

ENCOUNTERS Report 2022

SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

 $\begin{array}{c} 23 \text{ JUNE} \rightarrow \\ 03 \text{ JULY 2022} \end{array}$







Mabior







Aissam El Khazouzi

Akuol De Ana Sofia Fonseca

Armin Prinsloo Allison Swank Ayoub El Bardii Bernadette

Wegenstein

Bianca Stigter Daniel Abate Tilahun



Daniel Roher

Declan McGrathEmilie Gambade

Francois Verster

Gideon Hallie Haller Breytenbach

Heather Blumenthal

lan Mangenga

Ike Nnaebue



Ikram Ahmed Inés Toharia Jabu Nadia Newman

Jack Markovitz Jane Thandi Lipman

Jordan Van Der Westhuizen

Joseph Ndjom Joy Sapieka

Julia Naidin



Kathrine Poggenpoel Lindiwe Madeleine Matshikiza Bazil

Meggan Raubenheimer & Simon Wood

Meghna Singh Milo Rau

Monica Manganelli Mpumi "Supa" Muhadi Muhadi Mbele







Ousmane

Zorom



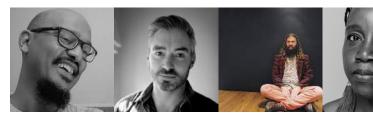


Neasa Ni Chianáin

Ntombozuko Nina Menkes 'Twiggy' Matiwana

Pascale Neuschafer Peter Goldsmid Premesh Lalu Questlove

Rae Human





Riaan Hendricks Richard Gregory Riku Latti

Rumbi Katedza Samass Kou

Sam Soko Samuel Ishimwe

Sarah Noa Bozenhart

Shameela Khan



Shaeera Kalla Shelley Barry

Shameela Seedat

Sibonele Yawa Sihle Hlope

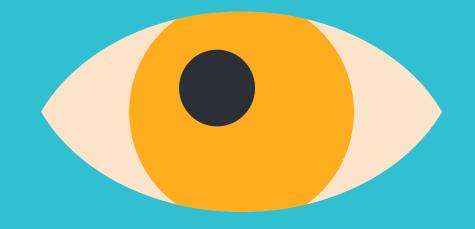
Simon Lereng Wilmot

Tatiana Chistova Thaakirah Behardien Thabang Moleya



Zara Huband Tim Wege

Festival Summary Page	5	
Funders and Sponsors		
Introduction	8	
The Film Festival	11	
i. Encounters Opening Night		
ii. Film Programme		
iii. Festival Guest Feedback		
Industry Programmes	16	
i. Joburg Industry Talks,		
ii. Online Industry Talks,		
iii. Industry Engagement Sessions		
Live Events	29	
i. XR Exhibition of Container,		
ii. In-person GiF Events,		
iii. In-person UCT Event,		
iv. In-person Film Panels		
Creating Access to the Festival	34	
Marketing and Publicity	38	
Encounters Awards	44	
i. Programmers Choice Award,		
ii. Best South African/African Documentary		
iii. Best International Documentary		
iv. Adiaha Award,		
v. Best Emerging Filmmaker Award		
Partnership Programmes	49	
i. DIFF Connection,		
ii. Rough Cut Labs Africa		
Conclusion	54	
Festival Statistics	56	
Staff	61	



FESTIVAL SUMMARY PAGE

24th Encounters South African International Documentary Festival 23 June - 3 July 2022

CINEMA VENUES

CAPE TOWN

The Labia Theatre, Bertha Movie House Isivivana Centre Khayelitsha, Bertha House Mowbray, Denis Goldberg House of Hope Houtbay, Bertha Boschendal, Philippi Village, Bonnytoun Kraaifontein

JOHANNESBURG

The Bioscope Independent Cinema, CineCentre Killarney

INDUSTRY VENUES

INDUSTRY SESSIONS

Bertha House Mowbray, Goethe-Institut Johannesburg

WORKSHOPS

Goethe-Institut Johannesburg, Bertha House Mowbray, Invest SA Cape Town

NETWORKING EVENTS

Goethe-Institut Johannesburg, Bertha House Mowbray, 6 Spin Street Cape Town, Invest SA Cape Town

FUNDING PARTNERS

Funders

National Film and Video Foundation South Africa, The Bertha Foundation, City of Cape Town F/LM Cape Town, Wesgro Cape Town & Western Cape film and media promotion and Goethe-Institut South Africa

Sponsors and Partners

Embassy of Ireland South Africa, DOK. Fest München, Ladima Foundation, Cape Town Holocaust and Genocide Centre, Spier, My Communiy Connect with Vuma

Festival Partners

Durban International Film Festival, Documentary Filmmakers Association, University of Cape Town, The Centre for Film and Media Studies, University of the Western Cape, South African Guild of Editors, Refinery, Girls in Film South Africa, Electric South, Independent Black Filmmakers Collective, Free Film School

PUBLICITY

Encounters was widely covered nationally in print, on radio and television and on social media platforms. The total media value was R4,700,326.71 as verified by Newsclip.

BOARD MEMBERS

Azania Muendane, Karen Meiring, Mandisa Zitha, Moroba Nkawe, Steven Markovitz, Toni Monty

ENCOUNTERS TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

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THE 24TH ENCOUNTERS SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL IS FUNDED BY:



national film and video foundation SOUTH AFRICA an agency of the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture



Wesgro

cape town & western cape tourism. trade & investment

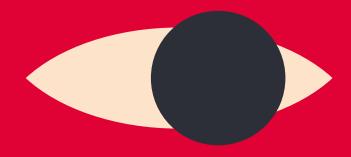


GOETHE



MAKING IT HAPPEN





INTRODUCTION



he 24th Encounters successfully held from the 23rd June to 3rd July in both Johannesburg and Cape Town, concluded with an attendance of 6,588 attendees from surrounding areas in both cities as well as online attendance for the virtual industry talks offered in this year's programme.

After two presenting the vears of #VirtuallyEverywhere online festival, we were thrilled to return to in-person screenings #BackTogether. In the era of the Covid-19 pandemic, Encounters has been a part of a global festival movement to shift the traditional festival model to online platforms and achieve unprecedented access. Our vision for 2022 offered both physical screenings and online Encounters Talks. Our hope for the future is to continue to delight audiences across the country with the best documentaries from around the world with increased access.

