

The Light of Truth: Richard Hunt's Monument to Ida B. Wells

Directed by Rana Segal



AWARDS



Press:

"Hunt and Wells inspired the nation and world through their Black artistry, activism and achievement. Their stories are brilliantly told in "The Light of Truth: A Monument to Ida B. Wells."

"Film honors the truths illuminated by Chicagoans Ida B. Wells and Richard Hunt"

Laura Washington, Chicago Tribune

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2024/02/26/column-ida-b-wells-richard-hunt-black-history-documentary-washington/>

Zachary Lee, Block Club Chicago, October 24, 2024

<https://blockclubchicago.org/2024/10/24/the-light-of-truth-documentary-explores-sculptor-richard-hunts-monument-to-ida-b-wells/>

"Gorgeous, educational film" WILDSOUND Festival TV Review

<https://www.wildsound.ca/videos/the-light-of-truth-review>

Mike Davis | Theater Reporter, Arts and Culture. Interview WBEZ 91.5FM Dec 3, 2024

https://www.wbez.org/movies-tv/2024/12/03/for-chicago-documentary-filmmakers-its-a-steep-climb-to-streaming?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR22OQyjL5FkfjF1mqQLyswEFDMAaopNN5rTm-DbmNJa8Y4VPcll3jNlxE_aem_YdezhRT3L_LgJqRbUY-2nA

**Logline:**

This documentary weaves together the late sculptor Richard Hunt's process and life story with that of civil rights crusader, suffragist, and anti-lynching activist Ida B. Wells as he creates the Light of Truth monument for the Bronzeville community at the former site of the Ida B. Wells Homes.

Synopsis:

This feature documentary weaves together sculptor Richard Hunt's process and life story, with that of civil rights crusader, suffragist and anti-lynching activist, Ida B. Wells. Hunt creates the Light of Truth monument for the Bronzeville community at the former site of the Ida B. Wells Homes. Wells' history and the sculptor's history intersect in their mutual reaction and actions as they confront the injustices of racism with their work. Richard Hunt has been a major figure in American art for over 40 years. As we see the statue being developed, we follow Wells' life from being born into slavery in Mississippi to becoming a teacher, a journalist and an anti-lynching activist. We follow her to Chicago and to her protest at the Chicago World's Fair, her work as a suffragist and how she inspired the BLM movement. We follow Richard Hunt's career, the philosophy of his work and why he was chosen to create this monument. "Hunt's graceful works are inspired by his life experiences and his African American heritage, reflecting the rhythm of poetry, the intensity of the spiritual and the enlightenment of the prophet" said Kinishana Homan Conwill, Director, The Studio Museum of Harlem.

