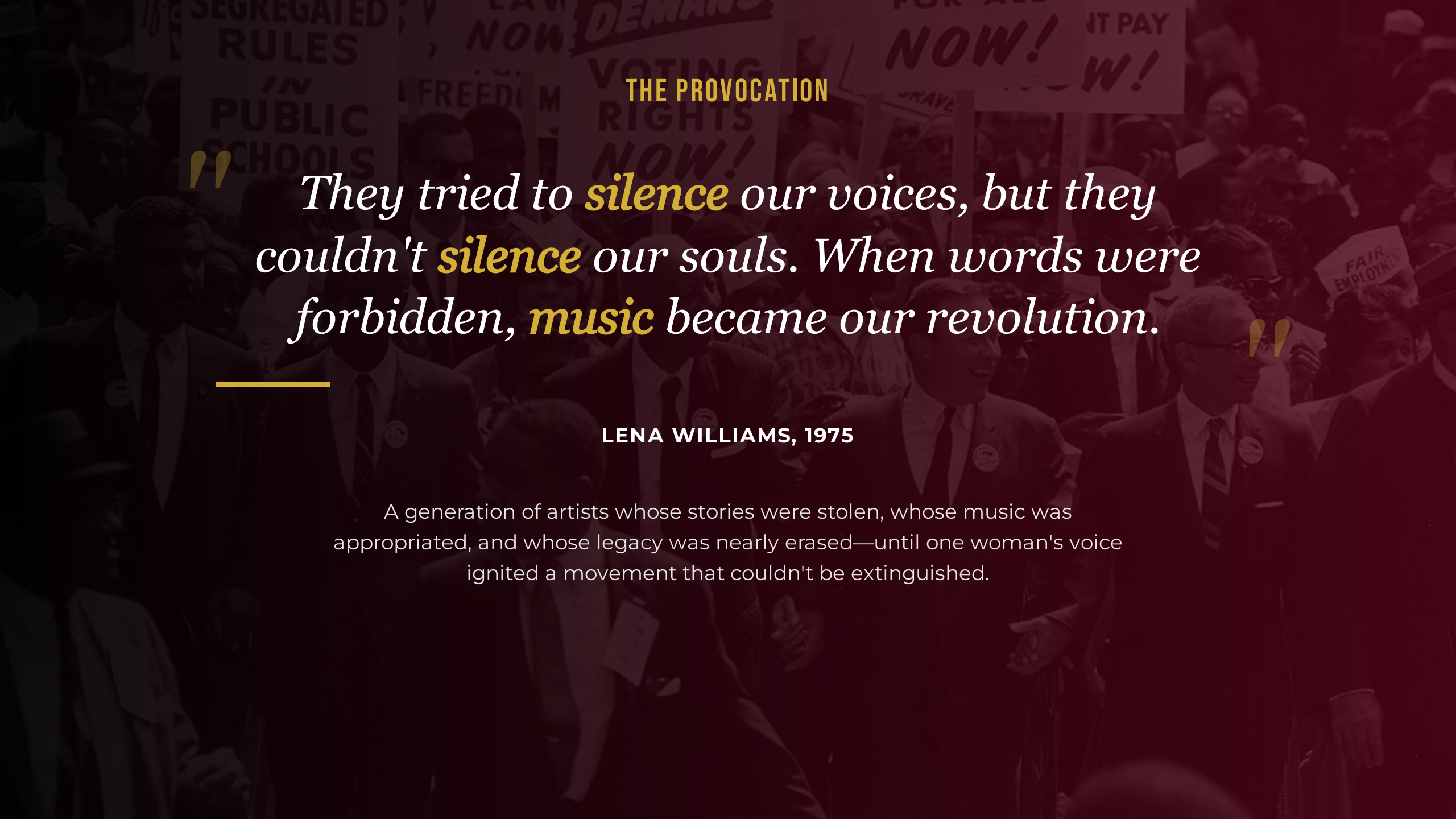




SOUL ON FIRE

THE ANTHEM OF A STOLEN GENERATION

A historical drama series where music becomes the voice of the silenced and the soundtrack of revolution



THE PROVOCATION

“ They tried to **silence** our voices, but they couldn't **silence** our souls. When words were forbidden, **music** became our revolution. ”

LENA WILLIAMS, 1975

A generation of artists whose stories were stolen, whose music was appropriated, and whose legacy was nearly erased—until one woman's voice ignited a movement that couldn't be extinguished.

