

AfroRhythms From The Future game: Journeys into Afrofuturism as a Generative engine for Innovation



Guiding terms & inspirations:

No worries, read what you can or not! Join us in imagining the future!

- **Astro-Blackness:** refers to a person's Black state of consciousness, released from the confining and crippling slave or colonial mentality, becomes aware of the multitude and varied possibilities and probabilities within the universe." -Reverend Andrew Rollins (2015).
- **Afrofuturism:** combines science fiction and fantasy to re-examine how the future is currently imagined and to envision alternative futures based on the Black diasporic experience and people of color (Wakanda Forever!). Afrofuturism seeks to reclaim and celebrate past and present African and Black Diaspora wisdom and progressive insights while augmenting the future with vibrant design, technological and scientific innovation.
- **Afrofuturitypes (or Afrofuturetopes):** Black signals of the future that find and reclaim the traces of Black cultural visions alongside erasures of those signals. Consider Seneca Village founded in 1825 by free Black Americans, the first such community in the city. Seneca Village existed until 1857, when, through eminent domain, the villagers were ordered to leave and their houses were torn down for the construction of Central Park. This was an undiscovered story where we see an ascending Black vision and its erasure.
- **WEB Du Bois (1868-1963):** Black intellectual, sociologist, writer, scholar, activist and first Black American to graduate with a PhD from Harvard University. Dubois wrote speculative fiction (1908 to 1910), when he was 40. The series of stories, "the Princess Steel" is tale of a "crank" sociologist who's invented a *Megascope*, a fictional instrument that allows its viewers to see the undiscovered stories from our ancestral past.
- **Ida B. Wells (1862-1931):** Ida B. Wells-Barnett was a prominent journalist, activist, and researcher, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In her lifetime, she battled sexism, racism, and violence as an anti-lynching activist and fought for women's right to vote.
- **Sun Ra (1914-1993):** Born Herman Blount, he looked to Jazz as a cosmic journey, claiming to be an alien from Saturn on a mission to preach peace, he developed a mythical persona and a philosophy that African Americans needed to re-invent their past, a perspective that made him a forerunner of Afrofuturism.