# AFRICAN FESTIVAL

Presented by the African Film Festival, Inc. and Film at Lincoln Center In association with BAM and Maysles Cinema

# 26<sup>th</sup> NEW YORK **AFRICAN** FILM FESTIVAL

BAM **May 23 - 27** 

Film at Lincoln Center May 30 - June 4

Maysles Cinema June 6 - 9



From top to bottom: Intore, 2014; Afrique sur Seine, 1955; HERO: Inspired By The Extraordinary Life And Times Of Mr. Ulric Cross, 2018.

# THE 26<sup>th</sup> NEW YORK AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL

# **BEYOND BORDERS: STORYTELLING ACROSS TIME**

Presented under the banner *Beyond Borders: Storytelling Across Time*, the 26th New York African Film Festival (NYAFF) reaches back into the past and forward into the unknown, weaving a story of the present using all genres of cinema from Africa and the African Diaspora. The NYAFF presents a fascinating selection of more than 65 narrative and documentary features and shorts from over 30 countries. From the archival to the experimental, classic fictional narrative to documentary, the festival selects treasured stories from the past to contextualize the present and all its possible futures. We celebrate the 50th anniversary of FESPACO (Panafrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou) with classic African films which premiered at this esteemed festival (the largest on the continent). Created in 1969, FESPACO is a forerunner and space for African media makers to share their work on the home front and the world stage.

This edition of the NYAFF memorializes the tragic Rwandan genocide of 1994 when the light of humanity was dimmed. We commemorate the 25th anniversary of the genocide and honor the 800,000 lives lost during this indelible moment in world history. Rwanda will be the spotlight of this year's DanceAfrica and the focus of the FilmAfrica program at BAM. This portion of festival program will also include recent award-winning films from Africa and the diaspora.

We recognize the 100th anniversary of the first Pan-African Congress organized in Paris by W. E. B. Du Bois and Ida Gibbs Hunt in February 1919, when delegates from Africa and the diaspora convened to champion Africa's selfdetermination. This celebration of the spirit of Pan-Africanism is a restoration of the vibrant heartbeat of the Pan-African movement.

The 26th New York African Film Festival was organized by Mahen Bonetti, Founder and Executive Director, African Film Festival, Inc. with Dara Ojugbele, Françoise Bouffault, Amélie Garin-Davet, Dora King, Jacki Fischer, Shirine Gill and Kiesha Knight; Dennis Lim, Director of Programming, Erin Delaney, Operations Coordinator, Jeff Delauter, Director of Theater Operations, Film at Lincoln Center; Ashley Clark, Senior Programmer at BAM Film; and Allason Leitz, Theater Manager and Programmer, Maysles Cinema.

Thanks are due to the AFF Board of Directors, Joan Baffour, Luca Bonetti, Gabriele Donati, Belynda Hardin, Ulli Maier, Karen McMullen, Mohammed Sillah, Alonzo Speight, Malika Lee Whitney, Cheryl Duncan & Company Inc. Public Relations, Kojo Associates and AFF's volunteer team.

# FILM PROGRAM

#### **AWANI NY PREMIERE**

Aderonke Adeola, Nigeria, 2018, 38m Awani is a timeline of the evolution of the roles Nigerian women play from pre-colonial Nigeria to the present day.

**MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1:30PM** 

#### BAARA

Souleymane Cisse, Mali, 1980, 93m A young factory manager finds himself faced with an emotional and ethical awakening when he begins to see how his company mistreats its workers in the great Malian fillmmaker Souleymane Cissé's political drama.

Co-presented with SUNU: Journal of African Affairs, Critical Thought + Aesthetics

FLC MONDAY, JUNE 3, 6:00PM

### BETWEEN GOD & I US PREMIERE

Yara Costa, Mozambique, 2018, 59m Through an intimate glimpse of Karen's life, *Between God & I*, sheds light on the humanity of young women who are making radical religious choices within the broader context of religious conflict.

#### Preceded by

#### **MIRACLE US PREMIERE**

Bongi Ndaba, South Africa, 2018, 24m Sisonke feels a crippling guilt for not being able to save her daughter from the trauma of the shack fire that killed her husband. So, she must fix it. Through her searches in different expressions of faith, she looks for an answer and a miracle.

**MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 8:45PM** 

#### **BIGGER THAN AFRICA NY PREMIERE**

Toyin Ibrahim Adekeye, Nigeria/USA, 2018, 90m When the slave boats carrying African people docked in America, Brazil, Cuba, and the Caribbean, hundreds of cultures, traditions, and religions landed with them. Today, only one remains prominent in the new world: the culture of the Yorubas. Co-presented with The Africa Center FLC SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 9:15PM

#### **MAMA BOBO**, 2018



#### **BLACK GODDESS (A DEUSA NEGRA)**

Ola Balogun, Nigeria/Brazil, 1978, 90m Balogun's tale is a love story that spans three centuries, set in both the 18th century and the 1970s, when the movie was made. Structured in the form of mystical journey, the film unfolds under the aegis of the Yoruba divinity Yemoja. *Co-presented with Cinema Tropical* 

FLC TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 6:00PM

#### BORDERS

Apolline Traoré, Burkina Faso, 2017, 90min On a bus en route from Dakar, Senegal, to Lagos, Nigeria, four resourceful women must band together as they navigate the risks that come with traveling alone while female.

#### BAM SUNDAY, MAY 26, 7:00PM MONDAY, MAY 27, 7:30PM

#### **BURKINABÈ BOUNTY NY PREMIERE**

lara Lee, Burkina Faso, 2018, 32m Burkinabè Bounty chronicles agricultural resistance and the fight for food sovereignty in Burkina Faso – a small, landlocked country in West Africa. MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1:30PM

#### **CHEZ JOLIE COIFFURE NY PREMIERE**

Rosine Mbakam, Belgium/Cameroon, 2018, 71m An immigrant from Cameroon journeys first to Lebanon and then to Belgium, where she becomes the owner of a beauty salon, a place where undocumented immigrants can escape the daily difficulties and harsh realities of their lives. *Co-presented with Tsion Cafe* 

#### Preceded by

#### LITTLE GIRL US PREMIERE

Tafadzwa Chiriga, Zimbabwe/USA/Nigeria, 2018, 6m In this visually beautiful coming-of-age story, ancestral spirits emerge from the depths of a forest to guide a young woman into a deeper relationship with her past, introducing her to a rich legacy of the African women who came before her. FLC SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 12:30PM

#### **CHOSEN NY PREMIERE**

Jean-Marie Téno, Cameroon/Ghana/France, 2018, 89m

In 1964, following the death of her mother, 14-yearold Nana Banyina Horne becomes the mother figure to eight younger siblings. Years later, after living and teaching in America, Nana is chosen to be Queen Mother back in Ghana.

FLC SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1:00PM

#### DREAMSTATES

Anisia Uzeyman, USA/France/Rwanda, 2016, 89m Rwandan filmmaker Anisia Uzeyman offers a mesmerizing tour, shot entirely on iPhones, through America's Afropunk underground, featuring her reallife husband, hip-hop poet Saul Williams. This event will be followed by a performance by Saul Williams and CX KIDTRONIK.

BAM SATURDAY, MAY 25, 7:00PM

#### FANON YESTERDAY, TODAY US PREMIERE

Hassane Mezine, USA/France/Rwanda, 2016, 89m Fanon Yesterday, Today gives an unprecedented and rare insight into the life of Frantz Fanon through the stories and accounts of the people who were closest to him in life until his death.

MAYSLES SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 5:00PM

#### FATWA US PREMIERE

Mahmoud Ben Mahmoud, Tunisia, 2018, 102m Brahim Nadhour is a Tunisian living in France who returns to his home country to bury his son, Marouane, who was killed in a motorcycle accident. While there, Brahim finds out that Marouane was active in a radical Islamist group. FLC SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 6:45PM TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 3:30PM

#### **FINDING HILLYWOOD**

Leah Warshawski, Christopher Towey, USA, 2013, 57m This moving documentary chronicles the birth of Rwanda's burgeoning film industry as a generation of artists turn to filmmaking as a means of processing their country's painful past.

