



FILM FLASHBACK

Class Reunion

Spike Lee's *School Daze* celebrates its twentieth anniversary.

COMPARED WITH HIS DEBUT, *She's Gotta Have It*, which he made in twelve days for \$175,000, Spike Lee's *School Daze* was a veritable epic with a \$6 million budget and ten-week shooting schedule. Atlanta-born and Brooklyn-raised, Lee based *School Daze* on a script he'd developed while in film school at New York University.

The film looks at problems of class and color at fictitious Mission College. The central conflict is between the affluent, straight-haired, light-skinned "Wannabes" and the inner-city, "nappy-haired, dark-skinned Jigaboos" (Lee's terms).

Lee arranged to shoot *School Daze* on the campus of his alma mater, Morehouse College. All went well until about three weeks into production, when then-president Hugh Morris Gloster decided he didn't care for the, um, off-color things Lee's film was saying about people of color—especially about those attending his college. So Spike and company were booted off the campuses of Morehouse, Spelman, Clark, and Morris Brown. They finished up at Atlanta University because the graduate school had signed a location contract (the others had not).

The story had a happy ending. The movie made money and Lee made a career. Both the American Film Institute and the National Film Registry consider Lee's next project, *Do the Right Thing*, to be one of the most important American movies ever made.

So how are things at Morehouse these days? Well, Lee is on the board. —ELEANOR RINGEL CATER

TUBE

ALL-MALE REVIEW

THE 2 LIVE STEWS HOST THE SECOND SEASON OF *BLACK MEN REVEALED*

African American men are oft-debated subjects of urban myths and conventional wisdom—celebrated by pop culture, examined by academics, pilloried and lionized by their own community leaders. But what do *black men* think about *black men*? Atlanta's 2 Live Stews, Doug and Ryan Stewart, lead an unscientific—but highly entertaining—excursion into the minds of their brethren this month as hosts of the second season of the TV One cable network's *Black Men Revealed*. "This is an opportunity for women to get a few pointers and get some insight into how we think," says Ryan of the hour-long talk show, taped in Atlanta. "We're keeping it real with our questions and our answers. We get serious, but we know how to lighten it up."

The Stewart brothers bring together men—famous and unknown—to candidly discuss everything from interracial dating to the ups and downs of fatherhood. "The show is black men talking about black men, but anyone can be entertained by this show and also learn," Doug says. "We have fun, but we also want to get to the bottom of some of the common misconceptions and stereotypes about black men."

From their start on Atlanta's 790 The Zone, the Stews were named number-one sports radio show in America by *Sports Illustrated*. Last year they picked up a weekend show on ESPN2, and their popular syndicated radio program airs nationally on XM Satellite Radio. See *Black Men Revealed* Sunday nights on TV One. —CHANDRA R. THOMAS

NEW RELEASE

THE B-52'S

You'd be forgiven if you thought you'd heard the last from the self-proclaimed "world's greatest party band." It has, after all, been sixteen years since the last album (*Good Stuff*) from Athens's pride and joy. But The B-52's are far from finished. Guitarist Keith Strickland calls *Funplex*, the band's new album, "loud, sexy rock and roll for your pleasure zones, with the beat pumped up to hot pink." Ah, just as understated as ever. *Funplex* is available March 25 from Astralwerks.

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