

CAFF REPORT 2015

CAMBRIDGE AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL

VENUES:

CAMBRIDGE ARTS PICTUREHOUSE
ST PHILIPS CHURCH CENTRE
CLARE BAR COLLEGE
MAIN LECTURE THEATRE, ST JOHN'S DIVINITY SCHOOL
GILLESPIE CENTRE: RILEY AUDITORIUM, CLARE COLLEGE
THE QUEEN'S BUILDING, EMMANUEL COLLEGE
MUSEUM OF MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

16 - 24

OCTOBER 2015

THE CAMBRIDGE AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL. 14TH EDITION

→ INFO: WWW.CAMBRIDGEAFRICANFILMFESTIVAL.ORG.UK

SPONSORS



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CONTRIBUTORS



CAFF is honoured to announce Kenyan filmmaker Judy Kibinge as our patron.

Judy Kibinge



“Ever since I was a child, I’ve loved to put pictures and words together.

Its not surprising then, that my first career was advertising. As the first non-expatriate Creative Director of an large East African multinational agency at McCann Erickson (1992 – December 1999) I created award winning adverts for multinationals like Coca-Cola North Africa Division (East/West/Central Africa & Islands), Unilever and East African Breweries. This was, I like to think, my film school. When I got tired of making adverts about brands that I believed less and less in, I quit my rather cushy job to try and make films. My first feature film *Dangerous Affair* made 2 years after quitting advertising was a contemporary film set in the heart of middle class Nairobi and is credited by some as having kicked off the wave of contemporary filmmaking in Kenya. This was preceded by a short, *Aftermath*, was successful at festivals around the world. *Project Daddy* was made in 2006 and in 2009 I wrote and directed a medium length stylish thriller based on a short graphic novel *Killer Necklace* for MNET New Directions, produced by my company Seven Productions. In 2013, I directed my third dramatic feature film *Something Necessary* which screened at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2013.

Despite some modest successes here and there, I still long to go to film school and learn more about my craft including cinematography skills that will free me to be more self-reliant and experimental.

In 2013, I established DOCUBOX an East African Documentary Film Fund that aims to play a transformative role in the East African documentary film industry awarding film grants and mentoring to selected filmmakers. Right now we have six documentary films on our slate. In addition, we host monthly film screenings as well as master classes and workshops whenever we can. I love architecture, buildings and trees and if I could live life all over again, I would become an architect and work innovatively with old African building materials like mud, straw, clay, brick and even dung”.

DOCUMENTARIES

Coming of Age, (2008) Producer / Director / Writer 12 minute documentary for STEPS INTERNATIONAL

Peace Wanted Alive (2009) Producer / Director / Writer 45 Minute documentary – SEVEN PRODUCTIONS

Bless This Our Land (2006) Producer / Director / Writer – 30 minute documentary Director / Writer - Visual Edge

A Voice in the Dark - 8 min short on David Munyakei – Producer / Writer / Director - Visual Edge / Seven Productions

Headlines in History (2010) – Director / Writer - 60 minute – SEVEN PRODUCTIONS

Scarred – Anatomy of a Massacre (2015) – Director / Producer 60 minute documentary film SEVEN PRODUCTIONS

FICTIONAL FILMS

The Aftermath (2002) Director / Writer – 30 Minute short MNET NEW DIRECTIONS

Dangerous Affair (2002) Director / Writer – BARAKA FILMS

Project Daddy (2004) Director / Writer - Feature length romantic comedy –BARAKA FILMS

Killer Necklace (2009) Producer / Director / Writer - 40 minute film dramatic film – SEVEN PRODUCTIONS

Something Necessary (2011) Producer / Director / Writer 84 minute dramatic feature – ONE FINE DAY FILMS

STAFF

Founding Director: Dr Lindiwe Dovey

CAFF 2015 Director: Estrella Sendra

Festival Co-organiser: Michael Boyd

Curatorial Team: Estrella Sendra, Lindiwe Dovey, Michael Boyd & Advisory Board

Deputy Director (Operations): Jenny Thornton

Volunteers Coordinator: Wale Awoyinka

Head of Media Office: Sebastiana Etzo

Media Officers: Paula Beegan, Robin Steedman and Michael Thomas

Social Media Manager: India Blair

Social Media Officer: Wale Awoyinka

Photography: Christian Knight, Marco Galardini, Anna de Mutiis, Wale Awoyinka.

Videography: Anna de Mutiis, Estrella Sendra

CAFF Trailer edited by Sebastiana Etzo

Website Designer: Bill Thompson

Graphic Designer: Claire Rastogi & Sendras

CAFF is a completely voluntarily run festival.
We are very grateful for the generosity of everyone involved in CAFF.

ADVISORY BOARD

Dr Lindiwe Dovey (Founding Director of CAFF)



Dr Lindiwe Dovey is a South African academic, film festival director, film curator, and filmmaker. She holds a permanent position as Senior Lecturer in African Film and Performance Arts at SOAS, University of London. She received her BA Honors from Harvard University in Film Production and Theory and English Literature in 2001, and her PhD from the University of Cambridge in African Cinema and Literature in 2005. Lindiwe has been founding, directing, and curating African film festivals in the UK since 2002, the year in which she co-founded the Cambridge African Film Festival (with Mark Mathuray, Georgina Horrell, James Suzman, and Rachel Giraudou). She directed the CAFF from 2003-2005, and again in 2009, and has played an ongoing role as Founding Director. In 2011, Lindiwe co-founded Film Africa, London's African film festival, which she also co-directed (with Namvula Rennie) and curated in 2011 and 2012. Lindiwe has published widely on African film. Her book, *African Film and Literature* (Columbia University Press, 2009) won a Choice Outstanding Award, and her book *Curating Africa in the Age of Film Festivals* will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in March 2015. From 2012-2015, Lindiwe has been the recipient of a Philip Leverhulme Prize.

