

Berlinale



TALENTS
DURBAN

START- MOTION

17 - 21 JULY 2015



**DURBAN
INTERNATIONAL
FILM
FESTIVAL**

www.durbanfilmfest.co.za

TALENTS DURBAN

17-21 July 2015

WELCOME ▶▶

The 36th Durban International Film Festival proudly presents the 8th edition of Talents Durban in co-operation with Berlinale Talents. Talents Durban is a five-day development programme for emerging African filmmakers. It is one of six Talents International Programmes affiliated with the Berlinale Talents programme. The initiative hosts 40 selected participants from across Africa through industry-related seminars, workshops, master classes, networking events and hands-on development programmes: Doc Station, Script Station and Talent Press.

This year's theme: Start Motion, draws inspiration from early filmmakers who made use of stop-motion techniques to bring a sequence of still images to life on screen, astonishing audiences with the fantastical new medium. Throughout the history of film, new technologies have continued to revolutionise the way we make and watch films. The 8th instalment of Talents Durban aims to identify the compelling new voices of emerging African filmmakers and invites them to re-invent their approach to making films on the continent.

The Talents Durban programme features three hands-on development programmes: Doc Station, Script Station and Talent Press. **DOC Station** selects three documentary projects in development for coaching and mentoring towards participation in a public pitch at the DFM's pitching forum, The African Pitch. Participants are given mentoring prior to the pitching and during preparations at the festival.

Script Station is a script development programme for short films that pairs four writers with script editors who assist in clarifying story and to get to an advanced draft of their script. **Talent Press**, presented in cooperation with FIPRESCI, invites four critics to cover the films and events of the Durban International Film Festival for online and print publication.

More about the Berlinale Talents Programme

Berlinale Talents is an annual creative summit and networking platform for a selected group of 300 promising film professionals from various disciplines and film critics from all over the world during the Berlin International Film Festival in Germany. Apart from a summit programme of master classes and panel discussions, Berlinale Talents consists of several studio programmes, the Talent Press and a range of Project Labs (Talent Project Market, Doc Station, Script Station and Short Film Station) in which producers and writers/directors can further develop and present their projects. Berlinale Talents is an initiative of the Berlin International Film Festival. The application deadline for 2016 is on the 1st of September 2015. For more information, visit: www.berlinale-talents.de.

Since 2004, new shoots of Talent initiatives have been sprouting internationally: Guadalajara/Mexico, Buenos Aires/Argentina, Durban/South Africa, Sarajevo/Bosnia and Herzegovina, Beirut/Lebanon and Tokyo/Japan.



C Contents

Programme Overview.....	3
Programme of Events.....	4
Talents Durban Networking Spaces	14
Master Classes	16
DOC Station Overview.....	21
DOC Station Projects.....	22
DOC Station Mentors.....	23
Talent Press.....	24
Script Station.....	25
Talents Durban Selection Panel	26
Talents Durban Participants	27
Acknowledgements	29

Programme Overview

The 8th Talents Durban programme, held in cooperation with the Berlinale Talents, welcomes you to an intensive five-day programme of workshops and masterclasses with a key focus on networking. Here, our 40 selected participants will be given the opportunity to meet and engage with African and international filmmakers and experts within the industry. The 8th Talents Durban team welcomes you to Durban and hopes that you will make the most of your stay by developing invaluable skills and forging relationships that lead to opportunities for future collaborations.

Workshops and Seminars

The Talents Durban programme features a daily schedule of master classes and workshops, tailor-made for all 40 participants. Please ensure that you check your schedule regularly so that you are able to experience Talents Durban to its fullest.

Festival Opening and Screenings

This year, the Talents Durban starts at the opening of the 36th Durban International Film Festival screening of *Ayanda* by Sara Blecher. Talents Durban accreditation allows you access to all festival screenings.

DOC Station

Doc station is a hands-on training programme whereby three selected Talents Durban participants who submitted documentary projects are given expert mentorship on their work. The participants then pitch their project at the Durban FilmMart's African Pitching Forum on Sunday, 19 July at the Elangeni Hotel. Talents who wish to attend are welcome!

Talent Press

Talents Durban mentors four emerging African film critics and journalists; Talent is presented in partnership with the Fipresci as they will be covering events and films of the 36th Durban International Film Festival. The FIPRESCI is an organisation of film critics and films journalists, established in different countries for the promotion and development of film culture.

Script Station

Script Station selects four short films currently in development and these stories are given advanced consultation and mentoring by three script editors as well as participation in scriptwriting workshops that provide a collaborative space in which to revise their script.





08h00

09h00

Session: Talents Lift Off
Welcoming session/orientation seminar
Time: 09:00-10:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Tiny Mungwe, Christine Troestrum

10h00

Masterclass: New Filmmaking Strategies: From South Africa to Pan Africa, Towards a Global Market with Angus Finney
Time: 10:00-12:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: DFM
(See page 16)

11h00

12h00

Plenary: Keep Your Editor Close
Focuses on the importance of the relationship between director and editor in crafting a story
Time: 12:00-13:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Sara Blecher, Nic Costras, Jim Petrak

13h00

14h00

Round Table: Heads Together with the HDBIG Fellows
A round table discussion with this year's HotDocs Blue Ice group fellows and Talents on strategies to make the most of your first big break
Time: 14:00-15:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Khalid Shamis, Tony, Zipporah Nyaruri, Sara Gouveia, Kofi Zwana, Bouna Cherif Fofana, Sitou Ayite

15h00

Session: Watch This Space
Time: 15:00-16:00
Venue: North Ilanga

16h00

17h00



ZIPPORAH NYARURI

Nyaruri is an independent Kenyan filmmaker with a background in journalism. She won the Grand Prix at Festival Lumiere d'Afrique, Besançon and Best Director at Auteur Film Festival. She is currently in production of her feature length documentary *Truck Mama*, for which she was selected to participate in the Berlinale Doc station and Blue Ice HotDocs.

KHALID SHAMIS

Khalid Shamis has worked in the film and TV industry since 1997 and runs his production company Tubafilms in Cape Town. His directorial debut *Imam and I* was received with critical acclaim. He holds the prestigious South African Guild of Editors acronym and has been an active member of several industry bodies in South Africa.



