

**Token Homo presents :**  
***Cleopatra Jones***  
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On a Wednesday night at Genesis Cinema, a small, tipsy, *queer* audience huddled together with booze (supporting local venues,) and sneaked-in popcorn (but not too much) to watch a seminal Blaxploitation film, *Cleopatra Jones*.

The shows (I've attended three yet, one on my birthday!) have been going for 4 years, and they start at 8:45 pm with PowerPoint slides made by the Token Homo himself, Dan Frye, nerding out, essentially, on interesting aspects of the film. *Phantom of the Opera*, for e.g entailed describing the dramatic transformations the MC had undergone to play Phantom. Here, the Blaxploitation era of Hollywood of the 40s-70s, was of particular interest – and how Black cinema thrived regardless. The *incredible* music, the show-stopping costumes and, contrary to what has been said about Tamara Dobson's being 'wooden', some superb acting where she pulled off a suave, sombre foil for the colourfulness of the movie – made such by the supporting cast that brought the most campy *life* to their characters.

This showing, too, was to celebrate a friend's birthday – and as always, the coziness of the room, the energy of the crowd that never fails to holler on command (e.g whenever a racist slur was used in-movie, we had to yell 'Shut Up you Sicko!', and every note was hit), made it an effervescent night. One person even got a shout-out for attending 120+ showings! Like so many people in London, Token Homo's clawing out a space for us to safely, happily celebrate art.