Estrella Sendra (CAFF Director)



Estrella Sendra is a media researcher, filmmaker, and festival organiser. She is the director of the documentary film *Témoignages de l'autre côté*, about Senegalese migration to Spain, which was awarded the European Charlemagne Youth Prize 2011 for its challenge to stereotypical representations of Africa. Her documentary *Diabel Cissokho: the story of a Griot* had its UK premiere at the Hackney Picturehouse in London in April 2014. She was involved in Film Africa 2012 and 2013, and in the African Film Festival of Cordoba-FCAT in Spain, where she was the Head of the International Media Office in 2013. She holds a BA in Media, Film and Journalism; an MA in Critical Media and Cultural Studies; and she is currently undertaking her PhD (with a full scholarship) on Senegalese cultural festivals at SOAS, University of London. She is working as a teacher of Media and Film Studies at the University Foundation Programme (David Game College, London) as well as Marketing Officer for Francophone Africa. She continues to work as a journalist, publishing in magazines specialised in African cultures, such as *Wiriko* and *Le Soleil*.

Jenny Thornton (CAFF Deputy Director)



Jenny works closely with the Festival Director and supports the operational aspects of scheduling and planning the festival. This includes partnership building, community outreach, venue bookings and volunteer recruitment. Jenny has extensive experience of project managing a number of research and capacity building projects with partnered universities across Sub-Saharan Africa. She works at the University of Cambridge as Programme Manager of the African Partnership for Chronic Disease Research. Her passion for visual anthropology, ethnography and film began while she was studying for her MA in Geography and Social Anthropology at the University of St Andrews. Jenny is now resuming her academic studies, alongside full-time work and CAFF, as a part-time postgraduate Masters student of International Relations at the University of Cambridge.

Dr Tony Jones



Dr Tony Jones has been involved in cinema development and programming since 1968, when he founded an independent cinema, The Arts Lab, in Birmingham. He moved on to become Programming Manager for the Arts Cinema in Cambridge in 1978, which he then established as the leading art house outside of London. Tony Jones also co-founded the UK's leading independent cinema operator City Screen Limited in 1989, starting with a programming contract for the Maltings Cinema in Ely and the purchase of the Phoenix Cinema in Oxford. Tony has been an active supporter of CAFF since its inception in 2002. Tony resigned from City Screen in 2012. He is the Director, Co-founder and Trustee of the Cambridge Film Trust, with particular responsibility for the programming and content of the Cambridge Film Festival. In October 2013 he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of the Arts by Anglia Ruskin University.

Dr Jean Khalfa



Jean Khalfa is a Fellow and Senior Lecturer in French Studies at Trinity College, University of Cambridge, and a British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellow. He has published widely on the history of philosophy, modern literature (in particular contemporary poetry and writing in French from North Africa and the Caribbean), aesthetics and anthropology. He is a member of the Comité de Rédaction of *Les Temps Modernes* and on the editorial board of *Wasafiri* and a trustee of the Cambridge Film Trust.

Angèle Diabang



Angèle Diabang debuted as a film editor before directing her first short film *Mon Beau Sourire*, which screened at over 50 festivals. She is the founder of the production company *Karoninka*, in 2006, and she has directed several documentaries such as *Sénégalaises et Islam* (2007), *Yandé Codou: La griotte de Senghor* (2008), and *Congo: un médécine pour sauver les femmes* (2014). She is currently working on her first feature length film, adapting the acclaimed novel by Senegalese writer Mariama Bâ, *So Long a Letter*. Angèle Diabang is also one of the three associates of the French Society of Production 'Les films du paquebot'. Other than directing her own films, she has produced a dozen documentary and fiction films, which have been screened across the world. Her films have also been presented and awarded in big international film festivals. Since 2014, Angèle Diabang has been the President of the Executive Board (Conseil d'Administration) of the Collective Management Society of Copyright and related rights in Senegal.

ADVISORY BOARD

Paula Beegan



Paula Beegan is currently Associate Director, Special Events at Human Rights Watch, overseeing an international portfolio of fundraising and cultivation events. Paula graduated from Trinity College, University of Cambridge before completing a Research Masters in Film Studies in Paris. She worked for UNESCO coordinating a capacity-building programme for cultural enterprises in developing countries and later managed the Cambridge Film Trust, organising a year-round programme of screenings and special events, including the annual Cambridge Film Festival. During her time in Cambridge as a student and at the Film Trust, Paula worked on various editions of the Cambridge African Film Festival.

Theodore Menelik-Mfuni



Theodore Menelik-Mfuni is a sociologist and a Congolese citizen residing in Cambridge. His love for his country and its people led him to found Menelik Education in 2003, a charity working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a branch in Cambridge, UK. Menelik Education mainly works in the DRC, but also regionally and internationally. Its goals are to produce information, reflection and action on sustainable human development, national and international solidarity, human rights, gender equality, and other issues. Since 2003, Theodore has also been working on projects related to education, health, and community empowerment. Theodore is a lecturer in Education and Development at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education and a visiting lecturer at the Institut Supérieur de Statistique of Kinshasa (DRC). Menelik Education has been a Humanitarian Centre member since 2008 and Theodore was chosen to represent his fellow members on the Humanitarian Centre board of trustees in March 2014.

Dr Joel Cabrita



Dr Joel Cabrita is University Lecturer in World Christianities at the University of Cambridge. She writes and researches on transnational Christianity in Southern Africa, with a particular interest in the role of print-mediated performance in these religious communities (see her recent book *Text and Authority in the South African Nazaretha Church*, CUP, 2014). Her current book tells the story of how a small American Midwestern faith healing group travelled across the Atlantic to become the single largest religious movement in Southern Africa. Joel is a long-term supporter and contributing member of CAFF, dating from her own student days in Cambridge.