TRT: 70 Minutes

English

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/917153309/8dc3e5f6f4>

Website: <http://amonumentforidabfilm.com>

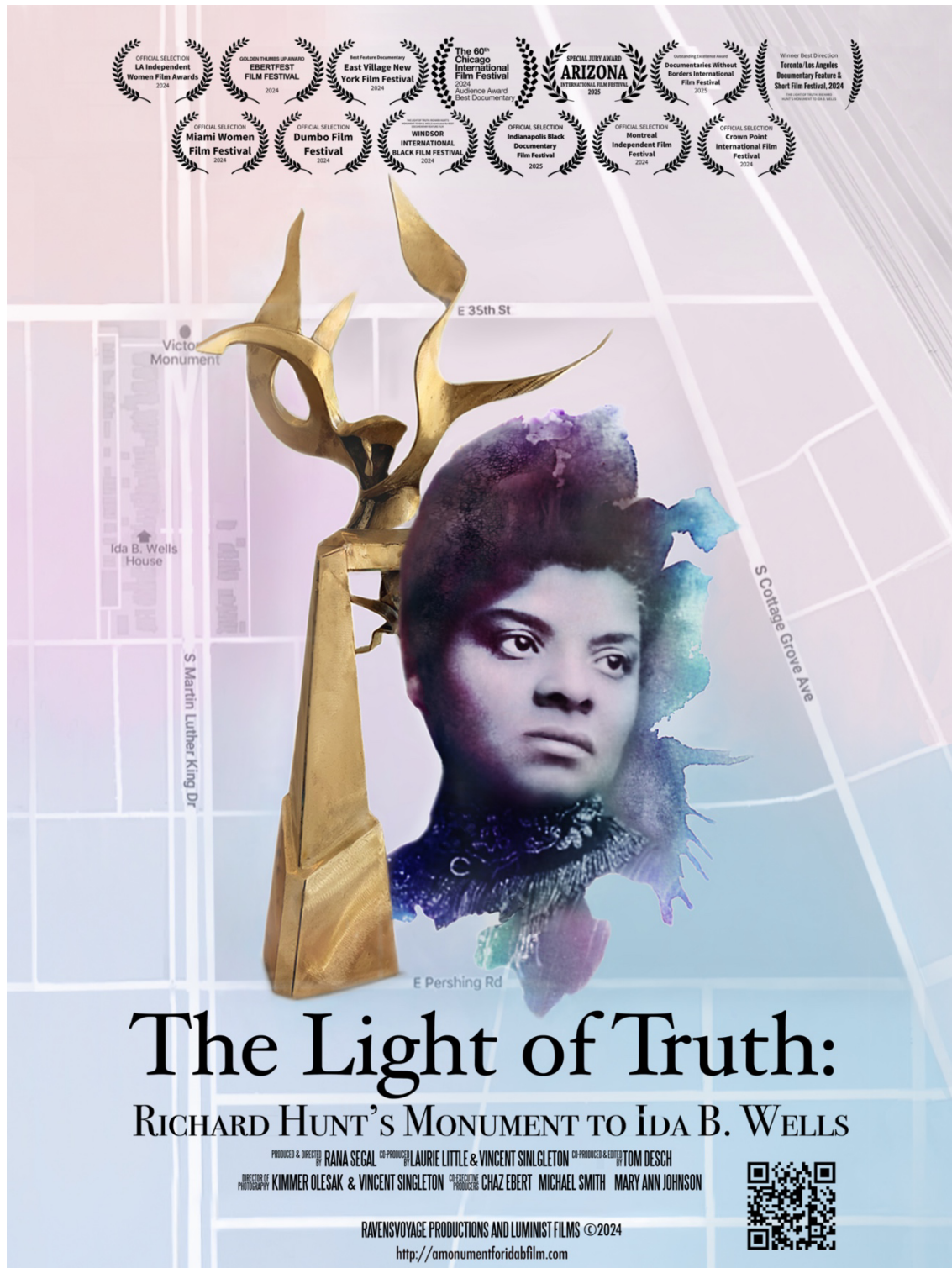
Social Media Handles:

<https://www.facebook.com/aMonumentForIdaB/>

<https://www.instagram.com/lollyvangogo/>

<https://www.instagram.com/luministfilms/>

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3348375/?ref_=ttfc_ov_i



Bios:

Rana Segal: Director, Executive Producer, Producer, Camera, Writer, Editor

Rana Segal is an award-winning director, producer and cinematographer. Her work has aired on PBS, The Learning Channel, and Discovery Channel. She has filmed artists and musicians in Senegal, the Midsummer Festival in Sweden, architecture on the Chicago River, fishermen in the wilds of Siberia, the effect of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on the communities in Alaska, and the fight in the Indiana Dunes between environmentalists and industrialists. Her recent film, *The Light of Truth: Richard Hunt's Monument to Ida B. Wells* won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Chicago International Film Festival. Her film, "The Oracle of Bronzeville" about the life of poet, Gwendolyn Brooks and the creation of the Gwendolyn Brooks Monument, by sculptor, Margot McMahon.

Laurie Little: Executive Producer, Producer, Camera, Colorist

Laurie Little, is the founder of the production company, Luminist Films, www.Luministfilms.com. Her award-winning films have screened in festivals and exhibitions worldwide and her observational documentaries and short fiction films work to inspire dialogue, advocacy, and action. Laurie's recent film, as producer, *The Light of Truth: Richard Hunt's Monument to Ida B. Wells* won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Chicago International Film Festival. Her film *Musher*, is currently streaming on PBS, Amazon and Apple +: <https://www.pbs.org/show/musher/> and on Kanopy, Her film *Totalité* about Photographer/Umbraphile Richard Bellia, looks at Bellia's passion for the creative process and its parallels to nature. Laurie is currently in development on a new feature documentary, *Richard Hunt: A Monumental Life* with Director Rana Segal and Producers Donald Conley and Claudette Roper. Little holds a BFA from York University in Toronto and an MFA in Film and Video from Columbia College Chicago where she teaches media classes.