#### Preceded by

#### **IMFURA NY PREMIERE**

Samuel Ishimwe, Rwanda/Switzerland, 2018, 36m This incantatory memory piece traces the journey of a young man who travels back to the home of his mother who disappeared during the Rwandan genocide. BAM FRIDAY, MAY 24, 4:30PM SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1:30PM

#### THE FRUITLESS TREE

Aïcha Macky, Niger 2016, 52m This fearlessly personal documentary breaks the silence on a taboo topic in Nigerian society: the ostracism faced by married women who don't or can't have children. BAM SATURDAY, MAY 25, 9:15PM MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019, 2:00PM

#### OPENING NIGHT: FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER HERO: INSPIRED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND TIMES OF MR. ULRIC CROSS US PREMIERE

Frances-Anne Solomon, Trinidad and Tobago/Canada, 2018, 110m

Frances-Anne Solomon's film tells the story of Ulric Cross, a West Indian lawyer who joined the Pan-African independence movements sweeping through the world in the 1960s. Hero explores not only the life but also the dynamic and transformative times that Ulric was born into. FLC THURSDAY, MAY 30, 6:30PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 4:15PM

#### INTORE

#### Eric Kabera, Rwanda, 2014, 76m

This stirring documentary offers an inspiring look at how Rwanda is overcoming its tragic history by reclaiming its identity through music, dance, and the resilience of a new generation.

#### Preceded by

### A PLACE FOR MYSELF

Marie-Clementine Dusabejambo, Rwanda, 2016, 22m Elikia, a five-year-old girl with albinism, is made to feel unwanted by her classmates and neighbors, but her mother encourages her to embrace her difference. BAM FRIDAY, MAY 24, 7:00PM



#### LITTLE GIRL, 2018

# LE WAZZOU POLYGAME

Oumarou Ganda, Niger, 1971, 50m El Hadji, an Islamic faithful, returns from his holy pilgrimage to Mecca, and falls in love with his daughter's friend Santou, who is already engaged to be married, in this classic film from Niger. *Co-presented with Uptown Flicks* 

#### Preceded by

#### MAMBÉTY

Papa Madièye Mbaye, Senegal, 2002, 28m In this behind-the-scenes documentary, shot during the making of his final work, The Little Girl Who Sold the Sun, Djibril Diop Mambéty speaks with his technicians, prepares the actors, talks with his young star and shares his thoughts on cinema and life.

#### FLC FRIDAY, MAY 31, 6:30PM

#### **MATWETWE (WIZARD) US PREMIERE**

Kagiso Lediga, South Africa, 2018, 84m It's New Year's Eve in the iconic township of Atteridgeville. Two boys try to pull off a huge deal, dodge a kingpin gangster and his violent gang members, get the girl, and, finally, save their own lives. *Co-presented with OkayAfrica* **FLC FRIDAY, MAY 31, 8:45PM TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1:30PM** 

#### CENTERPIECE: FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

**THE MERCY OF THE JUNGLE** NY PREMIERE *Joël Karekezi, Belgium/France, 2018, 91m* At the outbreak of the Second Congo War, the stoic Sergeant Xavier and the eager young recruit, Private Faustin, are accidentally left behind in the jungle. With only each other to rely on, the Rwandan soldiers embark on an odyssey through one of the most beautiful, yet treacherous forests on earth.

#### Preceded by

#### THE LETTER CARRIER NY PREMIERE

Jesse L. Martin, Rick Cosnett, Canada, 2016, 18m In the Blue Ridge Mountains of 1860, a mother protects her family from slavery, while the myth of a man known as The Letter Carrier, who, as the legend goes, roams the mountains looking for children to sell as slaves, looms over them.

FLC SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 6:00PM MONDAY, JUNE 3, 3:30PM

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF FESPACO



It was at FESPACO that I began forging relationships with the key players of African cinema, including the legendary director Ousmane Sembène. NYAFF's relationship with FESPACO progressed quickly from there; four years later, I was chosen as a member of the jury for feature films at FESPACO 1997. The electrical energy of my first visit to FESPACO in 1993 will always be one that I treasure. I met Djibril Diop Mambéty, Fanta Nacro, Safi Faye, Idrissa Ouédraogo, amongst other auteurs. No one slept. Artists kept arriving and just picked up the thread of the most illuminating conversations I have had the privilege to partake in. It was like falling in love! So, this was my introduction to the African cinema community! I have grown up with a generation of filmmakers who, like me, have become active participants in disseminating our stories throughout the world. FESPACO is the neutral space that allows all of us to network and catch up on the latest trends in African cinema. This space is truly the crossroads of Africa and her cinema.

- Mahen Bonetti, Founder and Executive Director, AFF, Inc.

Clockwise from top-left: Mohamed Camara at FESPACO 1995; Actor Aï Keïta holding the Etalon de Yennenga for Sarraounia at FESPACO 1987; Drissa Toure at FESPACO 1995; Alex Boicel (left) and Monsour Sora Wade (right) at FESPACO 1995; Naky Sy Savané at FESPACO 1995; the FESPACO Etalon de Yennenga award; Med Hondo, director of Sarraounia (Etalon de Yennenga winner) FESPACO 1987; Djibril Diop Mambéty at FESPACO 1995.

