Since anti-racist individuals did not control mass media, the media became the primary tool that would be used and is still used to convince black viewers, and everyone else, of black inferiority.

-bell hooks, author and cultural theorist

I think all in all, one thing a lot of plays seem to be saying is that we need to, as black Americans, to make a connection with our past in order to determine the kind of future we’re going to have. In other words, we simply need to know who we are in relation to our historical presence in America.

-August Wilson, playwright

I’m fascinated with the stories that we tell. Real histories become fantasies and fairy tales, morality tales and fables. There’s something interesting and funny and perverse about the way fairytale sometimes passes for history, for truth.

-Kara Walker, visual artist

The Negro enslaved by his inferiority, the white man enslaved by his superiority alike behave in accordance with a neurotic orientation.

-Frantz Fanon, author, psychiatrist, and cultural theorist

One of the processes of your life is to constantly break down that inferiority, to constantly reaffirm that I Am Somebody.

-Alvin Ailey, choreographer, activist

I love my complexion but like so many of us, in the early years at primary school, I grew up thinking that my dark skin wasn’t a great thing. I’ve found freedom in music and songwriting, which has given me a freedom in how I present myself.

-Laura Mvula, musician

These events were made possible by:

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