Dr Julie MacArthur



Dr Julie MacArthur holds a PhD in African history from the University of Cambridge and has taught African history and culture at universities across Canada, the UK and East Africa. She currently holds posts as an Assistant Professor of African History and African Studies at the University of Toronto and as a Visiting Scholar with the Makerere Institute for Social Research in Kampala, Uganda. Julie has worked as a programming associate with the Toronto International Film Festival and Film Africa in London as well as serving as the Director of the Cambridge African Film Festival for several years. She is also the Director of Content Acquisition for Buni.TV, an online platform for the distribution of African content and she regularly curates film programmes and participates in film forums and festivals across the world.

Michael Boyd



Michael grew up in Zimbabwe and Botswana, and graduated with a BA in Film Studies from Kent having also studied abroad in Kansas, before settling in Cambridge. He has worked at various film festivals, including Telluride and Sundance, and worked at Dogwoof Pictures. Michael is the former director of the Cambridge African Film Festival and Communications Manager for Take One, the official review publication for the Cambridge Film Festival, at which he worked for seven years. Michael returned to South Africa in 2013, where he is now a teacher in Johannesburg.

Modupe Otesanya



Graduating with a degree in Communications and Visual Culture from Guildhall University, and a Diploma in Finance and Accounts, Modupe is a researcher, social entrepreneur and a media licensing and partnership professional, working across the public and private sector. With an astute understanding of what makes cross-cultural dialogue projects successful, she has carved out a career as a project strategist, delivering solutions to clients on a local and international level. She was instrumental in brokering the successful transfer of Tony award-winning Broadway musical *Fela!* and the 50 plus crew and cast members production from New York to Lagos. At Sanya Films, where she is able to marry her passion for culture and education, she continues to promote innovative contemporary films emerging from Africa and the diaspora to exhibitors, knowledge institutions and the public. Modupe is also a freelance footage and archive researcher; she did the archive research and clearance for the feature film *October 1st*, directed by Kunle Afolayan. She is currently working on a documentary on the eminent philosopher, V.Y. Mudimbe. Modupe is an archive associate at the Black Cultural Archive Museum and Alumna at the Institute of Cultural Diplomacy.

Sarah Jones



After a childhood in Africa and Asia, Sarah studied politics and film at Cambridge University, the University of Cape Town, and Harvard University, and was Deputy Director of CAFF in 2005. Living in Cape Town, Sarah works as an independent filmmaker in collaboration with Team Tarbaby, a production company that produces films with a specific focus on identity and freedom. *Umbilical Cords*, Sarah's first documentary, explored love and conflict between three pairs of transnational mothers and daughters. Sarah is currently working on *Mrs Popplestone*, a documentary feature exploring how a blind woman experienced race under apartheid, and *Ystervark*, a fiction feature telling the love story between a Chinese shop worker and her Sotho partner.

CAFF OVERVIEW

Launched in 2002, the Cambridge African Film Festival (CAFF) is the UK's longest running annual African film festival, with the aim of screening the best contemporary African films, increasing knowledge and awareness of African and black culture in the UK, providing a UK audience for African filmmakers, and offering an important counterbalance to the Western media's stereotyping of Africa. The festival has always been completely voluntarily run by a group of people who are passionate about African film.

CAFF is very proud to have celebrated its 14th edition from 16 to 24 October 2015 across different venues in Cambridge, including the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse, St John's Divinity School and the Riley Auditorium at Clare College.

CAFF 2015 focused on three main themes: love, music and resistance, showcasing nine fiction films, two short films and two documentary films from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Sudan. It also featured Q&As with experts, workshops, a book launch, live music events, and a tribute to Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembène.

The 14th edition was supported by prestigious institutions such as the Smuts Memorial Fund, Trinity College, the Centre of African Studies (University of Cambridge), the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse and the Cambridge Film Trust. CAFF 2015 was also part of a film series called 'From Africa, With Love', in collaboration with the four other African film festivals in the UK: Africa in Motion (AiM) Film Festival in Scotland, Film Africa in London, Afrika Eye in Bristol, and Watch-Africa in Wales, in association with the BFI UK Audience Network's LOVE Blockbuster Season.

CAFF 2015 also partnered with many more Cambridge-based institutions and organisations, such as the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Your Space, Eko Kitchen, Menelik Education, Calabash, the African Society of Cambridge University, the Eastern African Society of Cambridge University, the French Studies Society of Trinity College, the Festival of Ideas, as well as Passion for Motherland, a platform founded by Congolese model Lisette Mibo, empowering RD Congo-based projects.

14TH EDITION

**16 - 24
OCT
2015**

**THE CAMBRIDGE AFRICAN
FILM FESTIVAL**

**'FROM AFRICA, WITH LOVE'
MUSIC & RESISTANCE**

**TRIBUTE TO SEMBENE
LUSOPHONE ANNIVERSARY**

**LIVE MUSIC,
FASHION SHOW,
BOOK LAUNCH,
WORKSHOPS, Q&A'S,
ETHIOPIAN FOOD**

**AT THE ARTS PICTUREHOUSE & ACROSS CAMBRIDGE. DETAILS ONLINE
WWW.CAMBRIDGEAFRICANFILMFESTIVAL.ORG.UK**

SPONSORS

CONTRIBUTORS

CAFF 2015 PROGRAMME CALENDAR 16 - 24 OCTOBER 2015



FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER

OPENING CAFF

6 PM: LOVE THE ONE YOU LOVE + Q&A (Jenna Bass, South Africa, 2014, 105 min, English and isiXhosa with English subtitles)

Fiction Film. Romantic comedy, mystery.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse
Introduction by CAFF Director & Cambridge Film Trust Co-Founder

Across the city of Cape Town, a sex-line operator, a dog handler and a computer technician begin to suspect that their romantic relationships are the subject of a bizarre conspiracy, involving their family, friends, and possibly even greater forces.

We hope the film will be followed by a Q&A with filmmaker, Jenna Cato Bass (via Skype), led by Dr Lindiwe Dovey (SOAS, University of London).

Part of 'From Africa, with Love'



SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

1 - 3.30 PM: Workshop EXPERIMENTS WITH LOVE: Young South African Women Filmmakers

Venue: Winstanley Lecture Theatre, Trinity College.

