



THE
ROYAL AFRICAN SOCIETY'S
-ANNUAL-
FILM FESTIVAL

28 OCT - 6 NOV 2016



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LIAM DICKSON

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Artist

The time is now for African Cinema!

African cinema is enjoying a positive period of growth and recognition. As the BFI opens the London Film Festival with Amma Asante's historical drama *A United Kingdom* and launches Black Star, its season of iconic black screen talent, across the pond the Toronto International Film Festival recently premiered a record number of African titles, including a special focus on Nigeria. It seems the world is ready to see more African stories on screen, which is great news for African filmmakers and the film industry at large. We at the Royal African Society have always believed this moment would come and will continue to work towards the mainstreaming of African cinema, promoting a more nuanced representation of Africa to the world. It is our mission and passion and the reason why we set up Film Africa in the first place.

This year we present our sixth festival, showcasing our pick of the best new African film and filmmakers. With over 50 titles from across 22 African countries, including World, European and UK premieres, Film Africa 2016 will take place across 11 London venues presenting an eclectic mix of narrative features, documentaries and short films. A few special strands will shed light on topical issues and current cultural trends emerging from the continent. We explore the relationship between self and place from an African and Diaspora perspective in **Why I'm Here: Stories of Migration**; we shine a light on the most popular directors and stars of the world's second biggest film industry in **Nollywood Nights**; and with our double bill **Soweto: 40 years on** we reflect on the 40th anniversary of the famous

black student uprisings in South Africa and explore the country's current socio-political climate. Our annual strand **Music on Film: Sounds of the Continent** celebrates Africa's musical icons and its rich soundscapes, a strand that will be accompanied by live performances as part our Film Africa LIVE! music nights. Through the Baobab Award for Best Short Film, we bring focus to the outstanding work of emerging filmmakers and, for the second year running, we bring you the Audience Award for Best Feature Film, with the winner selected by you - the audience.

We are very pleased to welcome a number of accomplished filmmakers and talent who will take part in Q&As and panel discussions, including Mandla Dube from South Africa, whose debut feature *Kalushi: The Story of Solomon Mahlangu* will open the festival; Priscilla Anany, who presents her debut feature *Children of the Mountain*; Rahmatou Keita from Niger who will showcase her breath-taking new film, *The Wedding Ring*; Mbithi Masya from Kenya with his daring debut *Kati Kati*; and US-based Rwandan filmmaker, Anisia Uzeyman, director of road movie *Dreamstates*, to name only a few.

Beyond the films, we once again bring you a packed events programme including our Film Africa LIVE! music nights, our annual Industry Forum, workshops, and a revamped and enlarged Education Programme, including school screenings and the Film Africa Family Day. We look forward to welcoming you for 10 days of discovery, lively debate, industry insight, family fun and unforgettable party nights... Don't miss out!

Film Africa Team

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FILM AFRICA SCREENINGS AND EVENTS REGULARLY SELL OUT

WE RECOMMEND BOOKING IN ADVANCE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT. TICKETS CAN BE BOOKED FROM FILM AFRICA VENUES ONLINE, BY PHONE OR IN PERSON.

HACKNEY PICTUREHOUSE

270 Mare Street, London, E8 1HE
Box Office: 0871 902 5734
Book online: www.picturehouses.co.uk/cinema/Hackney_Picturehouse/
Ticket prices: £7-£12.50 / £5-£11.50 CONC
Station: Hackney Central

RITZY BRIXTON

Brixton Oval, London, SW2 1JG
Box Office: 0871 902 5739
Book online: www.picturehouses.co.uk/cinema/Ritzy_Picturehouse
Ticket prices: £5.00-£7.00-£9.50-£13.50
Station: Brixton

BFI SOUTHBANK

Belvedere Road, South Bank, London, SE1 8XT
Box Office: 020 7928 3232
Book online: www.bfi.org.uk
Ticket prices: £6.50-£11.75
Station: Waterloo, Embankment, Charing Cross

BRITISH LIBRARY

96 Euston Road, London, NW1 2DB
Box Office: 0330 333 1144
Book online: www.boxoffice.bl.uk
Ticket prices: £10 / £7-£8 CONC
Station: King's Cross, Euston, Euston Square

INSTITUTE CONTEMPORARY ARTS (ICA)

The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH
Box Office: 020 7930 3647
Book online: www.ica.org.uk/whats-on/films
Ticket prices: £11 / £8 CONC
Station: Charing Cross, Piccadilly Circus

CINÉ LUMIÈRE

17 Queensberry Place, London SW7 2DT
Box Office: 020 7871 3515
Book online: www.institut-francais.org.uk/cine-lumiere/whats-on
Ticket prices: £12 / £10 CONC
Station: South Kensington

SOUTH LONDON GALLERY

65-67 Peckham Road, London SE5 8UH
Box office: 020 7703 6120
Book Online: www.southlondongallery.org
Ticket prices: £5 / £3 CONC / FREE
Station: Oval Station, Peckham Rye, Denmark Hill

THE PHOENIX CINEMA

52 High Road, East Finchley, London, N2 9PJ
Box office: 020 8444 6789
Book online: www.phoenixcinema.co.uk
Ticket prices: £8-£11
Station: East Finchley

RICH MIX CULTURAL FOUNDATION/ EASTEND

35-47 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA
Box Office: 020 7613 7498
Book online: www.richmix.org.uk
Ticket prices: £1.75-£10.50 / £8 CONC / FREE
Station: Shoreditch High Street, Old Street, Liverpool Street, Bethnal Green, Aldgate East

BERNIE GRANT ARTS CENTRE

Town Hall Approach Road, Tottenham Green, London, N15 4RX
Box office: 0208 365 5450
Book online: www.berniegrantcentre.co.uk
Ticket prices: £10.00
Email: boxoffice@berniegrantcentre.co.uk
Station: Seven Sisters, South Tottenham

PICTUREHOUSE CENTRAL

Corner of Great Windmill Street and Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly, London, W1D 7DH
Box office: 0871 902 5755
Book online: https://www.picturehouses.com/cinema/Picturehouse_Central
Ticket prices: £16 / £14 CONC
Station: Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Square

FILM AFRICA


W: www.filmafrica.org.uk
E: info@filmafrica.org.uk
T: 020 3073 8335

 @FilmAfrica [#FilmAfrica]
 facebook/FilmAfricaUK

ROYAL AFRICAN SOCIETY

W: www.royalafricansociety.org
E: ras@soas.ac.uk
T: 020 3073 8335

 @RoyAfriSoc
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Following its success last year, 2016 marks the return of the Film Africa Audience Award for Best Feature Film. Thirteen films screen in competition for the Award, with the winner decided by you, the audience. The winning filmmaker will receive a prize of £1,500. Voting takes place at the end of each eligible screening where you will be given a voting card by festival volunteers. All films marked with the  symbol throughout the brochure are eligible.

You can vote for as many films as you attend. Happy voting!

Films in competition for the Film Africa 2016 Audience Award:

THE ARBITRATION
A UNITED KINGDOM
THE CEO
CHILDREN OF THE MOUNTAIN
DREAMSTATES
GIDI BLUES — A LAGOS LOVE STORY
IN THE LAST DAYS OF THE CITY
KATI KATI
LA ISLA DE PEREJIL
NAKED REALITY
NAKOM
THE WEDDING RING
WHITE COLOUR BLACK





KALUSHI: THE STORY OF SOLOMON MAHLANGU **UK PREMIERE**

Dir. Mandla Walter Dube

South Africa. 2016. 105 mins. English, Afrikaans, Tsotsi-taal with English subtitles.