#### MIGRANTS MIGRATE: THE IMPOSSIBLE RETURN **US PREMIERE**

#### Abdou Lahat Fall, Senegal, 2018, 60m

Senegalese filmmaker Abdou Lahat Fall and his camera act as investigators in Migrants. He is provoked to ask why many Africans migrate to Europe to withstand the pain of being without jobs

and to subject themselves to homelessness or being hunted down by the police. Co-presented with Uptown Flicks

#### Preceded by

#### **ABOUT BINTOU NY PREMIERE**

Dezhou Li, China/UK 2019, 13m About Bintou follows the life and challenges of a Malian Muslim student as she navigates life in Guangzhou, China

**MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 5:00PM** 

#### MOI ET MON BLANC (ME AND MY WHITE PAL)

S. Pierre Yameogo, Burkina Faso, 2003, 90m When Mamandi, a struggling student, discovers a stash of drugs, his friend convinces him their problems are over. However, evading the dealers is tougher than they expected. This light-hearted satire won the RFI Audience Award at FESPACO in 2003. **MAYSLES FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 8:15PM** 

#### MOSSANE

Safi Faye, Senegal, 1996, 105m A teenage girl finds herself caught between tradition and her own heart when she rejects the marriage her family has arranged for her in this stunning drama from pioneering Senegalese director Safi Faye. BAM SUNDAY, MAY 26, 4:00PM

#### **NEW MOON US PREMIERE**

Philippa Ndisi-Herrmann, Kenya, 2018, 70m With her deepest instincts guiding her, we see director Philippa Ndisi-Herrmann tackle the contradictions of being a modern woman embracing Islam and grappling with the complexities of her chosen faith.

#### Preceded by

#### WHITE FEATHERS (PLUMES BLANCHES) **US PREMIERE**

Leul Shoaferaw, Burkina Faso, 2018, 10m A story of good and evil, internment and redemption, Plumes Blanches tells the story of Alain, a young Burkinabè boy accused of witchcraft and his audacious attempt to escape from the impending desolation. MAYSLES SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1:30PM

#### **OGA BOLAJI US PREMIERE**

Kayode Kasum, Nigeria, 2018, 91m Oga Bolaji centers on the simple, happy-go-lucky life of a retired, 40-year-old musician (Gold Ikponmosa) whose life changes forever when he crosses paths with a 7-vear-old airl.

FLC SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 9:00PM MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1:00PM

#### **OUAGA GIRLS**

Theresa Traore Dahlberg, Sweden/Burkina Faso/France/ Qatar. 2017. 83m

This vital, heartfelt documentary profiles a group of proudly independent young women who find a sense of belonging, joy, and sisterhood as they study to become car mechanics in a rapidly changing Burkina Faso. BAM FRIDAY, MAY 24, 9:30PM

#### **OUAGA, CAPITALE DU CINÉMA US PREMIERE**

Mohamed Challouf, Tunisia, 2000, 60m Between 1983 and 1987, Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso and home city of FESPACO, was the scene of an exciting cinema utopia. Challouf captures this transformative moment in African cinema and politics

#### Preceded by

#### LE TRUC DE KONATÉ (KONATE'S GIFT)

Fanta Régina Nacro, Burkina Faso, 1998, 33m In Nacro's comedic short, a man's life is turned upside down when one of his wives refuses to have sexual intercourse with him without a condom. MAYSLES SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 3:45PM

#### **RATTLESNAKES NY PREMIERE**

Julius Amedume, USA/UK, 2019, 86m A family man and yoga instructor is ambushed by three masked strangers accusing him of sleeping with their wives. He pleads his innocence, though what he does reveal will change their lives forever. FLC MONDAY, JUNE 3, 8:30PM

#### SARRAOUNIA

Med Hondo, Burkina Faso/Mauritania/France, 1986 120m

Based on historical accounts of Queen Sarraounia, who led the Azans into battle against the French colonialists at the turn of the century, Med Hondo's sweeping epic rivals any that American cinema has produced.