In the past few years, South Africa has witnessed an exciting new film movement, led by young women of all cultural backgrounds, who are experimenting with the film medium to seek out new ways of figuring South Africa's past and present.

I am Saartje Baartman
Dir. Nobunye Levin. South Africa, 2010. 18min.

We remember differently
Dir. Jyoti Mistry. South Africa, 2005. 26min.

Fraternal
Dir. Nikki Comminos. South Africa/ Zimbabwe, 2015. 60 min.

Each film will be briefly introduced by the curator of this programme, Dr Lindiwe Dovey, Senior Lecturer in African Film at SOAS, University of London.

Part of 'From Africa, with Love'

6 - 8.30 PM: THE MAN FROM ORAN + Q&A (Lyes Salem, Algeria, 2014, 128 min, Arabic & French with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Historical drama
Venue: Winstanley Lecture Theatre, Trinity College.

During the first euphoric years following the Independence of Algeria, two friends, Djaffar and Hamid, face a bright and promising future. Over the decades, secrets and betrayal drive them apart.

We hope the film will be followed by a discussion with Dr Jean Khalifa (Trinity College, University of Cambridge).

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER

1.30 - 2.30 PM: Africa for Kids. Traditional Games from Ethiopia

Venue: Museum of Anthropology & Archaeology.

This small-group sized workshop for children aims to provide a unique opportunity to the world of traditional games and arts and crafts in Ethiopia.

CAFF Family Screenings

3.30 PM: SAMBA TWINS (Lazare Palé, Burkina Faso, 2014, 11 min, French with English subtitles).

Fiction film. Children's story, animation.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

This animated short film introduces us to the oral tradition of West Africa, where children listen around the fire to their grandparents' stories alongside the music of the kora, an emblematic instrument of griots and storytellers.

LAMB + Q&A (Yared Zeleke, Ethiopia, 2015, 94 min, Amharic with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Coming-of-age drama
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

Ephraim is a young Ethiopian boy. His father leaves him and his sheep, from which he is inseparable, to be looked after by distant relatives, far from his drought-ridden homeland.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Ethiopian film expert Michael Thomas (SOAS, University of London) in conversation with Estrella Sendra (CAFF Director).

4 - 5 PM: Book Launch CURATING AFRICA IN THE AGE OF FILM FESTIVALS

Venue: Arts Picturehouse Cafe.

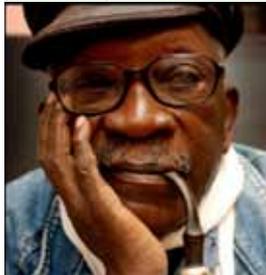
We are delighted to be hosting the UK book launch of Curating Africa in the Age of Film Festivals by CAFF's founding director, Dr Lindiwe Dovey. Come along and drink a glass of wine and chat to Lindiwe about the book, which began its journey at the Cambridge African Film Festival!

5.30 PM: SEMBENE! + Q&A (Samba Gadjigo & Jason Silverman, USA/Senegal, 2015, French, English and Wolof with English subtitles).

Documentary Film. Biographical.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

Biographer Samba Gadjigo takes the audience into the life journey of Ousmane Sembène, one of the fathers of African cinema.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Dr Lindiwe Dovey (SOAS, University of London and CAFF Founding Director) and Estrella Sendra (CAFF Director).



MONDAY 19 OCTOBER

6 PM: BLACK GIRL + Q&A (Ousmane Sembène, 1966, Senegal, 65 min, French and Wolof with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Drama.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

BLACK GIRL is one of the most emblematic titles by Ousmane Sembène, featuring the aspirations for a better life abroad that have often motivated migration. A young Senegalese woman is hired as a governess by a French family, but finds her duties reduced to those of a maid after the family moves from Dakar to the south of France. In her new country, the woman is constantly made aware of her race and mistreated by her employers. Her hope turns to disillusionment and she falls into isolation and despair.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Estrella Sendra



Programme continues in the following page.

www.cambridgeafricanfilmfestival.org.uk

CAFF 2015 PROGRAMME CALENDAR 16 - 24 OCTOBER 2015



TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER

6 PM: AYANDA + Q&A (Sara Blecher, 2015, South Africa, 110 min, English)

Fiction film. Romance, drama.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

In a vibrant and diverse Johannesburg community, 21-year-old Afro-hipster Ayanda has a knack for taking neglected pieces of furniture and "bringing them back to love". Eight years after her father's death, she is determined to revive his prized garage business, which is in deep debt and in danger of being sold. The film crackles with infectious energy and style, capturing a vivid contemporary view of South Africa.

We hope that the film will be followed by a Q&A with Sara Blecher (pre-recorded) and discussion with Dr Litheko Modisane (University of Cape Town, South Africa).

Festival of Ideas

7 PM: BEATS OF THE ANTONOV (Hajooj Kuka, Sudan, 2014, 68 min, Sudanese Arabic & English with English subtitles)

Documentary film. Ethnomusicology.
Venue: Main Lecture Theatre, St John's Divinity School, St Johns St, CB2 1TW.

Beats of the Antonov tells the story of the people of the Blue Nile and Nuba Mountains in Sudan, showing how they deal with civil war. Traditionally music has always been part of daily life in these areas but now it has a new role in a society challenged by conflict.

The film will be followed by a Q&A with Hajooj Kuka (pre-recorded), in conversation with Dr Sharath Srinivasan (University of Cambridge).

WEDNESDAY 21 OCT.

6 PM: YELLOW FEVER (Ng'endo Mukii, 2012, Kenya, 11 min, English)

Short film. Poetic, experimental.
Venue: The Queen's Building, Emmanuel College.

Yellow Fever is a mixed-media documentary animation by Kenyan filmmaker Ng'endo Mukii. The short film, which served as Mukii's thesis project at London's Royal College of Art, is a captivating blend of live-action, stop-motion, spoken word, and vibrant hand-drawn animation that explores the effects of Eurocentric beauty ideals, as disseminated by mainstream media and advertising, on African women.