As thousands of students have taken to the streets across South Africa in recent months, calling for wide-ranging reforms, a praise song for Solomon Mahlangu could often be heard. It's fitting, then, that 2016 should mark the year that his remarkable story finally makes it to the big screen, exactly forty years after the Soweto student uprisings in which Mahlangu played a key role. We meet Mahlangu as a 19-year-old hawker from the Mamelodi township, torn between selling veggies to support his family and joining his friends at the march on 16 June 1976. He skips the protest, but is brutally beaten by a police officer for jumping a train. This incident is a turning point for Mahlangu. Resolute, he goes underground with the ANC to train as a soldier. Mandla Dube's feature debut is full of rich, sweeping cinematography that takes you right to the action's nerve centre, and a superb turn from Thabo Rametsi in the titular role. But it's so much more than this. That South Africans are finally able to watch an anti-apartheid story brought to the screen by a black filmmaker, and told wholly from the black perspective, makes *Kalushi* a seminal film on the country's continuing path to equality.

Followed by a Q&A with director Mandla Dube and lead actor Thabo Rametsi.

Fri 28 Oct | 18:30 | Picturehouse Central



WÛLU

Dir. Daouda Coulibaly

France, Senegal, Mali. 2016. 95 mins. French, Bambara with English subtitles.

Malian director Daouda Coulibaly's auspicious debut feature *Wulu* ('dog' in Bambara) brings to our screens an intensely-packed political thriller, with the narco-trafficking underworld at its heart. We follow the main character Ladji (Ibrahim Koma), a 20-year-old poorly paid transit worker from Baamako who leads a quiet life, looking out for his family and keeping out of trouble. When corruption at work leads to him losing out on yet another promotion, Ladji falls victim to temptation; his rapid transformation into drug trafficker quickly entangles him in the criminal underworld, including the military, government and eventually al-Qaeda. With a screenplay that skillfully dabbles in the African oral storytelling and initiation traditions, and featuring a commanding performance from Ibrahim Koma, Coulibaly's potent and enigmatic debut feature establishes him as a filmmaker to watch, touching on the known yet unspoken dysfunctions underneath the Mali's 2012 coup d'état.

Followed by a Q&A with director Daouda Coulibaly. Preceded by the winner of the Baobab Award for Best Short Film.

Sun 6 Nov | 19:15 | Ciné Lumière

On 16 June 1976, some 20,000 students from schools across the Johannesburg township of Soweto took to the streets in protest to the introduction of Afrikaans, famously labeled the “language of the oppressor” by Desmond Tutu, as the teaching medium. What began peacefully ended in carnage; police killed an estimated 700 young protesters in a display of brutality that shook the world, and was the eventual death knell for the country’s racist government. 40 years on, this date is now the popular Youth Day holiday. With a new wave of student protests currently sweeping the country, we present a double bill to remember the sacrifices and successes of the youth movement, while also highlighting the deep racial and class inequalities still being felt across South Africa today.

DOUBLE BILL
MON 31 OCT - 18:30
HACKNEY PICTUREHOUSE 



SOWETO, TIMES OF WRATH UK PREMIERE

DOC

Dir. S Bongwana, J.O Gaegane, S Gibson, N Shandu, A Kupa & G More
France. 2016. 60 mins. Afrikaans, Zulu with English subtitles.

Faced with endemic corruption and increasing inequality, many South Africans are tired, frustrated and angry. Local politicians with little accountability make promises on long-awaited housing that, months or even years later, have not materialised. Activists take to the streets with megaphones, fervently urging communities to galvanise against a system that has forgotten them. Together, they say, we will be heard. Captured by six young filmmakers living in poor areas of Soweto, this seething indictment of South Africa’s political elite brings to the fore the voices of those excluded from the so-called ‘rainbow nation’ post-apartheid dream.

Followed by a discussion on human rights, and stories of how communities are taking action to have their voices heard on the streets and in the courts.



SARAFINA!

Dir. Darrell James Roodt
South Africa, UK, France, USA. 1992. 114 mins. English.

Soweto, South Africa, 1976. A new world is opening up for a group of young black students, whose extraordinary teacher, Mary (Whoopi Goldberg), defies the authorities and dares to teach them truths that are not found in approved textbooks. For one pupil in particular, Sarafina (Leleti Khumalo), this forbidden curriculum will have a far-reaching impact on her life. To mark 40 years since the Soweto Uprisings and 25 years since the celebrated musical *Sarafina!*, we remember the spirit and resilience of the youth of Soweto, who battled against the brutal apartheid Government and in doing so changed the course of their country’s history.

WHY I'M HERE: STORIES OF MIGRATION

Amid the ongoing negative discourse on migration today, it's easy to forget that history has been shaped and defined by the continuous movement of peoples. Humans have been on the move since life first began over 200,000 years ago in Africa. Like so many species in the animal kingdom, human migration is a natural and adaptive response to a change in resources, climate and safety. This year Film Africa presents a collection of personal stories, both fact and fiction, that reflect on the complex relationship between self and place. Some of these stories challenge the legitimising of certain narratives of migration over others; whilst the rest simply highlight what binds us as people and makes us intrinsically human.



ASMARINA **LONDON PREMIERE**

DOC

Dir. Alan Maglio, Medhin Paolos
Italy. 2015. 69 mins. Italian with English subtitles.

The Eritrean and Ethiopian communities have been present in Italy for at least half a century and have been actively integrated into social and cultural life. Collecting memories from the habesha community in Milan, *Asmarina* documents the legacy of personal stories, exploring the different shades of identity, migration, and the aspirations of the people. The result is a collective tale which brings to light a postcolonial heritage that has been little scrutinised until now: the everyday stories of those born in Italy, those who have lived there for years, and the refugees who have just arrived.

Screenings will be followed by a Q&A with director Medhin Paolos. Thur 3 is a dine & view event; Eritrean food will be served.

Wed 2 Nov | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton
Thur 3 Nov | 19:00 | Bernie Grant Arts Centre



A STRAY **UK PREMIERE**

Dir. Musa Syeed
USA. 2016. 82 mins. English and Somali with English subtitles.

With the contentious presidential race looming, never has an honest, humanised look at the immigrant experience in the US been more crucial. In Minneapolis' large Somali refugee community, Adan has nowhere to go. Kicked out by his mom and bullied by his supposed friends, he wanders the streets, before trying the mosque as a last resort. Soon he has a new job, friends and newfound faith. But when Adan hits a stray dog on the job, he ends up back on the streets, dog in tow. In an increasingly hostile and unpredictable world, this little companion may just be his closest friend. A beautifully acted and shot film depicting the universal plight of those trying to find their feet in a new country.

Followed by a discussion on what it means to be 'at home' in an ever changing world.

Sat 29 Oct | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton



MY NAME IS ADIL **UK PREMIERE**

Dir. Adil Azzab, Andrea Pellizzer, Magda Rezene
Italy, Morocco. 2016. 75 mins. Arabic with English subtitles. Colour.

Adil Azzab is a Moroccan filmmaker and a film educator living in Milan, Italy. Two decades ago, however, he was a young unwilling shepherd dreaming of cinema in his rural hometown pastures. In his debut feature - made with the help of non-professional actors and grassroots support - Adil recounts how coping with the life-changing and harsh experience of emigration at age 13 catapulted the poor countryside boy into adulthood. The result is a compellingly candid first person tale on the challenges of migration and cultural identity.

Followed by a Q&A with director and star Adil Azzab.

Tue 1 Nov | 18:30 | Hackney Picturehouse



SHASHAMANE UK PREMIERE

DOC

Dir. Giulia Amati
Italy. 2016. 80 mins. English.

In 1948, Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie donated 500 acres of his own private lands “for the black people of the world” to encourage displaced Africans to repatriate. Since the ‘60s, many have left Jamaica for Ethiopia to establish the oldest Rastafari settlement in the world – Shashamane. But now their spiritual home is under threat. Much of the land is lost and many Ethiopians view them as outsiders, leaving these men and women, descendants of slaves who were taken from Africa by force, in limbo. A compelling look at the lesser explored and ever increasing migration of the African diaspora back to the continent in search of a lost identity.

Followed by a discussion on the relationship between Africa and its diaspora, exploring issues like identity, politics and reparations.

Tue 1 Nov | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton



THOSE WHO JUMP [LES SAUTEURS] DOC

Dir. Moritz Siebert, Estephan Wagner,
Abou Bakar Sidibé
Denmark. 2016. 80 min. French, Bambara with English subtitles.