TONY

Tony is a Kenyan producer and the co-founder of On Screen Productions Ltd. She received TV and film production training at the Mohamed Amin Foundation. She has produced and directed documentaries for broadcast on BBC-World, CCTV, MTV Europe and Al Jazeera. She created and co-produced the human-interest documentary series *From here to Timbuktu*.

SARA GOUVEIA

Sara Gouveia is a Cape Town-based award-winning filmmaker. Her documentary *Mama Goema: The Cape Town Beat in Five Movements* won the audience award for Best Documentary Film at the Tri Continental Film Festival 2011. Sara's short film *Scarlet Days* won the Jury Award for Best Film at the 5th In Shadow Festival in 2013.



KOFI ZWANA

Kofi Zwana is an award-winning commercials and documentary director. His accolades include winning the Cannes Bronze Lion Award in 2014, a Silver Loerie Award, the Creative Circle Ad of the Month, Best Cinematography and Best Script at the South African TAG Awards and gold in the International Sports Advertising Awards in 2009.

BOUNA CHERIF FOFANA

Mali-born Bouna Chérif Fofana holds a bachelor degree in financial accounting and management. He started his career as an intern at the National Cinematography Center in Mali. He has since directed two short films, which screened at various international film festivals.



NIC COSTRAS

Nick Costaras started his career as a cameraman and editor for local TV productions in South Africa. He has travelled all over the world filming and editing various documentaries and features, including: *Semi-soet, Faan se Trein, Hard to Get* and *Ayanda*.

SARA BLECHER

Sara Blecher is a co-founder of CINGA Productions, a South African-based film and television production company that has made a number of award-winning drama series including *Zero Tolerance*, which was nominated for an international Emmy award. Her first feature film, *Otelo Burning*, has been screened to great critical acclaim and won over 17 international awards.



JIM PETRAK

Founder/owner of Sound Surfers Audio Post Production in Johannesburg, Jim Petrak is a seasoned sound re-recording mixer and designer with over 70 feature films under his belt. Jim has worked on local and international productions such as the Academy Award-winning film *Tsotsi*, as well as *Stander, Hotel Rwanda, Catch a Fire, The Emperor*, AMAA-winning films for best achievement in sound *Shirley Adams* and *State of Violence* as well as the 2014 SAFTA-winning film for best sound design *Nothing For Mahala*.



SATURDAY 18 JULY

08h00

09h00

Plenary: Short Film Production in Africa
Time: 09:00-10:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Bheki Petersen, Simphiwe Ngcobo (KZNFC), Vuyo Sekupa (NFVF)

10h00

Masterclass: Stefano Tealdi:
Pitching your Way into the
International Film Business
Time: 10:00-12:00
Venue: Suite 5
Participants: Stefano Tealdi
(See page 17)

11h00

12h00

Workshop: Plan your Roll: Preparing for Cinema Release
Time: 12:00-13:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Clive Fischer (Ster-Kinekor)

13h00

14h00

Plenary: African Screenwriters Federation – an introductory panel and call for industry input
Time: 14:00-15:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Theoline Maputha, Nirvana Singh, Tracey Dearham-Rainers

15h00

Session: Watch This Space
Time: 15:00-16:00
Venue: North Ilanga

16h00

17h00

Mandatory: Private Screening for Talents Durban participants – *Hope* by Boris Loskine
Time: 21:00
Suncoast 8



CLIVE FISCHER

Clive Fisher holds a BA in English and History from UNISA and has worked at Ster-Kinekor for over 15 years as the manager of acquisitions and scheduling. His job entails looking after the Ster-Kinekor SELECT brand that buys independent, art house films from various festivals around the world, for release on the Ster-Kinekor circuit.



VUYO SEKUPA

Vuyo Sokupa holds a Degree in Journalism, a Postgraduate Diploma in International Studies, and African Diplomacy from Rhodes University. Her career began at *Mail&Guardian* where she worked as a trainee journalist. She then moved to African Leadership Academy and Red Pepper Pictures before joining M-Net in 2012.



THEOLINE MAPUTHA

Theoline Maphutha is a self-employed writer with over five years' experience in film and television. She studied and worked in the information and communications technology (ICT) industry for almost 10 years. Although skilled in lifestyle/magazine programme writing, she's a published poet, lyricist, and blogger. Theoline is the current Chairperson of the Writers' Guild of South Africa.



TRACEY DEARHAM-RAINERS

Tracey-Lee Rainers is a Johannesburg-based writer, producer and script editor, and serves as a Council Member for the Writers Guild of South Africa. She has been in the South African film and television industry since 2004.



BHEKI PETERSEN

Bhekizwe Peterson is the Professor of African Literature at Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. He has published extensively on African Literature, Performance and Cultural Studies as well as Black Intellectual Traditions in South Africa. His books include *Fragments in the Sun*, *Monarchs*, *Missionaries and African Intellectuals: African Theatre and the Unmaking of Colonial Marginality* and *Zulu Love Letter: A Screenplay*.



NIRVANA SINGH

Nirvana Singh is the Manager for Human Capital Development at the KZN Film Commission in Durban. She began her career as a coordinator and worked her way up to become a film and television producer. She has been a Senior Commissioning Editor, Drama at SABC and a Commissioning Editor at Mzansi Magic and has produced award-winning documentaries.



SIMPHIWE NGCOBO

Simpiwe Ngcobo graduated in: Video technology, Education, Communications and English, Business Management, Creative Planning and Production Management. He has been in the media production and broadcasting industry for 22 years. His work involves assisting companies to establish television stations and improve the production of programmes. He is the current Production and Development Manager at the KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission.



HOPE

Director: Boris Lojkin

Deep in the Sahara desert, as they try to get to Europe, Leonard, a young man from Cameroon, rescues Hope, a Nigerian woman. In a fiercely hostile world where safety requires staying with one's own people, these two try to find their way together, and to love each other.



SUNDAY 19 JULY



08h00

09h00

Title: Shifting Perspectives on Short Filmmaking
Time: 09:00-10:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Ramadan Suleiman, Franco Human, Trenton Birch, Kenneth Kaplan, Darryl Els, Jane Maduegbuna

10h00

Title: Genre Bending: From Documentary to Fiction Film
Time: 10:00-12:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Boris Lojkine
(See page 18)

11h00

12h00

Plenary: Shooting Women, Feminism and Film – a Discussion on Film with the Goethe Institut
Time: 12:00-13:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Katarina Hedren, Jyoti Mistri, Arya Lallo

13h00

14h00

Plenary: A Brave New World: Africa and the LGBTI Lens
Time: 14:00-15:00
Venue: Suite 4
Participants: Catherine Stewart, Thishiwe Ziqubu

15h00

Session: Watch This Space
Time: 15:00-16:00
Venue: North Ilanga

16h00

17h00





KATARINA HEDREN

Katarina Hedren is a freelance writer, project coordinator, translator and interpreter. She is a recurring member of film festival juries and evaluation panels for film projects and the former chairperson and organiser for the Swedish based festival CinemAfrica.

