



PRESS RELEASE
15 November 2021

Humboldt Forum and Kino Arsenal

Afrikamera 2021 at the Humboldt Forum: Urban Africa, Urban Movies – Youth & Youth Culture

Since 2007, AFRIKAMERA has been enriching Berlin's Festival landscape with a wide variety of films from Africa's current cinema scene. Now, for the first time, AFRIKAMERA will be presenting a programme of events at the Humboldt Forum: entitled *Urban Africa, Urban Movies*, it will run from 17 to 21 November, and will include screenings, audience discussions, intercultural film education, a VR lounge and a *Ciné-Slam*.

When visitors step behind the Humboldt Forum's Baroque façades, they will encounter not just numerous interactive exhibits, but also a lively Forum with a programme of events offering opportunities for active participation and collaboration. Concerts, Performances and Drop-Ins – since the summer, the Humboldt Forum has played host to a wide variety of events presented in unique, individual and sometimes unexpected ways by artists, project groups and communities. The medium of film is also taking its place at the Humboldt Forum, which now welcomes AFRIKAMERA. From 17 to 21 November 2021, the 14th AFRIKAMERA festival will for the first time be presenting a programme of events at the Humboldt Forum. It will combine screenings, audience discussions, intercultural film education, a VR lounge and, as part of the grand opening, a German premiere of a 'Ciné-Slam'.

The programme has been curated by Alex Moussa Sawadogo, who is also director of the FESPACO film festival in Burkina Faso – one of the most innovative film nations on the African continent. The **CINE-SLAM** event which opens AFRIKAMERA at the Humboldt Forum is also dedicated to Burkinese cinema: on 17 November, Burkinabé slammer, poet and actor Doueslik, together with musicians Erick Yelcouni and Oussou, will be offering live music and poetry interpretations of film sequences from 50 years of Burkinese film history from the 1970s to the present day (German premiere, 17 November, 8.30pm).

This will be followed by David N Bernatchez and Sammy Baloji's documentary film **RUMBA RULES, NEW GENEALOGIES** (DR Congo, Canada, Belgium, France, 2020, original with English subtitles), which paints a portrait of the 30-strong Brigade Sarbati Orchestra. This cinematic essay on the rumba scene in the Democratic Republic of

Congo is at the same time a stirring portrait of the metropolis of Kinshasa (German premiere, 17 November, 8.30pm).

There will be two events on the Thursday of the festival: **#LANDoftheBRAVEfilm** (Namibia 2019, original with German subtitles), a police thriller from German director Tim Huebschle, follows detective Meisie Willemse's investigations into a serial killer. She is confronted with a dark secret from her past that provides an insight into the difficult coexistence of postcolonial society (18 November, 8.30pm).

AFRIKAMERA-SHORTS (Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, 2020, original with English subtitles) brings together three outstanding short film productions from Sudan, Egypt and Burkina Faso, including **A JOURNEY TO KENYA** by Ibrahim Ahmad, a documentary following the adventure-filled bus trip of a martial arts team travelling from Khartoum to Nairobi, carried along by the spirit of the Sudanese revolution (18 November, 6pm).

The Sunday programme opens with a youth film: **PETIT JO, ENFANT DES RUES** (Cameroon, South Africa, 2019) by Daniel Kamwa. This will be an intercultural event for young people aged 13 and over, and is presented by AFRIKAMERA in collaboration with artist and empowerment trainer Rebecca Korang. The film tells the story of a mixed-race orphan boy in search of his identity, and paints a powerful picture of everyday life on the streets of the Cameroonian capital, Yaoundé. (German premiere, attended by the director, 21 November, 4pm).

AFRICA IN VR – URBAN MOVIES: To accompany the programme, the Virtual Reality Lounge in the Humboldt Forum foyer will be showing contemporary productions from Dakar, Lagos, Accra, Nairobi and Johannesburg that confront life in these cities from a wide variety of artistic perspectives, using the interface between film, visual art, fashion and gaming to present expanded forms of cinematographic entertainment (17-21 November, free entry).

Further information on the programme is available at:

humboldtforum.org

afrikamera.de

AFRIKAMERA – CONTEMPORARY CINEMA FROM AFRICA

The AFRIKAMERA – CONTEMPORARY CINEMA FROM AFRICA festival is an initiative of the Verein toucouleur e.V., an association of German and African cultural creatives who campaign for intercultural dialogue between Africa and Germany.

An annual festival taking place in Berlin since 2008, AFRIKAMERA presents a programme of ever-changing themes, and regards itself as a platform for contemporary African cinema in our capital city. In order to reflect African cinema in all its diversity, AFRIKAMERA works in collaboration with large African film festivals from Marrakech to Durban.

AFRIKAMERA – Contemporary Cinema from Africa is supported by its patron, Dr Uschi Eid.

AFRIKAMERA 2021 – URBAN AFRICA, URBAN MOVIES – YOUTH & YOUTH CULTURE is sponsored by open-ended funding for festivals and series (four-yearly) from the Senate Department for Culture and Europe. In partnership with the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung and the Humboldt Forum, Berlin.

One building, four partners: our diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and Kulturprojekte Berlin with the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the BERLIN GLOBAL exhibition.

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