



THE
ROYAL AFRICAN SOCIETY'S
- ANNUAL -
FILM FESTIVAL
30 OCT- 8 NOV 2015



Film Africa 2015 partners with the African Union Foundation to launch the AUF Award for Best Feature Film

25 September 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Film Africa, the Royal African Society's annual film festival, is delighted to announce that the African Union Foundation will support the development of the festival and its participating filmmakers through the creation of the inaugural **African Union Foundation Award for Best Feature Film**, as voted by audience members.

Now in its **5th year**, Film Africa is London's biggest celebration of African cinema from across the continent and its diaspora. Film Africa 2015 will take place in venues across the capital from **Friday 30 October to Sunday 8 November**.

Both Film Africa and the African Union Foundation are key platforms for the development of African arts and both organisations believe in connecting people, ideas and resources to support filmmakers and enhance their relationship with the public as a means of promoting African culture in the UK.

The African Union Foundation also believes that allowing festival audiences to have their say will not only enrich conversations around contemporary African issues raised in the selected films, but will also allow viewers to participate actively in the development of African cinema.

Rachael Loughlan, Festival Producer of Film Africa 2015, says:

"The African Union Foundation Award for Best Feature Film adds yet another interactive element to the array of festival events on offer, which will include director Q&As, panel discussions, master classes, professional workshops, school screenings and family activities; as well as the return of the Industry Forum, Film Africa LIVE! Music nights and the Baobab Award for Best Short Film, judged by a panel of industry professionals."

The full programme for this year will be revealed on Wednesday, 30th September, at the **Film Africa 2015 Press Launch** to be held at the BFI South Bank, from 18:30 to 20:30, where additional information on strands, visiting filmmakers and special guests will be shared. If you are a journalist and are interested in attending this event, please get in touch with Ladislao Bapory Sité at press@filmfrica.org.uk

- ENDS -



Notes to Editors

1. **The Royal African Society** is a membership organisation that fosters a better understanding of Africa in the UK and throughout the world. Our goal is to promote Africa globally in the spheres of business, politics, academia, arts and culture. We disseminate knowledge and insight to make a positive difference to Africa's development and celebrate the diversity and depth of African cultures. royalafricansociety.org
2. **The African Union Foundation** is an institution emerging from the African Union established as part of promoting domestic resource mobilisation for African development. The Foundation promotes programmes in human resources and skills development, youth development, the empowerment of women and the management of diversity and integration. It also mobilizes resources for the programme budget of the AU Commission, and works in support of Agenda 2063, the AU's 50 year mission to establish 'the Africa we want'. africaunionfoundation.org
3. **The Film Africa 2015 Press Launch** will take place on Wednesday 30 September at the BFI South Bank. If you are interested in attending please get in touch with Ladislao Bapory Sité at press@filmafrica.org.uk