Co-presented with La Critique du Film Noir FLC TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 8:30PM

#### SEW THE WINTER TO MY SKIN NY PREMIERE

Jahmil X.T. Qubeka, South Africa/Germany, 2018. 128m

This senses-stunning epic recounts the life and legend of John Kepe, a Robin Hood-esque bandit who achieved folk hero status amongst black South Africans by robbing and outwitting colonizers in the 1950s

BAM THURSDAY, MAY 23, 7:00PM

#### **RAZANA, 2018**



#### SOMETIMES IN APRIL

Raoul Peck, France/Rwanda/USA, 2005, 140m Idris Elba stars in this soul-shaking account of the Rwandan genocide from acclaimed director Raoul Peck (I Am Not Your Negro).

#### BAM SATURDAY, MAY 25, 4:00PM FREE SCREENING

#### THE SOUND OF MASKS US PREMIERE

Sara CF de Gouveia, South Africa/Portugal, 2018, 70m

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

# **MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 7:00PM**

STANDING ON THEIR SHOULDERS **US PREMIERE** 

Xoliswa Sithole, South Africa, 2018, 68m This documentary is about the role of women in the resistance during apartheid in South Africa, marking the day, August 9, 1956, when 20,000 women marched to the Union buildings in Pretoria. THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH, 7:00PM

#### SUPA MODO

Likarion Wainaina, Kenva/Germanv, 2018, 74m A new superhero takes flight in this heartfelt ode to the power of imagination in which a young Kenyan girl dreams of becoming invincible, then captivates and inspires her entire community. SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2:00PM

#### THEY CALL US WHORES US PREMIERE

João Graca, Mozambique, 2018, 19m Some call them sex workers. Others, prostitutes. Others, whores. But they are mothers and heads of families who provide for their homes. What must be done so that the Mozambican law recognizes them as workers?

#### **MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1:30PM**

#### **VISAGES DE FEMMES (FACES OF WOMEN)**

Désiré Ecaré, Ivory Coast, 1985, 105m Structured around the rhythm of a dance, filmmaker Désiré Ecaré weaves a rich tapestry of textures and cadences of life in the Ivory Coast, displaying in a comedy of manners, the changing roles of women in West Africa.

Co-presented with La Critique du Film Noir **MAYSLES SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 6:45PM** 

#### WALLAY

Berni Goldblat, Burkina Faso/France, 2017, 82m A rebellious teenage boy gets a serious case of culture shock when he's sent from his home in France to Burkina Faso for a summer in this tender, perceptive tale of reconnecting with your roots. BAM MONDAY, MAY 27, 3:30PM

#### WHISPERING TRUTH TO POWER

Shameela Seedat. South Africa. 2018. 86m Filmmaker Shameela Seedat tracks South Africa's Public Protector Thuli Madonsela's final year in office as she tackles corruption against a background of inequality.

**MAYSLES FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 6:30PM** 

#### SARRAOUNIA, 1986



# SHORTS PROGRAMS

# PAULIN SOUMANOU VIEYRA SHORTS

FLC SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2:30PM

#### **AFRIQUE SUR SEINE**

Paulin Soumanou Vieyra and Mamadou Sarr, Senegal, 1955, 21m In this short documentary, Vieyra and his collaborator Mamadou Sarr explore the lives of Africans living in Paris, poetically evoking the ambiguities and questions about identity.

#### LAMB

Paulin Soumanou Vieyra, Senegal, 1963, 18m This documentary captures the sport of traditional wrestling, called "lamb" in Wolof, popular in Senegal. Vieyra presents the rigorous rules of the sport and training practices by the sea.

#### L'ENVERS DU DÉCOR

Paulin Soumanou Vieyra, Senegal, 1981, 25m Vieyra captures Ousmane Sembène, one of the greatest African filmmakers, during the filming of *Ceddo*, which would be censored under the Senghor regime and until 1983 by the Senegalese authorities.



**BIRTH OF AFROBEAT, 2017** 

#### **SHORTS PROGRAM 1**

BAM SUNDAY, MAY 26, 9:15PM MONDAY MAY 27, 5:45PM

#### **BIRTH OF AFROBEAT**

*Opiyo Okeyo, USA, 2017, 7m* In this live action-animation hybrid, legendary drummer Tony Allen recounts how he and his partner Fela Kuti created the Afrobeat genre in Lagos, Nigeria.

#### dancedance/REVOLUTION

Mark Freeman, South Africa, 2017, 26m dancedance/REVOLUTION is an introduction to the vibrant diversity of contemporary dance in South Africa.

#### ENTITLED

Adeyemi Michael, UK, 2018, 4m Director Adeyemi Michael reimagines his mother's idea of moving from Nigeria to London in this dreamlike short about leaving your country of origin.