Vincent Singleton: Producer, Director of Photography

Vincent Singleton has directed numerous fiction films and documentaries that have screened in festivals, on television, and online. He teaches film production and design as a Full Time Tenure Track Assistant Professor at Loyola University's School of Communication with areas of focus in cinematography, production, and directing and previously served as an adjunct professor at Columbia College Chicago, The Second City Training Center and Film School, Northwestern University and others. Singleton is the founder of Film Collective Productions through which a variety of corporate, narrative, documentary, and commercial projects are produced. Singleton's short film, "The Porter," won an HBO/Kodak award, and his docs have taken top prizes at various film festivals, including the San Diego Black Film Fest and the Action on Film Fest in Monrovia, CA. He earned his BA in Psychology from Knox College and his MFA in Film/Video Directing from Columbia College Chicago. Vincent resides in the Midwest where he enjoys flying as a private pilot and FAA part 107 certificated drone operator.

Michael Smith: Producer, Assistant Editor, Research

Tom Desch: Producer, Editor, Co-Postproduction Supervisor, House Painter Media LLC

Kimmer Olesak: DP

Gaylon Emerzian, Trillium Productions: Postproduction Producer, Researcher

Produced by

Ravensvoyage Productions, ranasegal@gmail.com

Luminist Films, www.Luministfilms.com Luministfilms@gmail.com

House Painter Media LLC

Film Collective Productions





UPCOMING SCREENINGS

AUGUST 15

Indianapolis Black Documentary Film Festival Opening Night screening

PAST SCREENINGS

JULY 16

Chicago Women's History Center, The Fine Arts Building, Chicago.

Ida B. Wells Birthday Celebration and Screening with filmmakers and special guest, Michelle Duster

JULY 21

The Benton Harbor Public Library

Juneteenth Celebration and Screening with special guest, Cecelia Hunt

JUNE 11

Loyola's University Chicago's Damen Cinema
in the Damen Student Center

MAY 9

Knox College Alumni Film Screenings and Discussions event

APRIL 4

33rd Annual Arizona International Film Festival, The Screening Room
Winner of the Special Jury Award

FEBRUARY 27

Michiana PBS WNIT

<https://www.wnit.org/programs/the-light-of-truth-richard-hunts-monument-to-ida-b-wells>

FEBRUARY 25

Indiana University, South Bend

The Center for Understanding, Belonging, and Experiences –celebrated Black History Month with cinema screening and Q&A with the filmmakers.

FEBRUARY 19

Flossmoor Art Council's inaugural event
Screening and discussion with the filmmakers

FEBRUARY 13

Indiana University, Gary, IN
Black History Month Celebration, Screening and discussion with the filmmakers

FEBRUARY 6

Southern Illinois University
Black Resource Center and Morris Library, Screening and discussion with the filmmakers

NOVEMBER 15

Chicago International Film Festival Free Community Screening
Screening and discussion with the filmmakers
Hamilton Park Cultural Center, Englewood, Chicago

NOVEMBER 7

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Springfield, IL
In conjunction with our new exhibit, "Freedom of Form: Richard Hunt."
Screening and Q&A with the filmmakers

OCTOBER 27

Chicago Premiere
60th Annual, Chicago International Film Festival

SEPTEMBER 28

ASALH Film Fest, Pittsburgh, PA
ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LIFE AND HISTORY

SEPTEMBER 12

Cliff Dwellers Club
Excerpts from our new film "Richard Hunt: A Monumental Life" and from "The Light of Truth: Richard Hunt's Monument to Ida B. Wells for Richard Hunt's 89th birthday celebration and remembrance.

SEPTEMBER 9

Toronto Documentary Feature & Short Film Festival

AUGUST 17

WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL BLACK FILM FESTIVAL 2024

JUNE 20, 2024

Juneteenth Celebration and screening
Abaton Kino, Hamburg, Germany

APRIL 19, 2024

EBERT FEST, Virginia Theater, Champaign, IL

MARCH 06, 2024

Wayfarer Theater, Highland Park, IL

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Special Preview Screening
Epiphany Center For the Arts

[FEBRUARY 27, 2024](#)

Work in Progress screening and discussion with Michelle Duster and Filmmakers

Martin Recital Hall, Dominican University, Hosted by Judith Singleton of the Sociology and Criminology Department

[JUNE 24, 2023](#)

Northeastern Illinois University Carruthers Center in Bronzeville. Discussion and Q&A with Director, Rana Segal and Sculptor, Richard Hunt and experts

[OCTOBER 15, 2023](#)

Chicago Public Libraries and Chicago Women's History Center Special Work in Progress Screening

Carter G. Woodson Library Auditorium, Chicago