



Actor Morgan Freeman in a scene from "Amistad."



Ving Rhames and Jon Voight in "Rosewood."

Photo courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Hollywood costume designer speaks at Diggs

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University's Diggs Gallery and the National Black Theatre Festival will co-host a lecture by Ruth Carter, a Hollywood costume designer, on Aug. 5 at 5:30 p.m. in Diggs Gallery.

Carter will discuss "Costumes Versus Fashions: The Role of the Designer in the Film Industry." A reception will follow the lecture. In honor of Carter, Diggs Gallery also will host a Ruth Carter Designs Movie Fest on Aug. 2 and Aug. 9 from noon to 5 p.m.

Carter, a graduate of Hampton University, has received two Oscar nominations for her work in Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" and Steven Spielberg's "Amistad." With more than 17 years in the design field, her designs are seen in more than 30 major films. Starting with "School Daze," Carter collaborated with Spike Lee on eight of his pictures, including "Do the Right Thing," "Clockers," "Crooklyn," "Summer of Sam," "Jungle Fever," "Mo' Better Blues" and "Bamboozled."

She also has worked with numerous directors on such films as "Daddy Day Care," "I Spy," "Dr. Dolittle II," "Baby Boy," "Shaft,"



Ruth Carter

"Price of Glory," "Love and Basketball," "BAPS," "The Five Heartbeats," "I'm Gonna Get U Sucka," "The Great White Hype," "Money Train," "Cobb," "What's Love Got to Do with It?" "How Stella Got Her Groove

Back," "Surviving the Game," "Meteor Man," "Against the Ropes" and "Down in the Delta."

The schedule for the Ruth Carter Designs Movie Fest is as follows:

Aug. 2

• Noon - "Malcolm X" (1992), Denzel Washington and Angela Bassett.

Spike Lee's comprehensive film biography of slain civil rights leader Malcolm X is much more than the depiction of a great man's life. It is a film that shows, through the powerful story of one man, a person's ability to reinvent himself and change his life.

• 3 p.m. - "Rosewood" (1997), Jon Voight, Ving Rhames, Don Cheadle.

"Rosewood," directed by John Singleton, is the true story of an almost unknown incident in a small Florida town inhabited almost entirely by middle-class African-Americans. On New Year's day, 1923, the town was wiped off the face of the earth by angry whites from a neighboring community that killed between 70 and 250 African-Americans. Based on palpably false testimony by a

single white woman against one "black" stranger, many of the men of Rosewood were hunted down and lynched, or shot, or burned.

Aug. 9

• Noon - "Amistad" (1997), Morgan Freeman, Anthony Hopkins, Djimon Hounsou.

This Steven Spielberg exploration recounts the trial that followed the 1839 African rebellion aboard the Spanish slave ship Amistad and captures the complex political maneuverings set in motion by the event. It shows the political maneuvering of American and European politicians regarding the issue of slavery.

• 3 p.m. - "Down in the Delta" (1998), Alfre Woodard, Esther Rolle, Loretta Devine.

Poet Maya Angelou made her feature directorial debut with this African-American family drama. As family members struggle through issues of drugs, alcohol and health, they learn the true meaning of love and unity through the story of a sacred family heirloom.

For more information, call Diggs Gallery at 750-2458.

'Lavender Lizards' tells story of self-liberation

Ntozake Shange best known for "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf"

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Ntozake Shange is the mother of the choreopoem. Shange put her unique theatrical style - which intricately fuses spoken word poetry, music and precession movements - to use in 1976 when her "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf" made its way to Broadway.

Shange's latest work will come to the National Black Theatre Festival after successful runs in Atlanta and Gainesville, Fla. "Lavender Lizards and Lilac Landmines: Layla's Dream" will be staged as part of the

NBTF's Fringe Series, which highlights plays by college students. "Lavender Lizards" is being put on by students from the University of Florida, where Shange recently accepted a faculty position.

The self-liberation piece is a collection of poems written by Shange that are woven together to tell the story of a young woman, Layla LaPierre, as she tries to find her spirit and soul. The character Layla also was the focus of Shange's 1981 piece, "Boogie Woogie Landscapes."

Mikell Pinkney directs "Lavender Lizards and Lilac Landmines: Layla's Dream."



Shange

Venue:
WFU's The Ring Theatre

Schedule:
Aug. 7 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Price:
\$20