STORIES OF OUR LIVES + Q&A (Jim Chuchu, 2014, Kenya, 60 min, Swahili & English with English subtitles)

Fiction film. LGBT, romance, drama.
Venue: The Queen's Building, Emmanuel College.

STORIES OF OUR LIVES presents a series of short films dealing with different aspects of love among the LGBT community. Created by the members of a Nairobi-based arts collective — who have removed their names from the film for fear of reprisal — this anthology film is both a labour of love and a bold act of militancy.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Njoki Wamai (University of Cambridge) and Robin Steedman (SOAS, University of London).

Part of 'From Africa, with Love'



THURSDAY 22 OCT.

6 PM: CAIRO STATION + Q&A (Youssef Chahine, 1958, Egypt, 77 min, Arabic with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Crime, drama.
Venue: Arts Picturehouse

Kinawi, a physically challenged peddler who makes his living selling newspapers in the central Cairo train station, is obsessed with Hannouma, an attractive young woman who sells drinks. While she treats Kinawi in a sympathetic way and jokes with him about a possible relationship, she is actually in love with Abu Sin, a strong and respected porter at the station who is struggling to unionise his fellow workers to combat their boss's exploitative and abusive treatment.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Dr Maha Abdelrahman (University of Cambridge)

Part of 'From Africa, with Love'



FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER

DINE & VIEW 7 PM: PRICE OF LOVE with ETHIOPIAN MEAL + Q&A (Hermon Hailay, 2014, Ethiopia, 99 min, Amharic with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Romance, drama.
Venue: St Philips Church Centre

Enjoy a delicious Ethiopian meal while watching an Ethiopian film!

This is the story of a young taxi driver who helps a young woman who works as a prostitute from being abused. Their caring relationship will develop into a love story that, while difficult, seems to be impossible to disregard. Price of Love won the Bi Kidude Award (Chairman's Award) at Zanzibar International Film Festival 2015, and Best Film, Best Actor and Best Actress at Pan African Film Festival, Cannes 2015.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Michael Thomas (SOAS, University of London) and Estrella Sendra (CAFF Director).

Part of 'From Africa, with Love'



SATURDAY 24 OCT.

CAFF CLOSING EVENING FILM SCREENING & PARTY

6 PM: THE GREAT KILAPY + Q&A (Zézé Gamboa, 2012, Angola-Portugal, 100 min, Portuguese with English subtitles)

Fiction film. Drama, comedy, historic.
Venue: The Gillespie Centre: Riley Auditorium

Angolan filmmaker Zézé Gamboa brings us a sardonic historical drama about Joãozinho, a good-hearted, apolitical con man who pulls off a massive swindle at the expense of the Portuguese colonial administration the day before Angolan independence. Soon after, he finds himself hailed as a hero of the national liberation struggle. The film offers a gaze at the lives and passions of young people in Luanda and Lisbon during the sixties.

The film will be followed by a discussion with Dr Ros Gray (Goldsmiths, University of London) in conversation with Estrella Sendra (CAFF Director).

9 - 11.30 PM: ABDOULAYE SAMB & MINNJIARABY + FASHION SHOW & Calabash DJ'S
Venue: JCR, Clare College Bar.

Enjoy this vibrant Senegalese live band. Original music inspired by Fula and Mandinka cultures among many others.

The concert will be preceded by a fashion show hosted by Congolese model Lisette Mibo, founder of Passion for Motherland.
Followed by Calabash DJ's!

We are looking forward to welcoming you in CAFF 2015!

www.cambridgeafricanfilmfestival.org.uk

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Festival Programme

This year the Cambridge African Film Festival (CAFF), which was directed for the second consecutive year by Estrella Sendra, focused on the intertwining themes of love, music and resistance. The programme showcased nine fiction films, two short films and two documentary films coming from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Sudan. It also featured Q&As with experts, workshops, live music, and a tribute to Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembène.



About “From Africa, With Love”



“From Africa, With Love” was a programme of African cinema that took place from October 2015 to November 2015 across the UK, as part of the BFI LOVE Blockbuster Season, in partnership with Plusnet, which sought to present a number of both classic and contemporary films about romantic love on the African continent. The programme was

a collaborative effort between the five African film festivals in the UK: Africa in Motion (AiM) Film Festival in Scotland; Film Africa in London; Afrika Eye in Bristol; Watch-Africa in Wales; and the Cambridge African Film Festival (CAFF), with Africa in Motion taking responsibility for administering the logistics and finances of the project. The project came about as a means to augment and diversify the wider Love Blockbuster programme by presenting a number of films within the programmes of the five film festivals, as well as making these films available to other venues and hubs during the Love season. Through a collaborative programming process, we selected 8 African films that focused on the theme of love in a variety of ways, and grouped these into three overarching themes:

LOVE BREWED IN AN AFRICAN POT

This theme sought to rekindle date night in a romantic dine-and-view setting. Films that were screened in this strand included:

- Jenna Cato Bass’ quirky Love the One You Love (South Africa, 2014)
- Hermon Hailay’s Price of Love (Ethiopia, 2015)

LOVE IN CONFLICT

This strand looked at love in times of adversity, and included:

- Mark Dornford-May’s Breathe Umphefumlo (South Africa, 2015)
- Miklas Manneke’s Kanyekanye (South Africa, 2013)

ROMANTIC VIEWS

This strand explored the cultural perceptions and interpretations of love across Africa, looking at religion, class, tradition and the collision with modernity, and the unique place of love in African life, manifested in marriage, dowries, courting rituals, and the challenges of unconventional love. Films included:

- Djibril Diop Mambety’s Hyenas (Senegal, 1992)
- Youssef Chahine’s Cairo Station (Egypt, 1958)
- Jim Chuchu’s Stories of our Lives (2014)
- Zeze Gamboa’s O Grand Kilapy (Angola, 2012)

Overall, the programme was very successful. In particular, all of the Dine and View events across the five festivals were sold-out and much enjoyed by attendees. A number of other screenings saw significant audience turnout, while some screenings struggled to get audiences. This is not unexpected as these kinds of African films do not usually have a large viewership, and although positive developments in this regard can be witnessed in some of the more successful events of this programme, achieving consistently good attendance is part of a longer-term project of developing reliable audiences. The programme also saw the successful collaboration of the five African film festivals in a way that works towards the strengthening of the network for future initiatives, and which was developed previously through the BFI-funded South African film tour last year. The longer-term impact of the programme saw the successful exposure of African cinema to UK audiences in order to continue developing an interest in and demand for African cinema amongst UK audiences.

