24th AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL NEW YORK

PRESENTED BY AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL, INC., AND FILM SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER

MAY 3 – 9
FILM SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER

MAY 10
LEHMAN COLLEGE

MAY 19 – 21
MAYSLES CINEMA

MAY 26 – 29
BAMCINÉMATHEK, BAM ROSE CINEMAS

AFRICANFILMNY.ORG FILMLINC.ORG
NYAFF DIGITAL ART EXHIBITION afroMOTIONS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 - TUESDAY, MAY 9

Elinor Bunin Munroe Amphitheater

afroMOTIONS highlights the power of movement and rhythm to absorb, unpack, express, and energize! The three-fold installation features a virtual reality zone, Dance Battle 360°, created by the Afripedia team Senay Berhe and Teddy Goitom, a looped screening of artist Nora Chipaumire’s Afro Promo #1 (Kinglady), an embodied reworking of gender and superheroes, as well as a screening of visual artist Keisha Nicole Knight’s short experimental film Body Mechanics.

NEW YORK AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL TOWN HALL EVENT
TUESDAY, MAY 9

Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center Amphitheater

The 24th New York African Film Festival features a town hall event titled, Art and Activism: Personal Journeys, a program that pulls together the visual and social themes that underscore The Peoples’ Revolution, and provide a panel discussion featuring some of the most dynamic interdisciplinary artists from the international African diaspora.

Guests include Zimbabwe-born, Brooklyn-based choreographer Nora Chipaumire (via Skype); Ethiopian and Eritrean film producers Teddy Goitom and Senay Berhe of AFRIPEDIA; Darlene and Lizzy Okpo, designers of William Okpo; and Raquel Copedé, filmmaker and author of Bird of Paradise. The live, interactive town hall event will also include a discussion of the festival’s digital art exhibition.

Presented in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment’s One Book, One New York program

This event is free, but registration is requested. Seating is limited. For all free events, AFF will release registered seats 15 minutes before start time, at which point seating will be on a first-come, first-seated basis until venue reaches capacity. We recommend that you arrive early. Visit www.africanfilmy.org to reserve your seat.

THE 24TH NEW YORK AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL
THE PEOPLES’ REVOLUTION

This May, the New York African Film Festival returns with a showcase of fresh narrative features, documentaries and shorts, along with classic landmarks from Africa and its diaspora. This carefully selected program of more than 55 titles from over 25 countries presents a new stream of artists working together to assert their voices, seeking productive changes through art, and technology, and making spaces where ideas of culture, identity, and transformation will guide the future.

Marked by the theme, The Peoples’ Revolution, this festival’s edition taps into the pulse of protest and the calls for change stirring throughout the peoples of the world; a reform charge championed by a new wave of artists throughout Africa and its diaspora. The era of freedom fighters and social revolutions appears far away, but its heirs are many in a century where respect for human rights and civic duty, ecological concern, technological interconnectedness, and ethical behavior find a harbor in the arts, where individuals search to free themselves from historical preconceptions and contemporary economic and sociopolitical constraints.

Inspiring and educational portraits of nations being built, intimate and critical self-representations of powerful aesthetic beauty, and straightforward politically committed documentaries have predominated in the landscape of African film — until today. These trends have given way to markedly distinct and playful narratives where genres mix and dialogue with the arts and non-western filmic traditions, with the intention to subvert audience expectations. This new current of filmmakers has mastered the audiovisual digital language, showing the immense possibilities of engaging in open experimentation with a self-critical attitude that flies from univocal stories to map the diversity of the world.

The 24th New York African Film Festival was organized by Mahen Bonetti, Founder and Executive Director, African Film Festival, Inc. with Dara Ojugbele, Keisha Nicole Knight, Ulibe Mbagwu, Françoise Bouffault and Beatriz Leal-Riesco; Dennis Lim, Director of Programming, Rufus de Rham and Dan Sullivan, Programmers at Film Society of Lincoln Center, Jesse Trussell, Programmer, BAMcinématek, Jessica Green, Cinema Director, Maysles Cinema.

Thanks are due to the AFF Board of Directors, Rumbi Bwerinofa-Petrozzello, Joan Baffour, Luca Bonetti, Aminata Diop, Gabriele Donati, Jacki Fischer, Belynda Hardin, Muriel Placet-Kouassi, Ulli Maier, Karen McMullen, Julie Mehrretu, Ekwa Msangi, Kagendo Murungi, Mohammed Sillah, Alonzo Speight, Malika Lee Whitney, Cheryl Duncan & Company Inc. Public Relations, Kojo Associates and AFF’s volunteer team.
AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL MISSION

African Film Festival, Inc. (AFF) is dedicated to advancing an enhanced understanding of African culture through the moving image. It offers diverse platforms for the wide distribution of African media through its flagship annual film festival and complementary year-round programming. AFF is committed to increasing visibility and recognition for African media artists by introducing African film and culture to a broad range of audiences in the United States and abroad, bypassing economic, class and racial barriers.