WHY NOW

The perfect cultural moment for a series that bridges history with contemporary relevance



CULTURAL URGENCY

In an era of renewed social justice movements and cultural reckonings, audiences are hungry for authentic stories that connect historical struggles to present-day conversations. "Soul on Fire" bridges this gap through the universal language of music.

"The stories we choose to tell today define the future we create tomorrow."



AWARDS POTENTIAL

Historical dramas with musical elements have consistently garnered critical acclaim. With its powerful performances, period authenticity, and artistic vision, "Soul on Fire" is positioned to be a standout contender across acting, directing, and technical categories.

"Where artistry meets history, excellence is recognized."



STREAMING GOLD

Music-driven content consistently outperforms on streaming platforms, with viewers spending 30% more time on series that feature strong musical elements. The combination of historical drama, visual style, and soul music creates a highly bingeable experience.

"The rhythm of storytelling keeps audiences coming back for more."

SERIES OVERVIEW

A six-episode journey through music, history, and revolution

6-EPISODE ARC

1

THE VOICE

Lena discovers her gift in the church choir, but finds her voice silenced by the industry.

2

THE THEFT

As Lena's songs are stolen and repackaged, she finds allies in Atlanta's underground music scene.

3

THE REVOLUTION

Lena's music becomes intertwined with the civil rights movement, drawing dangerous attention.

4

THE SILENCING

A coordinated effort to erase Lena's influence leads to a devastating personal loss.

5

THE RESURRECTION

From the ashes of defeat, Lena creates her masterpiece—an album that cannot be contained.

6

THE LEGACY

A new generation discovers Lena's hidden influence, forcing a reckoning with music history.

KEY THEMES



CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

The systematic theft and repackaging of Black artistry for mainstream consumption.



ARTISTIC RESISTANCE

How music becomes a form of protest when traditional avenues are blocked.



FEMALE VOICE

The double marginalization of Black women artists and their fight for recognition.



HISTORICAL ERASURE

The deliberate omission of Black contributions from cultural narratives.

MEET OUR HEROINE

LENA WILLIAMS

A voice that couldn't be silenced, a soul that couldn't be broken

Visionary

Resilient

Defiant

Passionate

Revolutionary

Born with a voice that could shake the heavens, Lena Williams was destined for stardom in 1970s Atlanta. The daughter of a church choir director and a civil rights activist, she embodies the intersection of music and movement. When her songs become anthems for change, she finds herself targeted by those who fear the power of her message.

As record executives try to sanitize her sound and government agencies monitor her movements, Lena must navigate fame, love, and revolution—all while fighting to reclaim the narrative of her people's stolen musical legacy.

"They can take my records off the shelves, but they can't take the songs out of people's hearts."

CASTING VISION

An actress who can embody both vocal power and emotional depth



Janelle Monáe — Brings musical authenticity and the perfect balance of vulnerability and strength



Teyonah Parris — Captivating presence with proven ability to embody period characters



Jodie Turner-Smith — Commanding screen presence with ethereal quality perfect for musical sequences

CHARACTER JOURNEY

From promising young talent to voice of a movement, Lena's arc follows her transformation from seeking personal fame to embracing her role as a cultural revolutionary—ultimately risking everything to preserve her community's musical heritage.



