



41st SEASON

## ENGLISH FILM CLUB 2020 - 21

Massagno, LUX ART HOUSE

18.15

Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### THE HATE U GIVE

2018

133 minutes

Directed by J. Tillman Jr.

Starring: Amandla Stenberg, Regina Hall, Russell Hornsby

This film is based on Angie Thomas's debut novel, expanded from a short story she wrote in college in reaction to the police shooting of Oscar Grant.

In writing the novel, Thomas attempted to expand readers' understanding of the [Black Lives Matter](#) movement.

Starr Carter is a 16-year-old black girl who lives in the fictional, mostly poor black neighbourhood of Garden Heights, but attends an affluent, predominantly white private school, Williamson Prep. After a gun goes off at a party Starr is attending one weekend, Starr is driven home by her childhood best friend, Khalil. On the way home, they are stopped by a white police officer. The officer has Khalil, who is black, exit the car; while outside the car, Khalil reaches inside his car via the open driver-side window to check in on Starr, and picks up a brush. The officer, thinking Khalil picked up a gun, fires three shots into Khalil, killing him. Khalil's death becomes a major national news story. Starr's identity as the witness is initially kept secret from just about everyone outside Starr's family - leaving Starr's two best friends, Hailey Grant and Maya Yang, and Starr's white boyfriend, Chris, who all attend Williamson Prep together, all unaware of Starr's connection to the news story. Having to keep this secret weighs on Starr, as does her need to keep her Williamson and Garden Heights personas separate.

#### **Critics' comments:**

A defiant challenge to divided America

(The Guardian – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

The Hate U Give has a fierce storytelling grip.

(The Guardian – October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

A police shooting forces a teen to reckon with racism in this exceptional adaptation of Angie Thomas' young-adult bestseller.

(Rolling Stone.com – October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018)