In 1990, AFF’s founders established goals that continue to enrich the organization mission and organizational development: to use African cinema to promote and increase knowledge and understanding of African arts, literature and culture; to develop audiences for African films; to expand the opportunities for the distribution of African films in the United States and abroad.

BEYOND THE FILM FESTIVAL

AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITIES

Since our inception, African Film Festival (AFF) has collaborated with community groups, educational and cultural institutions, and international organizations to bring African film and culture to a wider audience. Please stay involved with us throughout the year!

FEBRUARY through NOVEMBER
ANOUAL NATIONAL TRAVELING FILM SERIES

This series makes African cinema available to national and international audiences by providing a package of AFF-curated films, promotional materials and professional cinema consultation to film programmers in cultural institutions, museums and universities.

FEBRUARY
AFF’S BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

In collaboration with the Schomburg Center for Research and Black Culture, AFF’s Black History Month program features film screenings exploring issues within the African Diaspora, followed by thought-provoking panel discussions.

MAY
ANNUAL NEW YORK AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL (NYAFF)

In collaboration with the Film Society of Lincoln Center, Mayales Cinema Institute and BAM, our annual festival showcases 14 days of classic and contemporary films, panel and post-screening discussions, digital exhibitions and performances from Africa and the Diaspora.

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER
OUTDOOR SUMMER SCREENINGS IN NYC PARKS

AFF partners with community organizations to host free outdoor summer screenings in NYC Parks. Programs feature African/African Diaspora cinema, live performances, panels, workshops and authentic African cuisine, ensuring that AFF’s programs reach residents throughout NYC.

SEPTEMBER through JUNE
EDUCATION & IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Through special matinees, documentary workshops and discussions with filmmakers, AFF works to give NYC public middle and high-school students a fun way to learn about African culture.

YEAR-ROUND

DVD DISTRIBUTION

AFF’s online DVD retail has a collection of DVDs (for in-home use only) representing the best in classic, contemporary and hard-to-find African and Diasporic film.

AFF PUBLICATIONS

AFF has published several anthologies of conversations with African directors, capturing the experience, spirit, and wisdom of African filmmakers. Titles include Through African Eyes: Dialogues with the Directors, Through African Eyes: Conversations with the Directors Volume 2, and Looking Back, Looking Forward: 20 Years of the New York African Film Festival. The three publications are available on our website.

DIGITAL DATABASE

AFF’s website contains an extensive database of film titles and reviews, directors’ biographies, and scholarly articles, making AFF an invaluable resource for programmers all over the world. Users are also able to submit content pertaining to African media, culture and history.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

NYC & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Since AFF’s inception, we have partnered with a multitude of community-based cultural institutions and city agencies, such as Apollo Theater, The Bronx Museum of Art, City College, CityParks Foundation, Cornerstone Mentoring Program, MoCADA, The East Harlem School, French Language Heritage Foundation, Global Kids Network, The Trust for Governors Island, New York Public Library, Ocularis, The Queens Museum and United Nations, just to name a few.

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE & PARTNERSHIPS

AFF has co-curated film and cultural programs across the globe. Partner organizations include AFRICALA (Mexico), Bob Marley Foundation (Jamaica), FESPACO (Burkina Faso), Helping Hands (Australia), Imagem Dos Povos (Brazil), Lights, Camera, Africa (Nigeria), Luxor African Film Festival (Egypt), Mercado Cultural Latino Americano (Brazil), Message to Man International Film Festival (Russia), Sierra Leone Cultural Conservation Project (Sierra Leone), Second Johannesburg Biennale (South Africa) and U.S. Speaker’s Program/Film Festival (Mexico, Swaziland).

The programs of AFF are made possible by the generous support of the National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, City Bakery, Bradley Family Foundation, Ford Foundation, Domenico Paulon Foundation, New York Community Trust, NYC & Company, French Cultural Services, Royal Air Maroc, WNYC, The Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment’s One Book, One New York Program, Black Hawk Imports, Consulate General of Sweden in New York, South African Consulate General, National Film and Video Foundation, Hudson Hotel, Trader Joe’s and Paso Almonds.
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