ARYA LALLO

Arya Lalloo is a Johannesburg-based filmmaker who completed her studies at AFDA. She has written and directed programmes for local broadcast and community-orientated film events, including acting as Director of Michel Gondry's *Home Movie Factory* in Johannesburg. *Jeppe on a Friday* (2012) is her feature documentary debut.



RAMADAN SULEMAN

Ramadan Suleman was born in 1955 in Kingsrest Bluff, near Durban, South Africa. He studied at the School for Research in African Theatre. He was one of the founding members of the Dhlomo Theatre, the first black theatre in South Africa. He entered cinema as a casting director, and began directing short films in 1984. After studying in Paris, then at the London International Film School, he worked as assistant director with two of Africa's legendary filmmakers – Med Hondo on *Lumière Noire*, and Souleymane Cisse on *Yeelen*.



JYOTI MISTRY

Jyoti Mistry completed her doctorate at NYU. She teaches writing for experimental film and documentary. She is an associate professor at the University of the Witwatersrand's Department of Film and Television in Johannesburg; on the editorial board of *Wespennest* (literary, arts and culture journal); she served on the executive committee of the board of the National Film and Video Foundation in South Africa from 2003-2006. She has taught at New York University, University of Vienna and Arcadia Polytechnic in Helsinki. She is a co-founder of shadowy Meadows Productions.

TRENTON BIRCH

Trenton Birch is the director and head of marketing for SAE Institute – the world's largest provider of creative media education. He is also the founder of the Breathe Sunshine African Music Conference, drives Black Mango as a promoter, label, publisher and management company, and is the African Director for the non-profit Bridges for Music.



DARRLY ELS

Darryl Els is the co-founder and programming director of The Bioscope Independent Cinema in Johannesburg. After graduating from the University of the Witwatersrand, he worked in documentary film production before entering a career in cinema exhibition. He is the current programmer of the European Film Festival held annually in South Africa.

JANE MADUEGBUNA

Jane Maduegbuna holds a Bachelor of Law and LLB from Edo State University, as well as a certificate from the Enterprise Development Centre of the Lagos Business School. She is an entrepreneur and legal practitioner and works as the executive director in charge of legal and external networks for Afrinoly Limited: a mobile application, digital marketing and social media start-up in Nigeria.



KENNETH KAPLAN

Kenneth Kaplan wrote, produced and directed the international award-winning cult horror film *Pure Blood* and produced *Sleeper's Wake*, which was nominated for seven SAFTA Awards including Best Film. His most recent co-production, the feature film *Impunity*, received its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival last year and is having its South African premiere at DIFF 2015.

CATHERINE STEWART

Catherine Stewart graduated from Stanford University in 1988 with an Honours degree in Literature and Film. She received her Master's in Screenwriting and Directing from Columbia University in 1994. She returned to Johannesburg to direct documentaries and dramas including the acclaimed *A Woman's Place*, which she co-produced and directed for PBS in America.



THISHIWE ZIQUBU

Thishiwe graduated from the Acting for Film Programme at the New York Film Academy in 2012. Her debut as a cinema actress was in 2011 as the lead in *Man On Ground* by Akin Omotoso, then as a lead again in *Her Majesty's Building* by Nhlanhla Masondo (2012). Her television roles include *End Game*, *Your Move* and *Fine Cuts*. Thishiwe is also a scriptwriter and director. She has written and directed for *Isidingo*, *Rhythm City* and *Scandal*. She has also written and directed three independent short films, *Out Of Luck*, *Subdued* and *Between The Lines*.

FRANCO HUMAN

Franco Human started at AFDA JHB as the production coordinator and became a junior lecturer in the producing department. From there, he has been the head of the producing department of AFDA Cape Town as well as the Undergraduate course director for the past two years. He is a trained producer in film production and co-ordination.



MONDAY 20 JULY



08h00

09h00

10h00

Plenary: Training Opportunities in South Africa – Navigating between documentary & fiction as the director of the film *HOPE* takes us through his creative process

Time: 10:00-11:00

Venue: Venue 4

Participants: Trenton Bireh, Jyoti Mistry, Franco Human

Masterclass: How to Write Characters that People Care about

Time: 10:00-12:00

Venue: Venue 5

Participants: Anthony Silverston
(See page 19)

11h00

12h00

Plenary: Telling it like it is – Strategies for Documentary Storytelling

Time: 12:00-13:00

Venue: Venue 4

Participants: Michel Zongo and Riaan Hendricks

13h00

14h00

Plenary: Africa Writing – Exploiting Audiences and Platforms/Mediums

Time: 14:00-15:00

Venue: Venue 4

Participants: Trish Malone, Tracey-Dearham-Rainers, Khobi Ledwaba, Fidel Namisi, Theoline Maputho

15h00

Session: Watch This Space

Time: 15:00-16:00

Venue: Suite 2

16h00

17h00



MICHEL ZONGO

Michel K. Zongo is a director, cameraman and scriptwriter. He has written and directed three documentaries titled: *Sibi, l'âme du violon*, *Ti-timou (Nos sols)* and *Espoir-Voyage*.



RIAN HENDRIKS

Riaan Hendricks is an independent filmmaker. His first film, *A Fisherman's Tale* (2004), was described as a "sterling directorial debut" and his most recent feature documentary, *The Devils Lair* (2013) won seven awards and was received with critical acclaim.



TRISH MALONE

Trish Malone is a BBC drama-trained script editor who has worked on numerous BBC drama series. Trish's first feature film, *Ayanda*, directed by award-winning Sara Blecher, is opening this year's DIFF.



THEOLINE MAPHUTHA

Theoline Maphutha is a self-employed writer with over five years' experience in film and television. She studied and worked in the information and communications technology (ICT) industry for almost 10 years. Although skilled in lifestyle/magazine programme writing, she's a published poet, lyricist, and blogger. Theoline is the current Chairperson of the Writers' Guild of South Africa.



