

Durban FilmMart

Institute



ALUMNI CATALOGUE:

Completed Projects 2025



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ABOUT US



WHO IS THE DURBAN FILMMART INSTITUTE?

The Durban FilmMart Institute (DFMI) is a non-profit organisation that facilitates local and international trade and investment in African film content.

Our vision is to be the premiere business hub of the African film industries in a world where African film industry professionals and content are globally competitive and celebrated.

To achieve our vision, the DFMI produces a variety of year round programmes and the annual Durban FilmMart.

ANNUAL MARKET

The Durban FilmMart (DFM) is a pan-African film industry event designed to create partnerships and further the development of African cinema. The DFM was named in UNESCO's 2021 Film Trends in Africa Report as 'the continent's best film market'.

DFM provides two important strands to the film industry: (1) a finance and co-production market for film projects in development and (2) an industry programme made up of masterclasses, workshops and panel discussions to highlight the trends, changes and the future of film industry.

Pitch And Finance Forum

The Pitch and Finance Forum consists of public pitching, one-on-one meetings with decision makers and individual mentorship leading up to the market.

The 4 days of pitch and meeting ends with an awards ceremony where projects are awarded cash prizes and market participation opportunities from DFM's network of global partners.

Talents Durban

Talents Durban is a training and development programme open to screenwriters and directors with fiction, documentary and animation in development (this includes all media formats such as film, television series, web series, and content for mobile platforms). The programme also includes Talent Press which offers mentorship for emerging African film critics and journalists.

Talents Durban is an initiative of Berlin International Film Festival and is part of six international initiatives of Berlinale Talents. Talents Durban was founded in 2007.

Jumpstart

Jumpstart introduces key techniques and tools for scriptwriting and story telling to emerging filmmakers.



ABOUT US



Filmmakers are introduced to key techniques and tools for scriptwriting and storytelling processes. The programme is presented in partnership with Produire au Sud, Nantes and the French Institute of South Africa.

African Labs Showcase

The African Lab Showcase features projects from selected film labs across Africa.

The showcase gives filmmakers the opportunity to present their projects to industry and highlights the work presented by the labs on the continent.

Industry programme

A programme of masterclasses, panel discussions and round tables which focuses on the trends and challenges of filmmaking on the continent.

All programme sessions from the market are available to watch on the DFM website.

DFM is the Place to Meet and Reconnect

Many delegates mentioned how easy it is to meet people at DFM and have meaningful conversations which often lead to partnerships and collaborations, both creative and financial.

Identifying and Nurturing New Talent

There are 1,481 Alumni from 45 African countries and counting.

Celebrating African Filmmakers and Film Content

DFM Alumni have screened at many film festivals around the world. This catalogue will showcase completed films and projects in post production, thus far.

DFM has a global network of partners and funders who you can see on our website: <https://durbanfilmmart.co.za/dfm-2024-partners-and-funders/>

YEAR ROUND PROGRAMMES

Future Mentors

The Future Mentors Programme's mission is to address the scarcity of mentors originating from the African continent, while simultaneously equipping the next wave of mentors in Africa with the essential skills they need.

The Future Mentors guide is open source and currently available to [download from the DFM website - for FREE](#), in both English and French.



ABOUT US



DFMI Business Lab

A 14-week online programme of workshops on financial management, business skills, entertainment law and IP, and distribution strategies. The programme is aimed at nurturing and empowering early to mid-career filmmakers to develop sustainable careers.

The programme is presented in English, with simultaneous translation in French and/or Portuguese, if required.

DFM ACCESS

DFM Access is a 12-week development platform for entry level producers. It provides a nurturing framework for participants with existing long-form or episodic independent film projects to hone and improve their scripts and project packages.

The programme consists of one-on-one mentorship and group talks led by industry experts. At the end of the 12 week mentorship, projects pitch to an independent panel that selects 3 projects to participate in the annual Durban FilmMart as an official project.

FILMMART.AFRICA

Filmmart.Africa is an online platform for film professionals to connect, present new projects, and access resources and support. The platform aims to provide up-to-date, trusted business information that will help the industry collaborate and develop.

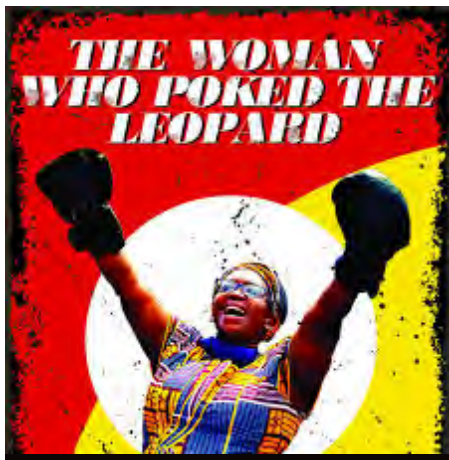
WHAT CAN I DO ON FILMMART.AFRICA?

- **Find People:** Looking for empowering connections? Find your team through Filmmart.Africa and connect with the world.
- **Find Companies:** Looking to unlock opportunities? Filmmart.Africa is your gateway to real companies and services for your success.
- **Find Projects:** What's happening in the African film industry right now? See projects, follow their progress, and unite with like-minded people.
- **Resources:** Want to learn the tricks of the trade and get up-to-date information and resources? Find resources, funding opportunities, news, and more.



Sign up is FREE and highly recommended

Durban FilmMart Institute Alumni Catalogue © Published in 2025



1. The Woman Who Poked The Leopard

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- Uganda



Patience Nitumwesiga
Director



Rosie Motene
Producer

Synopsis

The film opens with home footage of Dr. Stella Nyanzi and her children pouring sherry in a crowded apartment in exile. They read the poem that landed Stella in jail. It narrates Museveni's four-decade reign over Uganda against archival footage. Behind bars, Stella loses an unborn child to torture. When discharged from prison wearing a "fuck oppression" sash, she briefs the press.

Awards at DFM

Winner, LadIMA 2021 • **Winner**, MiradasDoc Award at DFM 2021 • **Winner**, Co-Pro Market Accelerator Prize at Dok Leipzig 2021

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, MiradasDoc Docsur Development Award 2022 • **Winner**, EWA Diverse Voices Award at Dok Leipzig 2021 • **Winner**, IDFA Spotlight Award at DFM 2021 • **Winner**, Dok Leipzig Accelerator Award at DFM 2021 • **Winner**, Hot Docs Award at DFM 2021

Film Screenings

TBC

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, EWA Diverse Voices Award 2021 • **Winner**, MiradasDoc Docsur Development Award 2022



2. God's Work

Status: Post production completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Fiction Feature
- South Africa



Michael James
Director



Sithabile Mkhize
Producer



Toni Monty
Executive Producer



Marco Orsini
Co-producer

Synopsis

A group of unhoused men seeking refuge in a crumbling building battle the brutalities of life on the streets, while their dreams and haunted memories blur the line between reality and illusion.

Film Screenings

TBC

Notable Achievements

Music by George Acogny • Executive Producer, Gary Springer



3. Black People Don't Get Depressed

Status: Completed in 2025

- Talents Durban 2020
- Documentary
- South Africa



Sara Chitambo-Hatira
Director



Cati Weinek
Producer



Dumi Gumbi
Producer

Synopsis

A personal and poetic exploration of mental health issues among creatives in communities on the African continent and in the diaspora, exploring myths, stigma, and solutions through the experiences of the characters.

Awards at DFM

IEFTA Mentorship Prize

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Cannes Docs

Film Screenings

Encounters 26th South African International Documentary Festival 2024 ([Premiere](#)) • New York African Film Festival 2025 • Joburg Film Festival 2025



4. Sebata - The Beast

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Fiction Feature
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Norman Maake
Director + Producer



Princess Rose Mhlongo
Producer

Synopsis

“Sebata: The Beast” is a psychological thriller that follows aging detective Mzi and his young, skeptical partner, Kgoro, as they investigate the brutal killings of young children. Though the murders appear to be linked to the sinister witch doctor Banda, rumors of a mythical beast, the Tokoloshi, cast a dark shadow over the case. Haunted by his mother's mysterious death, Kgoro is torn between his disbelief in the supernatural and the terrifying reality unfolding.

Film Screenings

Joburg Film Festival 2025

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Joburg Film Festival: Best African Film, Best Edited Film and Best Film



5. Azania Rises

Status: Pilot episode available (2025),
Fundraising for full production in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2023
- Animated Series - Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Farayi Chinyanga
Director



Lesego Vorster
Director



Farisai Kavayi
3D Lead Animator



Fatuma Abdullah
Producer



Kaya Kuhn
Director

Synopsis

In the year 2100, thirty years after the birth of Azania — a unified and highly advanced African nation — the long-standing peace is threatened when one of its passenger aircrafts is shot down in international waters. The Grand Indaba council calls on Azania's elite special forces unit, the Murwi Moja, and young, ambitious cadet Nomala Kamwendo joins their ranks, determined to prove herself worthy of the prestigious Shuja Star for heroism.

Film Screenings

TBC

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Africa Movie Academy Award 2023: Best Animation



6. How to Build a Library

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- Kenya



Maia Lekow
Director + Producer



Chris King
Director + Producer

Synopsis

Two Kenyan women transform a dilapidated, junk-filled library in downtown Nairobi into a hub for the city's citizens and creatives.

Awards at DFM

Special GZDOC Invitation, Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival 2021 (Virtual GZDOC Pitch Session)

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

IDFA Forum 2020

Film Screenings

Sundance 2025 ([Premiere](#)) CPH:DOX • Thessaloniki International Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Selection, Sundance Film Festival 2025 World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary • Thessaloniki International Film Festival The Newcomers Competition: Golden Alexander - Dimitri Eipides



7. The Settlement (Al mosta'mera)

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Fiction
- Egypt



Mohamed Ibrahim
Director



Kesmat Elsayed
Co-producer



Hala Lotfy
Producer



Etienne de Ricaud
Co-producer

Synopsis

Hossam and his 12-year-old brother Maro — living in a marginalized community in Alexandria who are offered jobs by the local factory after their father's untimely death in a workplace accident as compensation for their loss in lieu of pursuing legal action. As they navigate their new roles, they begin to question whether their father's death was truly accidental.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Berlin International Film Festival ([Premiere](#))

Film Screenings

Berlin International Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Berlin International Film Festival 2025 Perspectives Award: Best First Feature



8. In Transit

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Documentary
- Burkina Faso



**Tomisin S
Aderuku**
Director



**Mamounata
Nikiema**
Producer

Synopsis

In Transit offers an introspective exploration of hospitality, sense of security, and migration. These themes unfold through the lives of Saada Sincere, Mr. Oke, Ndiaga Fall, and a Mouride lodge known as the Dahira, nestled in an old neighborhood at the heart of Ouagadougou. At the same time, the film is a deeply personal reflection on my own journey from Lagos to Ouagadougou in pursuit of my filmmaking aspirations.

Film Screenings

FESPACO Critic's Week ([Premiere](#))



9. Where the Wind Comes From (pitched under Tunis-Djerba)

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Fiction
- Tunisia, France, Qatar



Amel Guellaty
Director



Asma Chiboub
Producer

Synopsis

Fearless spirit Alyssa and sensitive artist Mehdi, best friends since childhood, feel cramped in their life in the outskirts of Tunis. When Alyssa discovers an artist contest in Djerba that might be their ticket out, she pulls Mehdi into a fantastical journey across Tunisia which will put their friendship to the test.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

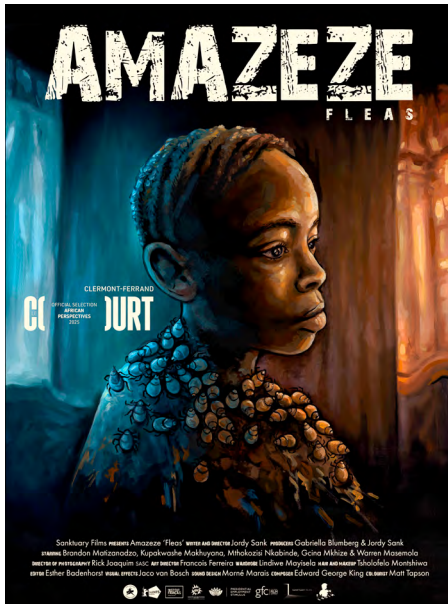
Less Is More • EAVE • Sud Écriture Screenwriting Workshop • Malmö Arab Film Festival Industry Days • CineGouna Platform • Atlas Workshops (Marrakech International Film Festival) • Holland Film Meeting

Film Screenings

Sundance Film Festival ([Premiere](#)) • International Film Festival Rotterdam • AFI Silver Screen

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Sundance Film Festival 2025 World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic



10. Amazeze (Fleas) [Short film]

Status: Completed in 2025

- Talents Durban 2022
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Jordy Sank
Director



Gabriella Blumberg
Producer

Synopsis

Tonderai, a young Zimbabwean boy living in a South African township, anxiously awaits his mother's return from work at nightfall. He fears the worst for her due to a xenophobic mob running rampant that night. He watches over his gravely ill and bedridden younger brother, who becomes desperate for drinking water. With no running water in their shack, Tonderai must lurk like a rodent in the shadows to the communal tap to bring his brother back safe drinking water.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Selection, Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival 2023 Euro Connection et La Petite Fabrique ([1 of 4 international projects to pitch](#))

Film Screenings

Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival ([World Premiere](#))



11. On the Edge (Short Film)

Status: Completed in 2024

- Talents Durban 2022
- Fiction
- Tunisia



Reel Previews



Sahar El Echi

Director +
Producer

Synopsis

Mounira, a woman in her thirties, lives on the income from the small fricassee shop she inherited from her late father in the heart of the Henchir Lehouidiya junkyard in the southern suburbs of Tunis, an environment largely dominated by men. In this harsh and often ruthless environment, she faces daily challenges. Determined, like thousands of Tunisian women facing difficult circumstances, Mounira has shown an inner strength that enables her not only to overcome hardship, but also to run her business in a hostile environment.

Film Screenings

Carthage Film Festival 2024 • Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2025 • FESPACO 2025

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Carthage Film Festival 2024 Bronze Tanit



12. Uli & Tata's African Nursery Rhymes

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2024
- Animated Series - Fiction
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Chief David Nyamweya
Director



Sarah Mallia
Producer

Synopsis

Uli & Tata's African Nursery Rhymes is a 2D animated children's series that follows the extraordinary adventures of two siblings - Uli and her brother Tata. When they stumble upon magical traditional instruments, they inadvertently summon Tuki, a wise blue giant turaco bird from the Kakamega rainforest. Together, they journey across the continent in search of Africa's nursery rhymes. Through song and story, they learn important life lessons while celebrating Africa's rich cultural and natural heritage.

Film Screenings

YouTube (currently available to watch for free in English and French) • Nollywood Film Week • NBO Film Festival • Nairobi Design Week

Notable Achievements

Selection, Afrique Créative Entrepreneurship Incubator • Producer, Sarah Mallia is participating in the Sharjah Animation Conference.



