

Lausanne, July 9, 2024 - The Festival cinémas d'Afrique Lausanne unveils its full program. Once again this year, the capital of Vaud will vibrate to the rhythm of African cinema, from August 15 to 18.

The 18th edition of the Festival cinémas d'Afrique Lausanne promises to be rich in discoveries. A total of 60 films from 25 African countries will be shown in theatres or outdoors over four days at Montbenon, in the presence of some twenty guests. There will also be a wide range of meetings, shows, workshops and music.

The Festival kicks off on Thursday August 15 at 2pm, with indoor screenings. This will be followed by the opening night, at the Théâtre de Verdure at 9pm. A series of short films will be presented and an aperitif will be offered.

The <u>PANORAMA</u> section features a selection of African films produced over the past two years, testifying to the vitality of a cinematography that often flies under the radar of Swiss distribution circuits. The bold, cutting-edge selection favors cinematic quality and freedom of tone. There will be plenty of opportunity for discussion between the public and invited guests after each screening.

<u>FOCUS</u> is dedicated to **Kenya**. Home to a number of international productions, thanks to its magnificent landscapes, Kenya is a major producer in East Africa. This year, the country is in the spotlight, showcasing the vitality and diversity of its cinematography.

A <u>RETROSPECTIVE</u> of recently restored films will enable us to rediscover emblematic heritage films that have marked the history of African cinema. By bringing these films back to life, their historical and artistic importance is reaffirmed, while offering new generations the chance to discover seminal works and celebrate the continent's plurality of cultures, forms and stylistic currents.

Two CARTES BLANCHES are on the program. The first, at the <u>Festival international du</u> <u>cinéma d'auteur de Rabat</u>, features LA MÈRE DE TOUS LES MENSONGES by Asmae El Moudir. The second, at the <u>Tourne-films festival Lausanne</u> with SOUL POWER by Jeffrey Kusama-Hinte.

In collaboration with Fespaco, <u>360° VIRTUAL REALITY</u> films will be shown at the Tell Chapel, next to the Big Top.

A special session for <u>young cinema-goers</u> aged 6 to 10 will be held on Saturday August 17 at 10am. It will feature short films and a creative Stop Motion (animation) workshop. For older audiences, there will be screenings of LE BALLON D'OR and LE MSYTERE DE WAZA.

The Festival closes on Sunday August 18 at 7:30pm at Paderewski, with a screening of a FOCUS Kenya film: BUFIS (DAYDREAMERS) by Mahad Ahmed and Vincenzo Cavallo.

Alongside the screenings, several events will be offered. A CINE-CONCERT on the famous film LE FRANC by Djibril Diop Mambéty (1994), set to music by the group Oriki

and Woz Kaly. The film tells the story of Marigo, a broke musician who crosses the city of Dakar with a door on which is stuck a winning lottery ticket. To accompany the protagonist, Oriki's musicians have composed a nuanced musical framework blending energy, lightness and gravity.

Saturday August 17 at 4pm in the Salon Bleu, a <u>ROUND TABLE</u> will be held on the theme of RESTORING HISTORY THROUGH AFRICAN CINEMAS. The meeting will highlight the contribution of this rich cinematographic heritage to restoring the history of societies. Questions such as: the responsibility of historical memory, the importance of local narratives, how cinema can serve as a means of resistance, will be addressed.

A <u>Noircir Wikipedia WORKSHOP</u> will be held on Sunday August 18 at 1:30pm. The aim of this initiative is to fill in the gaps on culture, African personalities and the African and Afrodescendant diaspora on the online encyclopedia.

Last but not least, on Friday August 16, at 11pm, in the Chapiteau (free admission), EL MIZAN will be performing their "Magh-rock", a psychedelic folk fusion of heady rhythms steeped in Algerian châabi and experimental music.

After the screenings, festival-goers are invited to vibrate to the sound of Afro-electrical DJs in a rhythmic atmosphere (under the Chapiteau, free access):

- Thursday August 15 from 7.30pm with SOUL KOFFI
- Friday, August 16 from midnight with YASMINE
- Saturday August 17 from 11pm with RIANS.

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