The five participating film festivals have worked extensively in their respective regions in recent years to increase this demand, and believe firmly that there is room for expansion. This “From Africa, With Love” project facilitated the reaching of audiences with an interest in the theme of ‘love’, who may not ordinarily have a specific interest in African film. This expanded the festivals’ reach beyond their typical viewership and contributed to overcoming the marginalisation of African cinema in UK film culture going forward.

CAFF benefitted greatly from taking part in this collaborative project, as not only did it enrich the programme with a large number of screenings that would not have been otherwise funded, but it also provided enjoyable parallel events, such as the already mentioned ‘Dine & View’.

As part of this section, CAFF screened five titles, including South African fiction film *Love the One you Love* (2014, Jenna Cato Bass), as the opening night film, followed by a wine and food reception with live music with Tanzanian singer Kyazin Lugangira; the classic Egyptian film *Cairo Station* (1958, Youssef Chahine); the award-winning Ethiopian film *Price of Love* (2014, Hermon Hailay) in a romantic ‘Dine & View’ setting, co-organised with Menelik Education; the Kenyan film *Stories of Our Lives* (2014, Jim Chuchu); and *O Grande Kilapy* (2012, Angola-Portugal, Zézé Gamboa), a rarely shown Lusophone film which does not just revolve around love, but also music and resistance. Since the year 2015 also marked the 40th anniversary of independence in the five African Portuguese-speaking countries, the latter film was selected for the closing evening of the festival, followed by an African fashion show hosted by Congolese model Lisette Mibo’s charity *Passion for Motherland*, and a concert by Senegalese band *Abdoulaye Samb & Minnjaraby*.



Pre-recorded Q&A with Jenna Cato Bass
Live music Reception with Kyazi Lugangira



Tanzanian guitarist, singer, songwriter, performer, Kyazi Lugangira has emerged as a creative composer with music that blends soul, blues, latin, funk, jazz and hip hop with roots coming from African music. He is currently recording his album *Kihaya Blues*.

For the reception opening ‘From Africa, with Love’ and CAFF, Kyazi Lugangira brought a variety of balades and romantic blues and soul, that provided a cosy, warm and inspiring environment for the festival, while attendees chatted over wine and delicious snacks prepared by the Arts Picturehouse.



About Music & Resistance and the Festival of Ideas

CAFF 2015 coincided with Cambridge's well-established Festival of Ideas, which this year focused on the theme of 'Power and Resistance'. CAFF therefore chose to screen the award-winning Sudanese documentary *Beats of the Antonov* (2014, Hajooj Kuka), about how people of the Blue Nile and Nuba Mountains in Sudan resist the situation created by the civil war through music. The screening was followed by a pre-recorded message by director Hajooj Kuka from the Blue Nile, and followed by a discussion with Dr Sharath Srinivasan, director of the Centre of Governance and Human Rights and lecturer at King's College, University of Cambridge, in conversation with Deputy Director, Jenny Thornton.

The screening, which was free, was sold out (120 seats) and received excellent feedback from the audience and the Festival of Ideas, which expressed that it would be keen on co-organising further screenings with CAFF in the upcoming editions. Some of the audience comments include:

'Amazing film. Excellent experience, brilliant and thought provoking film.'

'Excellent experience - I had little real knowledge of the complexity of conflict in Sudan and found this film presented the culture of the Nuban people in a very positive light. Fascinating route into understanding the conflicts'

'Excellent experience – very educational film'

'Beautiful and very interesting. Gorgeous photography and vibrant storytelling'

'Excellent experience. Very interesting film, but quite demanding due to the unfamiliarity of the subject'

'Fantastic insight into Sudanese culture of diversity'

'Excellent experience – really well filmed on an under reported subject. It was good to see opinions of identity in Africa'



As part of this theme, CAFF also hosted a screening of the recent beautifully shot historical fiction film *The Man from Oran* (Lyes Salem, 2015) about the first euphoric years following Algerian independence. Unfortunately the speaker could not come for the discussion, and it was poorly attended. However, those who did attend argued the film should have opened the festival. Feedback included:

'I did not know about this film, so it's been an excellent experience'

'Brilliant first half and great second!'

'Thanks to this festival I understand better social situation in Africa'

Book Launch Curating Africa in the Age of Film Festivals

CAFF was delighted to host the UK book launch of *Curating Africa in the Age of Film Festivals* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) by CAFF's founding director, Dr Lindiwe Dovey. Dr Dovey told us about her latest publication, which began its journey at the Cambridge African Film Festival. The book offers the first scholarly exploration of the vital yet controversial role played by film festivals in curating particular versions of Africa, African film, African filmmakers, and African audiences. It takes us on a festive, historical tour, analysing the curation of Africans at world fairs, the contemporary curation of African film and African filmmakers at film festivals, and the proliferation of international film festivals across Africa today.