THE PLAYERS

The ensemble that brings our story to life

DARNELL KING

Visionary Producer

A musical genius with a revolutionary vision, Darnell navigates the treacherous waters of the 1970s music industry while fighting to preserve the authentic

Passionate Protective

CASTING VISION

Aldis Hodge, Yahya Abdul-Mateen II

ELEANOR WILLIAMS

Lena's Mother

A former gospel singer who sacrificed her own dreams, Eleanor carries the weight of generational trauma and the fierce determination to see her

Resilient Wise

CASTING VISION

Regina King, Viola Davis

VICTOR MAXWELL

Record Label Mogul

The calculating head of Platinum Records who built his empire by exploiting Black talent. Maxwell sees Lena as both a threat and an opportunity, warring

Ruthless Charismatic

CASTING VISION

Don Cheadle, Giancarlo Esposito

RUBY JENKINS

Legendary Soul Singer

A fading star fighting to maintain relevance in a changing industry, Ruby becomes both mentor and cautionary tale for Lena. Her battle with addiction

Talented Troubled

CASTING VISION

Taraji P. Henson, Audra McDonald

MARCUS THOMPSON

Civil Rights Activist

A charismatic community leader who recognizes the power of music as a tool for social change. Marcus challenges Lena to use her voice for more than

Principled Inspiring

CASTING VISION

Colman Domingo, Mahershala Ali

JAMES "JIMMY" CARTER

Talented Songwriter

Lena's childhood friend and musical collaborator whose own ambitions are complicated by his feelings for her. Jimmy's struggles with identity mirror the

Creative Loyal

CASTING VISION

Lakeith Stanfield, Jharrel Jerome

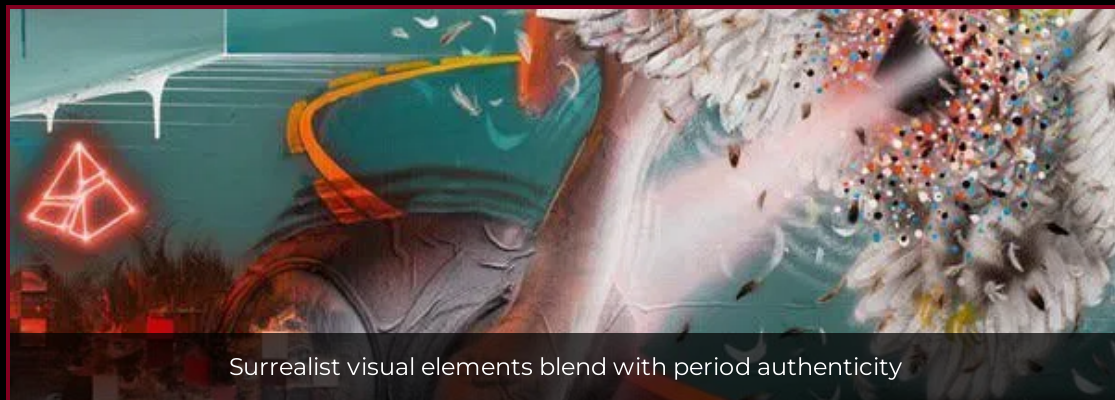
VISUAL TONE & MUSICAL STYLE

1970s glam meets stylized surrealism — Atlanta x Euphoria

VISUAL LANGUAGE

A bold fusion of 1970s authenticity and contemporary surrealism. Rich, saturated colors with dramatic lighting that shifts between documentary realism and dreamlike sequences.

COLOR PALETTE



Surrealist visual elements blend with period authenticity

MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

Original compositions inspired by 1970s soul, funk, and early R&B, with contemporary production techniques that bridge past and present.

🎵 Soul

🎵 Funk

🎵 Gospel

🎵 Early R&B

🎵 Jazz Fusion

CINEMATIC REFERENCES

The grounded authenticity of "One Night in Miami" meets the visual audacity of "Atlanta" and the emotional intensity of "Euphoria."

"Historical accuracy with psychological surrealism."



Authentic period settings with contemporary visual approach

CREATIVE TEAM VISION

Bringing together visionary talent to craft an authentic and groundbreaking series



DIRECTORS

Ava DuVernay

Lead Director & Executive Producer

Award-winning director known for "When They See Us" and "Selma." Will direct the pilot and finale episodes, establishing the visual language of the series.