KHOBI LEDWABA

Khobi Ledwaba holds a BA in Languages & Literature and a 3-year diploma in Brand Communications. Her first screenplay, *Between Friends*, was released in cinemas nationwide. She later assumed the role of co-head writer for *Matatiele*, a 26-part drama and she is currently developing a feature film that will be produced by her company.



FIDEL NAMISI

Write/producer of acclaimed dance film *Hear Me Move*, Fidel was one of Screen International's 2015 Global Top 40 Producers to Watch. He is the winner of two Writers Guild of South Africa awards for his screenwriting, and is the co-founder of Coal Stove Pictures, a film production company with offices in Johannesburg and Melbourne.



TUESDAY 21 JULY

08h00

09h00

Plenary: Tunisia's Stories of Transition

Time: 09:00-10:00

Venue: Suite 4

Participants: Raja Amari (*Tunisian Spring*), Dora Bouchoucha

10h00

11h00

**Plenary: Documentary Now!
Documentary Directors in
Conversation**

Time: 10:00-12:00

Venue: Suite 4

**Participants: Francois Verster,
Laura Nix**

12h00

Plenary: Look ma, Story! Script Station Project Presentation

Time: 12:00-13:00

Venue: Suite 4

Participants: Script Station mentors and participants

13h00

14h00

**Workshop: Behind the Veil – ArtWatch Africa Exchange on Creativity and
Censorship**

Time: 14:00-15:00

Venue: Suite 4

Participants: Arterial Network, Artwatch Africa

15h00

16h00

**To Sum Up: Talents Wrap and
Group Photo**

Time: 16:00-17:00

Venue: Suite 4

17h00

**Plenary: Leaps Ahead –
Introduction to the Berlinale
Talents Programme**

Time: 15:00-16:00

Venue: Suite 4

RAJA AMARI

RAJA AMARI was born in Tunis. After gaining a Master's in French Literature from the University of Tunis, she became a student at La FEMIS, the French school for cinematic studies, from which she graduated. Her first feature film *Satin Rouge*, selected in Berlin Film Festival, won her much acclaim from the public and the press.



FRANCOIS VERSTER

Francois Verster is an Emmy award-winning documentary filmmaker based in Cape Town. His films follow a creative and observational approach to social issues and have all won local and international awards. He has taught at Columbia University, NYU, UCT, UWC, Wits and published on the documentary in journals and anthologies. He appeared on various festival juries and had nine local and international festival special focus series on his work.

KARIMA EFFENDI

Karima Effendi holds a BA Honours degree in English from the University of the Western Cape. She works as a screenplay editor independently and for the National Film and Video Foundation. Her first TV drama series (*Intersexions Series I*) won 11 SAFTA awards and a George Peabody Award in 2012.



LAURA NIX

Laura Nix recently directed *The Yes Men Are Revolting*, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in 2014, and the in Berlinale Film Festival 2015. She directed and produced the documentary *The Light in her Eye*, which premiered at IDFA. Her other feature directing credits include the fiction feature *The Politics of Fur* and *Whether You Like It Or Not: The Story of Hedwig Francois*

DORA BOUCHOUCHA

Dora Bouchoucha is an English Literature graduate who began her career as a teacher. Today, she is a producer of full-length and short feature films, documentaries, television broadcasts and the founder and director of the Tunisian company, Nomadis Images.



TALENTS DURBAN NETWORKING SPACES

Networking is an important part of Talents Durban as it offers opportunities for both formal and informal meetings and introductions, which could lead to lasting professional relationships. Talents Durban participants have the exclusive opportunity to meet mingle and exchange ideas with industry experts and Durban International Film Festival guests. To facilitate this goal of networking, Talents Durban has organised the following networking events.

DIFF Opening Night (Thursday 16 July. Time: 19h00)

The 36th Durban International Film Festival's Opening Night film is *Ayanda* by Sara Blecher (South Africa) and will take place at the festival's main cinema venue, Suncoast Cinema. The film screening will be followed by a function nearby the cinema and transport to and from the hotel to will be provided. Dress: formal.

Talents Durban Breakfast Sessions (daily)

The best time to meet and connect with fellow Talents is during the daily Talents breakfasts.

Talents Durban Reception (Friday, 17 July. Time: 19h00)

On the first evening of the Talents Durban, all Talents are invited to attend the Talents Durban reception, an event designed to introduce Talents Durban participants to the industry. Dress: formal.

Simon Sabela Awards (Sunday, 19 July. Time: 18h30)

The KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission hosts the annual Simon Sabela awards, which aim to celebrate excellence and recognise talent in the KwaZulu-Natal Film Industry. Dress: formal.

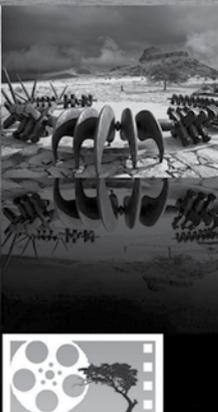
Wavescape Beach Screening (Sunday, 19 July. Time: 18h00)

The Wavescapes Beach Screening is the opening event of the Wavescape Film Festival and takes place on the Bay of Plenty Lawns (just in front of the Elangeni Hotel, where the industry hub is). The Wavescapes Beach Screening is a popular tradition of the festival and attracts a big audience of surf film enthusiasts. Dress: warm.

Talents Closing Night Party (Tuesday, 22 July. Time: 21h00)

After a demanding five days of master classes, networking and films, this is an opportunity to let your hair down and bid farewell. The Talents closing party will take place at the Rivertown Beer Hall.

KwaZulu-Natal ... your perfect location. COME TELL YOUR STORY.