13. Captured Water (Capturing Water)

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Documentary Feature
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Rehad Desai
Director



Anita Khanna
Producer

Synopsis

Capturing Water brings fresh insights into activism and hope. You will meet working class activists, bravely mobilising against a city that restricts their water without the dignity of discussion; an activist farmer litigating to stop city plans to cement over an aquifer that provides affordable food to thousands of people, and a suburban activist tirelessly engaging a city that makes decades of empty promises to stop the sewage flowing into life-giving wetlands.

Film Screenings

Joburg Film Festival 2025 [\(Premiere\)](#)



14. Seeking Haven for Mr. Rambo

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Khaled Mansour
Director



Rasha Hosny
Producer

Synopsis

On a quest to save Rambo, his dog and best friend; Hassan is forced to confront the fears of his past and rediscovers himself.

Film Screenings

81st Venice International Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Carthage Film Festival 2024 Bronze Tanit

Notable Achievements

The film ran for 8 weeks in Egyptian film theatres, grossing a total of 16,745,220 EGP with 143,458 admissions as this is considered a very unusual thing for films like Rambo to achieve in Egypt.



15. Tongo Saa (Rising up at Night)

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- Belgium, Democratic Republic of Congo, Germany, Burkina Faso, Qatar



Reel Previews



Nelson Makengo
Director



Rosa Spaliviero
Producer



Dada Kahindo
Producer

Synopsis

Kinshasa and its inhabitants are in darkness. They wait and struggle to get access to light. Between hope, disappointment and religious faith, Tongo Saa is a subtle and fragmented portrait of a population that, despite the challenges, is sublimated by the beauty of Kinshasa's nights.

Awards at DFM

Selection, Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival 2021
Special GZDOC Invitation • MiradasDoc Award 2021

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

MiradasDoc 2021 • Guangzhou International Film Festival 2021
DocuMart • Copenhagen Documentary Film Festival 2021
CPH:FORUM • Visions du Réel 2023 VdR-Industry • Doha Film Institute First Cut Lab 2023 • Red Sea Souk 2023 WIP Showcase

Film Screenings

Berlinale 2024 (**World Premiere**) • Selected in more than 50 festivals

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Visions du Réel 2024 Special Jury Award: International Feature Film Competition • **Winner**, Indielisboa 2024 Feature Film Grand Prize: City of Lisbon and TV Cine Special Award • **Winner**, Guadalajara International Film Festival 2024 Special Mention: Socio-Environmental Cinema Award • **Winner**, Astra Film Festival 2024 Best Documentary: New Voice Section • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2024 Silver Tanit: Best Feature Documentary • **Winner**, FESPACO 2025 Silver Stallion of Yennenga: Documentary • **Special Mention**, ZINEBI 2024 First Film • **Special Mention**, Laceno d'Oro 2024 Audience Award • **Nominee**, Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2024 Documentary Award • **Nominee**, DFM Award 2024 • **Nominee**, African Movie Academy Award 2024, Best Documentary and Best Debut Feature Film



16. Abo Zabaal 89

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- Egypt



Bassam Mortada
Director



Kesmat el Sayed
Producer

Synopsis

Bassam Mortada was five years old when he first visited his father Mahmoud in the notorious Abo Zabaal prison. With the police raid still fresh in his mind, his experience was dominated by incomprehension. But in the years that followed, resentment took hold. Bassam was raised by his mother Fardous, a socialist activist herself. As a single parent, her life was hard, and when Mahmoud was finally released from prison he seemed like a different person. He left for Vienna, and for a second time she was left behind, this time embittered.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

IDFA Bertha Fund Post Production Grant

Film Screenings

Cairo International Film Festival 2024 • IDFA 2024

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Best Documentary at Cairo International Film Festival 2024



17. The Legend of the Vagabond Queen of Lagos

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Fiction
- Nigeria, South Africa, Germany, USA



Reel Previews



The Agbajowo Collective
(Directors + Producers)



Mohammed Zanna; Mustapha Emmanuel; Andrew Maki
(Producers)



Megan Chapman; Michael Henrichs; Chioma Onyenwe
(Producers)

Synopsis

Jawu lives in one of the floating slums pushed into the lagoon which gives the megacity Lagos its name— a young mother scraping by in an indifferent city. However, the spirit of the great warrior king Egbaezen has marked her for a terrible responsibility and ordeal. Danger now threatens his people, as corrupt officials conspire to evict thousands from their ancestral homes. Egbaezen's spirit takes the form of an African Grey parrot, and sets in motion a chain of events that will change Jawu and her entire community forever.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Sundance Stories of Change Lab

Film Screenings

TIFF • Philadelphia Film Festival • Hofer Filmtage • Film Africa UK • AFRIFF • Films from the South Festival • EUFF • 14 Films • African Diaspora International Film Festival • Zuma International Film Festival • REC Tarragona International Film Festival • Red Sea Souk • RSIFF • Göteborg Film Festival • CIFF • CFAF • San Francisco IndieFest • FESPACO Film Festival • IFFO • New African Film Festival • Festival International du Film de Fribourg • San Sebastian Film and Human Rights Festival • DIFF

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Toronto International Film Festival 2024 ([World Premiere](#)) • **Winner**, Zuma Film Festival 2024 Best Sound Award • **Winner**, Zuma Film Festival 2024 Best Costume Award • **Winner**, REC Tarragona International Film Festival 2025 Audience Award • **Winner**, Chandler International Film Festival 2025 Best Pan-African Feature Film Award

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

The film has been screened in multiple slum communities across Nigeria as mobilisation tool against forced evictions and for the rights, dignity and development of the urban poor. • Rushlake Media GmbH has acquired the world sales right for the film.



18. Mother City

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Miki Redelinghuys
Director + Producer



Pearlle Joubert
Director + Producer



Kethiwe Ngcobo
Producer

Synopsis

Known as the Mother City, Cape Town lies resplendent between the iconic Table Mountain and the icy Atlantic ocean. Mother City charts a defiant war against government and property developers in one of the world's most unequal cities. Our story starts in 2016 when the government sells prime land, earmarked for affordable housing, to a private developer. This careless disregard of the desperate housing needs of Capetonians gave birth to a social justice movement, "Reclaim the City".

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

The Real Reel Impact

Film Screenings

Special Mention, Sheffield Doc Fest 2024 International Competition ([World Premiere](#)) • **Opening Film**, Encounters 2024 ([African Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Africa Film Festival Cologne 2024 International Competition ([German Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Zurich Film Festival 2024 International Competition ([Swiss Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Africa International Film Festival ([Nigerian Premiere](#)) and **Winner**, Best African Documentary Award • **Official Selection**, Göteborg Film Festival ([Swedish Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, FESPACO 2024 Documentary Competition ([Burkina Faso Premiere](#)) and **Winner**, 2nd Prize President Thomas Sankara Award for the Promotion of Pan-African Values • **Official Selection**, Human International Documentary Film Festival ([Norwegian Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Joburg Film Festival ([South African Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Movies That Matter ([Netherlands Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Arquiteturas Film Festival 2025 ([Portugal Premiere](#)) • **Special Mention**, Encounters 2024 Adiaha Award for Best Documentary by an African Woman • **Special Mention**, Encounters 2024 Al Jazeera Best African Feature Documentary Award • **Special Mention**, Encounters 2024 SAGE-Encounters Refinery Best Edited Film Award



19. Disco Afrika: une histoire malgache

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Fiction
- Madagascar



Luck Razanajaona
Director + Producer



Hreizo Rabary
Producer



Ludovic Randriamanantsoa
Producer

Synopsis

The film is set in present-day Madagascar where Kwame, 20, struggles to make a living in the clandestine sapphire mines. An unexpected event takes him back to his hometown. As he reunites with his mother and old friends, he finds himself confronted with the rampant corruption plaguing his country. He will have to choose between easy money and loyalty, between individualism and political awakening.

Awards at DFM

Disco Afrika received an opportunity to attend the Rotterdam Lab, a 5-day training and networking event bringing together producers from all over the world. • **Winner**, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024, CineMart Award: Fiction Project • **Winner**, International Organisation of La Francophonie Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, Rotterdam Film Festival CineMart 2018 Wouter Barendrecht Prize

Film Screenings

Berlinale Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Berlin Internationale Film Festival 2024 Crystal Bear Generation 14plus: Best Film • **Winner**, Berlin Internationale Film Festival 2024 AG-Kino Gilde Cinema Vision 14plus: Special Mention • **Nominee**, Guanajuato International Film Festival 2024 Festival Prize: Best International Feature Film



20. Inkabi “The Hitman”

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2015
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Norman Maahe
Director



Peter Pohorsky
Producer



Princess Rose Mhlongo
Producer

Synopsis

After starting over as a taxi driver, a former contract killer reckons with his past as he tries to save a troubled young woman who witnesses a murder.

Awards at DFM

Winner, DFM 2015 Best South African Project

Film Screenings

Netflix Africa

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Barcelona Indie Film Awards • Simon “Mabhunu” Sabela Awards 2024 • KZN Film and TV Awards

Notable Achievements

Selection, Kalasha Film Festival 2024 • Selection, BRICS Film Festival 2024



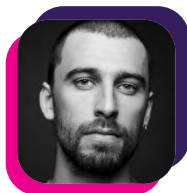
21. Carissa

Status: Completed in 2024

- Jumpstart 2020
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Devon Delmar
Director +
Producer



Jason Jacobs
Director +
Producer



Annamarie Du Plessis
Producer



Deidre Jantjies
Producer

Synopsis

A young woman who dreams of leaving small village life to live in the city breaks away from her grandmother's home only to be drawn into the care of her grandfather's mountain rooibos plantation.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, The Final Cut in Venice, Biennale Jury Prize (5000 EUR cash award) • **Winner**, The Final Cut in Venice, Prize "Coup de cœur de la Cinémathèque Afrique" (acquisition of non-commercial and non-exclusive broadcasting rights for 7 years, valued 4000 – 6000 EUR depending on genre, length, and available territories) • **Winner**, The Final Cut in Venice, Festival International de Films de Fribourg Prize (contribution to DCP production costs)

Film Screenings

Official Selection, 81st Venice International Film Festival 2024 Orizzonti Competition • **Official Selection**, Stockholm International Film Festival 2024 • **Official Selection**, Santa Barbara International Film Festival 2025

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Venice Film Festival 2024 Venice Horizons Award: Best Film



22. Why The Cattle Wait

Status: Completed in 2024

- Talents Durban 2021
- Fiction Short Film
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Phumi Morae
Director



Layla Swart
Producer

Synopsis

Nomvula, a goddess, returns to earth to find her human lover, Thandiwe, while shape-shifting into animals to evade detection by humans. When she finds him, she is devastated to learn he has moved on. Desperate to reclaim him, she tries to convince him to return to the eternal world before she destroys the earth. Despite her efforts, her love remains unrequited, leading her to take drastic measures. The arrival of colonial oppressors signals their doomed love.

Film Screenings

Africa Rising International Film Festival 2024 • Afrofilmes Festival Prague 2025 • Atlanta Film Festival (upcoming) • Hollywood African Cinema Connect

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Tribeca x Chanel Women's Filmmaker Program

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Joburg Film Festival: Best Short Film



23. Doxandem, les chasseurs de rêves (Dream Chasers)

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- Senegal, South Africa



Saliou Sarr
Director



Yanis Gaye
Producer

Synopsis

Back in Gandiol, his native village in Senegal, after spending eight years as an immigrant in Spain, Mamadou is committed to being a positive force in his community. With his wife Laura, a Spanish migrant in Senegal, and under the benevolent gaze of Mamadou's mother Yaaye Khadi, they set about building with their community the "active utopia" expressed in the book "3052" that Mamadou wrote during his journey.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

DOK Leipzig DOK Preview • Cinema du Reel Work In Progress

Film Screenings

FESPACO 2023 (World Premiere) • St. Louis Docs 2023 • Distributed in Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, France and Spain

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

FESPACO 2023 • Saint Louis Docs 2023 • AFRIFF 2023 • CINE Invisible 2023

Notable Achievements

Broadcast on ARTE.TV



24. Eat Bitter

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- Central African Republic



Ningyi Sun
Director



Pascale Appora-Gnekindy
Co-director



Mathieu Faure
Producer

Synopsis

Against the backdrop of civil war in the Central African Republic, a Chinese construction manager and local African laborer work on opposite ends of the spectrum to construct a sparkling new bank. As deadlines loom, unexpected twists threaten their jobs, relationships, and plans for a better life.

Awards at DFM

Guangzhou International Documentary Film Festival

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Afrika Film Festival Köln

Film Screenings

Official Selection, CPH:DOX 2023 (World Premiere) • **Official Selection**, Encounters 2023 (South African Premiere) • **Official Selection**, Atlanta Film Festival 2023 • **Official Selection**, Doc Edge 2023 • **Official Selection**, FIDADOC 2023 • **Official Selection**, Hot Docs 2023 • **Official Selection**, Melbourne Documentary Festival 2023 • **Official Selection**, Moscow International Documentary Film Festival DOKER 2023 • **Official Selection**, Visions du Réel 2023 • IDFA Docs for Sale

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Encounters 2023 ADIAHA Award: Special Mention • **Nominee**, CPH:DOX 2023 • **Nominee**, Visions du Réel 2023 Audience Award: Grand Angle Competition



25. Goodbye Julia

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Fiction
- Sudan



Mohamed Kordofani
Director



Amjad Abu Alala
Producer

Synopsis

Just before the secession of South Sudan, a married former singer from the north seeks redemption for causing the death of a southern man by hiring his oblivious wife as her maid.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Mostra de Cinemas Africanos

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Cannes Film Festival 2023 Un Certain Regard
 • **Official Selection**, Belfast Film Festival 2023 • **Opening Film**, European Film Festival in SA 2023 • **Official Selection**, BFI London Film Festival 2023 • **Official Selection**, Marrakech Film Festival 2023

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Freedom Award

Notable Achievements

Cannes Film Festival 2023 Freedom Award



Uga L. Carlini
Director +
Producer

26. Beyond the Light Barrier

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- South Africa



Synopsis

A legendary meteorologist spends her days on earth attempting to convince the world that her alien lover from an advanced human race existed, and held the only solutions to all our problems on earth.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

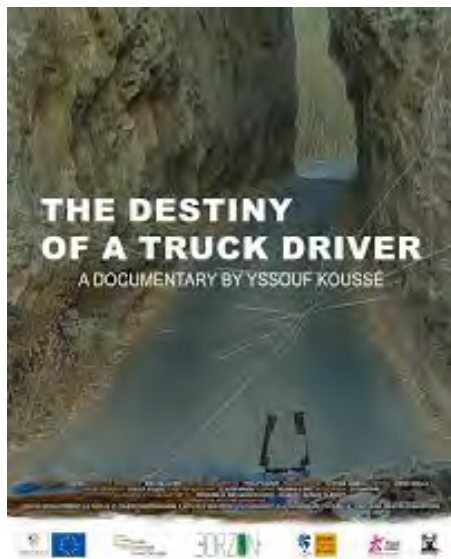
IDFA Bertha Fund Post Production Grant

Film Screenings

Encounters South African International Documentary Festival 2023

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Encounters South African International Documentary Festival 2023: Best South African Film • **Nominee**, ADIAHA 2023: Best Documentary Film by an African Woman • **Nominee**, South African Film and Television Awards 2024 SAFTA Golden Horn: Best Documentary Feature • **Winner**, Writers' Guild of South Africa Awards 2023 Muse Award: Best Documentary Screenplay • **Winner**, Hollywood Gold Awards 2023: Best Documentary Screenplay • **Nominee**, Vesuvius International Film Festival 2023 September Award: Best Documentary • **Nominee**, London Movie Awards 2023: Best Documentary • **Winner**, London Movie Awards 2023 September Award: Best Feature Documentary



27. Africa Mother (The Destiny of a Truck Driver)

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Documentary
- Burkina Faso



Reel Previews



Yssouf Koussé
Director



Dorzon Sarl
Producer

Synopsis

Massata Cissé, the only female truck driver in Burkina Faso for the past 30 years, travels through the ports and markets of neighboring countries at the wheel of a semi-trailer truck. At 59, driving has become her passion and her companion. Without social security coverage, her only hope is to own her own truck and establish a business so she can continue earning a living after retirement.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Porto-Novo International Documentary Film Festival 2024 • **Official Selection**, Bantu Film Festival 2024 • **Official Selection**, Women's Independent Film and Television Festival in Boston 2024 • **Official Selection**, Mombasa International Film Festival 2024 • **Official Selection**, Kitale Film Week 2025 • **Official Selection**, FESPACO 2025 Panorama Section



28. Mami Wata

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Fiction
- Nigeria



Reel Previews



C.J.Obasi
Director



Oge Obasi
Producer

Synopsis

When the harmony in a village is threatened by outside elements, two sisters must fight to save their people and restore the glory of a mermaid goddess to the land.