#### MR. GELE: THE MAN. THE STORY. THE CRAFT

Gladys Eleh, USA, 2016, 14m A lively documentary portrait of Segun Gele, a renowned designer of the colorful, elaborately styled Nigerian head wraps known as *gele*.

#### **URUMULI NY PREMIERE**

Mujyambere Abdoul, Rwanda, 2018, 4m A meditative study of light and movement by Rwandan artist and choreographer Abdoul Mujyambere.

#### VISIONS

Surreal 16 (Abba T. Makama, Michael Omonua, C.J. Obasi), Nigeria, 2017, 19m Comprising three shorts inspired by dreams and visions, this anthology work from Nigeria's Surreal 16 collective explores a young woman's identity, relationship, and spirituality.



OGA BOLAJI, 2018

# **SHORTS PROGRAM 2**

FLC SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 3:30PM

#### HELLO, RAIN NY PREMIERE

C.J. "Fiery" Obasi, Nigeria, 2018, 30m In this adaptation of an Afro-futuristic short story by Hugo Award-winning author Nnedi Okorafor, three scientist witches create magical wigs that grant them untold supernatural powers.

#### NO TRAVELER RETURNS NY PREMIERE

*Ellie Foumbi, Ivory Coast/USA, 2019, 12m* A young Ivorian immigrant's struggle to adjust to life in America pushes him toward an existential crisis.

#### SHOWTIME

#### Shawn Antoine II, USA, 2018, 15m

Darius and Hakeem dance on New York City trains to earn honest money and escape the crime in their neighborhood. Their friendship is tested when an unforeseen opportunity arises.

#### SIGN UP US PREMIERE

Abeer Yehia, Egypt, 2019, 15m Detainees in an Egyptian jail cell receive a new prisoner, Ahmed, who happens to be well-known on social media.

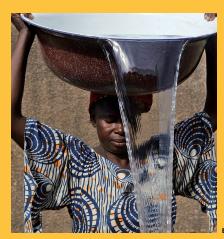
#### SUICIDE BY SUNLIGHT NY PREMIERE

Nikyatu, USA, 2019, 17m

Valentina, a day-walking black vampire protected from the sun by her melanin, finds it difficult to suppress her bloodlust when a new woman is introduced to her estranged twin daughters

#### WRONG CON US PREMIERE

Charles Obiemere, Nigeria, 2018, 18m Two down-on-their-luck con men desperately need to make a few bucks. They decide to pose as pastors in order to waylay a desperate wealthy man with a sick daughter.



# **SHORTS PROGRAM 3**

MAYSLES SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 3:00PM

#### A FRESH PERSPECTIVE NY PREMIERE

Aaron Hosé, USA, 2019, 12m

A Fresh Perspective tells the story of three African-Americans in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who create the nation's first-ever Black beer festival, a historic event aiming to diversify the industry while promoting a new narrative in craft beer.

#### **JAZZ IN WAKANDA**

Djaka Souare, USA, 2018, 10m An otherwise uneventful day for Julie takes a more serious turn when her daughter, Jazz, starts to ask profound questions about slavery and what she's learned at school.

#### **KWABENA**

Déwun Owusu, Ghana/USA, 2018, 9m 'You only get to meet someone for the first time, once.' Narrated by Déwun Owusu, the documentary Kwabena takes you through the discovery, journey and revelation of a once in a lifetime experience.

#### MAMA BOBO US PREMIERE

Robin Andelfinger, Ibrahima Seydi, Senegal, 2017, 17m

Mama Bobo, a widow in her 80's, sits under the bus shelter on Gomis Street in Dakar every morning. She never rides the bus but imagines joining her husband at the market, until one morning the bus shelter disappears.

#### MY BELOVED CO-WIFE US PREMIERE

Angèle Diabang, Senegal, 2018, 15m Angèle Diabang's film is an essay that mixes visual elements of fiction and documentary sound excerpts as we hear from two women about experiences of polygamy.

#### THE PROPHETESS US PREMIERE

Sylvie Weber, DR Congo, 2018, 22m A story of overcoming struggle through gumption and sisterhood. Furaha and Venantie have survived traumas we could never imagine, yet in each other they find strength.

#### **RAZANA (US PREMIERE)**

Haminiaina Ratovoarivony, Madagascar, 2018, 15m

Solo is Malagasy, Parisian and homosexual. In order to fulfill the last wishes of his deceased partner, Solo returns to Madagascar to meet with his estranged "in-laws".