“I exist because I film” - Abou Bakar Sidibé

A refugee from Mali trying to scale the guarded walls around the Spanish enclave of Melilla is given a camera to record his story in this seminal film on the complexities of modern migration. After 14 months living in the foothills near the border, Abou Bakar Sidibé starts filming, capturing the heartbreak, humour and boredom of camp life as he and hundreds of other refugees await the next futile, and often dangerous, ‘jump’. His footage humanises an increasingly common story, acting as a mouthpiece for African migrants living on the fringes of existence and on the sidelines of a Europe in lock-down.

Fri 4 Nov | 18:30 | ICA



TO THE FOREST OF CLOUDS [VERS LA FORÊT DE NUAGES] UK PREMIERE

DOC

Dir. Robin Hunzinger
France. 2015. 62 mins. French with English subtitles.

Eight-year-old Timothée is getting ready to take the plane to Africa, the land of ‘witches and elephants’, for the first time. By his side is his mother Aya. Timothée knows little of his mother’s past. Despite the ongoing war, she’s taking her son to Ivory Coast to visit her father’s grave and reconnect with family. Robin, Timothée’s father and Aya’s husband, films them on their journey to the land of Aya’s ancestors. Simultaneously capturing the awe and wonder of youth with the melancholy of lost time, this beautifully observed doc offers insight into one family’s search for a sense of belonging that will be familiar to many.

Screening with short
MOTHER(S)

Screenings followed by a Q&A with Robin and Aya Hunzinger.

Sun 30 Oct | 15:45 | Phoenix Cinema
Mon 31 Oct | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton

Over two decades after its birth in a video shop in Lagos, Nollywood has become one of the world's most prolific film industries. Complex, intriguing and full of energy, this most popular genre of Nigerian cinema is now firmly on the map. As the industry grows, so too do the budgets and visions of its filmmakers. This year we bring you the latest works from three of Nigeria's most popular directors: Kunle Afolayan, Niyi Akinmolayan and Femi Odugbemi. Tales of love, deception and gender equality are brought to the screen by some of the biggest names in the game, including Wale Ojo, Agélique Kidjo, O.C. Ukeje and Adesu Etomi.

Nollywood Nights is presented by the UK African Film Festivals (Film Africa, Africa in Motion Film Festival, Afrika Eye, Watch Africa and the Cambridge African Film Festival). Part of the BFI BLACK STAR season. #BFIBLACKSTAR
www.bfi.org.uk/black-star



GIDI BLUES - A LAGOS LOVE STORY A EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Dir. Femi Odugbemi
Nigeria. 2016. 100 mins. English.

Titled in tribute to the 'Gidi' essence of the city of Lagos and its inhabitants' resilient spirit, *Gidi Blues* is the latest feature from celebrated Nigerian filmmaker Femi Odugbemi. Odugbemi uses the metropolis' iconic locations, including Idumota market, Makoko, Victoria Island and Freedom Park, as a backdrop for his main character's turbulent love story. It all starts with an accidental first encounter which makes it clear to Akin (Gideon Okeke) that his indulgent playboy approach will not be enough to win over a beautiful, committed and confident woman like Nkem (Hauwa Allahbura). Film Africa is proud to present the European premiere after a successful commercial release in Nigeria earlier this year.

Tue 1 Nov | 20:45 | Hackney Picturehouse



THE ARBITRATION A EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Dir. Niyi Akinmolayan
Nigeria. 2016. 100 mins. English.

Gbenga (O.C. Ukeje), a charming and celebrated entrepreneur who runs a profitable tech company, is the defendant in a lawsuit filed by Dara (Adesua Etomi), a computer engineer whose talents helped Gbenga's company achieve success. The former colleagues are also former lovers. Their torrid two-year love affair ended bitterly when Gbenga learned that his wife was pregnant, and Dara quit without collecting her shares in the company. Her lawsuit seeks compensation, but what she really wants is for Gbenga to admit that he raped her after the breakup. Reconstructing the past is a daunting task when every small detail differs depending on which side of the negotiation table you sit. The deeper the questioning, the more is revealed in this complex tale of betrayal in both the office and the bedroom.

Sun 29 Oct | 18:30 | Hackney Picturehouse



THE CEO A UK PREMIERE

Dir. Kunle Afolayan
Nigeria. 2016. 105 mins. English, French, Swahili, Yoruba, Chinese, Arabic with English subtitles.

In this mystery-thriller from celebrated filmmaker Kunle Afolayan, five top executives are selected from across Africa to compete for the role of CEO in a multinational telecommunications firm. During the week long retreat to determine who is most suitable, mysterious circumstances lead to two of the wannabe executives becoming prime suspects in a grisly crime. With a stellar Nollywood cast, including Lala Akindoju, Wale Ojo and a screen debut from the indefatigable grammy award winning singer, Angélique Kidjo, *The CEO* will have you gripped from the opening scene until the credits roll.

Fri 4 Nov | 21:00 | Ritzy Brixton

Africa is synonymous with wonderfully rich and varied music. Each year, Film Africa showcases films that celebrate Africa's diverse musical traditions, as well as the wealth of new talent emerging from the continent and its diaspora. Meet musicians from one of the world's oldest and most renowned music scenes, recently under threat from Islamic militants, in *Mali Blues*; go on a journey of discovery into Ethiopia's myriad music traditions in *Roaring Abyss*, featuring never before seen or heard live recordings of some of the country's most beautiful music; and find out how music became a catalyst for political action in Senegal in the energising doc *The Revolution Won't Be Televised*.



MALI BLUES **PREVIEW**

Dir. Lutz Gregor
Germany. 2016. 93 mins. French, Bambara and Tamasheq with English subtitles.

In Mali, music unifies people and nourishes their body and spirit. Since radical Islamists occupied the north, it has been banned and its performers threatened. In this gorgeous and affecting documentary, one of the country's most regarded performers (and also a film star) Fatoumata Diawara takes us on a journey along with Ahmed Ag Kaedi, Bassekou Kouyaté and Master Soumy. We listen to them play but also hear their reflections on the political situation and the importance of what they do for the body, the mind and the unity of a people.

In partnership with the BFI's African Odysseys season.

Wed 2 Nov | 18:00 | BFI Southbank



ROARING ABYSS **UK PREMIERE**

Dir. Quino Piñero
Ethiopia, Spain, UK. 2015. 86 mins. Amharic, Oromifa, Nuer, Anuak, Kaffinya, Harari, Sidamo, Tigrinya, English with English subtitles.

This musical road movie takes us across Ethiopia, a nation of ninety-million and and eighty different languages. Full of field recordings of all forms of traditional music - from wind orchestras from the time of Emperor Haile Selassie to the Azmari, the Ethiopian equivalent of European bards. These are traditional pieces, using scales very different from Western music, involving instruments like the washent, masinko, krar and begena. The result is a fascinating document of music that has been passed on from generation to generation for centuries.

Followed by a Q&A with director Quino Piñero. Keep your ticket for free entry to the Film Africa Closing Party [see pp.26].

Sat 5 Nov | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton



THE REVOLUTION WON'T BE TELEVISED

Dir. Rama Thiaw
Senegal. 2016. 110 mins. Wolof, French with English subtitles.

Old men who brutally cling to political power has become a recognised feature of African politics. In 2011, when Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade prepared to fight for office yet again, the people grew tired and a youth resistance movement formed on the streets. From it emerged the now infamous 'Y'en a marre' ('We Are Fed Up'). Founded by popular rappers Thiaw and Kilifeu, Rama Thiaw joined the movement to document its progress, observing the meetings, protests, concerts, arrests and sheer hard work that eventually led to Wade's demise. A rousing testament to the power of music to inform and unify a rising youth population across Africa.

Followed by a Q&A with director Rama Thiaw and live music from Keur Gui [see pp.26].

Sun 30 Oct | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton



A UNITED KINGDOM **PREVIEW**

A

Dir. Amma Asante
UK. 2016. 110 mins. English.