Awards at DFM

Winner, Sørfond Pitching Forum 2024

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Sundance Film Festival 2023 ([World Premiere](#)) • FESPACO 2023 ([African Premiere](#)) • **Winner**, FESPACO 2021: Red Sea Film Festival Prize, Post-Production • **Official Selection**, Venice Final Cut Workshop 2019 • **Closing Night Film**, Moving Image NYC

Film Screenings

FESPACO 2023 ([African Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, Venice Final Cut Workshop 2019 • Sundance Film Festival 2023 ([World Premiere](#)) • **Winner**, FESPACO 2021 Red Sea Film Festival Prize: Post-Production • **Closing Night Film**, Moving Image NYC

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Sundance Film Festival 2023 World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic • **Winner**, Sundance Film Festival 2023 World Cinema Dramatic Special Jury Award: Cinematography • FESPACO 2023



29. Milisuthando (pitched under Cheese Girl)

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Milisuthando Bongela
Director

Synopsis

Set in past, present, and future South Africa. An invitation into a poetic, memory-driven exploration of love, intimacy, race, and belonging by the filmmaker, who grew up during apartheid but didn't know it was happening until it was over.

Awards at DFM

Winner, IDFA Most Promising Documentary Project

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

DFAcademy 2018 • Chicken & Egg Next Gen Egg Pitching Event 2019
• Sheffield Meet Market 2019 • Sundance Creative Producing Summit 2019 • IFP Week 2019 • IDFA Forum 2019

Film Screenings

Sundance ([World Premiere](#)) • HotDocs • Sheffield Doc Fest • IDFA

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, IDFA 2023 ReFrame Award for Creative Use of Archive: Special Mention, Milisuthando Bongela • **Winner**, Bergen International Film Festival 2023 Documentaire Extraordinaire: Special Mention, Milisuthando Bongela



30. Our Land, Our Freedom (pitched under The Testament)

Status: Completed in 2023

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Documentary
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Zippy Kimunda
Director



Meena Nanji
Director +
Producer

Synopsis

A Kenyan woman's quest to fulfill the wishes of her mother becomes an investigation into British colonial atrocities and a grassroots movement to reclaim ancestral land.

Awards at DFM

Afridocs, the broadcast stream that sees African and other international documentaries screened across 49 countries of sub-Saharan Africa on a weekly basis, gave a €3000 grant to Testament (Kenya. Producer: Meena Nanji. Directors: Meena Nanji and Zippy Kimundu).

Film Screenings

IDFA 2023 (World Premiere)



31. The Mother of All Lies

Status: Completed in 2023

- Hotdocs Fellow 2021
- Documentary
- Morocco



Asmae El Moudir
Producer

Synopsis

A Moroccan woman's search for truth tangles with a web of lies in her family history. As a daughter and filmmaker, she fuses personal and national history as she reflects on the 1981 Bread Riots, drawing out connections to modern Morocco.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Cannes Film Festival Un Certain Regard • **Official Selection**, IDFA 2023 • **Official Selection**, Marrakech Film Festival 2023

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Cannes Film Festival 2023 Un Certain Regard: Best Director
 • **Winner**, Cannes Film Festival 2023 Golden Eye • **Nominee**, Cannes Film Festival 2023 Un Certain Regard Award • **Winner**, Sydney Film Prize 2023: Best Film • **Winner**, DIFF 2023: Best International Documentary

Notable Achievement

Official Submission, Morocco 2024: Best International Feature Film – 96th Academy Awards



32. Jua Kali

Status: Proof of Concept Short Film Produced In 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2024
- Fiction -Feature length
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Joash Omondi
Director



Yasmin Hassan
Producer

Synopsis

Diana, a domestic worker and her colleagues skillfully perform their cleaning duties against the backdrop of their privileged clients' private struggles and shenanigans. But the work is also taking a toll on Diana's body.

Awards at DFM

Rotterdam Lab Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Rotterdam Lab 2025

Film Screenings

FIFOI 2024 • Lumieres D'Afrique 2022

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

FIFOI Jury prize • **Winner**, Lumieres D'Afrique: Best Short Film

Notable Achievements

Winner, Talents Durban 2023



33. Khamseen Mitr (50 Meters)

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Documentary Feature
- Egypt



Yomna Khattab
Director



Ahmed Amer
Producer



Patricia Drati
Producer

Synopsis

50 Meters features Yomna the female director making her debut film about her father and his water aerobics team, a group of men over sixty, as her way to approach her father in a confined pool. Will she be able to regain her own life narrative, find reconciliation and move forward with her life choices in such a patriarchal society.

Awards at DFM

IDFA Spotlight Award • The FIDA DOC Award • The Whickers Bursary

Film Screenings

CPH:DOX 2025 (World Premiere)



34. Dusty & Stones

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- eSwatini



Jesse Rudoy
Director



Melissa Adeyemo
Producer

Synopsis

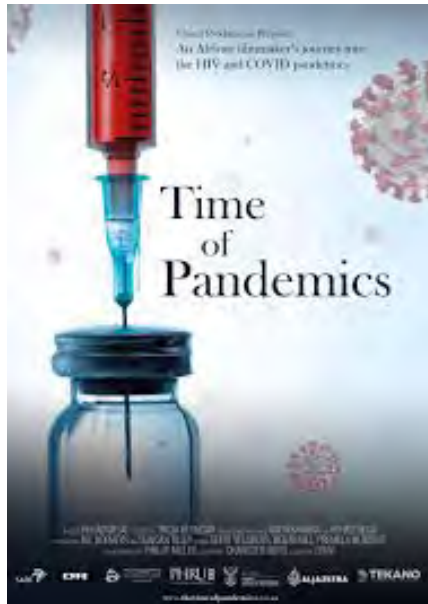
Two struggling country music singers from the tiny African Kingdom of Swaziland journey to Texas determined to win big at a battle of the bands.

Film Screenings

DOCNYC 2022 (World and USA Premiere) • Treefort Film Festival (USA debut) • Nashville Film Festival 2023

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Atlanta Film Festival 2023 Jury Award: Best Documentary Feature • **Nominee**, Florida Film Festival 2023 Grand Jury Award: Best Documentary Feature • **Winner**, Florida Film Festival 2023 Special Jury Award: Debut Feature • **Winner**, Nashville Film Festival 2023 Grand Jury Prize: Best Music Documentary Feature • **Nominee**, RiverRun International Film Festival 2023 Jury Prize: Best Documentary Feature • **Winner**, RiverRun International Film Festival 2023 Documentary Features Competition: Best Director • **Nominee**, Soundtrack Cologne 2023 SEE THE SOUND Award: Honorary Mention • **Nominee**, Next Generation Indie Film Awards 2023: Best Documentary Feature Film



35. Time of Pandemics

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Rehad Desai
Director



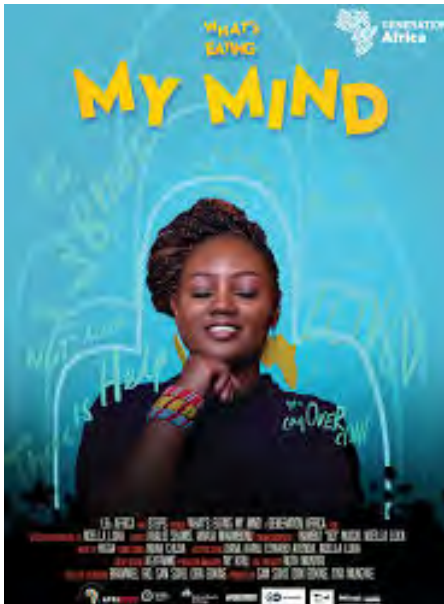
Anita Khanna
Producer

Synopsis

When a potentially devastating new virus emerges in early 2020, acclaimed documentary filmmaker Rehad Desai is already following a vaccine clinical trial that could finally end the decades-long HIV pandemic. Widening his lens to trace this “tale of two pandemics,” Rehad confronts the harsh reality that, while antiviral drugs are vital, eliminating the accelerating threat to humanity from emerging diseases requires making those drugs available to all, while also tackling the poverty, malnutrition and lack of access to healthcare.

Film Screenings

Aired on SABC 2021 • Al Jazeera



36. What's Eating My Mind

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Noella Luka
Director



Sam Soko
Producer

Synopsis

After being diagnosed bipolar, Noella quit film school and returned to Kenya. She films herself and her family as they try to navigate this. She joins a support group, where she meets Nick who was diagnosed with Schizophrenia while studying to be a priest in Colombia. The group gives Noella community and escalating complications that she navigates maintaining her mental health.

Film Screenings

Unseen Nairobi: In Honor of Minority Awareness Month • AfricDocs.net • BBC Eye on Africa (YouTube) • The Baobab Tree Live Film Event – Kenya (Once-Off) • The Leo Project – Kenya (Once-Off)

Notable Achievements

Hot Docs Blue Ice Funding



37. Lobola: A Bride's True Price

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch & Finance Forum (part of the Hot Docs Blue Ice Group Contingent) 2017
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Sihle Hlophe
Director + Producer

Synopsis

March 2014. Filmmaker Sihle Hlophe has just gotten engaged. A few days later, her father passes away. Sihle is in a serious fix - who will receive the Lobola now that her father is no more? Lobola is a Bantu cultural practice that involves the prospective groom paying a 'bride price' to the family of the bride-to-be. Sihle respects Lobola but she has reservations about the transactional, patriarchal and heteronormative elements of the practise.

Awards at DFM

IDFAcademy: Most Promising Documentary Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

IDFAcademy • DokLeipzig Co-Production Market

Film Screenings

Encounters South African International Documentary Festival • Durban International Film Festival • New York African Film Festival • Pan African Film Festival • Zanzibar International Film Festival
— Many more —

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Awladna Pan-African Women in Film Award 2024 • **Winner**, Africa Magic Viewers' Choice Awards (AMVCA) 2024: Best Documentary • Winner, South African Film & Television Awards 2023: Best Achievement in Directing
— Many more —

Notable Achievements

Subject of a master's dissertation, passed with distinction • **Nominee**, Africa Movie Academy Awards: Best Documentary (alongside several other nominations and special mentions) • Gained significant traction across various media platforms, generating strong buzz and engagement • Over 51,000 social media followers, reflecting broad reach and impact • Successful impact screenings in partnership with Sunshine Cinema • Additional community and outreach screenings in Zimbabwe, Zambia, and South Africa, sparking important conversations and extending the film's influence



38. The Lotus (Valley Of A Thousand Hills)

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2017
- Fiction
- South Africa



Philani Sithebe
Director



Bonie Sithebe
Producer

Synopsis

A loving daughter must decide between a potential husband or a secret love – a woman.

Film Screenings

Netflix 2023 • DIFF 2022 • NYADFF 2022 • LGBTQ+ Toronto Film Festival 2022

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

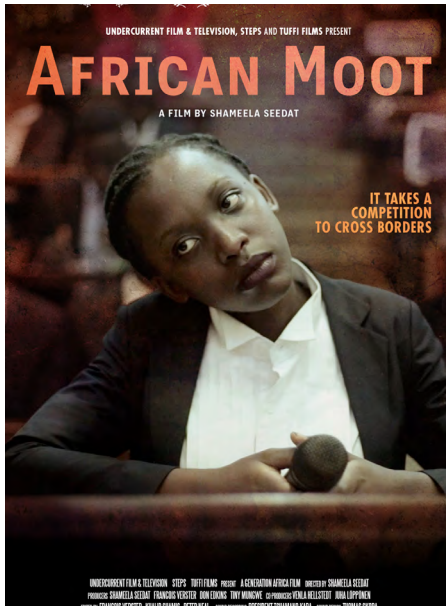
Nominee, Septimius Awards 2023 Septimius Award: Best African Film

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Cannes Film Festival 2022: Best Film • **Winner**, Simon Mabunu Film Awards 2024: Best Film, Best Director, Best Film Location, Best Script • **Nominee**, Septimius Awards 2023: Best Film, Best Actress

Notable Achievements

Nominee, Septimius Awards 2023: Best African Film



Shameela Seedat
Director +
Producer

Synopsis

Every year, young aspiring lawyers from across the African continent gather in a different capital city to compete at the prestigious African Human Rights Moot Competition, the largest mock court competition in Africa. Competitors represent the top law schools from their respective nations as they debate a new issue each year. In Gaborone, Botswana, the focus is on the rights of refugees. Arguments are adjudicated by practicing lawyers and judges.