Barry Jenkins

Episode Director

Oscar-winning director of "Moonlight" and "If Beale Street Could Talk." Will bring his distinctive visual style to episodes 2 and 5.



SHOWRUNNERS

Shonda Rhimes

Executive Producer & Showrunner

Creator of groundbreaking series including "Bridgerton" and "Scandal." Will oversee the series' narrative arc and character development.

Lena Waithe

Co-Executive Producer & Writer

Emmy-winning writer and producer known for "Master of None" and "The Chi." Will lead the writers' room and pen key episodes.



MUSIC TEAM

Questlove

Music Director & Executive Producer

Oscar-winning director of "Summer of Soul" and legendary musician. Will oversee the series' musical direction and period authenticity.

Janelle Monáe

Music Consultant & Featured Artist

Grammy-nominated artist known for blending soul, funk, and Afrofuturism. Will contribute original music and consult on the series' sonic landscape.

"Our vision is to create a series that doesn't just tell history, but makes you feel it in your bones through the power of image and sound."

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborations that enhance authenticity, reach, and cultural impact

"Soul on Fire" is committed to historical accuracy and cultural authenticity through partnerships with leading institutions that ensure our storytelling is grounded in research while creating meaningful educational extensions.

MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES

National Museum of African American Music

Providing access to rare recordings, artifacts, and expert consultation on the evolution of soul music in the 1970s.

The Smithsonian NMAAH

Offering historical consultation and access to their extensive archives of civil rights movement documentation.

HISTORIANS & SCHOLARS

Dr. Daphne Brooks, Yale University

Leading scholar on Black music and feminist criticism serving as historical consultant on representation.

Dr. Mark Anthony Neal, Duke University

Expert on Black popular culture providing consultation on cultural authenticity and historical context.

FEATURED PARTNERSHIP: SPELMAN COLLEGE



As our primary educational partner, Spelman College—a historically Black liberal arts college for women—will provide crucial historical context, academic resources, and community connections. The series will film on location at Spelman, and students will have opportunities for internships.

PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS

- ✓ **Historical Accuracy:** Expert consultation ensures authentic representation.
- ✓ **Educational Extensions:** Curriculum development and exhibitions.
- ✓ **Community Engagement:** Pathways for community involvement.
- ✓ **Marketing Reach:** Additional promotional channels.

FRANCHISE FUTURE

An anthology series exploring the untold stories of music history

ANTHOLOGY VISION

"Soul on Fire" is designed as a prestige anthology series, with each season exploring a different era, genre, and untold story from music history. While Season 1 focuses on soul music in 1970s Atlanta, future seasons will expand both geographically and musically.

SEASON 2: "RHYTHM REVOLUTION"

1980s Bronx & Chicago — Hip-Hop and House

As electronic beats replace soul's organic sounds, two revolutionary genres emerge from marginalized communities. In the Bronx, early hip-hop pioneers fight for recognition while Chicago's underground clubs birth house music.

SEASON 3: "REBEL HARMONIES"

1990s Seattle & Compton — Grunge Meets Rap

Two coasts, two genres, one shared story of authenticity and commercialization. As grunge explodes from Seattle's underground and gangsta rap emerges from Compton's streets, both movements grapple with sudden mainstream attention.

FRANCHISE ROADMAP

Beyond the initial three seasons, "Soul on Fire" has potential to expand into a comprehensive exploration of music's untold stories across decades, genres, and continents.



EXPANSION OPPORTUNITIES

🎧 Original Soundtrack

Each season produces an album of original music and period-inspired compositions.

📖 Companion Books

Historical context and expanded character stories through publishing partnerships.

🎧 Documentary Podcast

Exploring the real history with interviews, archival audio, and expert commentary.

🏛️ Museum Exhibitions

Traveling exhibits featuring costumes, set pieces, and educational content.



THIS ISN'T HISTORY. THIS IS NOW.

*When we silence the voices of the past, we lose the soundtrack to
our future.*

For more information: soulonfire@example.com