We invited audiences to join us in Cape Town and Johannesburg for 10 days of inspiring films, Q&As, panel discussions and to meet our talented directors. The Encounters Talks online programme featured five panel discussions in collaboration with multiple industry organisations, encompassing a wide range of topics targeting filmmakers with varying levels of experience. These conversations were shaped by storytellers from our curated documentaries and various experts including local and international filmmakers, editors, producers, distribution experts, academics, psychologists, lawyers, education specialists, and many more. Our audiences enjoyed meaningful conversations with fellow cinephiles at our various cinemas across both cities.

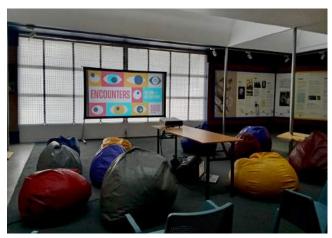
The Festival team curated a selection of compelling documentaries from the region and abroad that encompasses new styles, formats, animation, international award-winners, best of the fests and works from a new generation. Encounters curated a choice selection consisting of 16 World Premiers and 23 South African Premiers. The Festival programme comprised 38 from South African/ African countries and 15 from the rest of the world.

In a move to streamline operations and to create increased audience engagement, the Festival's principal venue this year was the Labia Theatre, to great audience response. Additional cinemas in Cape Town were transformed into satellite venues with free entry, Bertha Movie House in Khayelitsha, Bertha Bioscope at the Tshisimani Centre in Mowbray; and in Johannesburg; Cinema Nouveau in Rosebank and The Bioscope





With a renewed focus on in-person events with an element of online participation, the industry programmes included 13 sessions, drawing 2,927 participants of a diverse cohort of filmmakers both virtually and physically. Key industry partners, Goethe-Institut South Africa, Documentary Filmmakers Association, UCT, Independent Black Filmmakers Collective and the National Film and Video Foundation, partnered on these vital offerings.



To further ensure a sustainable operating environment, the Festival welcomes two new film industry stalwarts, Ms Karen Meiring and Ms Toni Monty to the Board. The Festivals also says farewell to Professor Ciraj Rassool, Advocate Dumisa Ntsebeza and Encounters co-founder, Nodi Murphy, acknowledging them all for their contribution to the growth of the festival and thanking them for their service over 20 years. Encounters continues to remain relevant in

capturing a public audience for the documentary genre in South Africa despite the hardships caused by the recent Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. The organisers of the Festival employ innovative mechanisms to extend the Festival reach beyond the urban centres, to engage with respective communities around the film subjects, to be inclusive and create access, and this has ensured consistent attendances over the 24 years. We partnered with Vuma Pop-up Cinema to provide small capacity screenings to young people in Hout Bay, Phillipi, Kraaifontein, and Paarl. We also continued our longstanding partnership with our satellite venues: Bertha House Mowbray and Bertha Movie House Isivivana Centre in Khavelitsha to include other audiences beyond the city centre.

The Festival wishes to thank all our funders and partners without whom we would not be able to host this annual event, The National Film and Video Foundation of South Africa, The City of Cape Town, Bertha Foundation, Wesgro, Goethe-Institut South Africa, Embassy of Ireland, The Cape Town Holocaust Centre, Spier Wines, Ladima Foundation and our esteemed Industry Organisations for their continued support.

Encounters is truly a collaborative production, and the success of the 24th edition is made possible by many individuals and organisations who assist with the planning and delivery of activities.



THE FILM FESTIVAL



22

"After two years of presenting the #VirtuallyEverywhere online festival, we are thrilled to be returning to in-person screenings. In the era of the Covid-19 pandemic, Encounters has been a part of a global festival movement to shift the traditional festival model to online platforms and achieve unprecedented access. Our vision for 2022 offers both physical screenings and online Encounters Talks. Our hope for the future is to continue to delight audiences country-wide with the best documentaries from around the world with increased access."

- Mandisa Zitha

ENCOUNTERS OPENING NIGHT Thursday 23 June 2022 | The Labia Theatre | Cape Town

Encounters opened the festival with "Music is My Life" Joseph Shabalala and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, directed by Mpumi "Supa" Mbele, which profiles the legendary doyenne of South Africa's unique isicathamiya music and the group that delivered it to the global stage. This phenomenal feature received its joint World Premiere at Encounters at the 43rd Durban International Film Festival. The Festival was honoured to host speakers Alderman JP Smith, Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security, who represents one of the key funders of the Festival, the City of Cape Town, Nadine Cloete, in her role as Temporary Production & Development Manager – Non-Fiction, representing the National Film and Video Foundation and Mpumi Mbele, the director of the opening night film, introduced "Music is My Life" Joseph Shabalala and Ladysmith Black Mambazo and the Tshabala family, who were flown in from KwaZulu Natal to enjoy the World Premiere of this remarkable documentary. Festival Director, Mandisa Zitha, welcomed and thanked all those who attended.



The cinema was at half capacity due to lockdown restrictions only having been lifted on the day of the opening night, however, audiences enjoyed the warm ambience of the Labia Theatre, a historical institution in the film community. The Festival was grateful for the generous sponsorship of wine courtesy of Spier Wines.

FILM PROGRAMME

Our programming team was excited to receive a significant number of independent projects by exceptional filmmakers and was captivated by their work. Our carefully curated line-up of 53 titles, including shorts and features, with extended reality amongst them, highlighted the most anticipated international films on circuit, alongside original African storytelling. Our passion is to present films that educate, entertain and leave a lasting impact. Encounters was proud to screen no fewer than 29 South African films and 7 World Premieres. A notable number of our films are directed by talented women and we are excited to showcase the works of emerging and established filmmakers through the shorts programme.

The Encounters feature film programme comprised a total of 26 feature films and was categorized by the South African/African and international sections. The 16 South African/African feature titles were highly innovative and challenged many topical issues while simultaneously embracing the warmth and range of their characters and stories. The 10 international feature films made for a very competitive and highly curated selection with the aim of ensuring a diversity of countries and representation, as well as diverse subject matter.