Tribute to Sembène

CAFF 2015 sought to highlight the work of acclaimed African filmmakers who have been a source of inspiration in cinematic production on the continent. One such filmmaker is Ousmane Sembène (1923-2007) from Senegal. His biographer and friend Samba Gadjigo has recently made a biographical documentary, *Sembène!* (2015, USA-Senegal, Samba Gadjigo & Jason Silverman), which we were delighted to screen. This was followed by a discussion with Dr Lindiwe Dovey, in conversation with Festival Director Estrella Sendra. We also screened Sembène's *Black Girl* (1966), considered by many to be the first feature length fiction film to be made by a sub-Saharan African. This screening was followed by a discussion with Rainatou Sow, founder of Every Woman Counts, in conversation with India Blair, the CAFF Social Media Manager.



CAFF Family Day

Aiming to change the perception of the African continent and to showcase its diversity, CAFF believes it is essential to start an early age. For the first time ever CAFF hosted a family day, with an afternoon screening of Ethiopian film *Lamb* (2015, Yared Zeleke), and Burkinabé short *Samba Twins* (2014, Lazare Palé), both followed by a Q&A with Michael Thomas (SOAS, University of London). Feedback about the films included the following:

‘Excellent experience. Beautiful film, tender touching scenes. Impact on beauty of Ethiopia. Good for spreading news of changing roles’.

‘Confirmed our Ethiopian experience’.

‘Great photography. Rural true to life’.

These screenings, which took part in the Arts Picturehouse, were preceded by a children’s workshop at the Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology in Cambridge, providing an introduction to the diversity of Ethiopia through the tastes, textures, sights, sounds and smells associated with the country. Brought to us by husband and wife team, Lideya Teshome, who is Ethiopian born and bred, and Michael Thomas, a PhD candidate researching cinema in Ethiopia, this workshop offered the opportunity for children and parents alike to learn about Ethiopia through a multi-sensory experience. Taking into account that it was the first time that such an activity was organised, it was a successful event, although there were just three children and two parents in the workshop. They enjoyed the experience and expressed their desire for more such workshops. We did, however, have a slight problem of communication with the Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, which found it challenging to promote the event as part of their activities. We could possibly run this workshop at primary schools in the future.



African Women Filmmakers

CAFF has always been committed to highlighting the work and talent of African women directors. This year we were excited to offer a screening programme called ‘Experiments with love: young South African women filmmakers’ with films by Nobunye Levin, Nikki Comminos, and Jyoti Mistry, and with introductions by Dr Lindiwe Dovey. Lindiwe spoke about how, in the past few years, South Africa has witnessed a dynamic new film movement, led by young women of all races, who are experimenting with the film medium to seek new ways of representing South Africa’s past and present. What further unites these films, as could be seen in the workshop, is their attachment to questions of intimacy, interiors, and love: familial love, fraternal love, romantic love. CAFF 2015 screened a total of seven films directed by African women filmmakers.



CAFF Dine & View

The Dine and View was one of the most successful CAFF events, enjoying a second-year close collaboration with Menelik Education, which kindly co-hosted it with the funding from the BFI Love season. The festival moved to Mill Road on the final Friday, on a street full of restaurants from different parts of the world, to put on a night of Ethiopian cinema and food. The film screening, Hermon Hailay's *Price of Love* (Ethiopia, 2015), set in urban Addis Ababa, was followed by a discussion with Michael Thomas (SOAS, University of London) in conversation with Estrella Sendra, while audiences were still enjoying their freshly served Ethiopian meal. The venue was full, with an audience of 60.



CAFF Closing Party

CAFF is delighted to have successfully hosted a closing party with an African fashion show, another new CAFF highlight and a live Senegalese band, with an audience of 100 people in the basement bar of Clare College. The success of this event was due to the collaboration with Calabash and Menelik Education, co-hosters of the events, as well as Congolese model Lisette Mibo, founder of Passion for Motherland. She brought two African designers based in London, and gave the opportunity to aspiring models in Cambridge to participate in a highly professional fashion show.

The show was followed by the live music of a four-musician Senegalese band led by Abdoulaye Samb, including Mamadou Sarr in djembe percussion, who is currently touring with acclaimed Senegalese musician Baaba Maal. Minnjiaraby was founded by Abdoulaye Samb, a guitarist, singer and composer from Senegal, now based in London. His original music is inspired by Fula and Mandinka cultures among many others. The name of the band means “love of mixing”, which expresses the richness of Senegalese traditions and ethnicities, the beauty of them coming together, as well as an open-minded approach to all cultures and people, local and global alike.

The party mood concluded with the rhythms of Calabash DJs, hosters of the African music nights on Thursdays at La Raza, and the recognition of the great work of the volunteers.







AUDIENCES AND IMPACT

CAFF 2015 had an average audience of 44 people per event, and experienced a large attendance at the closing party and the Dine and View. According to the feedback, screenings at the Arts Picturehouse were a bit pricy to be able to afford to go to a number of screenings, and promotion of the festival was sometimes difficult at other venues. The free screening at the Festival of ideas was booked out days prior to the screening, which shows the advantages of collaborating with established festivals within the Cambridge community, as well as an interest in African film, especially when approached through familiar themes.

The audience numbers were as follows:

TITLE	VENUE	TICKETS
Love the One you Love	APH	43
The Man from Oran	QB	18
Children Workshop	MAA	3
Lamb & Samba Twins	APH	39
Sembene	APH	44
Black girl	APH	54
Beats of the Antonov	SJ	98
Ayanda	APH	26
Stories of Our Lives & Yellow Fever	QB	27
Cairo Station	APH	43
The Great Kilapy	RA	32
Dine & View	SPC	60
Experiments with Love	QB	22
Closing Party	CB	99

Audience Average	44
Audience in Party	99
Audience in Food + Film	60



All of the screenings were followed by Q&As, which were highly appreciated by audiences and helped create our CAFF atmosphere, although two of them had to be cancelled because of health issues.

The feedback includes comments such as:

‘I love the variety of African films in the festival.’

On Workshop ‘Experiments with Love’:

‘The films were very groundbreaking, very emotional, touching and referred subjects that make one reflect about.’

‘Interesting films, but specially very interesting introductions and comments by curator. I don’t know a lot about African films, so it’s opened me into new cinema’.

