



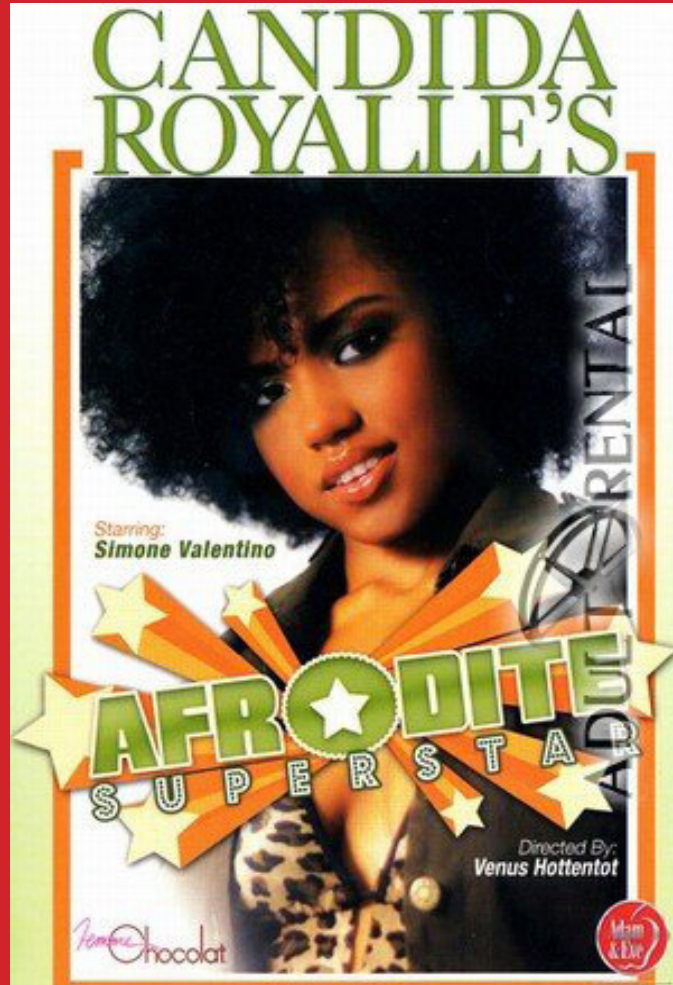
# BLACK FEMINIST PORN

Black feminist<sup>1</sup> porn is at a critical point in its development; it must battle not only the fetishization of black women's bodies by a male consumer market, but also bring to light the fact that the slim amounts of feminist porn currently available is not nearly as intersectional as it should be. Without a doubt, there are numerous obstacles ahead which complicate the visual and cultural production of black women's desires. Ideally, this content would be made for black women, by black women. Currently, there are a handful of black female directors producing their own films, such as Estelle Joseph, who directed the award-winning series *City of Flesh*, (that's been praised by numerous sex-positive feminists) and Shine Louise Houston, who primarily produces female and female-to-male transgender adult flicks; her work also has received recognition by the feminist community<sup>2</sup>.

Alison Lee, Manager of feminist porn store Good For Her explains, "A porn film can be classified as feminist, I think, as soon as women are taken into account as viewers, and that as actors within the film, their own desires are taken into account. This means basically showing that women have just as much right to erotic entertainment as men do, and their desires and pleasure is important, too."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness, and the Politics of Empowerment* by Patricia Hills Collins

<sup>2</sup> *WTF is Feminist Porn* by Violet Blue



In this case, feminist porn would need to reflect an additional dimension of the social, political, and economic interests of black women to be considered as black feminist porn, as well as uplift the natural beauty of black women and their desires as consumers.

One black feminist adult film highlighted by Arielle Lauren, Editor-in-Chief of Corset Magazine and freelance sexuality writer, is *Afrodite Superstar* (2006), which is distinguished as the first adult film directed by and for women of color. As Arielle describes, "It is a great discussion point on the power of black female directors challenging the stereotypes of black adult film. Directed by media personality and author Abiola Abramsunder under the pseudonym Venus Hottentot, *Afrodite Superstar*.... is probably the only film where you will witness quotes by bell hooks and Gloria Steinem accompanied by 5 hot sex scenes, three of which were heterosexual, one lesbian, and one masturbatory. And yes, nudity, genital shots, and real sex are included."

<sup>3</sup> *Black Feminist Pornography: Reshaping the Future of Adult Entertainment* by Arielle Lauren

# What's your AGD?