BURKINABÈ BOUNTY, 2018

SHORTS PROGRAMS



# FREE EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

# DIGITAL ART EXHIBITON FROM OUAGA TO NYC: CAPTURING THE PAN-AFRICAN SPIRIT

#### FRIDAY, MAY 31 - MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1:00PM - 8:30PM; TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1:00PM - 4:00PM | ELINOR BUNIN MUNROE FILM CENTER AMPHITHEATER

For four decades, director Mohamed Challouf and cultural advocate Kojo Ade captured African and African diaspora cultural celebrations on the continent and in the diaspora respectively. Charting personal memories across landscapes of African history and heritage, the two photographic essays explore issues of cultural identity shaping an African diaspora consciousness and solidarity within an international vocabulary of contemporary media art practice.

# MASTER CLASS WITH JEAN-MARIE TENO

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 11:30AM | ELINOR BUNIN MUNROE FILM CENTER AMPHITHEATER

Acclaimed Cameroonian filmmaker Jean-Marie Téno will deliver a free master class on entertainment and education within the context of African cinema. The event will feature a discussion on how filmmakers and stakeholders today can trigger change through the transformative power of cinema.

# ART & ACTIVISM: AFROPRESENTISM, A VERB

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 7:30PM | THE AFRICA CENTER

Join us for a panel featuring some of the most dynamic interdisciplinary artists from the international African diaspora. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first Pan-African Congress, we will be activating the spirit of Pan-Africanism through this panel discussion featuring an intergenerational group of three artists from Africa and the diaspora who are mobilizing Afropresentism as a verb to not just *dream* the future, but to *create* it.

These events are 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 africanfilmny.org/nyaff26 to reserve your seat.

# SCHEDULE

#### BAM

#### **THU MAY 23**

7:00 Sew the Winter to My Skin Opening Night

#### FRI MAY 24

4:30*	Finding Hillywood + Imfura
7:00*	Intore + A Place for Myself
9:30*	Ouaga Girls

#### SAT MAY 25

1:30*	Finding Hillywood + Imfura
4:00	Sometimes in April Free Screening
7:00*	Dreamstates
9:15	The Fruitless Tree

#### SUN MAY 26

2:00	Supa Modo
4:00*	Mossane
7:00	Borders
9:15*	Shorts Program 1

#### MON MAY 27

The Fruitless Tree
Wallay
Shorts Program 1
Borders

## FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

#### THU MAY 30

6:30 HERO: Inspired by the Extraordinary Life and Times of Mr. Ulric Cross Opening Night

#### FRI MAY 31

6:30\* Le Wazzou Polygame + Mambéty 8:45\* Matwetwe (Wizard)

#### SAT JUNE 1

11:30*	Free Master Class w/ Jean-Marie Teno
1:00*	Chosen
3:30*	Shorts Program 2
6:00*	The Mercy of the Jungle +
	The Letter Carrier Centerpiece Night
0.00*	Oga Balaii

# 9:00\* Oga Bolaji

# SUN JUNE 2

12:30*	Chez Jolie Coiffure + Little Girl
2:30*	Paulin Soumanou Vieyra Shorts
4:15*	HERO: Inspired by the Extraordinary Life and Times of Mr. Ulric Cross
6:45*	Fatwa
9:15*	Bigger Than Africa

# FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

#### MON JUNE 3

1:00*	Oga Bolaji
3:30	The Mercy of the Jungle
	Letter Carrier
6:00*	Baara
8:30*	Rattlesnakes

#### TUE JUNE 4

1:30	Matwetwe (Wizard)
3:30	Fatwa
6:00*	Black Goddess
0.20*	Sarraounia

#### **MAY 31 - JUNE 4**

Free Digital Art Exhibition: From Ouaga to NYC

# THE AFRICA CENTER

### WED JUNE 5

7:00 Art & Activism: Afropresentism, a Verb

## **MAYSLES CINEMA**

#### THU JUNE 6

7:00\* Standing on Their Shoulders Opening Night

#### **FRI JUNE 7**

- 6:30\* Whispering Truth to Power
- 8:15 Moi Et Mon Blanc

#### SAT JUNE 8

- 1:30\* Awani + Burkinabé Bounty + They Call Us Whores
- 3:00\* Shorts Program 3
- 5:00\* Migrants + About Bintou
- 7:00 The Sound of Masks
- 8:45\* Between God & I + Miracle

#### **SUN JUNE 9**

- 1:30 New Moon + White Feathers
- 3:45 Ouaga, Capitale du Cinéma +
- Le truc de Konaté
- 5:00\* Fanon Yesterday, Today
- 6:45 Visages De Femmes

\* Directors and guests will be in attendance

# TICKETING

# FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

#### Walter Reade Theater: 165 West 65th St Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center: 144 West 65th St.

