southern family. With Loretta Devine and Jenifer Lewis.

"Finding Me" (2009)

A man of Haitian descent struggles with family, friends and relationships in New Jersey. It was followed by a sequel and web series.

"Looking for Langston" (1989)

This black-and-white film combines newsreel footage and scripted scenes to evoke the Harlem Renaissance and honor poet and playwright Langston Hughes.

"Madame Sata" (2002)

Biopic of the legendary drag queen and capoeirista Madame Sata,

"Mississippi Damned" (2009)

A family in rural Mississippi faces tragedy and triumph against the cycles of abuse, addiction and violence. Based on a true story.

"Naz & Maalik" (2015)

Two closeted Muslim teenagers in a new relationship inadvertently end up under FBI surveillance.

"Parallel Sons" (1995)

A young white artist with a fascination for black culture crosses path with a prison escapee, which yields unexpected results.

"Jewel's Catch One" (2016)

Documentary about one of the first gay black discos in the country and its owner, Jewel Thais-Williams, who broke down racial and cultural barriers

"Pariah" (2011)

A coming-of-age film about a 17-year-old embracing life as a lesbian, despite disapproving silence from her parents.

"Rag Tag" (2006)

British-Nigerian film about childhood friends who reconnect as adults and realize an attraction.

"The Wound" (2017)

A complex triangle develops between three men amid the South African tradition of Ulwaluko, which involves circumcision and initiation into manhood.

"Portrait of Jason" (1967)

An avant-garde documentary about hustler and cabaret performer Jason Holliday. It inspired the 2015 fictional film "Jason and Shirley."

"Difficult Love" (2010)

Documentary about South African lesbian photographer Zanele Muholi and the challenges facing black lesbians in South Africa

"Major!" (2015)

A loving portrait of trans activist Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, who helps other transgender women of color navigate life in and after prison.

"Black Is ... Black Ain't" (1994)

An exploration of black identity, with a focus on the LGBTQ+ community.

"Gun Hill Road" (2011 film)

Harmony Santana is a teenager in the midst of transition when her father returns home from prison. Santana was the first openly transgender actress to be nominated for an Independent Spirit Award.

"Holiday Heart" (2000)

Ving Rhames is a drag queen who befriends a struggling mother (Alfre Woodard) and daughter.

"Set it Off" (1996)

This modern classic follows four down-on-their-luck friends who decide to rob a bank. Queen Latifah plays Cleo, who is in a stable lesbian relationship.

"The Watermelon Woman" (1996)

A young lesbian attempts to make a film about an unknown actress from the 1930's who was known for playing stereotypical roles. It was the first feature film directed by a black lesbian.

"Stranger Inside" (2001)

This TV film centers on a mother and daughter who reunite in prison, with violent results.

"Rafiki" (2018)

This film about a romance between two Kenyan women was shown at Cannes after being banned in Kenya.

"Kiki" (2016)

Documentary focusing on the modern ballroom scene as it intersects with Black Lives Matter and trans rights.

"Tongues Untied" (1989)

Documentary that explores black gay male identity amid the prejudices of straight society and white gay men.

"Strange Fruit" (2004)

A gay attorney escapes his racist Louisiana hometown but returns after his childhood friend, who is also gay, is lynched.

"Young Soul Rebels" (1991)

Two DJs try to solve a gay friend's murder in 1977 London.

"Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin" (2003)

Chronicling the life of gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who organized the 1963 March on Washington, D.C.

"Leave it on the Floor" (2011)

In this musical, a young man is kicked out of his home when his mother discovers he is gay and finds a new family amid Los Angeles drag queens embedded in ballroom culture.

"Starrbooty" (2007)

RuPaul is the titular character, a supermodel/badass who goes undercover as a hooker to rescue her kidnapped niece.

"Woubi Chéri" (1998)

Documentary follows members of the gay and transgender community in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, Africa.

"Stories of Our Lives" (2014)

An anthology of five short films about LGBT life in Kenya.

"Stud Life" (2012)

A lesbian is caught between her new girlfriend and gay best friend.

"Check It" (2016)

Documentary that follows queer and transgender black teenagers in Washington, D.C. who formed a street gang for self-protection.

"How Do I Look" (2006)

Documentary follows legendary ballroom children Willi Ninja, Kevin Ultra-Omni, Octavia St. Laurent, Pepper LaBeija and Jose Xtravaganza over a ten-year period.

"Black Aura on an Angel" (2004)

A woman starts an affair with a mentally unstable partner, and it leads to disastrous results.

"Saturday Church" (2017)

"Pose" actresses MJ Rodriguez and Indya Moore star in this musical about a young boy struggling with gender identity who finds solace within a transgender group of friends.

"The Aggressives" (2005)

Documentary about masculine presenting people of color in New York City.