Film Screenings

IDFA • Hot Docs • FESPACO • DIFF • Sydney Film Festival • DOC- NYC • Encounters • Dokfest-Munich • Helsinki International Film Festival • Zimbabwe International Film Festival • Carthegena Film Festival • Ismailia FF • ARTE FRANCE • YLE, DR-TV • SVT • Al Jazeera English • Al Jazeera Balkans • TVO

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Zimbabwe International Film Festival 2022: Best Documentary • **Winner**, Boston International Film Festival 2023: Best Editing • **Nominee**, African Movie Academy Awards 2023 • **Selection**, Hot Docs Forum 2021

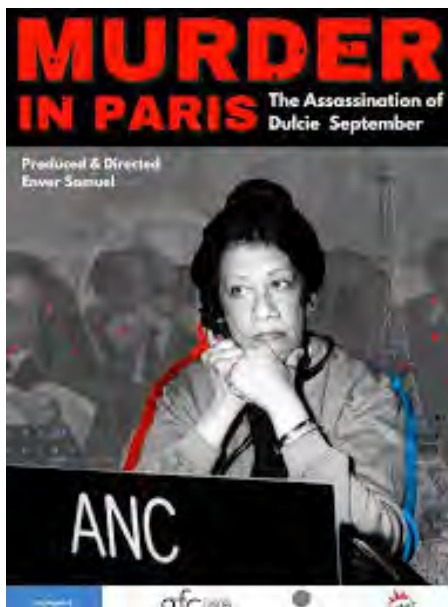
39. African Moot

Status: Completed in 2022

- HotDocs Fellow 2020
- Documentary
- South Africa, Finland



Reel Previews



40. Murder in Paris - Dulcie September

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Enver Samuel
Director +
Producer

Synopsis

Murder In Paris is a political crime thriller that traces the motives for the assassination of anti-Apartheid activist, Dulcie September. The story travels from the heart of Paris in March 1988 to the pursuit of justice in 2021. A misty spring morning in Paris, 29 March 1988. Dulcie had just visited the post office to collect mail for the ANC office in France, where she served as a Chief Representative of the African National Congress.

Awards at DFM

Official Selection, Cinéma du Réel • **Winner**, Durban International Film Festival (DIFF): Human Rights Award: Best South African Documentary • **Winner**, Jozi Film Festival: Best Director (Enver Samuel) • **Winner**, SAFTAs 2022: Best Sound Design for a Documentary • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 2022: Best Documentary, Cinematography, Editing

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

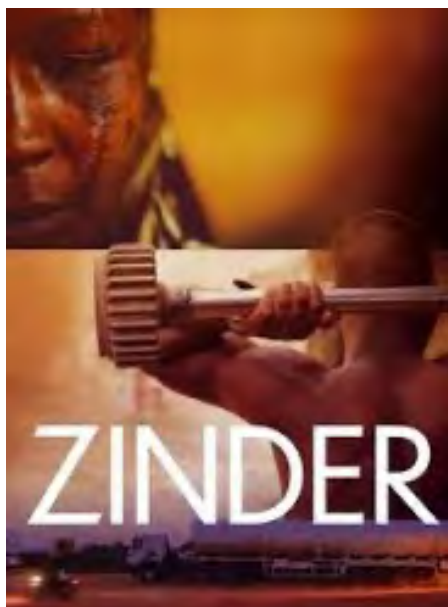
DocAfrica Impact

Film Screenings

Bertha Doc House • French Embassy • Various screenings in France • Nelson Mandela Foundation • Harvard University • UCLA • Wits University Music School • Stellenbosch University • Various schools and community centres • The Bioscope • Earth Life Africa • EuroDoc • FESPACO Murder In Paris campaign case study video • AFDA • Kigali Film School • Foundation for Healing of Memories • ZAM

Awards and Nominations at Film festivals

Winner, Encounters Impact Springboard 2018 UCT ScreenCubator • **Selection**, Durban FilmMart 2019 • Broadcast on SABC3 2021 Human Rights Day, achieving highest ARs in almost a decade • **Selection and 15 x Winner**, Over 50 Festivals • **Winner**, Durban International Film Festival 2021: Best Documentary Award • **Winner**, DIFF 2021 Amnesty International Human Rights Award • **4x Nominee and 1x Winner**, SAFTA 2022 • Broadcast on MNet and Showmax VOD • **Invited Screening**, Bertha Doc House London, September 2021 — Many more —



41. Zinder, The Seeds of Violence

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- Niger



Reel Previews



Aicha Macky
Director



Clara Vuillermoz
Producer



Ousmane Samassekou
Producer

Synopsis

Zinder, in Niger, is a city of passage in the heart of the Sahel. Kara-Kara is one of its marginalized neighbourhoods, historically home to lepers and outcasts. Young people there have formed gangs feared by the population, the "Palaces", some of whose members cross the threshold of criminality, with the prospect of prison or death, while others are working to get out of the rut. This is the case of Siniya, Bawo and Ramsess, whose survival strategy the director, herself a daughter of Zinder, has chosen to film.

Awards at DFM

Winner, Afridocs: 2500 EUR Award funded by the Bertha Foundation

Film Screenings

Visions du réel, International Competition 2021 Nyon ([World Premiere](#))

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Encounters South African International Film Festival, Adiaha Women's Documentary Award • **Special Jury Mention**, Festival International du Film de Nancy • **Winner**, Afrika Film Festival Köln, Audience Award: Best Documentary • **Winner**, RIFF Reykjavik International Film Festival, A Different Tomorrow Award • **Winner**, FESPACO, Prix de la Meilleure Réalisatrice de l'Afrique de l'Ouest • **Winner**, FESPACO, Prix de la Femme Ambassadrice de la Paix • **Special Mention**, FESPACO, Conseil de l'Entente • **Winner**, Golden Tree Festival, Golden Tree Award • **Winner**, FIFAM Amiens, Prix Documentaire sur Grand Écran • **Special Mention**, FIDOCs Santiago • **Winner**, Black Movie Genève, Prix de la Critique • **Winner**, Festival Films Femmes Afrique Dakar, Meilleur Long-Métrage • **Winner**, Censurados Film Festival Lima, Meilleur Long-Métrage • **Nominee**, SWR Doku Festival, German Documentary Award • **Honourable Mention**, Shahr International Film Festival Tehran • **Winner**, AHRFF Africa Human Rights Film Festival: Best African Feature Documentary Award • **Honourable Mention**, FICCA2022 Buenos Aires • **Winner**, Lumières d'Afrique Besançon, Meilleur Film 2022 • **Special Jury Mention**, Festival Internacional de Cine de Gibara



42. As I Want (Zay Mana Aiyza)

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Samaher Alqadi
Director



Karim EL Hakim
Producer

Synopsis

In 2013 a crowd of enraged women take to the streets after a string of severe sexual assaults occur in Tahrir Square on the second anniversary of the revolution in Cairo.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Selection, Marché du Film, Palestinian Showcase of Docs-In-Progress 2018

Film Screenings

Berlin International Film Festival 2021 • CPH:DOX • Carthage Film Festival 2021

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Berlin International Film Festival 2021, Encounters Award • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2021, Bronze Tanit



43. The Master's Plan

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- Cape Verde



Yuri Ceuninck
Director



Hanne Phlypo
Producer

Synopsis

The peaceful Cape Verdean society gets shocked when public confessions about orgies, incest, attempted child rape, attempted murder and drug abuse are made by members of a Christian sect. All drafted in first person some of which belonging to highly educated and well-respected individuals of this society. Behind this lurks a spiritual leader, a self-proclaimed prophet of God. THE MASTER'S PLAN investigates the aftermath of these events and takes us on a search for truth and belief.

Awards at DFM

Winner, Hot Docs Blue Ice Award, Cash Prize: 2000 CAD

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Selection, Africadoc 2017 • **Selection**, MiradasDoc 2018

Film Screenings

Selection, Saint-Louis International Documentary Film Festival • **Selection**, AFRIFF 2021



44. Down So Long (pitched under Down And Dirty)

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Fiction
- South Africa



Angie Mills
Director + Producer



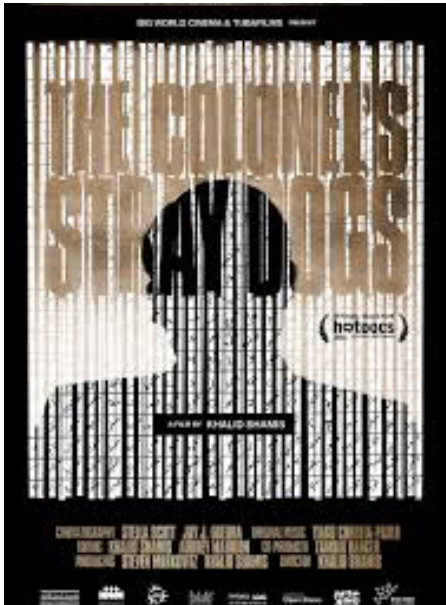
Damir Radonic
Producer

Synopsis

The Showmax film *Down So Long* stars four-time SAFTA winner Tshamano Sebe (8, Of Good Report, Stokvel) as Joseph Mabena, who lives with his wife, Doreen, his children, their spouses, and his grandchildren in an overcrowded, 20-person house in the Hangberg fishing community above Hout Bay in Cape Town. When he is injured in a workplace accident, Joseph is offered a substantial pay-out. His family suddenly rally round, professing their love in the hopes of getting their hands on the money.

Film Screenings

Silwerskerm Film Festival 2022 ([Premiere](#))



45. The Colonel's Stray Dogs

Status: Completed in 2021

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Khalid Shamis
Director



Steven Markovitz
Producer

Synopsis

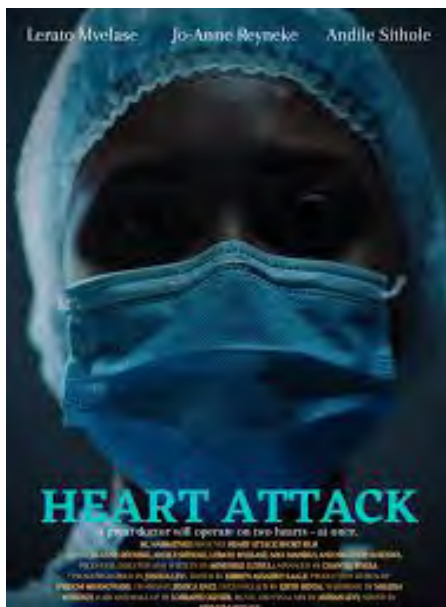
For over 40 years Ashur Shamis was Colonel Gadaffi's enemy number one in exile with a \$1m bounty on his head. His dream of a 'free' Libya almost cost him his life and his family. Ashur's son uncovers a dangerous past and questions the choices his father made to inherit the mess Gadaffi left.

Film Screenings

Hotdocs 2021 ([World Premiere](#)) • FESPACO 2021 • DIFF 2021 • JCC Carthage 2021

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, SAFTA Golden Horn 2022: Best Achievement in Directing, Documentary Feature (Khalid Shamis)



46. Heart Attack (Short Film)

Status: Completed in 2021

- Talents Durban 2019
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Minenhle Luthuli
Director +
Producer



Patricia Drati
Producer

Synopsis

Acclaimed cardio surgeon, Dr Khanyaqhawe Mabuyakhulu, finds out her next patient is Bheki - a man who killed her mother.

Labs or Market Participation post DFM

Talented Cameras of Africa 2021

Film Screenings

DIFF ([Premiere](#)) • Zanzibar International Film Festival • Cannes Short Film Corner • AFRIFF • Luxor Film Festival • URUSARO • Jozi Film Festival • The African Film Festival • Lake International Panafrican Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Lake International Panafrican Film Festival: Best International Short Film

Notable Achievements

Streamed on Showmax



47. Mamy Wata le Mystère d'Iveza (pitched under Mami Water)

Status: Completed in 2021

- Talents Durban 2019
- Fiction
- Gabon, Ivory Coast



Reel Previews



Samantha Biffot

Director +
Producer

Synopsis

Set in 1963, after the Old Location uprising that shook South West Africa, a black maid's life is changed forever when she encounters an Afrikaner police officer on a routine passbook check. Their illicit love for each other grows over time through the letters they write to each other, and they endure many obstacles beyond the color of their skin. The White Line is an authentic Namibian story that shows how apartheid laws were extended to the territory of Namibia prior to independence, under the South African administration.

Film Screenings

Cannes Series

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Screening, Cannes Series in partnership with Le Lab Femmes de Cinéma • **Original Creation**, Canal+ Afrique 2021



48. The Men Who Speak Gayle

Status: Completed in 2020

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Andrew Brukman
Director + Producer



Georgie Paget
Producer



Thembisa Cochrane
Producer

Synopsis

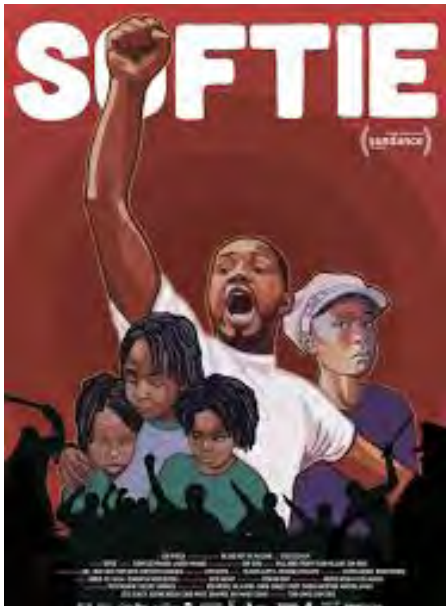
Entertainer Nathan Kennedy, who speaks Gayle, the South African cant that flourished during the Apartheid era, meets Louis van Brakel, a much older user of the secret language, and interviews him on stage at the Showroom, Prince Albert.

Awards at DFM

Currently in development phase into a full length documentary

Film Screenings

BFI Flare London United Kingdom ([World Premiere](#))



49. SOFTIE [pitched under UASI (Working Title)]

Status: Completed in 2020

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2017
- Documentary
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Sam Soko
Director + Producer



Toni Kamu
Producer

Synopsis

Boniface “Softie” Mwangi has long fought injustices in his country as a political activist. Now he’s taking the next step by running for office in a regional Kenyan election. From the moment Boniface decides to run, telling his wife, Njeri, in passing with a hesitant laugh, he responds to each challenge with optimism. But running a clean campaign against corrupt opponents becomes increasingly harder to combat with idealism alone. And Boniface soon finds that challenging strong political dynasties is putting his family at risk. Should country come before family, as he’s always believed?

Awards at DFM

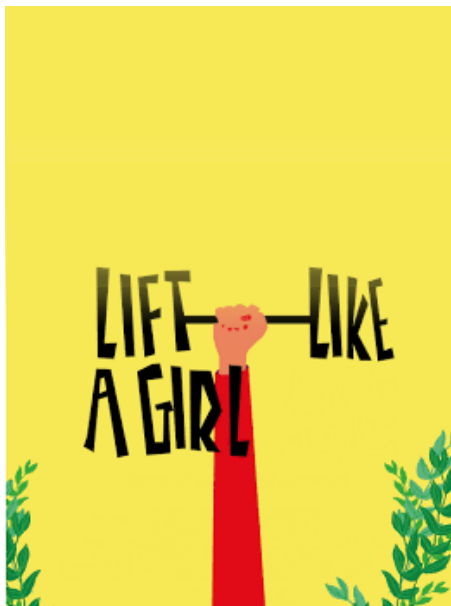
Motion Outstanding Documentary Pitch 2017 • Sanford Award 2017

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Hot Docs

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Motion 2017, Outstanding Documentary Pitch • **Winner**, Sanford Award 2017



50. Lift Like A Girl

Status: Completed in 2020

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Feature Documentary
- Egypt, Germany, Denmark



Reel Previews



Mayye Zayed
Director + Producer



Anna Chester
Co-Producer



Anke Petersen
Co-Producer

Synopsis

From a scrappy, vacant-lot training site in Alexandria, Egypt to the Olympic Games, 14 year-old Zebiba ("raisin" in Arabic) stands at the precipice between childhood and weightlifting champion – guided only by her dedicated yet relentless coach, Captain Ramadan, and her own competitive edge. Can she make the leap?