OUR KINGDOM IS YOUR STAGE



KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission

1st floor, The Marine Building, 22 Dorothy Nyembe Street, Durban, 4001. South Africa

Tel: +27 325 0200 Website: www.kwazulunatalfilm.co.za [@kwazulu-Natal Film Commission](https://www.facebook.com/kwazulunatalfilm)

[@kwazulunatalfilm](https://www.instagram.com/kwazulunatalfilm) [@kwazulunatalfilm](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) [KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission](https://www.tiktok.com/@kwazulunatalfilm)



ANGUS FINNEY



New Filmmaking Strategies: From South Africa to Pan Africa and Towards a Global Market

Angus Finney is a leading international film and creative industry specialist. Finney has a PhD in Business Strategy (Film Value Chain and Project Management) from Cass Business School, City University, and London. He has an MA in Film and Journalism from New York University, a postgraduate diploma from City University and a BA from Sussex University in International Relations. His work includes MBA-level teaching at The Judge Business School, Cambridge University and Cass Business School, City University, London. He is the manager of Europe's only Production Finance Market, hosted by Film London annually. Angus spent three years working as a risk manager and media advisor for Octopus Media, part of Octopus Investment. He has been appointed Course Director for the Exeter University/London Film School MA in International Film Business. His work has recently included acting as a government expert witness in two high profile cases, including the £1bn tax tribunal involving Ingenious Media and HMRC. His UK training includes working with Creative Skillset, Creative England, Film Agency Wales, Film London and the Film Distributors Association; and his professional development work extends to South Africa, Ireland, UAE, Canada and New Zealand in the past five years.

Friday, 17 July

10:00-12:00

Venue: Suite 4

STEFANO TEALDI ▶▶

Pitching your Way into the International Film Business

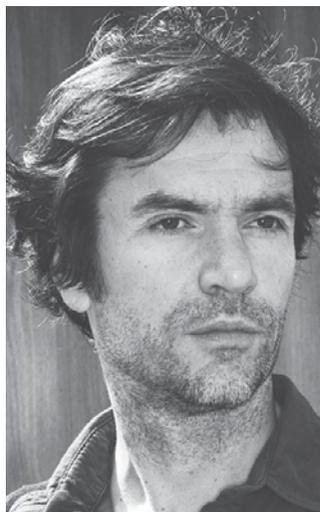
Johannesburg-born Stefano Tealdi studied architecture in Torino (Italy) and graduated at the MEDIA training course 'EAVE – European Session'. After graduating, he worked on film and television at the Politecnico di Torino as Head of Production and directed 17 editions of the annual Italian Workshop Documentary in Europe, chaired EDN (European Documentary Network). He is the national co-ordinator for INPUT, Television in the Public Interest. In 1985 he, along with others, founded Stefilm where he works as a director and producer. Stefilm produces one-off documentaries and documentary series such as: *A World of Pasta*, *Doctor Ice* (Science Film Festival – Milano 2009), *Coffee Please* and *Tea for All*, as well as the series *Food Markets – In the Belly of the City*. His recent works includes: *Mostar United* (IDFA 2009), *Vinylmania* (IFF Rotterdam 2012), *Char, No man's Island* (Berlinale Forum 2013), and *The Queen of Silence* (IDFA 2014). Stefano Tealdi tutors film development and production at universities and master courses, and film pitching for organisations such as Biennale Cinema College, Cannes Film Market, Films de 3 Continents – Produire au Sud, Media Business School, Med Film Factory, Scuola Holden, TFL-Torino Film Lab, Cinema do Brasil, and ZELIG Film School.

Saturday, 18 July

10:00-12:00

Venue: Suite 5





BORIS LOJKINE



Boris Lojkine is a graduate of the prestigious Ecole Normale Supérieure and a philosophy teacher. He wrote a PhD thesis about Crisis and History but decided to leave the academic world and go back to Vietnam to learn the language and look for adventure. While in Vietnam he made two documentary films titled: *Those Who Remain* (2001) and *Wandering Souls* (2005), which recount the impossible mourning of men and women whose lives have been torn apart by war. With *Hope*, his first fiction film, he changes continents and immerses himself in the lives of African migrants.

From Documentary to Fiction Film

"There are many ways to become a filmmaker. Before *Hope*, my first fiction film, I made some documentary films. This is how I learned filmmaking, but also, and more important, how I learned to look at things, people, situations, and even stories. *Hope* is, no doubt, fiction. I wrote a tense, highly dramatic script for the film and subsequently, the entire process of making *Hope* was completely different from everything I did before. But at the same time, I tried in many ways to keep some of my 'documentaristic' approach. I did a lot of field research, I chose to work only with non-professional actors and I directed them in a way that they could bring into the film what they are. I guess that my former experience as a documentary filmmaker gave me a special concern about realism but this is a question for any director: how do you bring reality into the fiction process?" – Boris Lojkine

Sunday, 19 July

10:00-12:00

Venue: Suite 4

ANTHONY SILVERSTON

Anthony Silverston is a partner and Head of Development at Triggerfish. He is director and co-writer of *Khumba*, which premiered in competition at Anney International Animation Festival 2013 and held the number one spot at the South African box office for two weeks. He was also one of the writers and producers of *Zambezia* and completed three independent stop-motion shorts, one of which, *The Slipper Cycle*, won Best Independent Animation at The Independents' Film Festival in Florida. In 2014, Silverston was selected to be on the Jury of the prestigious animation festival in Anney and has been a judge for the International Emmy's for three years running. He also holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons).



Master Class – How to Write Characters that People Care About

Character is plot. Character is theme. Character is story. Great films live and die by whether audiences invest in the main character and root for his or her success. Anthony Silverston will explore how to write characters that live and breathe and evoke emotional responses in audiences; in short, how to write characters that people care about.

Monday, 20 July

10:00-12:00

Venue: Suite 5

Big Ideas. Perfect Locations.

Over the past decade, the Gauteng Film Commission (GFC) is proud to have played a meaningful role in the development and support of the Film & TV industry in the Gauteng province.

GFC's core business is to support, facilitate and enhance the contribution of the film industry to the economic growth of the Gauteng province, through the following key focus areas:

- Content Development Support
- Advisory Services.
- Skills Development
- Audience Development
- Logistical Support
- Distribution and Marketing Support



56 Main Street, Johannesburg, 2108, South Africa

Tel: +27 (0)11 833 0409

Email: info@gautengfilm.org.za

www.gautengfilm.org.za



Talents Durban presents the 6th edition of the hands-on training programme, DOC station.

DOC station aims to familiarise the selected participants with the possibilities of documentary filmmaking. Out of the Talents Durban selected participants who submitted their projects, three documentary projects are chosen and given mentorship by one producing expert in advance of the festival and three directors before going to pitch. Participants will then be granted an opportunity to pitch their projects to broadcasters at the Durban FilmMart's pitching forum on Sunday, 19 July.