Fresh from its world premiere in Toronto and opening the LFF, *A United Kingdom* is the inspiring true story of Seretse Khama, the king of Bechuanaland (modern Botswana), and Ruth Williams, the London office worker that he married in 1948 in the face of fierce opposition from their families and the British and South African governments. Seretse and Ruth defied family, apartheid and empire – their love triumphed over every obstacle flung in their path and in so doing they transformed their nation and inspired the world. David Oyelowo and Rosamund Pike give powerful performances full of chemistry, while Amma Asante cements her role as the filmmaker bringing black historical stories into the mainstream.

Sat 29 Oct | 20:45 | Ritzy Brixton
 Fri 4 Nov | 18:30 | Phoenix Cinema



CHILDREN OF THE MOUNTAIN **UK PREMIERE**

A

Dir. Priscilla Anany
Ghana, USA. 2016. 101 mins. Akan, Ewe with English subtitles.

When her baby is born with disabilities, Essuman is told that she has a 'dirty womb'. Her partner swiftly leaves, shattering her plans for family life and a good place in rural Ghanaian society. Community superstition grows, with whispers of the child's deformities being the work of the devil. When Essuman can't find a cure, her desperation mounts, testing her motherly love. Beautifully shot with a stunning central performance from Rukiyat Masud, Priscilla Anany's debut is a powerful yet subtle story of female empowerment.

Screening with short **CONDRONG UK PREMIERE**

Both screenings followed by a Q&A with the director and lead actor.

Fri 4 Nov | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton
 Sat 5 Nov | 19:00 | Bernie Grant Arts Centre



IN THE LAST DAYS OF THE CITY **[AKHER AYAM EL MEDINA]**

A

Dir. Tamer El Said
Egypt, Germany, UK, UAE. 2016. 118 mins. Arabic with English subtitles.

Cairo, 2009. Khalid is searching for inspiration for his next film but his city has lost all its meaning. He looks to his filmmaker friends in Baghdad, Beirut and Berlin but they too are lost at sea. As if in a dream, he wanders through the break-up of a relationship, looks for a flat and tends to his ailing mother. In this love letter to a lost city, director Tamer El Said employs hindsight to give the film its unique power, its characters musings and loneliness predicating the storm that will soon consume their beloved Cairo.

Followed by a Q&A with actors Khalid Abdalla and Laila Sany

Sat 5 Nov | 16:30 | ICA



KATI KATI UK PREMIERE



Dir. Mbithi Masya
Kenya, Germany. 2016. 75 mins. Swahili and English with English subtitles.

Kaleche, a young amnesiac, wakes up in a hut, with no idea how she got there. She is greeted by a group of strangers. They tell her that she is dead and that this is Kati Kati, the afterlife. She senses a mutual attraction with group leader Thoma, who encourages Keleche to recollect her memories, while she helps him find the path to personal acceptance. The feature debut from Mbithi Masya, one third of Kenya's acclaimed alternative house-funk trio Just a Band, boldly seeks answers to the country's recent violent past.

Both screenings will be followed by a Q&A with director Mbithi Masya.

Wed 2 Nov | 18:30 | Hackney Picturehouse
 Thur 3 Nov | 20:45 | Ritzy Brixton



LA ISLA DE PEREJIL UK PREMIERE



Dir. Ahmed Boulane
Morocco, Spain. 2015. 85 mins. French, Arabic, Spanish with English subtitles.

Aging soldier Ibrahim is sent to guard a deserted island off the Mediterranean coast of Morocco. His orders are to monitor the movements of smugglers and illegal immigrants, but - a pawn in a larger game - he is being used by his superiors for murkier aims. When a Black African man attempting to reach Spain in a boat is washed up on the beach, the unlikely pair's presence on the stony little island inadvertently triggers an incident that crescendos into a regional military crisis. This fable-like comedy, based on the real life 2002 stand-off between Morocco and Spain, is a wry study of the absurdity of diplomatic power-struggles, though at its heart is a timely story about friendship and acceptance.

Wed 2 Nov | 20:30 | Hackney Picturehouse



NAKOM LONDON PREMIERE



Dir. Kelly Daniela Norris, TW Pittman
Ghana, USA. 2016. 90 mins. Kusaal, English.

After his father's sudden death, Iddrisu, a talented medical student, returns to his home village in northern Ghana. Faced with a debt that could destroy his family, Iddrisu must turn their farm and fortunes around. Over the course of a growing season, Iddrisu confronts both the tragedy and beauty of village life, and must finally choose between two very different futures. A fine example of Ghana's burgeoning film scene.

Screening with short:
ONE HEAD DOES NOT TAKE COUNSEL
 UK PREMIERE

Wed 2 Nov | 20:30 | Ritzy Brixton



THE WEDDING RING [ZIN'NAARIYÂ!] A

Dir. Rahmatou Keïta
Niger, Burkina Faso, France. 2016. 96 mins.
Songhoy, Zarma, Hausa, Fulaani with English subtitles.

Recently returned to her home in the Sultanate of Zinder after completing her degree abroad, Tiyaá, a young woman suffering from the pain of lost love, finds renewal while awaiting the mystical promise of a new moon. Rahmatou Keïta's second feature slowly reveals itself as a story of female empowerment that also doesn't shirk from the uncomfortable realities of Western influence on African cultures. A magical and immersive journey into the little-explored, and fast-fading, customs of Niger's Sahelian people, *The Wedding Ring* is that rare thing: a truly original cinematic experience.

Thur 3 Nov | 20:45 | Hackney Picturehouse



WHITE COLOUR BLACK A

Dir. Joseph A. Adesunloye
UK. 2016. 86 mins. English.

Successful young photographer, Leke, lives a privileged and hedonistic lifestyle in London, full of late night parties and clandestine encounters. Yet, despite his large circle of friends, he feels alone and at odds with the world. When he receives a phone call, Leke must return to Senegal after an absence of many years, triggering a journey to rediscover a family, and culture, long suppressed. Nigerian-British filmmaker Joseph A. Adesunloye's debut feature is brimming with subtle intricacies of the Black British, mixed race experience, where questions of identity, place and belonging are omnipresent. Featuring a beautifully subdued central performance from Dudley O'Shaughnessy, *White Colour Black's* truest feat is the extraordinary cinematography, reflecting the world through the eyes of one of its many lost souls.

Followed by a Q&A with the cast and crew.

Sat 29 Oct | 20:45 | Hackney Picturehouse
Fri 4 Nov | 19:00 | South London Gallery

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CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	SCREENING /EVENT	VENUE	PAGE
Fri 28 Oct	18:30	Opening Gala: Kalushi: The Story of Solomon Mahlangu + Q&A	Picturehouse Central	6
Sat 29 Oct	11:00	Recreative Film School	South London Gallery	26
	18:30	The Arbitration	Hackney Picturehouse	10
	18:30	A Stray + Panel	Ritzy Brixton	8
	20:45	A United Kingdom	Ritzy Brixton	12
	20:45	White Colour Black + Q&A	Hackney Picturehouse	14
Sun 30 Oct	15:45	To the Forest of Clouds [DOC] + Short + Q&A	Phoenix	9
	18:00	Naked Reality + Short + Q&A	Hackney Picturehouse	19
	18:30	The Revolution Won't Be Televised [DOC] + Q&A + live music	Ritzy Brixton	11
	20:00	Baobab Award Programme 1	Hackney Picturehouse	20
Mon 31 Oct	09:30	Film Africa Industry Forum	BFI Southbank	26
	18:30	To the Forest of Clouds [DOC] + Short + Q&A	Ritzy Brixton	9
	18:30	Double Bill: Sarafina! + Soweto, Times of Wrath [DOC] + Panel	Hackney Picturehouse	7
	19:00	Dreamstates + Short + Q&A	British Library	19
	20:30	Baobab Award Programme 2	Ritzy Brixton	22
Tue 1 Nov	18:30	My Name is Adil + Q&A	Hackney Picturehouse	8
	18:30	Shashamane + Panel	Ritzy Brixton	9
	20:30	Gurumbé + Flamenco Performance	Ritzy Brixton	18
	20:45	Gidi Blues - A Lagos Love Story	Hackney Picturehouse	10
Wed 2 Nov	18:00	African Odysseys: Mali Blues [DOC]	BFI Southbank	11
	18:30	Kati Kati + Q&A	Hackney Picturehouse	13
	18:30	Asmarina [DOC] + Q&A	Ritzy Brixton	8