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Good Pitch 2020 • Impact Lab 2019 • Film Independent Documentary Lab 2019 Global Media Makers Fellowship • Dox Box 2017 Doc Free Zone

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Toronto International Film Festival 2020 ([World Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, DOK Leipzig 2020 • **Official Selection**, DOC NYC 2020 • **Official Selection**, Cairo International Film Festival 2020 • **Official Selection**, MedFilm Festival 2020

— Many more —

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

DOK Leipzig 2020 Golden Dove Award: Best Film in German Competition • Cairo International Film Festival 2020 Bronze Pyramid Award: Best First or Second Work • Cairo International Film Festival 2020 Audience Award • Cairo International Film Festival 2020 Isis Award: Best Egyptian Film Representing Women's Economic and Social Role

— Many more —

Notable Achievements

First Egyptian documentary to be released on Netflix worldwide • Halima Abdel Azim (one of the film's characters) has qualified to compete at the Paris Olympics 2024 • A shorter version was created for children and school students through the impact campaign, along with a toolkit and a board game • Film director and producer Mayye Zayed was selected among #CairoScene's Impactful Egyptians of 2020



51. Janitou (pitched under Searching for Janitou)

Status: Completed in 2020

- Talents Durban Doc Station (2012) Pitch and Finance Forum
- Documentary
- Algeria



Reel Previews



Amine Hattou
Director



Thomas Kaske
Producer



Boualem Ziani
Producer

Synopsis

Algeria in the late 1980s, during a period of intense violence, a Bollywood movie has become an unexpected sensation all over the country. Following the nostalgia of this love story coming from far away, "Janitou" explores what love means in today's Algerian society and detangles with tenderness and seriousness the emotional identity of a traumatized generation.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Nominee, Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2019 Robert Bosch Foundation Film Prize

Film Screenings

Official Selection, DIFF 2020 • **Official Selection**, Artsolo International Film Festival 2020 • **FESPACO 2022** • **Official Selection**, Africa in Motion 2022 • **Official Selection**, International Filmmaker Festival of New York 2022 • **Official Selection**, Festival International d'Alger FICA 2022



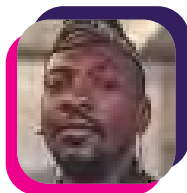
52. This Is Not A Burial, It's A Resurrection

Status: Completed in 2020

- Talents Durban 2017
- Fiction
- Lesotho



Reel Previews



Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese
Director



Cait Pansegrouw
Producer



Elias Ribeiro
Producer

Synopsis

Amongst the pythonic mountains of landlocked Lesotho, an 80 year old widow winds up her earthly affairs, makes arrangements for her burial and prepares to die. But when her village is threatened with forced resettlement due to the construction of a reservoir, she finds a new will to live and ignites a collective spirit of defiance within her community. In the final dramatic moments of her life, Mantoa's legend is forged and made eternal.

Film Screenings

Sundance 2020 (Premiere)

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Sundance Film Festival 2020 Special Jury Prize: Visionary Filmmaking • **Winner**, Portland International Film Festival 2020 Future Grand Prize • **Winner**, MOOOV International Film Festival 2020 Canvas Jury Prize: Best Film • **Winner**, Taipei International Film Festival 2020 Grand Jury Prize • **Winner**, Hong Kong International Film Festival 2020 Firebird Award: Young Cinema Competition (World Premiere) • **Winner**, Hong Kong International Film Festival 2020, Best Actress • **Winner**, Hong Kong International Film Festival 2020: FIPRESCI Prize • **Winner**, Santiago International Film Festival 2020: Best Director • **Special Mention**, Santiago International Film Festival 2020: Acting • **Winner**, DIFF 2020: Best Director • **Winner**, DIFF 2020: Best Actress • **Special Mention**, DIFF 2020: Artistic Bravery • **Winner**, Athens International Film Festival 2020, Golden Athena Award • **Winner**, Reykjavík International Film Festival 2020 Europa Film Festivals Award • **Winner**, Haifa International Film Festival 2020 Golden Puffin • **Winner**, CinemAfrica 2020 Carmel Competition — Many more —

Notable Achievements

Lesotho entry for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film at the 93rd Academy Awards



53. Part of the Pack

Status: Completed in 2022

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2021
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Emily Cross
Director + Producer



Michael Cross
Co-producer

Synopsis

This film educates the public on an endangered species in their country that no one knows or is talking about while looking at what makes an African Wild Dog so unique and gives insight on how they are as a species.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Scout Winter Fest, Short Film Series • **Official Selection**, 5050 on SABC2, Short Film Series

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Scout Winter Fest, Best Documentary on Ocean and the Environment



54. How To Steal A Country

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- South Africa



Mark Kaplan
Director



Zivia Desai
Producer



Rehad Desai
Producer

Synopsis

When a group of investigative journalists discovered far-reaching corruption involving Jacob Zuma, then President of South Africa, a pernicious disinformation campaign was mounted against the integrity of the newsroom. Then one day the journalists receive the smoking gun—a huge data leak that lays bare the entire modus operandi behind the capture of the South African state by private individuals with the help of politicians.

Film Screenings

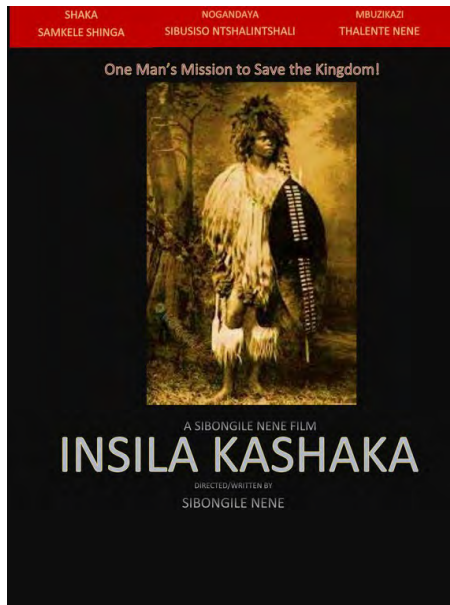
IDFA 2019 ([World Premiere](#)) • Encounters South African International Documentary Festival 2020 • DIFF 2020

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, DIFF: Best Documentary

Notable Achievements

2x Winner, SAFTA 2021 Golden Horn



55. Insila Kashaka

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Brian Khawula
Director



Sibongile Nene
Producer

Synopsis

Nogandaya, king Shaka's food tester, has a mission to secure an heir for a king who kills his unborn sons to save the bloodline and the Zulu kingdom. A terrified young virgin agrees to his plan to bear the heir but must leave the kingdom to be safe from the wrath of King Shaka. When Shaka is assassinated, Nogandaya avoids his own customary execution to find mother and son, only to find a jealous cousin to the king abducted the heir after the young virgin gave birth.

Film Screenings

Kasi Vibe Festival 2019



56. Un Fils

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Fiction
- Tunisia



Reel Previews



Mehdi M. Barsaoui
Director



Habib Attia
Producer

Synopsis

11 year old Aziz needs a liver transplant after being seriously injured during a terrorist ambush while on holiday in 2011. At the hospital a family secret will be revealed.

Awards at DFM

Sørfond Pitching Forum 2016

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

DFAcademy 2018 • The Chicken & Egg Next Gen Egg Pitching Event 2019 • Sheffield MeetMarket 2019 • The Sundance Creative Producing Summit 2019 • IFP Week 2019 • IDFA Forum 2019

Film Screenings

Winner and Official Selection, Venice International Film Festival 2019 Orizzonti Competition: Best Actor (**World Premiere**) • **Official Selection**, Carthage Film Festival • **Winner and Official Selection**, Cairo International Film Festival 2019: Opening Film and Best Arab Film • **Official Selection**, BFI London Film Festival • **Winner**, United Nations Award: Best Film • **Winner and Official Selection**, Namur International Film Festival 2019 Audience Award • **Winner and Official Selection**, Hainan International Film Festival 2019: Best Actor, Best Script • **Winner and Official Selection**, Malmö Arab Film Festival 2019: Best Film, Best Actress • **Winner and Official Selection**, Lumières 2021: Best Actor • **Winner**, César Awards 2021: Best Actor • **Winner**, Cairo International Film Festival 2019 Arab Cinema Competition • **Winner**, Cairo International Film Festival 2019 Salah Abu Seif Prize • **Winner**, Cairo International Film Festival 2019 UNFPA Award



57. The Letter

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2016
- Documentary
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Maia Lekow
Director + Producer



Chris King
Director + Producer

Synopsis

Karisa's city-life is interrupted when his Grandma back home is called a witch and receives a death threat. Returning to his rural village in Kenya, he finds a frenzied mixture of consumerism and Christianity.

Film Screenings

IDFA ([World Premiere](#))

Notable Achievements

Kenya's Official Submission, 93 Academy Awards 2021



58. Flatland

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Jenna Cato Bass
Director



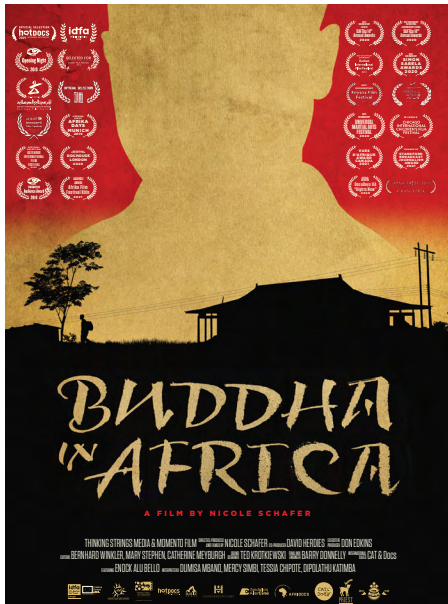
David Horler
Producer

Synopsis

A contemporary Western, a journey of self-discovery for three different but equally trapped women. A portrait of femininity against a hostile land, questioning what it means to be a woman today in South Africa and the world at large.

Film Screenings

Opening Film, Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2019
Panorama Section • TIFF 2019



59. Homage to the Buddha (Buddha in Africa)

Status: Completed in 2019

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Documentary
- South Africa



Nicole Schafer
Director + Producer

Synopsis

In a Chinese Buddhist orphanage in Africa, Enock Alu, a Malawian teenager, finds himself torn between his African roots and Chinese upbringing. Once the star performer with dreams of becoming a martial arts hero like Jet Li, Enock, in his final year of school, has to make some tough decisions about his future. Will he return to his relatives in his home village or study abroad in Taiwan? Set against China's expanding influence on the continent.

Awards at DFM

Winner, IDFA and Jan Vrijman Fund: Most Promising Documentary

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, Durban FilmMart 2011 IDFA: Most Promising Documentary Award Pitch • **Selection**, Hot Docs Blue Ice Lab 2011 • **Selection**, IDFA Summer School 2013 • **Selection**, Chicken & Egg Post-Production Lab 2014 • **Selection**, Visions du Réel WIP Lab 2016 • **Selection**, Cape Town Film Festival WIP Lab 2018

Film Screenings

Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival 2019 ([World Premiere](#)) • **Opening Film**, Encounters South African Documentary Festival 2019 ([Premiere](#)) • **Opening Film**, Afrika Days Munich 2019 ([Premiere](#))

— Many more —

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Durban International Film Festival 2019: Best South African Documentary • **Winner**, Visioni dal Mondo International Documentary Festival 2019: Best International Documentary • **Winner**, Knysna Film Festival 2019: Best Documentary • **Winner**, NHK Japan Grand Prix 2019 International Contest for Educational Media • **Winner**, Encounters 2019 Audience Award • **Winner**, Universal Martial Arts Festival 2020: Best Documentary • **Winner**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Documentary Feature • **Winner**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Achievement in Directing a Documentary Feature • **Winner**, Simon Sabela Awards 2020

— Many more —



60. You Will Die At 20

Status: Completed in 2019

- Talents Durban 2018
- Fiction
- Sudan



Reel Previews



Amjad Abu Alala
Director



Michael Henrichs
Producer

Synopsis

Shortly after Muzamil was born, the village's holy man predicts that he will die at age 20. Muzamil's father can't stand the curse and leaves home. Sakina raises her son as a single mother, overly protective. One day, Muzamil turns 19.

Film Screenings

Venice International Film Festival 2019 Venice Days Parallel Section

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Amiens International Film Festival 2019 Grand Prix du Jury: Fiction • **Winner**, Hamburg Film Festival 2019 Hamburg Producers Award: German-European Cinematic Productions • **Winner**, Fribourg International Film Festival 2020, Grand Prix • **Winner**, Venice International Film Festival 2019 Luigi De Laurentiis Award: Best Debut Film • **Nominee**, Venice International Film Festival 2019 FEDEORA Award: Best Film (Venice Days) • **Nominee**, Lumières Awards France 2021: Best International Coproduction, Meilleure Coproduction Internationale) • **Nominee**, Carthage Film Festival 2019 Tanit d'Or: Narrative Feature Film • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2019, Best Screenplay: Narrative Feature Film • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2019 Tahar Chriaa Award • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2019 FIPRESCI Prize • **Nominee**, Carthage Film Festival 2019 International Competition • **Nominee**, Mumbai Film Festival 2020 Golden Gateway Award • **Nominee**, Odesa International Film Festival 2020 Golden Duke • **Winner**, Odesa International Film Festival 2020 Special Jury Mention: International Program • **Nominee**, Odesa International Film Festival 2020 International Feature Competition — Many more —

Notable Achievements

Sudanese Entry, 93rd Academy Awards 2021 Best International Feature Film (First-ever Sudanese Submission; Not Nominated)



61. The Whiteline

Status: Completed in 2019

- Talents Durban 2018
- Fiction
- Namibia



Reel Previews



Desiree Kahikopo-Meiffret
Director + Producer



Girley Jazama
Producer



Micheal Pulse
Producer

Synopsis

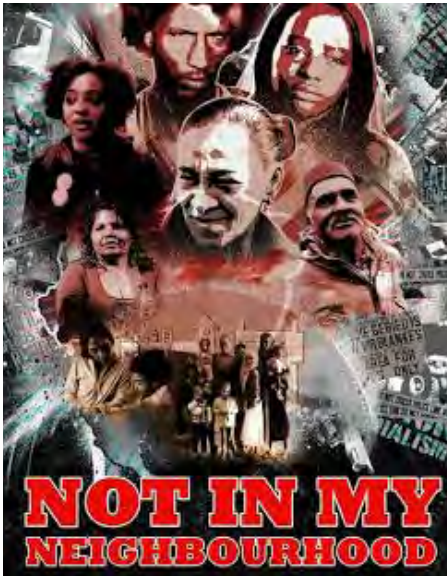
Set in 1963, after the Old Location uprising that shook South West Africa, a black maid's life is changed forever when she encounters an Afrikaner police officer on a routine passbook check. Their illicit love for each other grows over time through the letters they write to each other, and they endure many obstacles beyond the colour of their skin. The White Line is an authentic Namibian story that shows how apartheid laws were extended to the territory of Namibia prior to independence, under the South African administration.

