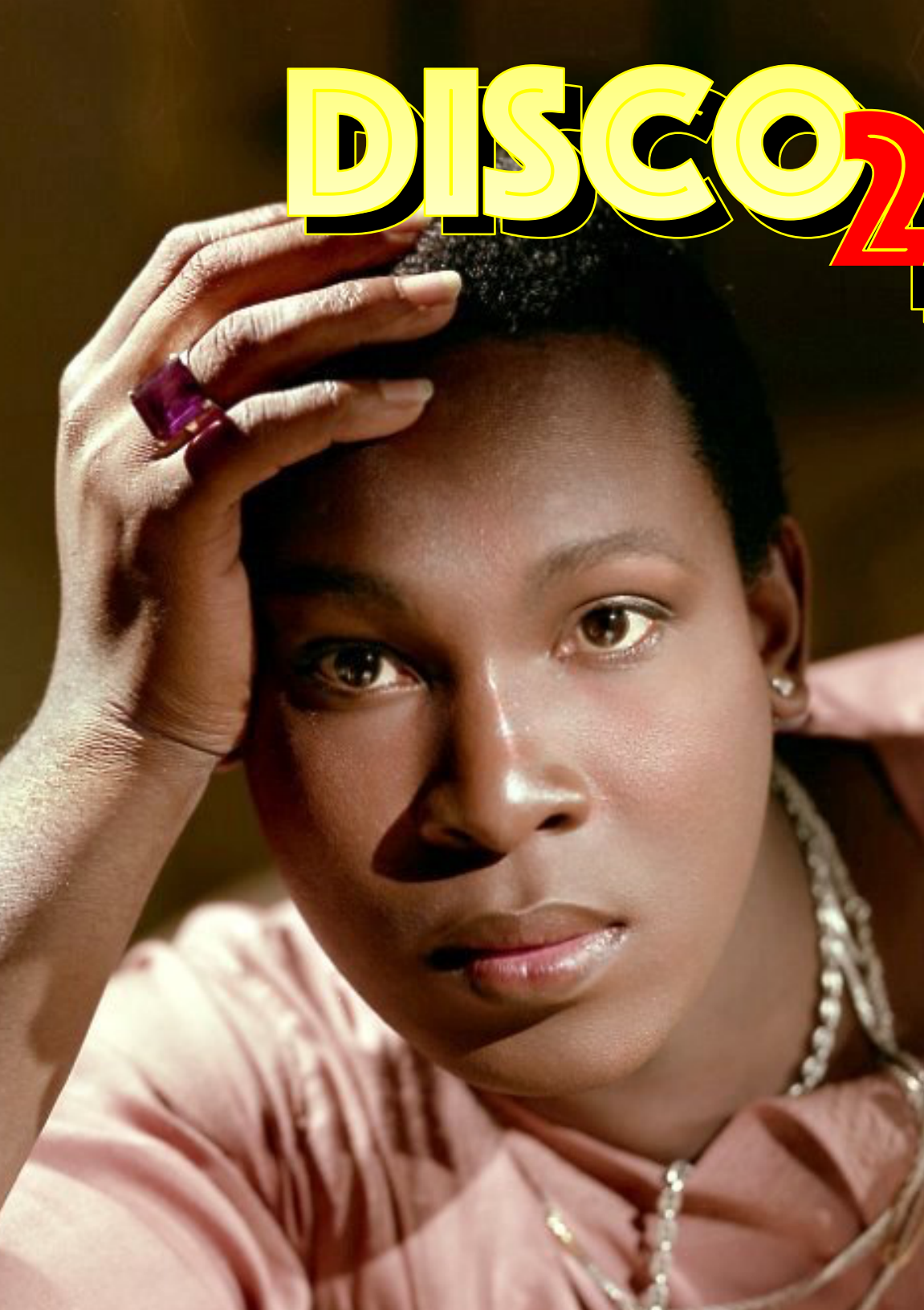


DISCO 2 HOUSE



How might “disco” and “the boogie” be understood as part of “the beautiful struggle” rather than a frivolous departure from it? To answer this question, we dig into the crates of party music and consider how party culture offers a set of social and cultural practices as much as a collection of records and musical riffs. In this class, we will locate the dance floor as an intersectional site of political imagination where freedom is dreamed, like Sylvester might say, “over and over, time and time again.” Developing our core research question, we ask: What sorts of stories are told *in* and *about* the music? How do these music and dance scenes map out histories of diaspora and contemporary Black urban life? And what notions of freedom are opened up and created by the practices of musical culture?

Primary readings include: Alice Echols, *Hot Stuff: Disco and the Remaking of American Culture*; Joshua Gamson, *The Fabulous Sylvester: The Legend, The Music, The 70's in San Francisco*; Nile Rodgers, *Le Freak: An Upside Down Story of Family, Disco, and Destiny*; Madison Moore, *Fabulous: The Rise of the Beautiful Eccentric*; and Micah Salkind, *Do You Remember House? Chicago's Queer of Color Undergrounds*.