



KCSB-FM AND THE UCSB MULTICULTURAL CENTER PRESENT  
CUP OF CULTURE SERIES



# POLY STYRENE I AM A CLICHÉ

Poly Styrene was the first woman of colour in the UK to front a successful rock band. She introduced the world to a new sound of rebellion, using her unconventional voice to sing about identity, consumerism, postmodernism, and everything she saw unfolding in late 1970s Britain, with a rare prescience. As the frontwoman of X-Ray Spex, the Anglo-Somali punk musician was also a key inspiration for the riot grrrl and Afropunk movements.

But the late punk maverick didn't just leave behind an immense cultural footprint. She was survived by a daughter, Celeste Bell, who became the unwitting guardian of her mother's legacy and her mother's demons. Misogyny, racism, and mental illness plagued Poly's life, while their lasting trauma scarred Celeste's childhood and the pair's relationship.

Featuring unseen archive material and rare diary entries narrated by Ruth Negga, this documentary follows Celeste as she examines her mother's unopened artistic archive and traverses three continents to better understand Poly the icon and Poly the mother.

WED,  
FEB  
23RD  
6PM

FILM  
SCREENING  
MCC  
THEATER

For more information or assistance in accommodating people of varying abilities, contact the MultiCultural Center at 805.893.8411

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