Film Screenings

DIFF ([Premiere](#))

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, African Movie Academy Awards 2020: Best Film in an African Language • **Nominee**, African Movie Academy Awards 2020: Best Screenplay • **Winner**, Luxor African Film Festival 2020 Special Mention: Long Narrative Competition • **Winner**, Festival Africlap 2020 Kilimandjaro Award: Best Film • **Winner**, Festival Africlap 2019: Best Script • **Nominee**, Namibian Film Awards 2019: Best Production Design • **Nominee**, Namibian Film Awards 2019: Best Editor • **Nominee**, Sotigui Awards 2019: Best Newcomer Director • **Winner**, Sotigui Awards 2020: Best Actor (Southern Africa)



62. Not In My Neighbourhood

Status: Completed in 2018

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2015
- Documentary
- South Africa



Kurt Orderson
Director



Crystal Orderson
Producer

Synopsis

From colonisation to gentrification, Not In My Neighbourhood tells the intergenerational stories of the ways in which ordinary citizens respond to the policies, process, and institutions driving contemporary forms of spatial violence and gentrification in Cape Town, New York, and São Paulo.

Film Screenings

DIFF • American Black Film Festival • **Official Selection**, Toronto South African Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, American Black Film Festival: Best Documentary • **Official Selection**, Toronto South African Film Festival



63. The Sound of Masks

Status: Completed in 2018

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Sara Gouveia
Producer

Synopsis

Atanásio Nyusi, a compelling storyteller and legendary Mapiko dancer, takes us on a visually dramatic journey through Mozambique's past and present.

Awards at DFM

The South African film *The Sound of Masks*, directed by Kofi Zwana and produced by Sara Gouveia, received the Most Promising Documentary Pitch award from the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), which afforded the filmmakers an IDFA and Forum Pass.

Film Screenings

IDFA 2018 ([World Premiere](#))

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Brazil Festival of International Cinema 2021: Best Direction, Best International Feature • **Winner**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Achievement in Cinematography in a Documentary • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Documentary Feature • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Achievement in Cinematography in a Documentary • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 14th Annual Awards 2020: Best Achievement in Editing in a Documentary • **Winner**, Plateau International Film Festival 2019: Best Feature International Documentary • DIFF 2019: Best Feature Documentary



64. Jambula Tree (Rafiki)

Status: Completed in 2018

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Fiction
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Wanuri Kahiu
Director



Steven Markovotiz
Producer

Synopsis

"Good Kenyan girls become good Kenyan wives," but Kena and Ziki long for something more. When love blossoms between them, the two girls will be forced to choose between happiness and safety.

Awards at DFM

Winner, Arte France: Best Feature Film Project valued at 6 000 EUR, Presented by Remi Burah

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Official Selection, Cannes Film Festival 2018 Un Certain Regard (World Premiere) • **Selection**, Moulin d'Andé CECI and La Fabrique Cinéma • **Selection**, Berlinale Co-Production Market • **Selection**, Venice Gap-Financing Market

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Cannes Film Festival 2018 Un Certain Regard (World Premiere) • **Official Selection**, FESPACO 2019 (African Premiere) • **Official Selection**, Karlovy Vary International Film Festival • **Official Selection**, Toronto International Film Festival • **Official Selection**, BFI London Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Received over 30 awards

Notable Achievements

Sold to 26 countries



Joel Karekezi
Director + Producer

Synopsis

The Mercy of the Jungle is a road movie that deals with wars in Congo through the eyes of two lost soldiers in the jungle by showcasing their struggle, weakness and hope.

Awards at DFM

Winner, Canal France International: Most Promising Project

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Selection, Cannes Film Festival 2013 La Fabrique des Cinémas du Monde

Film Screenings

TIFF 2018

Notable Achievements

Winner, FESPACO 2019 Étalon de Yennenga Grand Prize: Best Feature Film • **Winner**, FESPACO 2019: Best Actor (Marc Zinga) • **Nominee**, Carthage Film Festival 2018 Tanit d'Or: Narrative Feature Film • **Winner**, African Movie Academy Awards 2019: Best Film • **Winner**, African Movie Academy Awards 2019 Best Costume Design (Shakira Kibirige) • **Winner**, African Movie Academy Awards 2019: Best Makeup (Shakira Kibirige) • **Winner**, World Cinema Amsterdam 2021 Audience Award: Best Film

65. The Mercy of The Jungle

Status: Completed in 2018

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Fiction
- Rwanda



Reel Previews



66. Freedom Fields

Status: Completed in 2018

- HotDocs Fellow 2014
- Documentary
- Libya



Reel Previews



Naziha Arebi
Director + Producer

Synopsis

An intimate look at post-revolution Libya through the eyes of an aspiring all-female soccer team, whose struggle to gain mainstream acceptance mirrors the broader challenges facing women in contemporary Libyan society.

Film Screenings

TIFF (**Premiere**)



67. Cactus Flower

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Hala Elkoussy
Director



Hossam Elouan
Producer

Synopsis

In a hot and politically challenged Cairo actress Aida and her neighbour, the aging diva Samiha, are thrown out on the streets. Together with the street smart Yassin, they try to find a place to live, forcing them to confront with their past.

Film Screenings

Dubai International Film Festival ([MENA Premiere](#)) • International Film Festival Rotterdam ([World Premiere](#))

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Dubai International Film Festival: Best Actress ([MENA Premiere](#))



68. Amal

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2015
- Documentary
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Mohamed Siam
Director



Ingrid Lill Høgtun
Producer

Synopsis

Amal is fourteen years old when she goes to Tahrir Square in Cairo during the Arab Spring to showcase. With youthful hubris she goes straight to the danger. This coming of age film follows her in the years that follow, a period in which the fearless Amal seeks her own identity in a country in transition.

Film Screenings

IDFA ([World Premiere](#))

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Sheffield Jury Award 2018 • Carthage Tanit d'Or 2018

Notable Achievements

Screened at over 100 festivals.



69. Kula: A Memory in Three Acts

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Documentary
- Mozambique



Reel Previews



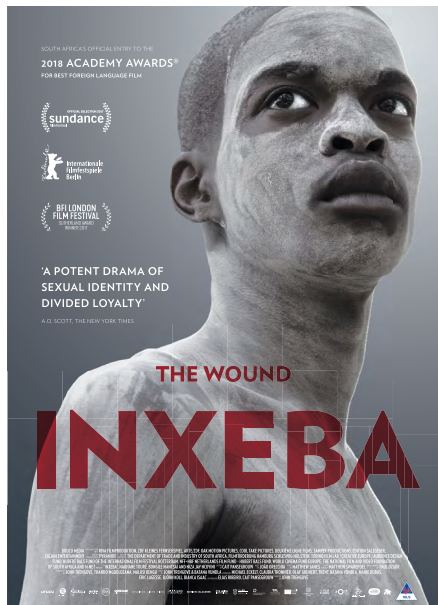
Inadelso Cossa
Director + Producer

Synopsis

Mozambique's colonial history left a deep wound in the country's collective memory. A Memory in Three Acts is a poetic exploration of post-colonial trauma and collective memory loss, giving a voice to those who resisted in the underground but remained silent about their experiences. Former political prisoners return to the sites where they were tortured, confronting their ghosts, reconstructing their memories of suffering, and seeking reconciliation as a path to healing.

Film Screenings

IDFA Competition for First Appearance, 2016 • Göteborg Film Festival 2017



70. The Wound (Inxeba)

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



John Trengove
Director



Elias Ribeiro
Producer



Cait Pansegrouw
Producer

Synopsis

Xolani, a lonely factory worker, joins the men of his community in the mountains of the Eastern Cape to initiate a group of teenage boys into manhood. When a defiant initiate from the city discovers his best kept secret, Xolani's entire existence begins to unravel.

Awards at DFM

Winner, ARTE France International Prize 6 000 EUR

Film Screenings

Sundance Film Festival 2017 (World Premiere) • Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2017 • DIFF 2017

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Barcelona Indie Film Awards: Best African Film • **Winner**, UNIMA Nigerian Awards: Best Actress (Michelle Tiren), Best Actor (Tshamano Sebe), Best Cinematography (Chuanne Blofield)

Notable Achievements

South Africa's Official Entry, Academy Awards® 2018: Best Foreign Language Film



71. Kiss Me Not (pitched under The Story Of A Kiss)

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Ahmed Amer
Director



Wael Sayed El Ahl
Producer

Synopsis

A mockumentary that follows a young and ambitious Egyptian director who faces issues while shooting a kissing scene in his new film with the leading actress Fajr who decides to pursue a more religious path.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Dubai International Film Festival 2017 • **Official Selection**, Shanghai International Film Festival 2018



72. Five Fingers for Marseilles

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2013
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Michael Matthews
Director + Producer



Asger Hussain
Producer



Yaron Schwartzman
Producer



Sean Drummond
Producer

Synopsis

Twenty years ago, the young 'Five Fingers' fought for the rural town of Marseilles, against brutal police oppression. Now, after fleeing in disgrace, freedom-fighter-turned-'outlaw' Tau returns to Marseilles, seeking only a peaceful pastoral life. When he finds the town under new threat, he must reluctantly fight to free it. Will the Five Fingers ride again?

Film Screenings

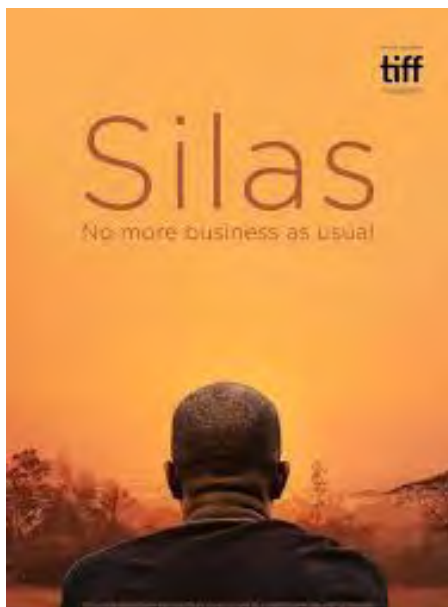
Toronto International Film Festival ([World Premiere](#)) • BFI London Film Festival ([European Premiere](#)) • Fantastic Fest ([US Premiere](#)) • Busan International Film Festival ([Asian Premiere](#)) • RapidLion International Film Festival ([African Premiere](#)) • **Official Selection**, FESPACO • **Official Selection**, New York African Film Festival • **Official Selection**, BRICS Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

11x Nominee and 5x Winner, African Movie Academy Awards: Best Film, Best Film in an African Language • **7x nominations and 2x Winner**, SAFTAs • **Writer's Guild of SA Award**: Best Produced Feature Film

Notable Achievements

Worldwide Release, including Theatrical Releases in the US and Select Other Territories • **NY Times Critics' Pick** • **LA Times Critics' Pick** • Named by Beyoncé as an Inspiration for Cowboy Carter



73. Logs of War (Silas)

Status: Completed in 2017

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Documentary
- Kenya



Reel Previews



Anjali Nayar
Director



Hawa Essuman
Producer

Synopsis

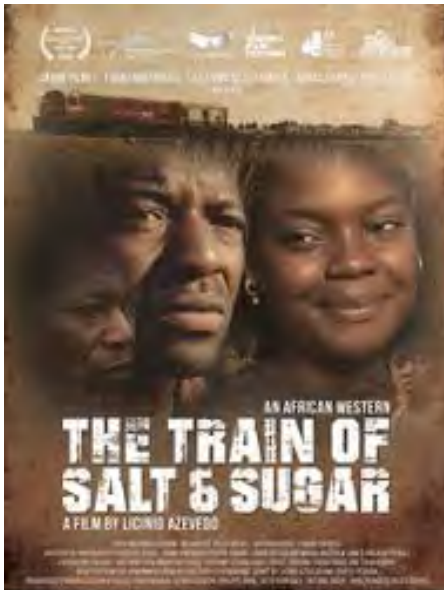
Anjali Nayar and Hawa Essuman profile the life of Liberian activist Silas Siakor, a tireless crusader against illegal logging and a symbol of resistance for a new generation.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

IDFA: Most Promising Documentary Project

Film Screenings

TIFF 2017 • IDFA 2017 • Encounters 2018 • Available on Amazon



74. The Train of Salt and Sugar

Status: Completed in 2016

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Fiction
- Mozambique



Reel Previews



Licinio De Azevedo
Director



Pandora Cunha Telles
Producer

Synopsis

A very dangerous train journey through war torn Mozambique. Civilian passengers are both protected and harassed by a troop of ill-disciplined soldiers on board to fight off a rebel army in the bush. All must work together to repair sabotaged track and reach safety.

Film Screenings

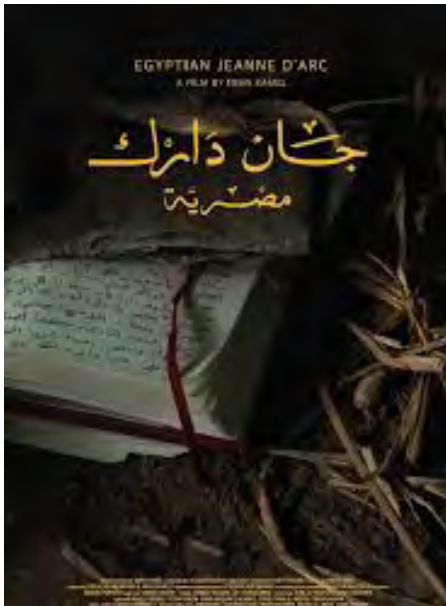
Cairo International Film Festival • DIFF

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Cairo International Film Festival 2016 Silver Pyramid: Best Director • **Nominee**, Cairo International Film Festival 2016 Golden Pyramid: Best Film • **Nominee**, Locarno Film Festival 2016 Variety Piazza Grande Award (Licínio Azevedo) • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2017 Tanit d'Or • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2017 Best Cinematography: Narrative Feature Film • **Winner**, Carthage Film Festival 2017 National Competition: Best Costume Design (Isabel Peres)

Notable Achievements

Mozambique's First-Ever Submission, Academy Awards: Best International Feature Film



75. Egyptian Jeanne d'Arc

Status: Completed in 2016

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Documentary
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Iman Kamel
Director



Talal Al-Muhanna
Producer

Synopsis

Egyptian Jeanne d'Arc is a hybrid film that melds documentary with mythic story elements, poetic narration and dance to convey intimate, true stories of resistance by Egyptian women since the outbreak of revolution in 2011. The film follows in the footsteps of Cairene filmmaker Iman Kamel as she journeys to the western deserts where she discovers a diary written by a Bedouin girl named Jehanne.