We took a holistic approach to the curation and made sure to balance the overall tone while programming award-winning titles alongside new work which would have its African or South African premieres. Broadly, we found that many of the films spoke to key themes such as legacy and heritage, film history

and cinephilia, women and marginalised voices, as well as music. Some of the more hard-hitting films included A House of Made of Splinters about a halfway house for neglected children in the Ukraine in the aftermath of war, Navalny about the Russian opposition leader who was allegedly poisoned by Putin, Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power about the power to distrupt the male gaze in cinema women, Girl, Taken about the iconic South Africa Nurse family whose daughter, Zephany, was stolen at birth and **The Radical** about the world's first openly gay Imam and his fight for the radical inclusion of LGBTQ+ Muslims within Islam across Africa.

The response to the films was a resounding success with audiences members remaining engaged in postscreening Q&As and panel discussions, frequently discussing the films with fellow audience members outside the cinemas and seeking out Encounters' staff members for recommendations of upcoming screenings.

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY

BRAINWASHED

SEX-CAMERA-POWER

sundance

#RREAK THE SPELL



FILM PARTNERSHIPS

Encounters' partnerships have enabled the festival to secure quality documentaries for our programme. This year, the Goethe-Institut South Africa presents **Among Us Women**, co-directed by Sarah Noa Bozenhardt and Daniel Abate Tilahun. The Embassy of Ireland is supporting the screenings and panel discussion for **Young Plato**, co-directed by Neaasa Ni Chianáin and Declan McGrath, and the Cape Town and Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centres are supporting **Three Minutes - A Lenghthening**.





Focus on Africa

Encounters has established itself as a leading documentary festival in the region. We had excellent films from all corners of the continent including Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan and Zimbabwe. Among this wide ranging but limited programme, the 37 sensational films from or about Africa included the award-winning **No Simple Way Home** by Akuol de Mabior, **"Music is My Life" Joseph Shabalala and Ladysmith Black Mambazo**, directed by Mpumi "Supa" Mbele, and **African Moot**, by the established director of the 2016 Opening Night Film **Whispering Truth to Power**, Shameela Seedat.



Shorts Programme

The short film programme was comprised of 26 films and included collaborations with Girls in Film South Africa (Queen!, Radical Self Acceptance: The Truth About Homophobia + The Bible, Hunger: A Silent Pandemic, Winnie Mandela's Banishment - A Powerful Shadow, An Eroticised Heart, Barry the Beekeeper), the University of Cape Town (Women, Grandpa Ernest Speaks, Atypical, Water is Water, Section 16), the Bertha Mobifest (September Girls, Dalia, The Veil and Africa Direct (The Adventures of Boubacar: A Miner in Mali, Sounds of Home: A Musical Odyssey in Rwanda). Encounters welcomes partnerships which highlight the emergence of short filmmakers and new entrants into the industry. especially student filmmakers. We hosted a GiF and UCT special event to celebrate the work of the filmmakers and go more in-depth with postscreening Q&As. We support the short film format as a concise way of telling stories which deliver on impact and maximize creativity. The programme encompassed many pressing themes from women and marginalised voices, to history and religion, as well as politics, and more.

FESTIVAL FEEDBACK

"Just a quick note to say how much I enjoyed reading for Encounters this year. It was a real pleasure to be involved, and such a treat to be exposed to so many fantastic films. I'd love to stav involved with the festival in the future, so please do let me know if there are any opportunities to do so."

- Kristen van Schie, Encounters Film Reader



Encounters"

- Peter Machen, Encounters **Film Writer and Programmers** Choice Award Juror

"Thank you so much for hosting our mini-workshop at Encounters. It was very fulfilling for us. Time was short, but still I was amazed that a lot could be found out in this short time."

- Sonja Kilbertus, Producer & Panellist (Among Us Women) (A Case Study in Collaborative Documentary Filmmaking)



"Many thanks for a fantastic experience screening at Encounters this year."

- Richard Gregory, filmmaker (The Radical) "Though I couldn't attend or

view the film "sex-camerapower", I found the sessions to be interesting as I was forced to listen and look at me biases known or unknown as a filmmaker. I liked the fact that as storytellers we are central in how we people see ourselves and it is our duty to care how at times we project or show women in our films or films we consume. The theme around "object and subject" really hit home for me. Once again thanks to the Encounters organisers for such platforms as they seek to conscientise one going forward."

> - Mpho Tau, Audience member

"Thank you very much for hosting the panel discussion yesterday and for all you have done to promote my film. I really appreciate your support. I hope you too were satisfied with the outcome of the panel. I received many positive comments from some of the audience "

- Premesh Lalu, Filmmaker & Panellist (The Double Futures of Athlone)

"Thank you for this incredible news! I can't begin to express how much it means to me to win at Encounters, not just because I love the festival but because it's one of the first festivals to screen my work, a student film. It's such an honour to be in the company of previous winners, and this years brilliant line up. I'm humbled and encouraged to keep going down this strange documentary but magical filmmaking path."

- Akuol da Mabior, Filmmaker (No Simple Way Home)

"Having worked with you all on this project has been extremely enjoyable and rewarding. I will always avail myself if the festival needs extra help."

- Lukhanviso Tsita, **Encounters Film Writer and Programmers Choice Award** Juror

"Thank you for selecting our film it was a true honour to screen at Encounters both as the opening and the two more screenings."

- Carolyn Carew, Producer ("Music is My Life" Joseph Shabalala and Ladysmith Black Mambazo)

"Thank you for welcoming me and making me feel so at home. The entire Transactions team is excited by the award. It feels good to receive this recognition in the city where the film's story began. I look forward to seeing you all again, and hope you have a much deserved rest before you begin preps for next year's festival."

- Rumbi Katedza, Filmmaker (Transactions) & Panellist (Editing Across Borders)

"It was a pleasure to do this. And would happily do it again."

> - Karin Slater, Filmmaker & Adiaha Juror (2022)

"Thank you for the incredible edition of the film festival this year. I'm so grateful I got to be a part of it in small ways. I really enjoyed working with you and look forward to further collaboration."

- Jabu Nadia Newman, Filmmaker & Panellist (Seducing Audiences: Understanding the Craft and Politics Behind the Male Gaze in Cinema)

"Thank you so much for the recognition. I feel so honoured and humbled."

- Thaakirah Behardien, Filmmaker (An-Nisaa/ Women) & recipient of the **Encounters x Free Film** School Award

"Thank you for having me and I'd love to be involved next year!"