Selected projects of DOC station:

- *Iyaal Camera* by Bentley Brown (Chad), mentored by Andy Jones (producer/director, see page 23)
- *Coolie Odyssey* by Sheetal Megan (South Africa), mentored by Jihan El Tahri (Producer/Director)
- *Ufafa – The Balding Head* by Tendayi Charles Tshuma (South Africa), mentored by Khalo Matabane

Advanced and follow-up mentoring:

Odette Geldenhuis

All projects receive additional feedback from:

- Christine Troestrum
- Elizabeth Radshaw

Moderator/co-ordination

Menga Nhlabathi (*Film Writer and Director*)



Doc Station Projects

Project Title	<i>Iyaal Camera (Children of the Camera)</i>
Presented by	Bentley Brown
Country of Production	Tunisia
Logline	Boyhood, music, death, and learning through the lens of a handheld video camera in rural Chad
Project Title	<i>Coolie Odyssey</i>
Presented by	Sheetal Megan
Country of Production	South Africa
Logline	A journey through the past that spans across two continents to retrace fragments of a displaced people and the stories of their descendants. We explore the story of the director's family in order to piece together an impressionistic re-telling of the history of South Africa's immigrant Indian population. She is concerned with hopes and dreams of her ancestor's, the imaginings that turned their sorrow and toil into their strengths and triumph, the grief that may lie hidden behind white lies, the stories that are untold
Project Title	<i>Ufafa</i>
Presented by	Tendayi Charles Tshuma
Country of Production	South Africa
Logline	An endowed village rooted within the world's most ancient ecosystems in the kingdom of Swaziland and its chief, a World War II veteran, find themselves at the crossroads between maintaining a tried and tested self-sustaining and conservational way of life or transforming into the heavy dependence path of a self and land exploitive consumerist, modern society, all in the 'want' of development and the 'need' to survive.

Doc Station Mentors

ANDY JONES is a producer, director, impact consultant, curator and collaborator. Andy's documentary track record spans 15 years and includes a major network TV series, one-off feature documentaries and everything in between. A former teacher, including a three-year stint in Zimbabwe, he moved to London in 1996 and was bitten by the digital technology bug. He first set up, then managed the inhouse film unit for international development agency VSO and in 2000 was a co-founder of the screenstation collective, programming films for London's legendary Mwalimu Express. He has produced and directed in over 20 African countries and in 2013 set up Radio Film in Newcastle with feature film producer/director Ashley Horner. His latest documentary, *I Shot Bi Kidude*, narrating his role in the dramatic kidnapping of the world's oldest living Taarab singer, played at DIFF as a work in progress.



JIHAN EL-TAHRI is a writer, director and producer. She received her BA and MA in political science from the American University in Cairo. She worked as a news correspondent with US News, World Report and Reuters. In 1990, El-Tahri started directing and producing documentaries for French television and for the BBC. In 1992, she filmed Osama Bin Laden's training camps in Sudan. She also provided professional support for the future films in 2001. The documentary, *The House of Saud*, appeared on the BBC in 2004 and on PBS in 2005. Her most recent documentary, *Behind the Rainbow*, was screened during the 53rd BFI London Film Festival in 2009.

KHALO MATABANE is an award-winning South African filmmaker who has directed and produced the part-doc, part-fiction *Conversations on a Sunday Afternoon*, which was screened at the Berlin Film Festival and Toronto Film Festival. His TV drama series *When We Were Black*, a coming of age story about a young boy set on the eve of the student uprisings in 1976, went on to win seven awards including best TV drama series and director at SAFTAS, and screened on Canal+ SABC. His latest documentary, *Nelson Mandela the Myth and Me*, is a BBC/Arte Germany co-production. It won the jury special prize at the International Documentary Film Festival of Amsterdam (IDFA). He is the creative director at Born Free Media.



TALENT PRESS



Talent Press celebrates its fourth year within the Talents Durban programme. Four African film critics and journalists are matched with industry experts who provide support, editorial advice and mentorship. The selected Talent press participants of Talents Press will be featured in referential websites such as FIPRESCI (www.fipresci.org), the Berlinale Talent Press site (www.talentpress.org) and the Goethe-Institut platforms. Talent Press is presented in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut of South Africa and the International Association of Film Critics (FIPRESCI).

This year's participants of the Talent Press are:

- Andrew Kaggwa (Uganda)
- Isabella Akinseye (Nigeria)
- Olawale Oluwadahunsi (Nigeria)
- Kennedy Omoro (Kenya)

Programme Coordinator: Thula Mdladla

TALENT PRESS MENTORS



SARAH DAWSON

Sarah Dawson writes about film for publications such as the *Mail&Guardian*, *The Con* and *Mahala*. She left her position as the assistant manager at the Durban International Film Festival last year. She has recently taken up a position as the Assistant Manager of the Africa in Motion Film Festival in the UK. Sarah has an MA (cum laude) in film studies and has lectured on theoretical film studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and the Durban University of Technology.

SHAIBU HUSSEINI

Nigerian cultural journalist and film critic, Shaibu Hussein, writes for Nigeria's flagship newspaper *The Guardian*. He is the author of *Moviedom...the Nollywood Narratives: Clips on the Pioneers*. Nigeria's massive film culture, Nollywood, recognises him as the most consistent documentarist. In 2014, he was honoured as the Best Film Journalist and Nollywood Critic at the annual Nollywood Film Festival in Germany. He currently sits on the Board of Trustees of the Association of Movie Journalist of Nigeria, the advisory Board of the African Student International Film Festival and on the Selection Committee of the Nigeria Oscars Selection Committee (NOSC).



ORIS AIGBOKHAEVBOLO

Oris Aigbokhaevbolo is a Lagos-born freelance writer and critic. He has covered film festivals in Lagos, Abuja, Jos, Durban, Rotterdam, Ouagadougou and Berlin. His work has appeared locally in: *This Day*, the *Guardian*, *The Sun* and *The Nation*. Internationally, he has had work published by the *Guardian UK*, *The Africa Report*, *Chimurenga* and *This is Africa*. In early 2014, Aigbokhaevbolo was selected for South Africa's Talents Durban. In the same year, he was invited to the Netherlands' Young Critics' Project at the International Film Festival Rotterdam and Germany's Talent Press at the Berlinale Film Festival.