DATE	TIME	SCREENING /EVENT	VENUE	PAGE
	20:30	La Isla de Perejil	Hackney Picturehouse	13
	20:30	Nakom + Short	Ritzzy Brixton	13
Thu 3 Nov	18:30	Hissein Habré, A Chadian Tragedy + Panel	Hackney Picturehouse	18
	18:30	The Pearl of Africa + Short + Panel	Ritzzy Brixton	18
	19:00	Dine & View: Asmarina [DOC] + Q&A	Bernie Grant Arts Centre	8
	20:45	Kati Kati + Q&A	Ritzzy Brixton	13
	20:45	The Wedding Ring	Hackney Picturehouse	14
Fri 4 Nov	18:30	A United Kingdom	Phoenix	12
	18:30	Those Who Jump [DOC] + Skype Q&A	ICA	9
	18:30	Children of the Mountain + Short + Q&A	Ritzzy Brixton	12
	19:00	South by South: White Colour Black + Q&A	South London Gallery	14
	21:00	The CEO	Ritzzy Brixton	10
Sat 5 Nov	11:00	Kids' Shorts with Storyboat	Rich Mix	27
	12:30	Film Africa Family Day	Rich Mix	27
	16:00	The Pearl of Africa + Short + Panel	Rich Mix	18
	16:30	In the Last Days of the City + Q&A	ICA	12
	18:30	Roaring Abyss [DOC] + Q&A	Ritzzy Brixton	11
	19:00	Dine & View: Children of the Mountain + Short + Q&A	Bernie Grant Arts Centre	12
	20:30	Film Africa 2016 Closing Party	Upstairs at the Ritzzy Brixton	26
Sun 6 Nov	11:00	Kids' Shorts with Storyboat	Rich Mix	27
	19:15	Closing Gala: Wùlu + Q&A	Ciné Lumière	6

GALLERY



HISSEIN HABRÉ, A CHADIAN TRAGEDY

Dir. Mahamat-Saleh Haroun
France, Chad. 2016. 82 mins. French and Chadian Arabic with English subtitles.

In May 2016, former Chadian dictator, Hissein Habré, was found guilty in a Senegalese court of crimes against humanity. In this extraordinarily poignant documentary, Mahamat-Saleh Haroun, one of many exiles of the brutal 1980s regime, goes to meet some of its survivors. Their stories tell of scars that go far deeper than the physical as they struggle to understand and forgive. Through their courage and determination, we see the victims accomplish an unprecedented feat in the history of Africa: that of bringing a former Head of State to trial. An incredibly important document of justice.

Followed by a discussion exploring the legacy of dictatorships and the future for transnational justice in Africa.

Thur 3 Nov | 18:30 | Hackney Picturehouse



GURUMBÉ: AFRO-ANDALUSIAN MEMORIES **UK PREMIERE**

Dir. Miguel Ángel Rosales
Spain. 72 mins. 2016. Spanish, Portuguese with English subtitles.

Flamenco is synonymous with Spanish culture. Since its inception, theorists have sidelined the fundamental contribution of Afro-Andalusians. Commercial exploitation of the American colonies brought hundreds of Africans to Seville to be sold as slaves, forming a population who over time managed to gain space in a society wrought with racial prejudices. Music and dance were a fundamental part of their expression and the most important affirmation of their identity. As the black population began to disappear from Spain in the late 19th century, so too did their contribution to this extraordinary art form. In Gurumbé, their story is finally told.

Followed by a Q&A with director Miguel Ángel Rosales and a Flamenco performance from Yinka Esi Graves.

Tues 1 Nov | 20:30 | Ritzy Brixton



THE PEARL OF AFRICA **PREVIEW**

Dir. Jonny von Wallström
Sweden. 2016. 90 mins. English, Luganda with English subtitles.

Cleopatra Kambugu's humour and warmth belie her circumstance. As a transgender woman living in Uganda, everyday life is tough. Uganda is a country blessed with beauty and biodiversity, yet the diversity of its people is shunned by many. This is typified by a notorious bill threatening life imprisonment for homosexuality. When she is outed on the front page of Kampala's main tabloid, Cleopatra is forced to flee with long-term boyfriend Nelson. We follow Cleopatra and Nelson as they leave their homeland and journey into the unknown, and witness the strain that prejudice puts on their relationship. At its heart a universal love story, this is also an incredibly uplifting and personal account of courage and hope.

**Screening with short
RELUCTANTLY QUEER**

Followed by reflections on personal journeys from the African diaspora LGBTQ community.

Thur 3 Nov | 18:30 | Ritzy Brixton
Sat 5 Nov | 16:00 | Rich Mix



DREAMSTATES EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A

Dir. Anisia Uzeyman

USA, France, Rwanda. 2016. 74 mins. English.

Equal parts love story, road movie and Americana, *Dreamstates* tells the haunting tale of two wayward souls (Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman) discovering their love for one another while touring the U.S. with some of the most pivotal figures of the Afro-Punk movement. Shot entirely on an iPhone, Rwandan filmmaker Anisia Uzeyman's daring debut feature is a sultry, sensual and quixotic underground journey between dreams and reality.

Screening with short
MUGABO

Followed by a Q&A with director Anisia Uzeyman.

Mon 31 Oct | 19:00 | British Library



NAKED REALITY EUROPEAN PREMIERE

A

Dir. Jean Pierre Bekolo

Cameroon. 2016. 62 mins. English.

Wanita is on a journey of discovery. It is 150 years from now and Africa has become one big, sprawling metropolis, operated by an immortal race. Devoid of control, imagination and emotion, human beings are becoming obsolete. Wanita is of a new generation, working to fulfill her mission according to her DNA instructions. Can her mind break free? Jean Pierre Bekolo's dizzying alternate reality is a trippy ride into the future as Africa breaks into new horizons of possibility.

Screening with short
JUS SOLI

Followed by a Q&A with director Jean Pierre Bekolo.

Sun 30 Oct | 18:00 | Hackney Picturehouse

BOABAB SHORTS

— PART 1 —

SUN 30 OCT - 20:00

HACKNEY PICTUREHOUSE



Established in 2011, the Film Africa Baobab Award for Best Short Film exists to recognise and support new filmmaking talent emerging from across Africa and its Diaspora. The shortlist was compiled from over 300 submissions - a record number for Film Africa, indicating the growing scale of talent in contemporary African filmmaking. 12 shorts from up-and-coming filmmakers from seven countries (Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia) have been selected to vie for the Award, which includes a £1,500 cash reward. The winner is picked by a jury of filmmakers and industry professionals and will be announced at the Film Africa Closing Gala on Sunday 6 November.



AYA GOES TO THE BEACH UK PREMIERE

Dir. Maryam Touzani
Morocco. 2015. 19 mins. Arabic with English subtitles.

10-year-old Aya works as a maid in a small house in the medina of Casablanca. Locked away from the world, she diligently takes care of the household duties, whilst finding a few precious moments to play and be a child. The next door neighbour, Habiba, is Aya's only friend and confidante. Together, they gossip from the balcony and make each other laugh. As the Aid feast approaches, Aya dreams of going home, but things don't go according to plan.

After studying in London, Tangier-born **Maryam Touzani** moved back to Morocco and worked as a journalist, specialising in cinema. Soon, the necessity to express herself through her own films emerged. Her first short, *When They Slept*, won many awards at prestigious festivals around the world, including the Film Africa 2013 Baobab Award.



SEA OF ASH UK PREMIERE

Dir. Michael MacGarry
South Africa. 2016. 12 mins. French with English subtitles.

A poetic re-imagining of Death in Venice, featuring a West African immigrant making his way to Italy. Our lead character embarks on a journey from the Alpine mountains to the seaside and, ultimately, on a doomed voyage home.