Film Screenings

Dubai International Film Festival • DIFF • Ismailia International Film Festival for Documentaries and Shorts • Eurasia International Film Festival • Malmö Arab Film Festival • Arab Film Festival Tubinge • Arab Film Festival Rotterdam • Cairo International Film Festival • Africa Film Festival Köln • China Women's Film Festival • African Diaspora International Film Festival • Muscat Festival • Sudan Independent Film Festival • Jounieh International Film Festival • Karama Human Rights Film Festival



76. Alison

Status: Completed in 2016

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2014
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Uga Carlini
Director

Synopsis

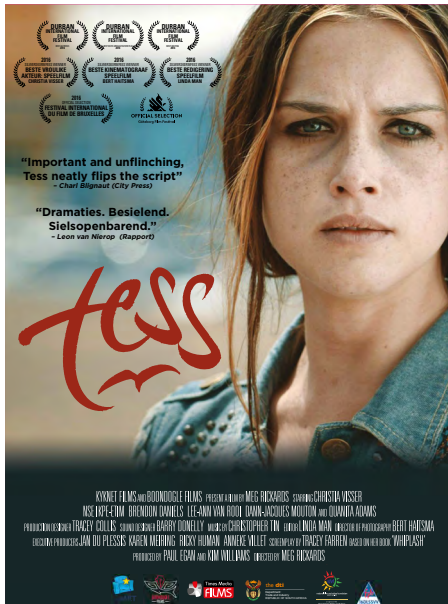
Raped. Disemboweled. Nearly decapitated. Dumped on the outskirts of a nature reserve, dead - or so they thought. She needed a hero that night, so that's what she became. This is Alison's tale. A tale of monsters, miracles and hope.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, Dances With Films Film Festival 2016 Pick of the Fest: Enclave La • **Official Selection**, Encounters Film Festival 2016 (Sold Out) • **Official Selection**, Cayman Islands Film Festival 2016 • **Official Selection**, DIFF 2016 • **Winner**, Asia Pacific International Filmmaker Festival and Awards Indonesia 2016: Best Documentary • **Opening Film**, Mzansi Women's Festival 2016 • **Official Selection**, Humanitarian Film Festival of Barcelona, Paris and New York 2016 • **Winner**, Humanitarian Filmmaker Award: Best Documentary • **Official Selection and Nominee**, Silwerskermfees 2016: Best Documentary • **Official Selection**, Bahamas International Film Festival • **Official Selection**, Luxor African Film Festival (6th Edition) • **Official Selection**, Women's Director International Film Festival India

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, International Innovation Film Festival 2019: Best Screenplay • **Winner**, International Innovation Film Festival 2019: Best Director • **Winner**, WOW Women of the Year Film Festival 2018 • **Winner**, Writer's Guild of South Africa 2017: Best Documentary Screenplay • **Winner**, AMVCA 2017: Best African Documentary • **Winner**, Humanitarian Filmmaker Award 2017 • **Winner**, Asian Pacific Documentary Film Festival 2017 • **5x Nominee**, SAFTA



77. Whiplash (Tess)

Status: Completed in 2016

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2013
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Meg Rickards
Director



Kim Williams
Producer



Paul Egan
Producer

Synopsis

When sex worker Tess falls pregnant, she has to fight to keep her past from swallowing her whole.

Film Screenings

DIFF 2016

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

DIFF 2016: Best South African Feature Film, Best Actress, Best Editing • Silwerskermfees 2016: Best Cinematography, Best Actress, Best Editing



Rehad Desai
Director +
Producer

78. Miners Shot Down

Status: Completed in 2015

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2013
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews

Synopsis

In August 2012, mineworkers in one of South Africa's biggest platinum mines began a wildcat strike for better wages. Six days into the strike, the police used live ammunition to brutally suppress the strike, killing 34 and injuring many more. The police insisted that they shot in self-defense. *Miners Shot Down* tells a different story, one that unfolds in real time over seven days, like a ticking time bomb. The film weaves together the central point-of-view of three strike leaders, Mambush, Tholakele and Mzoxolo.

Film Screenings

FESPACO 2015 • DIFF 2014 • Encounters International Documentary Festival 2014 • African Film Festival Cologne 2014 • Paris Human Rights Film Festival 2014 • New York African Film Festival 2014

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Has received 26 awards including:

Winner, International Emmy Awards 2015: Best Documentary
 • **Winner**, One World Human Rights Film Festival Prague 2014 Jury Award: Best Documentary • **Winner**, Movies That Matter Human Rights Film Festival 2014 Camera Justitia Award • **Winner**, Encounters International Documentary Festival 2014 Special Choice Award • **Winner**, Myanmar Human Rights Human Dignity International Film Festival 2014 Aung San Suu Kyi Award • **Winner**, DIFF 2014: Best South African Documentary • **Winner**, Amnesty International Durban Film Festival 2014 Human Rights Jury Award • **Winner**, Doc Society 2015 Doc Impact Prize • **Winner**, Doc Edge 2015: Best Documentary • **Winner**, Cinema for Peace Award 2015: Best Documentary



Sara Blecher
Director + Producer

Synopsis

After tragedy strikes, a young woman begins a journey of self-discovery as she struggles to save her father's car repair shop along with her memory of him. 'Ayanda' is a coming-of-age story from writer/director Sara Blecher that takes us into a vibrant Johannesburg community alive with love and humour, risk and reward, tragedy and triumph. This film held its World Premiere screening at the 2015 Los Angeles Film Festival winning the Special Jury Prize in the World Fiction Competition.

Film Screenings

Opening Night Film, DIFF

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Los Angeles Film Festival 2015 Special Mention: World Fiction • **Winner**, SAFTAs 2016 Golden Horn: Best Actress – Feature Film (Fulu Mugovhani)

79. Andani and The Mechanic (Ayanda)

Status: Completed in 2015

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2013
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



80. Boda Boda Thieves

Status: Completed in 2015

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Fiction
- South Africa, Uganda



Reel Previews



Donald Mugisha
Director



James Taylor
Co-director +
Producer

Synopsis

Even though he is only 15 years old, when his father is injured in a road accident Abel takes up the responsibility of manning the family 'boda boda' to provide for the family. Abel however, is always on the lookout for a shortcut and when a local hustler offers him the chance of being a snatch and grab get-away driver, he lurches headlong into a world of easy money and quick thrills.

Awards at DFM

CineMart Rotterdam Lab

Film Screenings

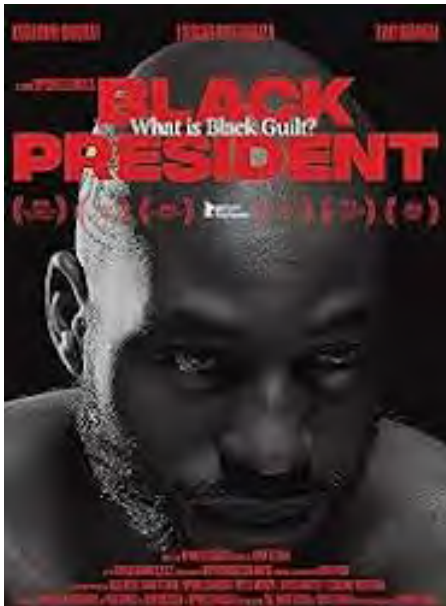
Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) (World Premiere) • Durban International Film Festival • Seattle International Film Festival • AFI New African Film Festival • World Cinema Amsterdam • Africa in Motion Film Festival • Uganda Film Festival • Festival des 3 Continents Nantes • New African Film Festival Maryland • Toronto Black Film Festival • Luxor African Film Festival • New York African Film Festival • Festival de Cine Africano • Cinémas d'Afrique Festival • Festival Cinema Africano di Verona • New Delhi Jagran Film Festival • Montreal Black Film Festival • Euro-African Kampala Film Festival • Vancouver International Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Uganda Film Festival 2015 Festival Award: Best Post Production • **Winner**, Uganda Film Festival 2015 Festival Award: Best Supporting Actor (Michael Wawuyo) • **Winner**, Uganda Film Festival 2015, Festival Award: Best Cinematography (Carol Burandt von Kameke)

Notable Achievements

Winner, Africa Movie Academy Awards 2015: Best Young/Promising Actor (Hassan Spike Insingoma) • **Winner**, Uganda Film Festival 2015: Best Cinematography (Carol Burandt von Kameke) • **Winner**, Uganda Film Festival 2015: Best Supporting Actor (Michael Wawuyo)



81. Black President

Status: Completed in 2015

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Documentary
- South Africa, UK



Reel Previews



Mpumelelo Mcata
Director



Anna Teeman
Producer

Synopsis

Exiled Zimbabwean artist Kudzanai Chiurai's demons come to life as he tries to flee South Africa following various fractious experiences in the Johannesburg art scene.

Film Screenings

Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) 2015 Forum Expanded ([World Premiere](#)) • Durban International Film Festival 2015 • Film Africa 2015 • Africa in Motion 2015 • CinemAfrica 2015 • T-Mobile New Horizons International Film Festival 2015 • **Nominee**, Films On Art International Competition: Theatrical Run (Johannesburg). **Streaming**, HighballTV



82. Unearthed

Status: Completed in 2014

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2013
- Documentary
- South Africa



Jolynn Minnaar
Director



Dylan Voogt
Producer

Synopsis

A young South African woman swallows her optimism on the potential shale gas could bring to her people after traveling to ground zero and uncovering the dirty secrets of the fracking industry. Unearthed exposes the dark web of hidden truths upholding the false assurances made by multinational energy corporations that the method of hydraulic fracturing is a safe, time-tested technology and the flawed assertion that shale gas is the solution for our energy hungry world.

Film Screenings

Sheffield DocFest ([Premiere](#)) • IDFA

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Sheffield International Documentary Festival 2014 Green Award ([International Premiere](#)) • Encounters International Documentary Festival 2014: Best South African Film ([South African Premiere](#)) • Tri Continental Film Festival 2014 Audience Award



83. Mother of the Unborn (Um Ghayeb: Mother of the Unborn)

Status: Completed in 2014

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Documentary
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Nadine Salib
Director



Fawzi Saleh
Producer



Maartje Alders
Producer

Synopsis

In a forgotten corner of Egypt lives a woman who is yearning for a child. Having no option but to live on the fringe of her community because of her infertility, Hanan lingers between a dream that is slowly slipping away and her struggle to find a place where she belongs. While everything that surrounds her bustles with fertility and mortality, she wonders how to give meaning to the time that she has in between.

Film Screenings

IDFA 2014 (World Premiere) • Doclisboa

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Nominee, Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative 2023–2024

- **Winner**, Abu Dhabi Film Festival 2014 FIPRESCI Award: Best Documentary
- **Winner**, IDFA 2014 Special Jury Prize: First Appearance Competition
- **Special Mention**, MedFilm Festival 2015
- **Winner**, Mizna Twin Cities 2015 1st Prize: Best Documentary
- **Special Mention**, Arab Latin Film Festival 2015
- **Winner**, Arab Latin Film Festival 2015 Premio INCAA TV Award: Competition of Arab Films
- **Winner**, AfryCam Film Festival 2016: Best Documentary



84. The Dream of Shahrazad

Status: Completed in 2014

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2010
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Francois Verster
Director



Neil Brandt
Producer

Synopsis

The Dream of Shahrazad is a feature-length documentary film that brings together the famous story collection The 1001 (Or "Arabian") Nights with recent political events in Egypt, Turkey and Lebanon. Description The "Arab Spring" of early 2011 was a momentous global event, raising great hopes for anyone interested in the forward march of humanity. No one, however, is yet sure about the meaning or consequences of these events.

Labs Or Market Participation Post

Winner, Sunny Side of the Doc 2012: Best Documentary in Progress Award

Film Screenings

Opening Film, Hakkaya Film Festival 2015 (**Premiere**) • AFRIDocs • Against Gravity (Poland) • Al Arabiya • Sunny Side of the Doc 2012: Best Documentary in Progress • **Official Selection**, IDFA Forum 2012 • **Official Selection**, IDFA Masters 2014 • AVANCA 2015 International Television Competition: Best Film: • Durban International Film Festival 2015: Best South African Documentary • Luxor African Film Festival 2015 Al-Husseini Abou-Deif Prize, Freedom Competition: Best Film • Luxor African Film Festival 2015 Golden Mask of Tutankhamen/ Artwatch Africa Prize • **Nominee**, African Movie Academy Awards 2015: Best Documentary • **Nominee**, Documentarist Film Festival 2015 FIPRESCI Prize • **Certificate of Appreciation**, Malmö Arab Film Festival 2015 • SAFTAs 2016: Best Documentary • SAFTAs 2016: Best Documentary Directing • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 2016: Best Editing • **Nominee**, SAFTAs 2016: Best Cinematography • Helsinki African Film Festival 2016 Jury Prize

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, SAFTAs 2016 Golden Horn: Best Documentary Feature



85. Villa 69 [pitched under 69 Midane el Messaha (69 Messaha Square)]

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Ayten Amin
Director



Ihab Ayoub
Producer

Synopsis

69 Messaha Square is the address of an old house where all the action takes place. This house is the only one left in the street as a witness of a beauty that once existed. It is also the place where our protagonist Hussein El-Gallad was born and lived most of his life. He is a 62 year old man, a retired interior designer, a charismatic snobbish person, and is terminally ill. For personal reasons Abdul Hamid, his personal assistant, leaves to his home town for a vacation of three weeks.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, Cairo Film Connection Award • **Winner**, Cairo International Film Festival 2010 • **Winner**, Abu Dhabi Film Festival Sanad Grant

Film Screenings

Abdu Dhabi Film Festival Special Jury Prize (**Premiere**) • Tokyo film Festival • Khoubega Film Festival: Best Actor (Khaled Abol Naga)

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, Cairo National Festival for Egyptian Cinema 2014 Horus Award: Best Actor • **Winner**, Cairo National Festival for Egyptian Cinema 2014 Horus Award: Best Director (First Work Ayten Amin)



86. The Devil's Lair

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Riann Hendricks
Director



Neil Brandt
Producer

Synopsis

Braam is a gang leader torn between securing the future of his young family while guiding his men through a deadly drug war turf. What choices will he make?

Film Screenings

Hot Docs 2013 • DIFF 2013



87. I, Afrikaner

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Annalet Steenkamp
Director



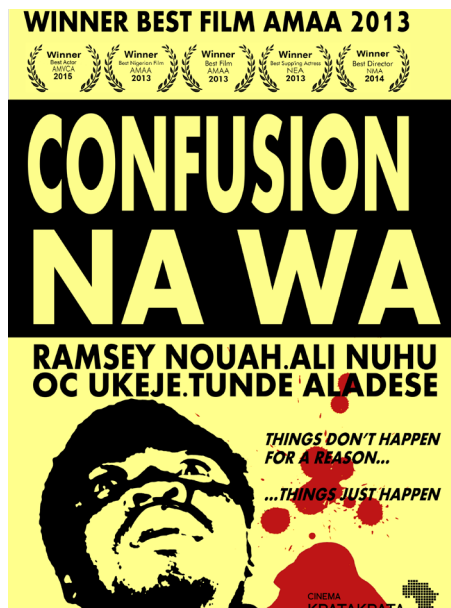
Lauren Groenewald
Producer

Synopsis

Follows four generations of South African Boers as they grapple with their identity as white farmers in a post-Apartheid South Africa, where land ownership is highly contentious and violence and racism are endemic.

