

# Bessie Smith's Influence

[youtube id="m3oqtijIEAA"]

Tomorrow HBO will air the Dee Rees'directed *Bessie*, starring Queen Latifah as the late blues queen Bessie Smith. In this short video Nelson George narrates the lineage of Bessie Smith's influence on popular music. *Bessie* airs tomorrow night on HBO at 8PM EST.

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## Bessie (Trailer)

[youtube id="8FhmzwXfgz8"]

Queen Latifah stars as the late Bessie Smith in the HBO movie *Bessie* that comes out May 16th. This is the trailer and you can see Michael K. Williams, Monique, Mike Epps and Khandi Alexander in various roles supporting the story about Smith's life. Bessie Smith was called the Empress of The Blues and was the highest paid and one of the most influential singers of the '20's and '30's.

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## Media Questions Of The Week

☐ Will someone else pick up the Arsenio Hall show now that the second season has not been renewed?



Will Queen Latifah slay her role as Bessie Smith in the new HBO biopic about life? And how will Dee Rees present Smith in her script?



Why is the upcoming Lifetime biopic on Whitney Houston, directed by Angela Bassett, focused on her relationship with Bobby Brown?