Michael MacGarry is a visual artist and filmmaker based in Johannesburg. Michael has exhibited at an international level including TATE Modern, Iziko South African National Gallery and Kiasma Museum, Helsinki. As a filmmaker he has directed and co-directed ten television commercials and his short films have screened at Rotterdam and VideoBrasil festivals, among many others.



ICE-CREAM [ايس كريم] EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Dir. Mohamed Essam
Egypt. 2015. 10 mins. Arabic with English subtitles.

A professional woman in her 40s pays a visit to her elderly mother and takes her out for some ice-cream. Enchanted by the outside world like a small child leaving the house for the first time, the mother ends up finding her long-awaited happiness and freedom.

Mohamed Essam is a film academic and teacher with degrees from Cairo University and the Academy of Cinema Arts & Technology. He has directed several corporate videos for TV and has won awards at Zagora international film festival in Morocco and Beirut international film festival, before making *Ice-Cream*.



STRANDED UK PREMIERE

Dir. Jamil Najjar

Tunisia. 2015. 26 mins. Arabic with English subtitles.

Ghassra, a Tunisian taxi driver stops his car to urinate discreetly by a tree on the side of a quiet country road, but as he attempts to relieve himself, he is ambushed by an exuberant election candidate and his loyal followers. Then comes a disoriented bombshell looking for directions, followed by a group of aggressive football hooligans, followed by a set of Islamic extremists, and finally a couple of policemen - until nature's call is too strong for Ghassra to hold back.

Jamil Najjar graduated in 2000 with a diploma in Directing from the Arts and Multimedia Institute of Manouba. He made his first short film, *Offside*, in 2003, picking up the jury prize at the Amateur Film Festival in Kelibia. *Stranded* is his second short.



I STILL DO WORLD PREMIERE

Dir. Uche Aguh

Nigeria. 2016. 30 mins. English

In the midst of his gubernatorial nomination in Lagos, Emeka and his wife, Chioma, can no longer carry on with elegant pretense of living a blissful marriage. Their sacred union is threatened as both reveal dark secrets to one another. Together, they go on a rollercoaster journey to rediscover their lost moments of 'I do', in the hope that they will be able to proclaim to each other 'I still do'.

Formerly a trained doctor, **Uche Aguh** was born in Nigeria and has lived in the US for many years. In his last year of studies, Uche decided to explore his long standing vision of filmmaking. *I Still Do* is his first short film.



LOVE, HATE & KETCHUP EUROPEAN PREMIERE

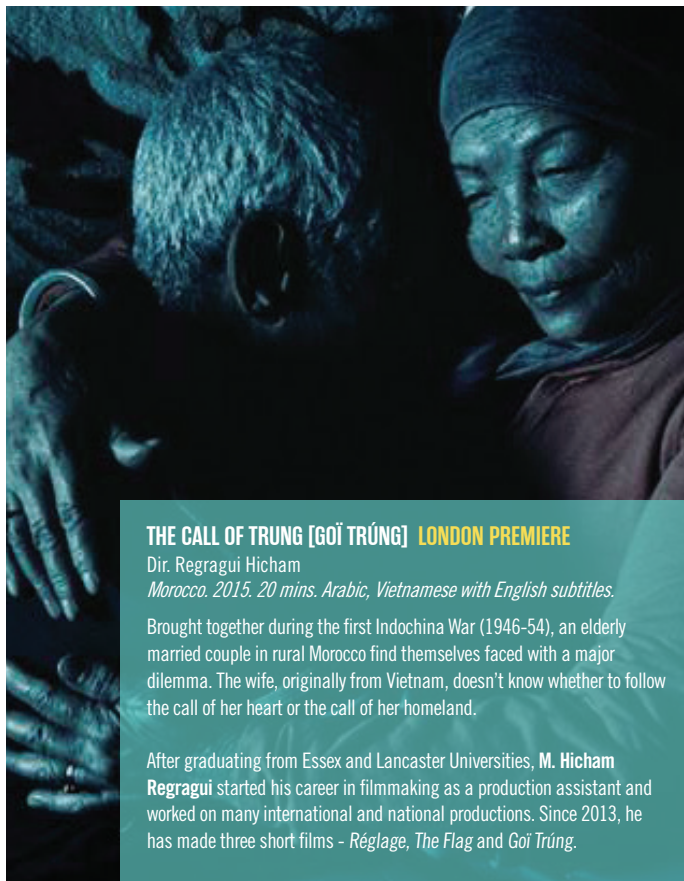
Dir. Mike-Steve Adeleye

Nigeria. 2016. 7 mins. English.

A husband comes home from yet another day of failure and he is greeted by his wife complaining and nagging as per usual, except today is different. Things will change for the better and for good today... Or maybe not. A funny and satirical look at the institution of marriage.

Mike-Steve Adeleye is a Nigerian-born writer, director, animator, editor and visual effects generalist. A graduate of the National Film Institute, and an alumnus of the Berlinale Talent Campus, Mike-Steve is currently developing live action-CGI action adventure / family fantasy feature film, *Karikaso*.

BAOBAB SHORTS
— PART 2 —
MON 31 OCT - 20:30
RITZY BRIXTON



THE CALL OF TRUNG [GỎI TRÚNG] LONDON PREMIERE

Dir. Regragui Hicham
Morocco. 2015. 20 mins. Arabic, Vietnamese with English subtitles.

Brought together during the first Indochina War (1946-54), an elderly married couple in rural Morocco find themselves faced with a major dilemma. The wife, originally from Vietnam, doesn't know whether to follow the call of her heart or the call of her homeland.

After graduating from Essex and Lancaster Universities, **M. Hicham Regragui** started his career in filmmaking as a production assistant and worked on many international and national productions. Since 2013, he has made three short films - *Réglage*, *The Flag* and *Gỏi Trúng*.



MARABOUT UK PREMIERE

Dir. Alassane Sy
Senegal. 2015. 18 mins. Wolof, French with English subtitles.

Diagne, a young detective, follows a group of street kids in the city of Dakar after they steal from him and ends up discovering the dangers they are exposed to in their orphanage, which is run by a greedy and exploitative Marabout.

Alassane Sy was born in Mauritania and his family relocated to Senegal. He began his career modelling in Paris and NY, where he was touted, landing the lead role of Djibril in *Restless City*. He has since featured in *Mediterranea* and stars in the upcoming feature film *The Drifters*. *Marabout* is his directorial debut.



WINTRY SPRING [RABIE CHETWY] LONDON PREMIERE

Dir. Mohamed Kamel
Egypt. 2015. 16 mins. Arabic with English subtitles.

A schoolgirl called Nour lives alone with her father. When she starts to transition into womanhood, her close and loving relationship with her father grows cold and tense. Nour is not able to communicate with her father and he struggles to understand the changes she is experiencing, to the point that he starts to question her love and trust.

Since graduating from the Academy of Arts-higher cinema institute in Cairo in 2006, **Mohamed Kamel** has written and directed two shorts that have been screened in several international film festivals around the world, winning numerous awards. Mohamed is now working on a personal independent cinematic experiment.



MONSOONS OVER THE MOON PART 1 & 2 EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Dir. Dan Muchina
Kenya. 2015. 15 mins. Swahili with English subtitles.

Set in post-apocalyptic Nairobi, *Monsoons Over the Moon* is a mythical drama about a street gang fighting to escape an oppressive regime in the search of spiritual enlightenment and freedom.

Dan Muchina is a filmmaker based in Nairobi who works under the pseudonym 'Abstract Omega'. He focuses on telling stories that reflect his experiences as a part of the city's youth population, creating short films and visual mood-pieces in video format. With *Monsoons*, *Abstract Omega* was motivated to "shine light on the grim reality of Nairobi, a reality that is mostly kept out of the news".



UNOMALANGA AND THE WITCH EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Dir. Palesa Nomanzi Shongwe
South Africa. 2015. 26 mins. Zulu, Xhosa, English with English subtitles.

Nomalanga and her husband Sibusiso move into a new neighbourhood, and right across the street lives a mysterious widow whom everyone suspects of having killed her late husband. Intrigued and naive, Nomalanga decides to visit the widow and soon finds herself drawn to her mystery and charm.