Both venues are between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue

#### **Tickets:**

\$15 General Public
\$12 Students, Seniors (62+) and Persons with Disabilities
\$10 FLC members

Save with a 3+ film package! Discount not valid for opening night

Opening Night Film and Reception Tickets (May 30): \$100

To purchase tickets: Single tickets can be purchased online at filmlinc.org or at FLC box offices. To purchase Opening Night Film & Reception tickets, please email info@africanfilmny.org or call 212-352-1720

#### **Directions:**

FLC theaters are half a block away from the 66th Street stop on the 1 train; and six blocks from Columbus Circle (A, B, C, D, 1 trains) and 72nd Street (1, 2, 3 trains) stations. Buses: M5, M7, M10, M11, M66, M104.

## THE AFRICA CENTER

1280 5th Avenue, New York

The New Hork Times

Directions: 2 or 3 train to 110 St.; 6 train to 110 St.

For more info, please visit theafricacenter.org

#### BAM FILM @ BAM Rose Cinemas

#### 30 Lafayette Avenue in Brooklyn

Tickets: \$15 General Admission \$11 for Students (Mon-Thu) / Seniors/Veterans \$7.50 for Level 1-3 Members.

**To purchase tickets:** Online at bam.org/film, by phone at 718-777-FILM (theater ID #545), or at the BAM Rose Cinemas box office.

#### **Directions:**

Take the C train to Lafayette; the N, R, or D train to Pacific; the 2, 3, 4, 5, B or Q train to Atlantic Avenue; or the G train to Fulton. Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67.

## **MAYSLES CINEMA**

343 Lenox Avenue, btwn 127th & 128th Sts.

**Suggested donation:** \$10 Visit maysles.org or call 212-537-6843.

Directions: 2 or 3 train to 125th Street.

# ABOUT FILM AT LINCOLN CENTER

Film at Lincoln Center is dedicated to supporting the art and elevating the craft of cinema and enriching film culture.

Film at Lincoln Center fulfills its mission through the programming of festivals, series, retrospectives, and new releases; the publication of Film Comment; the presentation of podcasts, talks, and special events; the creation and implementation of Artist Initiatives; and our Film in Education curriculum and screenings. Since its founding in 1969, this nonprofit organization has brought the celebration of American and international film to the world-renowned arts complex Lincoln Center, making the discussion and appreciation of cinema accessible to a broad audience, and ensuring that it remains an essential art form for years to come. For more information, visit www.filmlinc.org and follow @filmlinc on Twitter and Instagram.

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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

AFF programming goes beyond its flagship annual film festival and related exhibitions to encompass a national traveling series, year-round screenings of both new and classic films in New York and beyond, and educational and community programs. Combined, these core programs serve to promote a better understanding of the full spectrum of African film and culture.

## ANNUAL NATIONAL TRAVELING FILM SERIES

AFF's National Traveling Series provides a package of AFF-curated films, promotional materials and professional cinema consultation to film programmers in cultural and community institutions.

### **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

AFF partners with community organizations to host free and low-cost programs. These include year-round screenings, discussions and performances with institutions including the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Apollo Theater, The Bronx Museum of Art, City University of New York, CityParks Foundation, Cornerstone Mentoring Program, MoCADA, Carnegie Hall, Global Kids Network, The Trust for Governors Island, New York Public Library, Ocularis, The Queens Museum and United Nations, just to name a few.

#### **EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

AFF facilitates education programs in NYC schools where students are led in historical and cultural investigations of works produced by or about people of African heritage through guided conversations and inquiry-based lesson plans.

# **DVD DISTRIBUTION and AFF PUBLICATIONS**

AFF's online store offers DVDs representing the best in classic, contemporary and hard-tofind African and Diasporic film and self-published anthologies of conversations with African directors, capturing the experience, spirit, and wisdom of African filmmakers. Publication 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.

For more information on AFF's programs and initiatives, please visit africanfilmny.org.



# THE NEW YORK AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF







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