DEBASHINE THANGEVELO

Debashine Thangevelo is a Senior Entertainment Writer with Independent Media. In her 16-year media career, she has been exposed to various forms of the arts such as TV, film, music and theatre. She has had the privilege of interviewing Oprah Winfrey, Danny Boyle, John Kani, Amitabh Bachchan, Ricky Gervais, Kim Kardashian and Ryan Seacrest. Other accolades include a guest appearance on CNBC Africa's Silver Screen as well as on Sam Cowen's lunchtime show on Radio 702. She has been one of the Supporting Actor category judges for SA's Royalty Soapie Awards for the last two years.





Script station is a hands-on training programme of the 8th Talents Durban where four selected participants receive script consultation and attend script workshops that run daily, and which focus on each of the stories. Other than stories being mentored by the industry experts, the main aim of the programme is to create a space that allows the participants to form relationships that can lead to collaborations.

Programme Coordinator: Khobi Ledwaba

Title	<i>Sacrifice</i>	
Writer	John Nyoka	Editor: Tracey Dearham
Synopsis	Mandla Thuli is a twenty-year-old man from a wealthy family – he is physically and mentally challenged. His dream is to be normal like his brother and sister because he envies their functionality in life. Mandla gets to test the normal life his brother and sister seem to enjoy because of a gel he applies. Unbeknown to Mandla, his condition is because of witchcraft and sorcery; his parents sacrificed him to the evil spirit underworld in a deal so that they could become wealthy. The more Mandla fights to be normal, the more his family becomes poor and the more he angers the evil spirit underworlds, the more they unleash their wrath on his family and threaten his entire family's existence. Mandla has to cover his physical and mental challenges to save his family and his life against the very powerful evil spirit underworld (the Tokoloshe)	
Title	<i>The Execution of Rafo</i>	
Writer	Mark Wambui	Editor: Karima Effendi
Synopsis	In a juvenile dormitory, the tick of the clock sounds so loud as midnight approaches. Death is calling to Rafo, an 18-year-old boy who fought to be clean on the street he was raised on until death came looking for his mother. Determined to save her, he needs to embrace what he has fought so hard to keep away from: a choice that only a few have lived to see its fate	
Title	<i>Oyinda</i>	
Writer	Oluwakemi Adesoye	Editor: Tracey Dearham
Synopsis	Set against the backdrop of Nigeria's 2014 Ebola crisis, Oyinda is a story about a forty-year-old nurse trying to unite with her estranged daughter after being infected by an Ebola patient. The medical authorities begin searching for her and Oyinda finds herself in a race against time to see her daughter one last time before giving herself up for quarantine.	
Title	<i>The Riddle</i>	
Writer	Polani Fourie	Editor: Karima Effendi
Synopsis	It is possible for a dead mother to wake up from the dead? Or even worse: become a time traveller? At a cheerful party, things do not go according to plan and a brother and sister lose their mother by accident. Knowing their mother to have always been close to them through her phone, they bury her with it clasped inside her hands. They test its functionality by sending her SMS's. Her phone blinks inside the coffin as the coffin lid closes. Years pass around a washing line. As the linens fade, so does their memory, but not the gap in their hearts for their mother. Occasionally, they send a SMS to her phone to ease their sorrow.	





Talents Durban Selection Panel



Madoda Ncayiyane has extensive experience in both writing and directing – from drama to talk shows. He has directed fiction film, including a feature film and a short film, several seasons of a television drama series for children, as well as commercials and many theatre productions. Madoda is developing his second feature film, *Muti dot Mobi*, with support from the National Film and video Foundation (NFVF) and eThekweni Municipality. This new film in development stars Tsepang Mohlomi, the award-winning child actor from Ncayiyane's debut feature, *Izulu Lami (My Secret Sky)*. International awards for *Izulu Lami* include the Dikalo Award for Best Feature Film at the Cannes Pan-African International Film Festival, African Movie Academy Awards for the Best African Language Film and the Best Child Actors, Best Debut Film at India's Keral International film Festival, and audience awards for Best Film at the African Film festivals of Verona, Italy and Tarifa, Spain, as well as three SAFTA awards. Ncayiyane co-wrote and directed the *Sky in Her Eyes*, which won the Djibril Diop Mambety Award for Best African Short Film at the Cannes International Film festival, officially part of Cannes Critics Choice week. This short film helped to inspire the award-winning *Izulu Lami*.



Bonie Sithebe is a co-owner of Durban Motion Pictures, a television and film production company where she works as a producer and a director. Bonnie's work has been acknowledged by the business world and has since received three awards – the Achievement in Women in ICT 2012, Award of Recognition from *Cosmopolitan* Fun, Fearless Female Awards in 2013 and recently became a runner-up in the Best Performing Women ICT 2013 recognised by SmartXchange SMME HUB and the eThekweni Municipality. Bonie has gained vast experience in the TV and film industry, having performed in various capacities from being an editor and production manager to being a producer and director. The highlights of Bonie's film career include producing her launch comedy feature *Nothing for Mahala Gazi*, which became a popular cult movie among South African audiences. She has since produced and directed several local productions for the international broadcaster, M-Net. She co-wrote and co-directed a short film called *The Dance*, which featured at the Durban International Film Festival 2014.



Sharon Kakora has worked in the television industry since 1998. Working her way from a technical background, she moved into production. Having worked for Urban Brew Studios for 10 years on various productions, Sharon returned to her home, KZN, with the intention of creating a viable film industry as well as to further educate and teach skills to young graduates to better understand the film and television industry. Sharon produced her first feature film, *lphupho – The Dream*, and since then has been producing short films. *Between Friends*, which premiered at The Pan African Film Festival 2014, is her second feature film.



