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## Killer of Sheep

Capsule by Jonathan Rosenbaum

*From the Chicago Reader*

The first feature (1978) of the highly talented black filmmaker Charles Burnett, who has set most of his early films in Watts (including *My Brother's Wedding* and *To Sleep With Anger*); this one deals episodically with the life of a slaughterhouse worker. Shot on a year's worth of weekends on a minuscule budget (less than \$20,000), this remarkable work--conceivably the best single feature about ghetto life that we have--was selected for preservation by the National Film Registry as one of the key works of the American cinema, an ironic and belated form of recognition for a film that has had virtually no distribution. It shouldn't be missed. With Henry Sanders. 87 min.

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