- Rachel Gordon, Author & Distribution Expert & Panellist (DFA DocCHAT: Deep Dive into Tactical Distribution & Industry Trends)

"It was an absolute pleasure to have our African premiere at Encounters and to partake in the outreach screenings as well."

- Sihle Hlope, Filmmaker (Lobola, A Bride's True Price?)

"Thank you for your kind words, and for informing us of the awards. We are particularly pleased that Summer of Soul was a runner-up, and that the Festival was a success."

> - Ludi Krause, The Labia Theatre

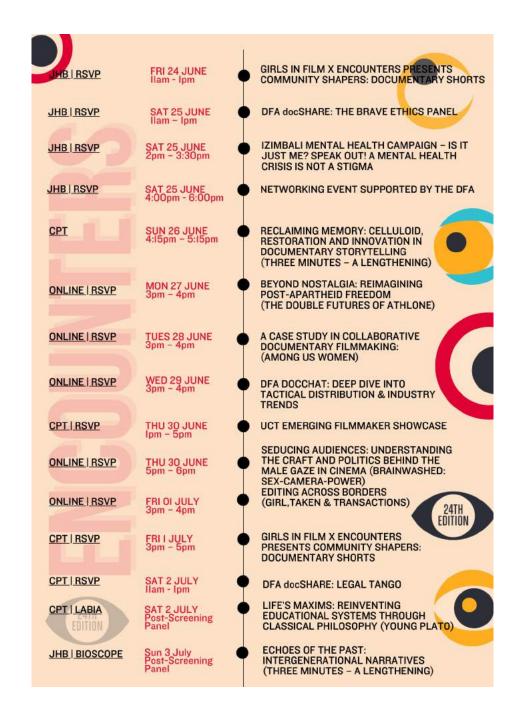


INDUSTRY PROGRAMMES

Encounters Talks provides film practitioners with a space for exclusive and diverse industry events and panel discussions. This year, Encounters partnered with several oragnisations to analyse a range of exciting and topical subjects, including Girls in Film South Africa, the Documentary **Filmmakers' Association, the Independent Black Filmmakers Collective, the Cape Town and Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centres, the Cenre for Humanities at the University of the Western Cape, DOK.fest Munich, Showmax, the University of Cape Town and The Embassy of Ireland.**

At large, Encounters seeks to engage vital conversations about the future of the documentary industry and Africa's place therein. We dived in-depth, featuring discussions on emerging documentary filmmakers, gender, the LGBTQI+ community, ethics in documentary, mental health, virtual reality and installation art, film restoration and preservation, apartheid, co-producing and collaborative documentary filmmaking, distribution and commissioning, student filmmaking, the male gaze in cinema, remote editing, the legal side of documentaries, ethics in documentary filmmaking, educational systems and intergenerational narratives. Events were held online across Zoom, Facebook and YouTube as well as in-person.





DFA DocSHARE: The Brave Ethics Panel Saturday 25 June 2022 | Goethe-Institut | Johannesburg

DFA DocSHARE: The Brave Ethics Panel was successful with an average of 58 attendees for the in-person event. In this inter-generational conversation between emerging and established filmmakers, the aim was to map out approaches to ethics in South African documentary and explore a range of responses to some of the key ethical questions: "How do we create spaces of care and compassion while telling powerful stories?" and "How do we honour responsibility to participants?" The discussion unpacked the issues that lie at the heart of ethical practice in documentary filmmaking from the Global South. The session was facilitated by filmmaker-academics Dr Julia Cain and Dr Alette Schoon with the support of the Documentary Filmmakers' Association in partnership with the University of Cape Town and Rhodes University.

Speakers: Lindiwe Matshikiza (Director: One Take Grace), Sihle Hlophe (Director: Lobola, A Bride's True Price?), Jack Markovitz (Director: Dark Silence on Sports Avenue), Alette Schoon (Co-Moderator, Senior Lecturer), Julia Cain (PHD) (Co-Moderator, Lecturer)



Panel Discussion:

DFA docSHARE: THE BRAVE ETHICS PANEL

Panellist: Lindiwe Matshikiza Director: One Take Grace Panellist:Panellist:Sihle HlopheJack MarkovitzDirector:Director:Lobola, A Bride'sDark Silence onTrue Price?Sports Avenue

Co-Moderators: Alette Schoon Senior Lecturer Rhodes University

Julia Cain Lecturer University of Cape Town

o docSHARE



Izimbali Mental Health Campaign - Is It Just Me? Speak Out! A Mental Health Crisis is not a Stigma Saturday 25 June 2022 | Goethe-Institut | Johannesburg

This passionate and empowering in-person session was successful with an average of 58 attendees for the in-person event. The Covid-19 pandemic unveiled a growing mental health crisis in the creative industries. The lockdown restrictions imposed by the government for the last two years imposed unprecedented conditions for the industry. The already existing socio-economic conditions of the creative industries are a breeding ground for mental health challenges due to employment insecurity and irregular income, lack of personal and family benefits, competition for work opportunities and discriminatory practices. These issues give rise to a range of problems such as financial stress and pressure, anxiety and panic, depression, substance abuse and ensuing poor family relationships. We were joined by a wide ranging panel with expert creatives from different sectors to speak out on the mental health crisis and the urgent action required from the industry. This was the first of a series of panel discussions organised by the Independent Black Filmmakers Collective (IBFC) to create awareness and support the creative sector, culminating with the development of a mental health toolkit. This session was supported by the Independent Black Filmmakers Collective.

Speakers: Thabang Moleya (Panellist, Director), Rephethile Kgwale (Panellist, Mental Health Advocate), Motlatsi Mafatshe (Panellist, Actor &Musician), Kethiwe Ngcobo (Moderator, Producer)



Panel Discussion:

Izimbali Mental Health Campaign - Is it just me? Speak Out! A Mental Health Crisis Is Not A Stigma

Moderator: Panellist: Kethiwe Ngcobo Thabang Moleya Producer Director

Panellist: **Rephethile Kgwale**

Panellist: Motlatsi Mafatshe Mental Health Advocate Actor & Musician



BOARD MEMBERS: Azania Muendane, Karen Meiring, Mandisa Zitha, Moroba Nkawe, Steven Markovitz, Toni Monty

Beyond Nostalgia: Reimagining Post-Aparthied Freedom (The Double Futures of Athlone) Monday 27 June 2022 | ZOOM, Facebook, YouTube | Online

This online offering was the most well attended and successful virtual talk with an average of 461 attendees online. In the aftermath of grand Apartheid's forced removals, a form of cultural politics burgeoned around the cinemas of Athlone on the Cape Flats. Often targetted by pernicious strategies of petty Apartheid, the cinema, or bioscopes, nevertheless became spaces for reimagining community. Spaces such as the Kismet Cinema opened vistas of freedom and created a platform for building a non-racial future, inspired by film and music. How did we account for these cultural politics in the very midst of Apartheid's dread? What was the significance of the bioscope in building community? And what future might we envisage for such cultural politics on the Cape Flats in the wake of Apartheid? This panel brought to the fore themes and ideas from Premesh Lalu's documentary, The Double Futures of Athlone. This session was created in partnerships with the Centre for Humanities Research, UWC.