Talents Durban Participants



Bentley Brown
Chad
Director/Screenwriter
bentley@aboudigin.com



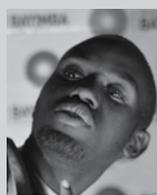
Samson Ssenkaaba
Uganda
Director/Production
designer
xensonart@yahoo.com



Daniella Esua
Nigeria
Cinematographer/
Director/Screenwriter
daniecwa@hotmail.com



Mark Wambui
Kenya
Director/
Cinematographer
markwambui@gmail.com



Ssenkumba Adnan
Uganda
Sound Designer
wristhouseuganda@gmail.com



Mukundi Lambani
South Africa
Editor/Producer
mukundi@brainbow.co.za



Temitope Ogun
Nigeria
Director/Producer
topeogun@gmail.com



Kassim Braimah
Nigeria
Director/Cinematographer
kassimbraimah1@gmail.com



Daniel Ecwala
Uganda
Cinematographer/
Film Critic
daniecwa@hotmail.com



Isabella Akinseye
Nigeria
Film Critic/Journalist
isabella.akinseye@
live.com



Francisca Meyer
South Africa
Producer
cisca@emlandmedia.com



Lawrence Agbetsise
Ghana
Editor
lawrencecelorm@gmail.com



Kennedy Omoro
Kenya
Film Critic
omorokennedy@gmail.com



Mehluli Hikwa
Zimbabwe
Art Director
mehlulihikwa@gmail.com



Tendayi Charles Tshuma
South Africa
Director/Film Critic
avantgardenfilms@gmail.com



Njatha Joseph
Rwanda
Director/Editor
shutterfilmsrwanda@gmail.com



Godisamang Khunou
South Africa
Producer/Film Critic
godisamangk1@gmail.com



Ali Mwangola
Kenya
Art Director
alimwangola@gmail.com



Theoline Maphutha
South Africa
Screenwriter
theolinema@gmail.com



Polani Fourie
South Africa
Screenwriter/
Producer
polanid@yahoo.co.uk



Talents Durban Participants



Joanne Corrigan
South Africa
Director/Producer
drmojofilms@gmail.com



Simphiwe Ngcobo
South Africa
Director/Actor
kafuzes@gmail.com



Trent Kok
South Africa
Director/Producer
trentsammedia@gmail.com



Agbor Obed
Cameroon
Director/Editor
agborobed@gmail.com



Amy Van den Houten
South Africa
Editor
amyjoureth@gmail.com



John Nyoka
South Africa
Producer/Director
john@aficanoralhistory.com



Charne Simpson
South Africa
Screenwriter/Producer
charne.simpson@etv.co.za



Andrew Kagwa
Uganda
Film Critic
kaggwandre@gmail.com



Olawale Oluwadahunsi
Nigeria
Film Critic
olawalebusayo@yahoo.com



Davashni Rajoo
South Africa
Editor/Director
davashnirajoo@rocketmail.com



Osei Owusu Banahene
Ghana
Director/
Cinematographer
oobanahene@gmail.com



Sheetal Magan
South Africa
Director/Screenwriter
smagan86@gmail.com



Angeline Dimingo
Zimbabwe
Director/Screenwriter
adimingo@yahoo.com



Oluwakemi Adesoye
Nigeria
Screenwriter
kemiadesoye@yahoo.co.uk



Joel Kapungwe
Zambia
Director/Screenwriter
jnbros@yahoo.com



Benjamin Johnson
South Africa
Screenwriter
benfitat40@gmail.com



Karien Cherry
South Africa
Director/Screenwriter
karien@giantfilms.tv



Samantha Nell
South Africa
Director/Screenwriter
samanthakatenell@gmail.com



Lucky Nhlania Cele
South Africa
Screenwriter/Composer
luckyc@mzansiartsdevelopment.org

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS – 2015 TALENTS DURBAN

The 8th Talents Durban at the 36th Durban International Film Festival is organised by the Centre For Creative Arts (University of KwaZulu-Natal): Tiny Mungwe, Pedro Pimenta, Siphindile Hlongwa, Sakhile Gumede, Mitchell Harper, Musa Sibisi, Londiwe Mtungwa, Nolulamo Maquthu, Phumlani Mfekayi, Siphe Ndadlana, Sethembile Khoza, Samkelisiwe Mabaso, Sandile Makhathini, Wanda Mchunu, Luke Joubert, Vulane Mthembu, Sesethu Makinana, Thula Mdladla, Zibuyile Khumalo, Jerome Mathews.

MENTORS AND COORDINATORS

Tracey Dearham-Rainers, Karima Effendi, Khalo Matabane, Jihan El Tahri, Andy Jones, Debashine Thangevelo, Sara Dowson, Oris Aigbokhanbolo, Shaibu Hussein, Odette Goldenhuys, Menga Nhlabathi, Khobi Ledwaba, Thula Mdladla

SELECTION COMMITTEE

Madoda Ncayiyane, Bonie Sithebe, Sharon Kakora

Publicity: Versfeld and Associates: The Communication Works

Publications Design:  Artworks

Printing: Atlas Printers

SPECIAL THANKS

Berlinale Talents: Christine Troestrum, Matthijs Wouter Knol, Florian Weghorn, Martina Bleis, Marcus Forchner, Durban FilmMart, Durban Film Office, National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF), International Federation of Film Critics (FIPRESCI), Goethe-Institut South Africa, Christine Troestrum, Dorothee Wanner, Nthabeleng Pora, Andile Mbheki, Desmond Mthembu, Rainer Breul, Lein Heisenreich-Seleme, Carol Coetzee, Jackie Motsepe, Martina Wurm-Dittkrist, Anthony Silverston, Arya Laloo, Bheki Petersen, Bongiwe Selane, Bouna Cherif Fofana, Boris Lojkin, Catherine Stewart, Chike Madegbuna, Darryl Els, Dora Bouchoucha, Fidel Namisi, Franco Human, Francois Verster, Jim Chuchu, Jyoti Mistry, Katarina Hedren, Ken Kaplan, Khalid Shamis, Kofi Zwana, Michel Zongo, Mohamed Challouf, Mpume Mcata, Nejib Belkadhi, Nic Costaras, Nirvana Singh, Peter Rorvik, Ramadan Suleman, Raja Amari, Rianna Hendricks, Sara Blecher, Sara Gouveia, Sitou Ayite, Theoline Maputha, Trenton Birch, Trish Malone, Toy, Zipporah Nyaruri, all Talents Durban expert and festival participants, and all those supportive people whose names might have been overlooked.



START-MOTION

The 8th Talents Durban is presented in co-operation with the Durban International Film Festival and the Berlinale Talents programme of the Berlinale Film Festival and is supported by the German Embassy in South Africa, the Goethe-Institut South Africa, the KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission and the Gauteng Film Commission.



The 36th Durban International Film Festival is organised by the Centre for Creative Arts at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (a special project of the Deputy Vice Chancellor of Humanities, Cheryl Potgieter) with support from the National Film and Video Foundation, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development & Tourism, KwaZulu-Natal Film Commission, City of Durban, German Embassy, Goethe-Institut, Industrial Development Corporation, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Arts and Culture, Gauteng Film Commission and a range of other valued partners.