On Sembène!:

‘I realised how little I know about African film/culture. I feel I would like to investigate and know more about African film. It was very informative and I learned a lot. Excellent experience.’

On Yellow Fever and Stories of Our Lives:

‘I am African, so happy for the organisation of this event. Very satisfied with the quality of the discussion.’

‘Very provocative experience, excellent. African film is more open than I would have imagined’.

‘Very sophisticated African film’.

On Cairo Station:

‘Great opportunity to see the film on big screen. Really enjoyed the Q&A at the end. It was interesting, enlightening.’

‘Very interesting. Good Q&A and discussion. Wished that Egyptian cinema was more familiar abroad – it would be great to think that eg Saudis would like it!’

VOLUNTEERING FOR CAFF

CAFF 2015 was very fortunate to count on a brilliant team of over 25 young volunteers aged from 17 upwards, led by Volunteers Coordinator, Wale Awoyinka. It was the first time that CAFF had this figure and it was extremely helpful for the coordination of the numerous body of volunteers. This year, many of these volunteers came from one of our main sponsors, the Centre of African Studies (University of Cambridge), that encouraged its MPhil students to join the team. Many others came from a collaboration with the accommodation enterprise Booking.com. They were very easy to recognise thanks to the T-shirts funded by Nigerian restaurant in Cambridge EKO Kitchen.

Without the volunteers the organisation of CAFF 2015 would not have been possible. Volunteers had the opportunity to learn how a festival organisation works, to meet filmmakers and share their passion for film, as well as to see films that were completely unknown to most of them. Their work was recognised with personalised certificates that were given to them at the pre-closing party, along with a small African craft.

CAFF is very grateful to all volunteers who generously devoted their time and energy to the successful organisation of CAFF. If you would like to volunteer for CAFF in 2016, please contact cambridgeafricanfilmfestival@gmail.com.

CAFF BUDGET, SPONSORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

As mentioned, the 14th edition was supported by prestigious institutions such as the Smuts Memorial Fund, Trinity College, the Centre of African Studies (University of Cambridge), the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse and the Cambridge Film Trust, as well as the 'From Africa, With Love' section of the BFI UK Audience Network's LOVE Blockbuster Season.

CAFF 2015 Budget			
Income	Amount	revised with last payments	
Funders	£	£	£
SMUTS FUND	1500		1500
TRINITY COLLEGE	1000		1000
CAS CAMBRIDGE	700		700
CAS SOAS	250		250
EKO KITCHEN	150		150
BFI/AiM	975		975
Tickets&Events			
Eventbrite (including Party and Dine&View)	1037		1037
Tickets at door	312		312
Total income	5924		5924
Costs			
Screening Fees	£		
Beats of the Antonov (DVD+BLURAY)	142		142
Lamb (DCP)	135		135
Sembene (DCP)	200		200
The Man from Oran	222		222
Black Girl	147		147
AYANDA	200		200
Yellow Fever	50		50
Jumeaux de Samba	73		73
FRATERNAL	103		103
I AM SAARTAJ	50		50
WE REMEMBER DIFFERENTLY (JYOTI&FLORIAN)	50		50
Total	1371		1371
Love Films	£	not included in total because already funded	
LOVE THE ONE YOU LOVE	225		
STORIES OF OUR LIVES	160		
CAIRO STATION	190		
PRICE OF LOVE	250		
O GRANDE KILAPY	185		
Total	1010		
Box Office share	£	£	
APH	1059,49		1059,49
BFI&AiM	298,425		183
Total	1357,915		1.242,92
Share with Partners	£		
Dine&View (BFI/AiM, Menelik)	406,232		167,272
Closing Party (Menelik, Calabash)	242,5		200
Total	648,732		367,272
Marketing&Communication	£		
A2 poster x 50	67,91		67,91
leafletsx 150 + 250	111,79		111,79
Adevert	204		204
Total	384		383,7
Other Costs	£	£	
venue hire	375		375
opening/closing night	908,25		908,25
Dine&View	450		450
fashion show production	200		200
guest fees	88		88
guest transport	223,36		223,36
others	530,63		530,63
Total	2775		2775,24
Total Costs	6537		6140
Surplus/deficit	-613		216,48

CAFF 2015 also partnered with many more Cambridge-based institutions and organisations, such as the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Your Space, Menelik Education, Calabash, Eko Kitchen, Cambridge Africa Programme, the African Society of Cambridge University, the Eastern African Society of Cambridge University, the French Studies Society of Trinity College, the Festival of Ideas, as well as Passion for Motherland, a platform founded by Congolese model Lisette Mibo, empowering RD Congo-based projects.

CAFF is very grateful for this support, as this year has proven once again how challenging it is to organise this completely voluntarily run event. As detailed in the budget below, the festival did not make any profits, especially due to the conditions agreed with the Arts Picturehouse. We really hope more sponsors will join this list of festival supports so that we can soon announce the dates of the 15th edition.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact
**cambridgeafricanfilmfestival@
 gmail.com**

opening balance 21/01/2016	393,23
Total after outstanding payments are paid:	-220
Personal Donation by Dr Lindiwe Dovey	220
CAFF Bank Account for 2016	0



CAFF MEDIA BOOK

Please download the Media Clipping to see all the publications featuring CAFF 2015 from our website

www.cambridgeafricanfilmfestival.org.uk/media/

CAFF PHOTOGRAPHS IN FLICKR: Caff Media

Please see CAFF album in the following link:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/127662385@N02/albums/72157663467112900>

CAFF VIDEOS IN CAFF MEDIA VIMEO CHANNEL:

Website: www.cambridgeafricanfilmfestival.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cambridgeafricanfilmfestival>

Twitter: @africambridge

Flickr: Caff Media

The official CAFF Media Vimeo Channel can be followed in this link:

<https://vimeo.com/user33769121/videos>

For any enquiries, please contact
cambridgeafricanfilmfestival@googlemail.com

Thank you very much,
Estrella Sendra, Festival Director 2015