Film Screenings

IDFA 2013 ([World Premiere](#))



88. Confusion Na Wa

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2010
- Fiction
- Nigeria



Reel Previews



Kenneth Gyang
Director



Tom Rowlands-Rees
Producer

Synopsis

Set in a Nigerian city, *Confusion Na Wa* is a dark comedy about a group of strangers whose fates become intertwined over the course of 24 hours. At the heart of everything is a phone found by two opportunist wasters, Charles and Chichi, who, having read through its contents, decide to blackmail the owner, Emeka.

Confusion Na Wa was winner of the Best Picture category at the 2013 African Movie Academy Awards.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Winner, Hubert Bals Fund Grant 2010 • **Selection**, CineMart 2011

Film Screenings

Opening Film, New York African Film Festival (**Premiere**) • **Lights** Camera Africa! Film Festival (**African Premiere**) • **Winner**, Pan African Film Festival Jury Prize
— **Many more** —

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, AMAA 2013: Best Film, Best Nigerian Film • **Nominee**, AMAA 2013: Best Director, Best Supporting Actor (Gold Ikponmwosa) • **Winner**, Best of Nollywood Awards 2013: Movie of the Year, Best Screenplay, Best Production Design, Director of the Year, Best Edited Movie • **Winner**, Nigeria Entertainment Awards 2013: Best Supporting Actress in a Film (Tunde Alade), Best Actor (Ali Nuhu), Best Supporting Actor (OC Ukeje), Best Director, Best Picture
— **Many more** —

Notable Achievements

The film had a theatrical release in Nigeria • One of the first Nigerian films to be licensed by Netflix in 2015 • Recognised for its bold storytelling and social commentary, used as a reference in African Studies for discussions on the Nigerian film industry • One of the first Nigerian films to adopt a nonlinear storytelling approach, setting a new standard for contemporary Nigerian cinema • *Confusion Na Wa* has been praised for its originality and impact on Nigerian cinema, influencing a new wave of independent filmmakers



89. Ndiyindoda (I am Man)

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Mayenzeke Baza
Director



Bryony Roughton
Producer

Synopsis

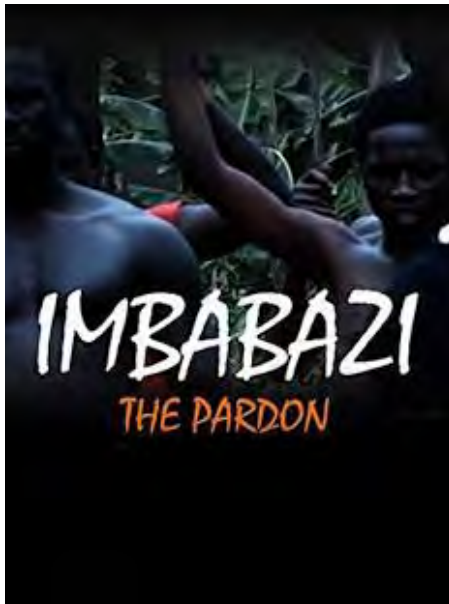
Circumcision rituals in South Africa - the ceremonial transition to manhood in the Xhosa society - are resulting in the mutilation and death of hundreds of young men each year. People & Power investigates the tragic consequences.

Awards at DFM

Winner, IDFA and Jan Vrijman Fund: Most Promising Documentary Projects

Film Screenings

Aired as a 24-minute short film on Al Jazeera as part of the "People and Power" series



Joel Karekezi
Director +
Producer

Synopsis

After being imprisoned for the killing of ethnic Tutsis during the Rwandan genocide, Manzi must face the emotional and psychological consequences of his most personal crime: the murder of his best friend's family.

Awards at DFM

Imbabazi: the Pardon

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Rotterdam Lab in 2012

Film Screenings

Gothenburg Film Festival ([Premiere](#)) • San Diego Black Film Festival • Pan African Film Festival • FESPACO • Seattle International Film Festival • DIFF

Notable Achievements

The film grew out of Karekezi's earlier short film, The Pardon (2009), which won the Golden Impala Award at the Amakula Film Festival.

90. Imbabazi (The Pardon)

Status: Completed in 2013

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Fiction
- Rwanda



Reel Previews



91. A Shot At The Big Time

Status: Completed in 2013 (Short)

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2012
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Stephen de Villiers
Director



Janet Van Eeden
Producer

Synopsis

He was a small town rock star with a big time future, but the army smashed his guitar with a gun. Based on a true story about my brother who took his own life rather than fight an unjust war on the South African border during Apartheid. It's a short film which is made after a crowd funding campaign to bring the issue of enforced conscription for boys of 17 plus in SA to light during Apartheid. My brother died on the border when he refused to fight against people he refused to see as enemies.

Film Screenings

South African National Arts Fest 2013 • DIFF 2013 • Cannes Shorts 2013



92. Hawi

Status: Completed in 2010

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2010
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Ibrahim El-Batout
Director



Hossam Elouan
Producer

Synopsis

Youssef, Ibrahim and Fady spent 20 years in the same prison. Youssef has just been released in order to find several confidential documents. After 20 years, Ibrahim wants to see his daughter again. She is rehearsing with the third man, Fady, the musician. Apart from these three men, in The Juggler, we will also meet an old horseman who hopes to heal his beloved animal and a TV presenter who needs a guest for his show.

Film Screenings

Official Selection, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2011



93. Rollaball

Status: Completed in 2024

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2011
- Documentary
- South Africa



Eddie Ewards
Director



Steven Markovotiz
Producer

Synopsis

Meet skate soccer teammates: ambitious and volatile Smallee and talented but troubled Dungu. The friendship that has kept them afloat is now at risk as their paths take very different directions.

Awards at DFM

Winner, PUMA.Creative Catalyst Award: 50 000 ZAR Cash Prize Each

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Sheffield MeetMarket • Venice Final Cut • Rough Cut Lab

Film Screenings

Encounters South African International Film Festival • Zanzibar International Film Festival • AFRIFF



94. The Royal Assegai

Status: Completed in 2019

- Jumpstart 2016
- Fiction
- South Africa



Reel Previews



Zuko Nodada
Director



Sicelo Linda Mamle
Producer

Synopsis

A film on Zulu history. A young boy is given a huge task: to return the Spear of Power to its rightful place. Power-hungry enemies seek it.

Film Screenings

Showmax



95. Aisha Can't Fly Away Anymore

Status: Completed in 2025

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Fiction Feature
- Egypt



Morad Mostafa
Director



Sawsan Yusuf
Producer

Synopsis

The underworld of African migrant society in Cairo and the tension between the different groups as witnessed by Aisha, a Somali caregiver.

Awards at DFM

Produire au Sud, Festival des 3 Continents IFAS Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Venice Pro • Atlas Workshops

Film Screenings

Cannes Film Festival

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

Winner, The Final Cut in Venice, Best Film (Includes 5 000 EUR from La Biennale di Venezia, 4 000 – 6 000 EUR from Cinémathèque Afrique, 5 000 EUR from Rai Cinema for first negotiation rights, up to 5 000 EUR from Titra Film for color grading, up to 3 000 EUR for DCP master or streaming file creation, up to 2 000 EUR for subtitles, and 2 500 EUR from Festival International de Films de Fribourg for DCP production) • **Winner**, Marrakesh International Film Festival Grand Prize for Best Post-Production Film



96. Nebula

Status: Post Production

- Talents Durban 2024
- Fiction
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Michel Doss
Director

Synopsis

Struggling with fragmented memories after an electroconvulsive therapy session, Ramy 18, navigates depression, familial tension, and his father's determination to ensure he attends the next session.

Awards at DFM

Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival: ISFF Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Clermont-Ferrand Talents Connection



Hany Yassa
Producer



Mariam Khodier
Producer



97. My Dream to Fly

Status: Post Production

- Hotdocs Fellow 2023, Talents Durban 2024
- Documentary
- Egypt



Reel Previews



Asmaa Gamal
Director + Producer

Synopsis

In the marginalised outskirts of Cairo, a young boy named Mansour dreams of escaping his harsh reality and joining a community of talented, misunderstood motorcycle riders, as they fight to express their freedom in the face of society's neglect.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Dealmakers Hot Docs Market 2024 • AFLAMUNA x Cinemed
Professional Encounters 2024 • Cairo Film Connection 2024

Notable Achievements

Winner, Cairo Film Connection 2024 Red Star Awards • **Winner**,
Cairo Film Connection 2024 Garage Art Production Development
Grant 10,000 USD • **Winner**, Cairo Film Connection 2024 Rawiat Prize
Consultation



98. Djeliya, Memory of Manding

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2023
- Documentary
- Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinée Conakry, Gambie, Sénégal, Mali



Boubacar Sangare
Director



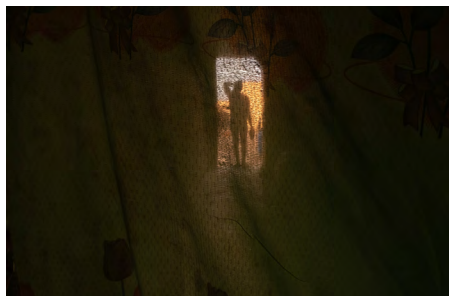
Mamounata Nikiema
Producer

Synopsis

Sékou Timité has one ambition: to follow in his late father's footsteps and become a "Djeli", a griot, guardian of the oral memory in West Africa. Interested in the obsolete art of the griot, he leaves his family behind and sets off to confront the modern world on the roads of the legendary Manding.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

FESPACO Yennenga Post-Production



99. You Don't Die Two Times

Status: Post Production

- Hotdocs Fellow 2023
- Documentary
- Algeria, Nigeria



Reel Previews



Ager Oueslati

Director + Producer



Raouf Oueslati

Director + Producer

Synopsis

A ray of light gently penetrates the dimly lit room where Gift is barely visible. She is 36 years old and still hasn't made it to Spain. She doesn't earn enough to send money to her son, Michel, in Nigeria. The unexpected upcoming arrival of Blossom, whose existence nobody knows, hinders her quest for Europe. One night, a dream disturbs her thoughts: «God is working on me,» Gift says, anxiously. As usual, she talks to herself and reminisces about everything she has experienced since 2017.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Cairo Connect • FCAT Lab 2024 • RCAL 2024 • Cairo Film Industry 2024 • Doc House 2024



100. NZONZING

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum, Talents Durban 2021
- Documentary
- Democratic Republic of Congo



Moimi Wezam
Director + Producer



Michael A. Dobbin
Producer



Nelson Makengo
Producer



Angèle Diabang
Producer

Synopsis

Lordi, Andria, Enoch and Tychique want to celebrate the ten years of existence of their group of itinerant comedians in Kinshasa. It is a time of celebration but also of reflection around this work that they practice with joy and determination but whose incomes never manage to support their needs.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

FESPACO Yennenga Post-Production

Awards and Nominations at Film Festivals

FESPACO 2025 Yennenga Post-Production Leyth Production Award (30 000 EUR Image Editing Grant and 20 000 EUR Sound Editing Grant)



101. Big Boys Don't Cry

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2020
- Documentary
- Egypt



Muhammad Mustapha
Director



Hala Lotfy
Producer



Etienne de Ricaud
Co-producer

Synopsis

Yehia, a 35-year-old bodyguard, embodies a hyper-masculine image of power and violence. After his release from prison, he wants to be there for his wife and twin boys. He quits illegal business and works as a bouncer; a service-oriented security job that requires him to control his inherent anger. He pursues an acting career but is always stereotyped and cast as a background actor. But not anymore when he is approached by Mustapha, a 27-year-old filmmaker, who wants to film him—an opportunity.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

Cairo Connect



Godisamang Khunou
Director + Producer

Synopsis

Black Women and Sex explores the tension between black women, and the politics of sex through the sexual realities of three unique women- a South African Trans woman, a Nigerian woman raised in a Polygamous home, and a Zambian woman jailed for a sex tape. Their stories examine the different ways that patriarchy impacts women, and how self love and the owning of one's sexuality can fight against limiting and constraining views, on a personal and political level.

Awards at DFM

DoK Leipzig Award

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

IDFA Docs for Sale 2024 • Rough Cut Lab Africa 2023

102. Black Women and Sex

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2019
- Documentary
- South Africa



Reel Previews



103. My father and Qaddafi (pitched under Searching for Kikhia)

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2018
- Documentary
- Libya



Reel Previews



Jihan Kikhia
Director



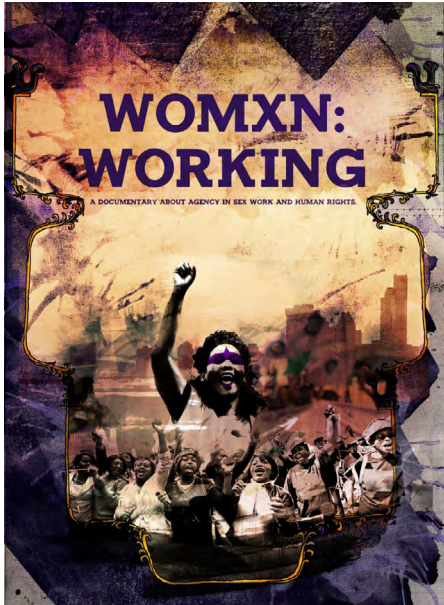
Desert Power
Producer



Christina Carvalho
Producer

Synopsis

When Jihan was six years old, her father flew to Cairo and never returned. Mansur Rashid Kikhia was the Foreign Minister of Libya, ambassador to the United Nations, and a human rights lawyer. After serving in Qaddafi's increasingly brutal regime, he defected from the government and became a peaceful opposition leader. Kikhia was obsessively loyal to his country but ultimately, his determination to reason with Qaddafi led to his disappearance from a hotel in Egypt in 1993.



104. Womxn: Working

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2017
- Documentary
- South Africa



Shanelle Jewnarain
Director



Tiny Mungwe
Producer



Mitchell Harper
Producer

Synopsis

Womxn: Working follows sex worker activists as they fight to have sex work in South Africa decriminalised. Through their work and experiences the film highlights the injustices faced by sex workers and the need for legal reform. Sex work is criminalised and policed under the Sexual Offences Act of 1957 and the Criminal Procedure Act 51 of 1977. These archaic laws marginalise sex workers and coupled with discrimination and stigma make it difficult for sex workers to access basic services such as health-care.

Labs or Market Participation Post DFM

ParisDOC Cinéma du Réel, Works in Progress



105. Mothers In A Time of Plagues

Status: Post Production

- Pitch and Finance Forum 2022
- Documentary
- South Africa



Nicole Schafer
Director +
Producer

Synopsis

Inside the maternity ward of a busy public hospital in South Africa, Dr. Ntinga battles to maintain her work-family balance, overwhelmed by the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Teenage pregnancies have surged, with many facing complicated and difficult births. Budget cuts have led to staff shortages and limited specialist posts, and doctors are required to function under daily power cuts.

Awards at DFM

Hot Docs Blue Ice Best Pitch Award

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