



*The Culture: On Broadway and in Cinema,
Charlene Blair*

Imagine you never see anyone on screen in film, television, or on Broadway that looks like you, talks like you or lives like you. "Representation in the fictional world signifies social existence." George Gerbner, professor of communication. Below are a few individuals on stamps that have represented an under-represented community.

Marian Anderson (#3896) – Renowned opera singer. Starred at Metropolitan Opera in Verdi's *Un Ballo in Maschera* in 1955.

Paul Laurence Dunbar (#1554) – Poet, novelist, and playwright. Broadway musician *Dahomey* 1903, performed by African Americans.

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (2211) – Jazz artist but composed for theatre and wrote score for *The Asphalt Jungle* and *Anatomy of a Murder*.

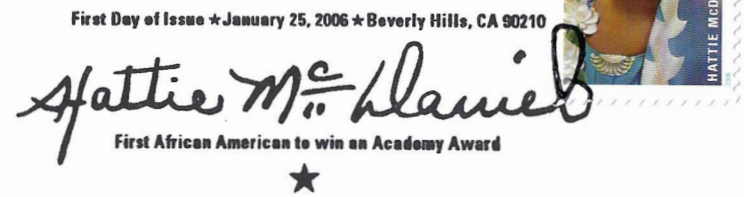
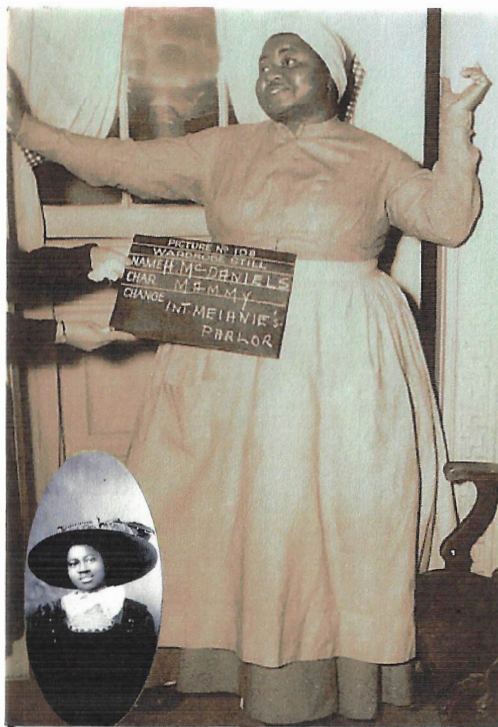
Scott Joplin (#2044) – Known as "King of Ragtime", his score titled "The Entertainer" was used in the movie "The Sting."

Hattie McDaniel (#3996) – first African American to win an Oscar.

George Gershwin (1484) / Porgy and Bess (#2768) / Paul Robeson (#3834) – Folk opera of Black life and vocal performances. Robeson was an actor and singer of spirituals known for *Othello* and *The Emperor Jones*.

Oscar Micheaux (#4464) – Filmmaker and novelist is best known for his dramatic films about African American life.

Vintage Black Cinema (#4337) – Highlights five posters showing African American cultural experience. **Black and Tan**; **Sport of the Gods**'s (based on Paul Laurence Dunbar novel); **Josephine Baker**, **Caldonia**, and **Hallelujah** (all Black cast portraying rural religious experience).



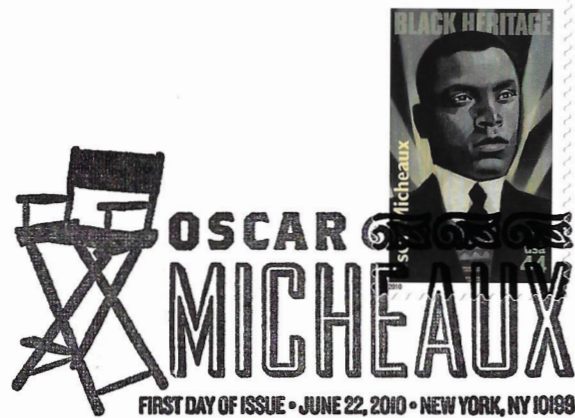
Hattie McDaniel
"Why should I complain about making \$7,000 a week playing a maid? If I didn't, I'd be making \$7 a week being one."



African-American performers were featured in the musical *Show Boat* (which had a part written for Paul Robeson and a chorus of Jubilee Singers), and especially all-black operas such as *Porgy and Bess* and Virgil Thompson's *Four Saints in Three Acts* of 1934.



Scott#: 2768 (Porgy and Bess)



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE • JUNE 22, 2010 • NEW YORK, NY 10189