Speakers: Dr Valmont Layne (Chr, Moderator), Premesh Lalu (Panellist, Founding Director), Rashid Lombard (Panellist), Sylvia Mndunyelwa (Panellist, Singer, Actress, & Radio Personality). Dinga Sikwebu (Panellist), Jayson King (Panellist)

ENCOUNTERS The Double Futures of Athlone

 Mon 27 June

 Byne 4 pm

 Online 1 RSVP

 www.encounters.co.

Online Panel Discussion:



EDITIO

Beyond Nostalgia: Reimagining Post-Apartheid Freedom

Panellist: Sylvia Mndunyelwa Singer, Actress & Radio Personality Panellist: Panellist: Rashid Lombard Journalist Founding Director Panellist: Dinga Sikwebu Panellist: Jayson King

Moderator: u DR. Valmont Layne (CHR) Scholar, Musician & Activist



A Case Study in Collaborative Documentary Filmmaking: Among Us Women Tuesday 28 June 2022 | ZOOM, Facebook, YouTube | Online

This online talk was successful with an average of 155 attendees online. This session explored the production process behind the making of the documentary Among Us Women and delved into the collaborative nature of the project, the relationships developed within the community portrayed and how the subtle intimacy of the film was achieved.

Speakers: Sarah Noa Bozenhardt (Panellist, Director: Among Us Women), Daniel Abate Tiluhun (Panellist: Director: Among Us Women), Sonja Kilbertus (Panellist, Producer: Among Us Women), Barbara Off (Moderator, Project Manager Dok.network Africa)

"

"Good films stand out, but make sure you are passionate about your film and that you know how to position it."

- Mandisa Zitha, Encounters South African International Documentary Festival

Among Us Women Tues 28 June 3pm - 4pm Online | RSVP ww.encounters.co.za

Online Panel Discussion: A Case Study in Collaborative Documentary Filmmaking

Moderator: Barbara Off Project manager DOK.network Africa Panellist: Sarah Noa Bozenhardt Director: Among Us Women

Panellist: Daniel Abate Tilahun Director: Among Us Women Panellist: Sonja Kilbertus Producer: Among Us Women



DFA DocCHAT: Deep Dive into Tactical Distribution & Industry Trends Wednesday 29 June 2022 | ZOOM, Facebook, YouTube | Online

This informative and impactful online session was successful with an average of 262 attendees online. In this session we demystified the distribution and commissioning processes of documentaries. DFA board member, Khanyi Magubane, hosted Rachel Gordon, author of the hot-off-the-press book, The Documentary Distribution Toolkit, and Nicola van Niekerk, commissioning editor of the popular South African true crime series, Devilsdorp. Rachel's experience and theories aced as a practical guide to reaching audiences and Nicola invited us into the world of broadcast, mapping the ever-growing VOD landscape and current industry trends. This talk was presented by Encounters in association with the Documentary Filmmakers' Association. docCHAT is a bi-monthly webinar and virtual coffee date hosted by the Documentary Filmmakers' Association.

Speakers: Khanyi Mgubane (Moderator), Rachel Gordon (Panellist, Author & Distributor Expert), Nicola Van Niekerk (Panellist, Broadcast & Television Professional)

THE DOCUMENTARY **DISTRIBUTION TOOLKIT**

HOW TO GET OUT, GET SEEN, AND GET AN AUDIENCE



Online Panel Discussion: DFA docCHAT **DEEP DIVE INTO TACTICAL DISTRIBUTION & INDUSTRY TRENDS**

Moderator: Khanyi Magubane Distribution Expert

Panellist: **Rachel Gordon - Author** The Documentary **Distribution Toolkit**

Panellist: Nicola van Niekerk **Broadcast & Television** Professional DFA Devilsdorp



Seducing Audiences: Understanding the Craft and Politics Behind the Male Gaze in Cinema Thursday 30 June 2022 | ZOOM, Facebook, YouTube | Online

This online talk was successful with an average of 200 attendees online. In Nina Menke's meticulous documentary Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power, she puts into focus the history of cinema from 1896 - 2020, with a critical lens on the male gaze in film. Carefully deconstructing images, frame by frame, we learn about how women are represented on screen to beguile audiences. This all-female led panel analysed our engagement with all-toofamiliar sexualised portrayals of women and the progress of the #MeToo era in an attempt to challenge our perceptions and champion a revolutionised approach towards filmmaking.

Speakers: Nina Menkes (Panellist, Director: Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power), Sandra De Castro Buffington (Panellist, Producer: Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power), Jabu Nadia Newman (Panellist, Director), Khanyi Mbau (Panellist, Actress & Television Personality), Desiree Lewis (Moderator, Professor).

ICUUNIER Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power

Thu 30 June 5pm - 6pm Online | RSVP www.encounters.co.za

Online Panel Discussion Seducing Audiences: Understanding the Craft and Politics Behind the Male Gaze in Cinema

Panellist:

Actress &

Television

Khanyi Mbau

Panellist: Nina Menkes Director Brainwashed: Sex-**Camera-Power**

Panellist: Producer Sandra de Castro Buffington Brainwashed: Sex-Personality Camera-Power

Panellist: Jabu Nadia Newman Director

Moderator: **Desiree Lewis** Professor

24TH EDITIO



ONLINE INDUSTRY TALKS

Editing Across Borders Friday 1 July 2022 | ZOOM, Facebook, YouTube | Online

This insightful online in-conversation was successful with an average of 297 attendees online. The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent rise of streamer-oriented documentary films have both had significant influence on post-production processes. Remote editing, often with extensive input from different international funding partners and often with an editor from a different country, has become a standard feature of international documentary production. Featuring two filmmaker-editor teams from the films Transactions (Director, Rumbi Katedza / Editor, Ronet Van Der Walt) and Girl, Taken (Directors, Simon Wood, Francois Verster / Editor, Bob Caldwell) that worked in this manner, this panel explored the practical challenges involved, as well as the impact of international market demands on storytelling style and content.

