

THE NINTH ANNUAL

# WALTER RODNEY SYMPOSIUM



**PEOPLES POWER:**  
RESISTANCE. OCCUPATION. UPRISING

**FRIDAY**

**MARCH 23RD, 2012**

**4PM-8PM**

**AUC ROBERT W. WOODRUFF LIBRARY**  
**111 JAMES P. BRAWLEY DR. SW**  
**ATLANTA, GA 30314**

**KEYNOTE:**

**DR. LEWIS R. GORDON**, PROFESSOR  
AFRICANA PHILOSOPHY

**PANEL:**

**FIROZE MANJI**, PAMBAZUKA/FAHAMU,  
KENYAN ACTIVIST

**AKINYELE UMOJA**, GSU PROFESSOR,  
SCHOLAR ACTIVIST

**BOCAFLOJA**, SOCIAL ACTIVIST,  
INT'L HIP HOP ARTIST

**JIM BACOTE**, GULLAH - GEECHEE ACTIVIST

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**VISIT [WWW.WALTERRODNEYFOUNDATION.COM](http://WWW.WALTERRODNEYFOUNDATION.COM) OR CALL (404) 978-2045**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH:**

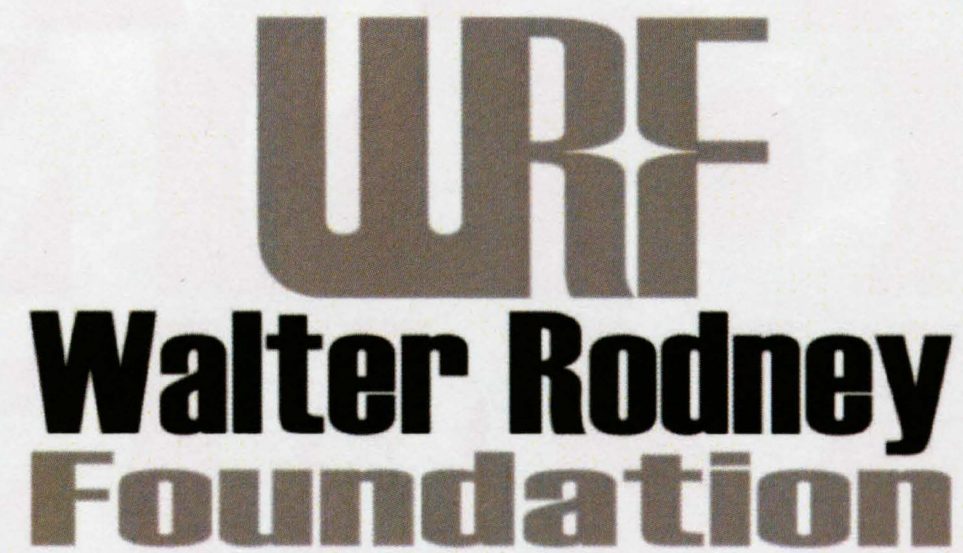
AFRICAN AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION, ATLANTA UNIVERSITY CENTER ROBERT W. WOODRUFF LIBRARY, CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY AFRICAN AND AFRICAN DIASPORA STUDIES, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM, AND THE WOMEN'S RESEARCH AND RESOURCE CENTER AT SPELMAN COLLEGE





## Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

Clark Atlanta University • Morehouse College • Morehouse School of Medicine • Spelman College



### The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Walter Rodney Symposium

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Walter Rodney Symposium will be held on Friday, March 23, 2012 from 4:00 -8:00 p.m. at the Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, 111 James P. Brawley Dr. SW Atlanta, GA. The symposium **"People's Power: Resistance, Occupation, and Uprising"** will feature keynote speaker Dr. Lewis R. Gordon, Professor of Africana philosophy as well as a community panel who will discuss international uprisings, their impact on the occupy protests in the US, and the conditions necessary for social change efforts to be transformed into meaningful liberation. The symposium will also feature student presentations, and international hip hop artist Bocafloja, London based Hip Hop/Afro-beat duo Native Sun and Footprintz Music Group. The event is free and open to the public.

**Dr. Lewis R. Gordon** is Director of the Institute for the Study of Race and Social Thought at Temple University. In his presentation, "The Last Shall Be First: W.E.B Du Bois, Anna Julia Cooper, Frantz Fanon, and Walter Rodney on Revolution and Decolonization," he will affirm the continued relevance of these revolutionary thinkers; speak about the difficulty of implementing ethical models of social transformation; and address the "Moses syndrome" in which leaders can become barriers to democracy and freedom. The community panel consists of **Dr. Firoze Manji**, Kenyan human rights activist and Editor-in-Chief of Pambazuka Press; **Dr. Akinyele Umoja**, scholar-activist and Chair of the Department of African-American Studies at Georgia State University; **Bocafloja**, founder of the Quilombo Collective; and **Jim Bacote**, Gullah-Geechee community-leader, educator and founder of Geechee Kunda.

This symposium honors the work of Dr. Walter Rodney (1942-1980), Pan-Africanist historian, educator and political activist widely known for his seminal work, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Originally published in 1972, the text has been translated into Portuguese, German and Japanese, and is widely used for coursework in colleges and universities worldwide. Rodney authored nine books and more than 50 articles, including: *The Groundings with My Brothers* (c.1969); *A History of the Upper Guinea Coast, 1545 to 1980* (c.1970) and *History of the Guyanese Working People 1881-1905* (c.1981). The first Rodney Symposium was held in 2004 to celebrate the donation of Walter Rodney's personal papers by the Rodney family to the Robert W. Woodruff Library. The papers are available for research.

The Walter Rodney Symposium is hosted by the Walter Rodney Foundation in collaboration with the African American Human Rights Foundation, Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library, Clark Atlanta University Department of Political Science, Kennesaw State University African and African Diaspora Studies, Morehouse School of Medicine Master of Public Health Program, and the Women's Research and Resource Center at Spelman College.