



**ACTORS DURING
THE HARLEM
RENAISSANCE**

PEOLAT Gabrielley

What is the Harlem Renaissance ?



- Cultural and artistic explosion in the early 20th century
- In New York City
- from the 1910s to the mid-1930s
- Influencing literature; music; acting et.



The Great Migration

1880s: -Rapid overdevelopment → Empty building

1900s: -middle-class black families → Relocating to Harlem

After WWI: -decline in immigration and northern job opportunities

1920: -300 000 African American in Harlem






New opportunities

-new stage work that were withheld





THE CONDITION OF AFRICAN
AMERICAN ACTORS DURING THE
HARLEM RENAISSANCE AND ITS
IMPACT ON BLACK
PEOPLE REPRESENTATION

Outline

The condition of African American actors

Portrait of actors in the Harlem Renaissance

The impact of Harlem Renaissance

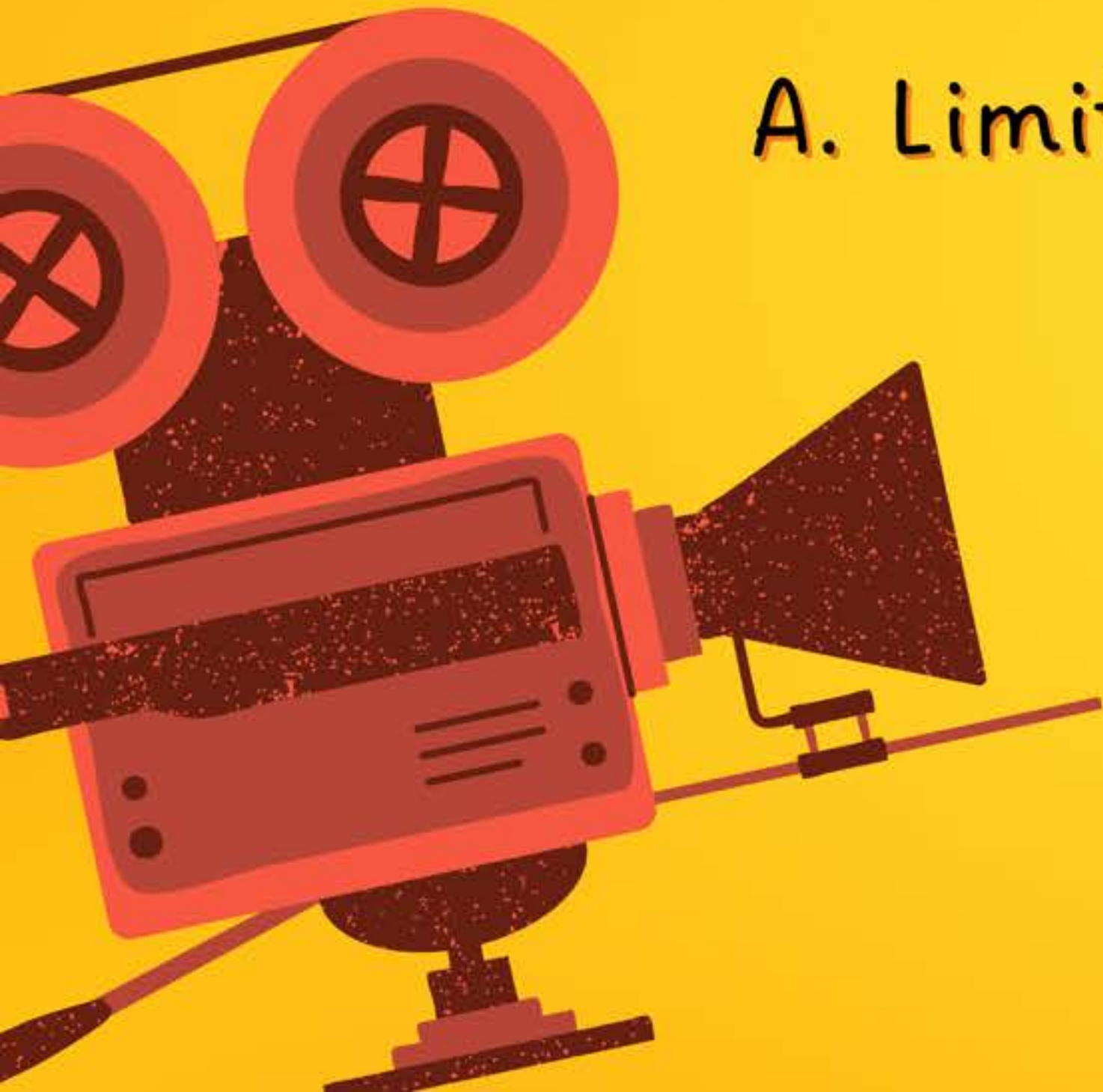


CONDITIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ACTORS



A. Limited opportunities in mainstream theaters

- Confined to stereotypical roles
- Lack of access



A yellow background with a film reel on the top left and a film strip running vertically down the center. A pair of scissors is positioned horizontally across the film strip, cutting it. In the bottom right corner, there are two stylized human figures, one light and one dark, separated by a large equals sign with a diagonal slash through it, representing inequality or segregation.

B. Segregation and discrimination in entertainment industry

- Segregation laws
- Lack of integration in performance spaces

C. Struggles for recognition, fair pay and representation



- Paid less
- No Black directors and producers



PORTRAITS OF ACTORS IN THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

BERT
WILLIAMS

1874-1922

- One of the earliest and most influential African American comedians.
- Known for his vaudeville performances and comedic songs.
- Despite facing racial discrimination, he became the first person of color to share a Broadway bill with white performers



Bert Williams _A Natural Born Gambler

MOMS
MABLEY

1889-1975



- Tackled taboo subjects such as racism, poverty, and gender roles in her comedy.
- Broke barriers in the male-dominated world of comedy and influenced generations of comedians.



STEPIN FETCHIT

1902-1985



- Born Lincoln Theodore Monroe Andrew Perry, he was one of the first African American actors to achieve fame in Hollywood.
- - Known for his controversial portrayal of lazy, shiftless characters, which sparked debates about racial stereotypes.
- - Despite criticisms, his success opened doors for other African American actors in the entertainment industry.



**PAUL
ROBESON**

1898-1976



- one of the first black men to play serious roles in the primarily white American theater
- Robeson was a passionate advocate for civil rights, labor rights, and international peace
- .He used his platform to speak out against racism and injustice, and he was involved in various social and political causes throughout his life.



IMPACTS

- Rise of new African American theater groups
- Plays incorporated element of jazz, blues, spirituals, and folklore
- Playwrights also addressed pressing issues such as racial segregation, discrimination, and economic inequality



A stylized illustration of a stage. The background is a vibrant red. In the center, a bright yellow starburst shape contains the word "CONCLUSION" in bold, black, uppercase letters. The stage is framed by dark red curtains with black outlines, and the floor is a dark red with a speckled texture.

CONCLUSION

THANK YOU