Palesa Shongwe is studying film and media at Temple University, Philadelphia on a Fulbright Scholarship. An independent filmmaker, scriptwriter and teacher, Palesa's first film, *Atrophy*, won the Jury Award at the Oberhausen Short FF in Germany. She recently completed *uNomalanga and the Witch*, which won Best South African short at the Durban International Film Festival in 2015.



LAZY SUSAN UK PREMIERE

Dir. Stephen Abbott
South Africa. 2015. 10 mins. English and Xhosa with English subtitles.

Friendly waitress Susan works at a trendy Cape Town restaurant, deftly serving gluttons and WASPs, hipsters and high-tippers, racists and lechers. With some effort, she maintains both wit and service in the face of obnoxious custom - until a lousy tip gets the better of her.

Stephen Abbott is a South African filmmaker. He is a founding member of Stealth Donkey Moving Pictures, a Focus Features Africa First alumnus, an award-winning film and television director, including: *Takalani Sesame* (TV, 2013), *Dirty Laundry* (short, 2011), and *Lazy Susan*.

At Film Africa we believe that film is a key educational tool to engage, inspire and educate children, young people and their teachers. We celebrate the diversity of the African continent and aim to make the rich tapestry of African peoples, cultures and experiences more visible to young learners. We work in partnership with cinemas to host screenings for primary, secondary, university students and youth groups. Our programme includes short films, features, animation and documentaries. For more information about how to arrange a screening for your school, contact our Education Programme Co-ordinator, Joanna Brown at ras_education@soas.ac.uk

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A UNITED KINGDOM

Dir. Amma Asante
UK. 2016. 105 mins. English.

Fresh from its world premiere in Toronto and opening the LFF, *A United Kingdom* is the inspiring true story of Seretse Khama, the king of Bechuanaland (modern Botswana), and Ruth Williams, the London office worker he married in 1948 in the face of fierce opposition from their families and the British and South African governments. Seretse and Ruth defied family, apartheid and empire. David Oyelowo and Rosamund Pike give powerful performances, while Amma Asante cements her role as the filmmaker bringing black historical stories into the mainstream.

Suitability: Secondary, Year 8 upwards
Subjects: History, Geography, Citizenship
Price: £3.50 per student. Free for staff.

Fri 4 Nov | 10:00 | Phoenix Cinema



ADAMA

Dir. Simon Rouby
France. 2015. 85 mins. Animation. French with English subtitles.

12-year-old Adama lives in a remote West African village. Beyond the cliffs lies the World of Winds, where the Nassaras reign. One night his older brother, Samba, disappears. Defying the village elders, Adama decides to set off in search of him. With the steadfast determination of a child coming of age, he embarks on a quest that takes him over the seas, to the North, to the frontline of the First World War.

Suitability: Primary Year 5 & 6, Secondary Years 7-11
Subjects: History, Geography, Citizenship, French, English
Price: £3.50 per student. Free for staff.

Tues 11 Oct | 10:30 | Hackney Picturehouse
Tues 18 Oct | 10:30 | Ritzy Brixton
Mon 17 Oct | 10:00 | Phoenix Cinema



KIRIKOU AND THE MEN AND WOMEN

Dir. Michel Ocelot
France. 1998. 72 mins. French with English subtitles.

In a village somewhere in Africa, a boy named Kirikou is born, already able to speak and walk and knowing fully what he wants. This film tells the adventures of Kirikou, as this inventive and resourceful child helps his fellow villagers overcome a number of difficulties. Kirikou's kindness and energy win out every time. The visual style of the film is beautiful and the story's focus on the relationship between a child and his community makes for essential viewing.

Suitability: Primary Years 1-4
Subjects: Art, History, Geography, Citizenship, Literacy
Price: £3.50 per student. Free for staff.

Wed 12 Oct | 10:30 | Hackney Picturehouse
Wed 19 Oct | 10:30 | Ritzy Brixton



FELIX

Dir. Roberta Durrant
South Africa. 2013. 97 mins. English, Xhosa with English subtitles.

13-year-old Felix Xaba dreams of becoming a saxophonist like his late father, but his mother Lindiwe thinks jazz is the Devil's music. When Felix leaves his township friends to take up a scholarship at an elitist private school, he defies his mother and turns to two aging members of his father's old band, the Bozza Boys, to help him prepare for the school jazz concert. His dream is to become 'king of the sax' like his late father. In partnership with Into Film Festival.

Suitability: Primary Years 5 & 6, Secondary Years 7, 8 & 9

Subjects: Music, Geography, Citizenship

Price: £3.50 per student. Free for staff.

Thur 13 Oct | 10:30 | Hackney Picturehouse

Thur 20 Oct | 10:30 | Ritzy Brixton

Mon 21 Nov | 10:00 | Phoenix Cinema



STORYBOAT STORYTELLING EVENT

Professional storyteller Wendy Shearer will be running storytelling workshops alongside the screenings for pupils to engage with and explore African cultures and stories.

Suitability: Primary Years 3-6 (Age 7+)

Price: £5 per student. Free for staff.

KANYEKANYE [SHORT]

Dir. Miklas Manneke

South Africa. 2013. 25min. Zulu with English subtitles.

A forbidden romance between two township teenagers, Kanyekanye (meaning together) tells of a town long divided by a line marking territories to the red and green camps. A young man from the green side falls in love with a girl from the red side of town. But can their love survive the colour divide?

Fri 21 Oct | 10:00 | Phoenix Cinema

MWANSA, THE GREAT [SHORT]

Dir. Rungano Nyoni

Zambia, UK, USA. 2011. 24 mins.

An eight-year-old boy who aspires to be a hero embarks upon a journey to prove his greatness - with unexpected consequences. A moving insight into childhood where fantasy jostles with reality as a young boy's imagination transforms and empowers everyday life.



RECREATIVE FILM SCHOOL **FREE**

A five-day workshop for young filmmakers led by Director Saeed Taji Farouky. Coinciding with Film Africa 2016, the film school will enable participants to explore filmmaking, scriptwriting and film theory. Places are limited and by application only - for more information and to apply.

Sat 29 Oct & Sat 5, 12, 19 & 26 Nov
11:00-18:00 | South London Gallery

BOOKING: email Laura at SLG:
laura@southlondongallery.org



FILM AFRICA **LIVE!** PRESENTS KEUR GUI **FREE**

Following the screening of *The Revolution Won't Be Televised* [pp.11] Keur Gui, founders of the infamous Senegalese youth resistance movement 'Y'en a marre', will perform live for the first time in the UK. Keur Gui (Thiat, Kilifeu and DJ Zee) is a high energy hip hop crew, among the most popular artists in Senegal. They're famous for their activism and focus on social impact, and enjoy a strong following for their tremendous live performance. They will be supported by Waaju, a London-based groove-centered world jazz ensemble that encapsulates influences from West African music, but with a specific focus on the music of Mali.

Sun 30 Oct | 20:30 | Upstairs at the Ritzy

BOOKING: This is a free event following the screening of *The Revolution Won't Be Televised* [pp.11]



FILM AFRICA INDUSTRY FORUM

Film Africa brings together key industry experts from Africa and the UK to discuss the role and importance of film archives in this all-day forum. At a time when exciting new initiatives are emerging across Africa, we will look at the challenges and opportunities in developing a film archive and explore how these resources can be best utilised by contemporary filmmakers. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to pitch their creative ideas to a panel of experts in The Restless Pitch, our closing session.

Mon 31 Oct | 09:30-16:30 | BFI Southbank

BOOKING: Tickets are £6.50. Spaces limited, please book in advance from BFI Southbank [see pp.4]

The Industry Forum is presented in partnership with the British Council.



FILM AFRICA CLOSING PARTY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH JUJU

Join us to celebrate another wonderful year of discovery, lively debate, family fun, industry insight, awards and parties at Film Africa! This year's closing party will celebrate the many styles and contrasts of Ethiopian music - enjoy live music from some of Ethiopia's foremost musicians, and then dance into the early hours with JUJU's resident DJ, Volta 45. The party will follow Ethiopian music documentary *Roaring Abyss* [see pp.11].