Speakers: Rumbi Katedza (Panellist, Filmmaker & Writer, Director: Transactions), Ronet Van Der Walt (Panellist, Editor: Transactions), Francios Verster (Panellist, Director: Girl, Taken), Simon Wood (Panellist, Director: Girl,taken), Bob Caldwell (Panellist, Editor: Girl,taken), Sam Soko (Moderator, Director & Producer)

ENCOUNTERS Transactions and Girl, Taken

Fri 1 July 3pm - 4pm Online | RSVP www.encounters.co.za

Online Panel Discussion: Editing Across Borders

Panellist:

Rumbi Katedza Filmmaker & Panellist: Writer Director: Ronet Van Der Walt Transactions Editor: Transactions Panellist: F Francois Verster S Director: Girl, Taken G

Panellist: Panelist: Panelist: Panelist: Director: Edito Girl, Taken Girl,

Panellist: Bob Caldwell Editor: Girl, Taken

Moderator:

Director, Producer &

Sam Soko

Editor

24TH EDITIO



DFA DocSHARE: Legal Tango and Networking event Saturday 2 July 2022 | Bertha House Mowbray | Cape Town

This final in-person session was successfully attended with an average of 49 attendees at the in-person event. Legal Tango was a conversation between a multi-award winning group of filmmakers about the common and unexpected legal challenges that arose during their filmmaking processes. The session was hosted by Shameela Seedat, filmmaker, lawyer and DFA board member, whose film, African Moot, screened at the festival. Panelists included Richard Gregory, whose film The Radical, about 'the world's first openly gay Imam' (Muhsin Hendricks), required the negotiation of various sensitive character and community relationships, Rumbi Katedza whose film Transactions, featuring a Zimbabwean family scattered across the globe, involved production in multiple continents, and Thandi Davids and Laura Colucci from Storyscope Media, proactive producers behind an array of hard-hitting documentaries, including Whispering Truth to Power, Influence, Ghosts of Gadaffi, Her Story and Senzo: Murder of a Soccer Star, who have often had to face complex legal and ethical issues related to fearless storytelling in a complex world. Supported by Documentary Filmmakers' Association

Speakers: Rumbi Katedza (Panellist, Director: Transactions), Richard Greegory (Panellist, Director: The Radical), Thandi Davids (Panellist, Producer), Laura Colucci (Panellist, Producer & Media Lawyer), Shameela Seedat (Moderator, Director: African Moot)

Sat 2 July 11am - 1pm Bertha House

69 Main Rd, Mowbray, Cape Town, 7700

Panel Discussion: DFA docSHARE: LEGAL TANGO

Panellist:

Director

The Radical

Moderator: Shameela Seedat Director African Moot

Panellist: **Richard Gregory** Rumbi Katedza Director Transactions

Panellist: Thandi Davids Producer Senzo: Murder of Soccer Star

Panellist: Laura Colucci Producer & Media Lawyer Senzo: Murder of Soccer Star

24TH EDITION



DFA Networking Events Saturday 25 June 2022 | Goethe-Institut | Johannesburg Saturday 2 July 2022 | Bertha House Mowbray | Cape Town

The Documentary Filmmakers' Association supported the official Encounters' annual networking event in both Johannesburg and in Cape Town. The annual networking event was also supported by Vuma My Community Connect, who invited their community to attend the industry events for the day. These engaging events facilitate relationship-building in the industry and the DFA is the primary point of contact for documentary filmmakers and lovers seeking advice, support, news and opportunities.



YOU'RE INVITED

ENCOUNTERS

SUPPORTED BY THE:

VÚMA

SAT 25 JUNE 4PM-6PM GOETHE-INSTITUT, 119 JAN SMUTS AVE PARKWOOD, JOHANNESBURG

LET'S GET #BACKTOGETHER FOR SOME NETWORKING, CATCHING UP, SNACKS AND WINE AT THIS YEAR'S IN-PERSON NETWORKING EVENT -ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS ON THE ENCOUNTERS' CALENDAR.

MINGLE, MEET POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS AND TALK THROUGH YOUR PROJECTS - WE ARE EXCITED TO CONNECT.

THIS EVENT IS HOSTED BY THE GOETHE-INSTITUT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND SUPPORTED BY THE DFA.



BOARD MEMBERS: Azania Muendane, Karen Meiring, Mandisa Zitha, Moroba Nkawe, Steven Markovitz, Toni Monty

24TH EDITION

Thuthuka: NFVF + NFF Co-development scheme networking event Wednesday 29 June 2022 | InvestSA | Cape Town

Encounters welcomed the NFVF and Dutch Delegation to the InvestSA in Cape Town with a series of prestigious networking events aimed at connecting South African producers with Dutch producers as part of the Thuthuka: NFVF + NFF Co-development scheme. Thuthuka is an initiative of the NFVF and the Netherlands Film Fund (NFF) to promote cooperation between South Africa and the Netherlands. Under this joint scheme an application could be submitted for a contribution for writing a script and a pitch book, in co-production, for a feature film, long documentary or animated film intended for cinema release.

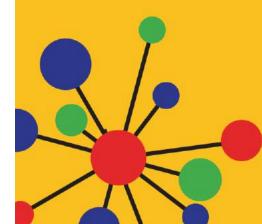






national film and video foundation

INVITATION TO OUR **NETWORKING SESSION**



Date 29 June 2022 Time 6 pm Venue InvestSA, 46 St, George's Mall, Cape Town.





World Premieres 23 June - 3 July 2022 | The Labia Theatre, The Independent Bioscope Theatre, CineCentre | Cape Town & Johannesburg

Encounters hosted 7 World Premiere events in Cape Town and Johannesburg for films from the continent. These included Girl, Taken, "Music is My Life" Joseph Shabalala and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, The Radical, The Double Futures of Athlone, Tear Salted Sea, Manche, The African Martyr and Transactions. Events included introductions, post-screening Q&As and catered celebrations after their screenings. The filmmakers and crews in attendance were proud to have their World Premieres at the Festival and engaged well with the audiences about their respective films.

Filmmaker Cocktail Event Sunday 3 July 2022 | 6 Spin Street | Cape Town

The Encounters' annual filmmaker cocktail event is a key opportunity to bring together filmmakers, guests and industry professionals to celebrate the festival and the films, network and connect. This year we announced the awards for the Programmers Choice Award, Adiaha Award and Award for Best Emerging Filmmaker. The atmosphere was lively, many reflections were shared and seeds of future collaborations were planted. We were fortunate to have several of the filmmakers in attendance to accept their awards which received great reception.



LIVE EVENTS



Container is a collaboration between documentary filmmaker, Simon Wood, and visual artist and researcher, Dr Meghna Singh. The interactive work positions itself at the intersection of virtual reality and installation art, forming a hybrid of documented and constructed realities to make visible the invisibilised millions enabling our consumerist society. This in-person event was successful with an average of 60 attendees at the in-person event. The creators were present at the exhibition and available to discuss the work with regards to hyperreal tactility and the viscerality of constructed environments, as well as the tools to facilitate an emotional engagement with the human condition.

Girls in Film X Encounters Presents Community Shapers: Documentary Shorts Friday 24 June 2022 | Goethe-Institut | Johannesburg Friday 1 July 2022 | Bertha House Mowbray | Cape Town

This inaugural programme was a great success with an average of 85 attendees in Joburg and 30 attendees in Cape Town at the in-person event. Through the collaboration with Encounters, Girls in Film South Africa (GiF) sought to expand the festival space to emerging filmmakers, starting their journey and discovering their storytelling voices. GiF curated a selection of micro-budget and experimental documentaries by promising independent filmmakers from Africa and the African Diaspora who showcase strong perspectives and stylistic distinctiveness. Together, the films reflected how communities across the diaspora are shaped, whether it be through leaders and change-makers, social circumstances, unique individuals or transformative spaces. Through their resourcefulness, these filmmakers saw global lockdowns not as an obstacle to their craft, but as an opportunity to seek out stories closer to home. This event included a Directors' Q&A and was followed by a workshop with Girls in Film and Blackboard. The session was moderated by Jabu Nadia Newman.

UCT Emerging Filmmaker Showcase Thursday 30 June 2022 | Bertha House Mowbray | Cape Town

The showcase was a great success with an average of 43 attendees at the in-person event, where we hosted a special screening of UCT Honours and Masters films selected for Encounters this year. Filmmakers were in attendance for a post-screening panel discussion and Q&As to talk about their work. This was followed by a reception to celebrate the emerging filmmakers' achievements. Supported by the University of Cape Town.





Panel Discussion: Supported by the University of Cape Town

Thu 30 June 10:30am - 5:00pm Bertha House, 67 - 69 Main Rd, Mowbray, Cape Town, 7700





Reclaiming Memory: Celluloid, Restoration and Innovation in Documentary Storytelling – Three Minutes - A Lengthening Sunday 26 June 2022 | Labia Theatre | Cape Town

With an average of 80 attendees at the screening and post-screening panel discussion. The panel considered how discovery and use of archival material is a phenomenon which allows us to explore different aspects of the past, through artefacts, photographs, documents or film such as Three Minutes – A Lengthening. The material from the Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre is used as evidence of the Holocaust and as a mark of respect for both victims and survivors. The panellists explored the historical aspects of the Holocaust and its contemporary consequences through various modalities of telling the stories.

Speakers: Philip Todres (Moderator), Heather Blumenthal (Panellist, Director), Sean O'Sullivan (Panellist, Filmmaker & Historian)

Echoes of the Past: Intergenerational Narratives (Three Minutes - A Lengthening) Sunday 2 July 2022 | The Bioscope Independent Theatre | Johannesburg

The Joburg iteration of this post-screening panel had an average of 30 attendees at the screening and post-screening panel. Some people grow up surrounded by family memories and mementos that tell the story of the generations that came before them and inform their place within that family tree. But what do you do when the past is not fully known to you? Or when intrinsic parts of your history are missing? The panellists shared their stories of uncovering their ancestors' pasts and understanding their identities in South Africa and beyond.

Speakers: Mduduzi Ntuli (Panellist), Tali Nates (Moderator, Founder & Director)



Panel Discussion:

Reclaiming Memory: Celluloid, Restoration and Innovation in Documentary Storytelling

Moderator: Panellist: Tali Nates - Founder & Director Mduduzi Ntuli

Panellist: Luc Albinski



Panel Discussion:

Echoes of the Past: Intergenerational Narratives

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Moderator:	Panellist:	Panellist:
Tali Nates - Founder & Director	Mduduzi Ntuli	Luc Albinski



LIFE'S MAXIMS: REINVENTING EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS THROUGH CLASSICAL PHILOSOPHY Saturday 2 July 2022 | Labia Theatre | Cape Town

This post-screening panel was successful with an average of 123 attendees at the screening and post-screening panel. Bringing expertise together with clinical psychologists, education experts and mental health activists, this panel considered the film Young Plato in the context of South African youth education and development. The Belfast-set film documents headmaster Kevin McArevey's attempt to place philosophy at the centre of his school in a community historically plagued by Northern Ireland's 'The Troubles'. With the aim of diffusing violence and improving the well-being of South African school students, the panellists welcomed new perspectives in empowering the young minds of South Africa.