Sat 5 Nov | 20:30-1:00 | Upstairs at the Ritzy

BOOKING: Tickets are £6 from Ritzy Brixton [pp.4]. Free entry for *Roaring Abyss* [pp.11] ticket holders [subject to availability].



FILM AFRICA FAMILY DAY FREE

Join Film Africa for a fun day for the whole family, including the 'African Market Corner' from Open the Gate, featuring a range of crafts, clothing and food stalls especially for kids. A range of free activities will take place throughout the day, including drumming and dance workshops, and African animal face painting!

Sat 5 Nov | 12:30-16:00 | Rich Mix

This will follow the Rich Mix Kids' Cine Time screening of Film Africa short films, including storytelling from Storyboat [see next listing].



KIDS' SHORTS WITH STORYBOAT

90mins. Suitable for age 6+

KANYEKANYE

Dir. Milks Manneke.

South Africa. 2013. Zulu with English subtitles.

MWANSA THE GREAT

Dir. Rungano Nyoni.

Zambia, UK, USA. 2011.

Enjoy two beautiful shorts suitable for the whole family. *Kanyekanye* is a story about acceptance - a young man from the green side falls in love with a girl from the red side of town. But can their love survive the colour divide? And in *Mwansa*, an eight-year-old boy aspires to be a hero and embarks upon a journey to prove his greatness - with unexpected consequences.

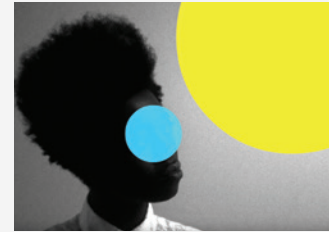
Following both screenings, Wendy Shearer from Storyboat will bring the films to life through storytelling.

Sat 5 Nov | 11:00 | Rich Mix

Sun 6 Nov | 11:00 | Rich Mix

The Film Africa 2016 Artwork Competition let our fans on Facebook pick the front cover artwork for our brochure. The shortlist was selected by a jury of industry experts - artistic director of The October Gallery, Elisabeth Lalouschek, and winner of the 2015 competition, Daniela Yohannes. Sincerest thanks to all that applied and well done to our three shortlisted artists!

THE WINNER



Kwesi Abbensetts is a New York based photographer and visual artist who hails from South America off the Corentyne coast of Guyana.

Kwesi is self-taught and started playing with the medium of photography in 2006. His work has since matured, spanning portraiture, fashion, art and experimental short films.

Website www.spaceshipgeorge.com

RUNNERS-UP



Leanne Armstrong is a graphic designer based in London. She studied Graphic Design at the University of Arts and holds a degree in

Dance and Media Cultural Studies. Leanne is inspired by modern urban culture.

Website www.LeanneCreative.com



Lea Daniel is a Saint Petersburg-based self-taught emerging artist. She has been drawing for over a decade and took part in HitRECord

projects. Lea has become part of online and offline exhibitions, including contests.

Website www.lea-daniel.daportfolio.com

MEET THE 2016 FESTIVAL TEAM



RACHAEL LOUGHLAN
FESTIVAL PRODUCER

Rachael Loughlan is a freelance film festival consultant and project manager. She has worked in the film industry for 10 years, providing strategic support, event production, programming and venue management to a range of venues and film festivals, including Glasgow Film Festival, TIFF and EIFF. Rachael has an MLitt in Film Journalism from University of Glasgow and has been producing Film Africa since 2014.



ISABEL MOURA MENDES
PROGRAMMER

Isabel Moura Mendes is a Portuguese Cape-Verdean arts and cultural manager, with strong practice in international cultural relations, artistic exchange and African (& Lusophone) film curation. She holds an MA in Arts & Cultural Management from Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh, Scotland, where she is based, and has been programming for Film Africa since 2013.



JACQUI NSIAH
PROGRAMMER

Jacqueline Nsiah is a cultural anthropologist, freelance film festival and arts & culture consultant. She has eight years' experience in the international film festival circuit, having worked in the UK, Ghana, Brazil and Germany in a variety of roles, and is the co-director and curator of UHURU festival in Rio de Janeiro and producer of Black Star IFF in Accra. She recently joined the Mokolo project committee, a pan-African platform for African cinema.



NAOMI RATHOD
FESTIVAL COORDINATOR

Naomi Rathod is currently on the ICO's FEDs Trainee Scheme with Film Africa. Her role as festival coordinator is allowing her to experience several aspects of organising a film festival, while also exploring a new cinema. She studied Film & Screen Studies and Psychology at Bath Spa University, and began pursuing a career in film in 2015 through volunteering at London Asian Film Festival. Naomi is of Indian heritage and specialises in Indian cinema and dance.



SHEILA RUIZ
SHORTS PROGRAMMER

Sheila Ruiz is currently Head of Programmes & Operations at the Royal African Society, following five years as the Society's Events Programme Manager. Prior to this, she was Communications & Programming Consultant for the Africa Centre and previously worked as a freelance events producer for various community arts projects. She is of mixed Spanish/Equato-Guinean heritage and bilingual in Spanish and English. She tweets at @SheilaRuiz



SILJA FREY
SHORTS PROGRAMMER

Silja Frey is a consultant and project manager with 10 years' experience working in-house, agency side and freelance. She has worked with filmmakers for the past couple of years, with a focus on the creative community from across the African continent. Silja has degrees in economics and advertising. She tweets @Siljafrey



JOANNA BROWN
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Joanna Brown is the Film Africa Education Programme Co-ordinator. After graduating in English from Cambridge University, Joanna joined the BFI, where she co-ordinated special events. Now, after six years as a Primary Teacher in Haringey specialising in Reading Enrichment, she is building an educational programme across the Royal African Society, starting with school programmes for Africa Writes and Film Africa.



AWRA TEWOLDE-BERHAN
MARKETING COORDINATOR &
SUBMISSIONS ADVISOR

Awra Tewolde-Berhan is a writer and film blogger. She has worked at various film festivals as a writer and researcher, including the UKIFF (London Iranian Film Festival). Exploring her Eritrean heritage, she is currently working on art-related community projects and as a freelance video editor. Awra holds a BA in English and Film from the University of Portsmouth.



ROBIN STEEDMAN
SUBMISSIONS ADVISOR

Robin Steedman is a PhD candidate at SOAS, University of London. Her research focuses on understanding film production in contemporary Kenya, and more particularly on understanding why there are so many prominent female filmmakers. Her project is grounded in postcolonial feminist theory and incorporates textual film analysis alongside contextual analysis.



MAGDA ROTKO
PRINT TRAFFIC
COORDINATOR

Magda Rotko has worked for the Toronto International Film Festival, Edinburgh Film Festival and Glasgow Film Festival. She holds an MA in Film Studies from the University College London and MA Hispanic Studies from the University of Glasgow. Originally from Poland she's now based in Scotland.



NELLIE ALSTON
SUBMISSIONS ADVISOR

Nellie Alston is a keen film enthusiast who has been working for the film distributor Verve Pictures since finishing the ICO's FEDS scheme in 2015. Her desire to watch and share undiscovered or alternative films with others has resulted in her programming for the Barbican's Chronic Youth Film Festival and now as a submissions adviser for Film Africa.



LADIS BAPORY SITE
GUEST LIAISON

A translator and interpreter by training, Ladis B. Site is an experienced communications and PR consultant who has supported both technical and creative teams internationally. Ladis has also worked as a facilitator for corporate social responsibility and cultural projects in Equatorial Guinea, and is currently a member of the Spanish interpreters team within the African Union. He tweets @Ladislaos_BSite

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Curious about the RAS?

The Royal African Society is Britain's prime Africa organisation. Our membership is open to all. We like to think of ourselves as a 'Big tent' for everyone interested in Africa.




We promote a better understanding of Africa in the UK through our publications, websites, annual film and literature festivals and our regular events, which are mostly free and open to the public.

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