Speakers: Scott Sloan (Panellist, Founder & Director), Mandy Sanger (Panellist, Head of Education), Dr Stella Mokitimi (Panellist, Mental Health Coordinator), Mark De La Rey (Moderator, Clinical Psychologist)

YOUNG PLATO Sat 2 July 530pm Post-Screening Panel Labia Theatre

Ambasáid na hÉireann | An Afraic Theas Embassy of Ireland | South Africa

Life's Maxims: Reinventing Educational Systems through Classical Philosophy

Panel Discussion: Introduction by Embassy of Ireland Ambassador: H.E. Fionnuala Gilsenan

Moderator: Mark de la Rey Clinical Psychologist Kenilworth Clinic

EDITION

 Panellist:
 Panellist:

 Piko Jon Wycliffe Yako
 Mandy Sanger

 Senior Clinical Psychologist
 Head of Education

 UCT/ Red Cross Children's
 District Six Museum

 Hospital
 Head of Education

Panellist: Scott Sloan Founder & Director School of Hard Knocks





CREATING ACCESS TO THE FESTIVAL INREACH/OUTREACH



The Encounters Inreach/Outreach Programme is critical in ensuring broad-based access to the Festival and the opportunity to expose new audiences to documentary films. Since its inception in 2005, Encounters has guaranteed the participation of some 10,000 individuals. The Encounters Inreach/Outreach programme is a multi-stakeholder project and is supported by the following partners Vuma Pop-Up Cinema, Bertha House Mowbray, Bertha Movie House, City of Cape Town and the National Film & Video Foundation

Vuma Pop-Up Cinema Wednesday 30 June - Saturday 2 July 2022 | Cape Town

Encounters partnered with Vuma Pop-Up Cinema for the second year in a row to provide small capacity impactful screenings to young people in Paarl, Kraaifontein, Hout Bay and Philippi. The Vuma Pop-Up Outreach Programme consisted of 5 films including One Take Grace, The Radical, Lobola, A Bride's True Price?, The Double Futures of Athlone and This Side of Fabulous, which screened over the course of the 10-day Festival. Each screening was hosted at a different venue with a new audience and followed by a post-screening discussion. Lunch and snacks were also provided. This continues to be a successful and rewarding partnership and the screenings were well received.



Registered audiences:

- 1. Bertha Boschendal, Paarl: 24 youth
- 2. Bonnytoun Children and Youth Facility, Kraaifontein: 40 youth
- 3. Denis Goldberg House of Hope, Hout Bay: 30 youth
- 4. Philippi Village, Philippi: 32 youth

BOARD MEMBERS: Azania Muendane, Karen Meiring, Mandisa Zitha, Moroba Nkawe, Steven Markovitz, Toni Monty

99

"As Vuma Pop-Up Cinema, we appreciate the opportunity to host Encounters Community Outreach Programme 2022. We learnt a lot from setting up in different spaces and also about youth audience groups that could understand the documentaries selected. The discussions were very inspiring and educational, and we could all relate from the storytelling. We also appreciated being joined by the director Sihle Hlope of Lobola, A Bride's True Price? who inspired our audiences about filmmaking. It was amazing to hold the discussion panels and introduce documentaries to audiences. Our highlight was time management as we were able to deliver on all 4 days with a different set-up at each venue. The documentary selection was amazing and the audiences engaged well. Our only challenge was loadshedding on one of the afternoons but we proceeded with the event. The venues also appreciated the accessibility of the Encounters Festival. It was also an amazing tour with our crew to see the beautiful landscapes around Cape Town communities. We will continue to improve and keep up creating accessible entertainment for Storytelling. Thank you for choosing us for 2022 for community outreach. More blessings to Encounters' Team, Sponsors, Filmmakers, Audiences and selected venues that were used."

- Buhle Sithela, Vuma Pop-Up Founder





Bertha Movie House Khayelitsha Friday 24 June - Saturday 2 July 2022 | Isivivana Centre Khayelitsha | Cape Town

The Bertha Movie House is a cinema venue located at the Isivivana Centre in Khayelitsha. Since 2017, Encounters has partnered with the Bertha Movie House to showcase amazing documentaries. This year, we screened a total of 7 features and 1 short at the venue. The screenings were well attended and there was a great show of camaraderie amongst the audiences. This continues to be a fruitful and meaningful partnership for Encounters.

Bertha House Mowbray Friday 24 June - Saturday 2 July 2022 | Mowbray | Cape Town

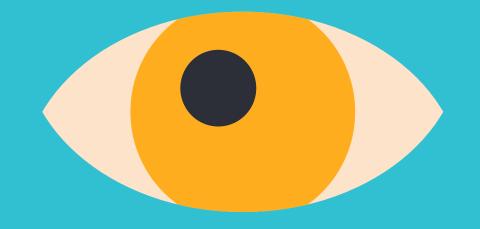
We hosted a variety of exciting screenings and post-screening Q&As at the Bertha House Mowbray, which were well attended by our local and outreach audiences. Screening events consisted of the Encounters x GiF collaboration, UCT partnership, including lunch, the short film blocks, as well as the Encounters x DFA Legal Tango industry event. The Bertha staff were always accommodating and willing to assist. The venue was well suited for intimate screenings and discussions. My Community Connect with Vumatel Saturday 25 June 2022 | Goethe-Institut Johannesburg | Cape Town Thursday 1 July 2022 | Bertha House Mowbray | Cape Town

66

"Vuma is all about great connections."

- My Community Connects

The 24th edition of Encounters saw the inaugural collaboration with Vumatel's My Community Connects - a Vumatel platform for talented South Africans to showcase their ability and creations and ultimately get noticed. It is a hub for those searching for diverse and experienced talent. As part of the collaboration, Vumatel invited their community to attend industry events in Johannesburg at the Goethe-Institut South Africa on Saturday 25 June including the DFA: docShare The Brave Ethics Panel, the Encounters x Independent Black Filmmakers Collective panel on mental health and the Encounters' annual networking event supported by the DFA, as well as and on Thursday 1 July for the UCT Emerging Filmmaker Showcase at Bertha House Mowbray. They worked very efficiently and provided crossposting of events of all online content to their Facebook channel. They were also responsible for interviewing guests, speakers and Festival staff, which will be shared on their platform to promote the collaboration and increase visibility for Encounters.



MARKETING AND PUBLICITY

With a **4-week social media** build up this allowed for maximum reach and brand awareness to Encounters target audience.

With an overall audience reach of 125,015k collectively.

With the festival being in-person this year we found that the social media kit for filmmakers worked well in reaching local audiences, with best examples of **The Radical** and **Lobola, A Bride's True Price?**

However, only receiving three video messages from filmmakers was disheartening, as we know the power of their voices and the influence it brings to the festival. Next year this request should be communicated as soon the screening dates are set to allow enough time.

Content that was well received:

- Photos from Encounters Live Events
- Videos from Directors
- Short film trailers
- Twitter Chat Event Graphic
- Influencer content
- Meet the filmmaker graphics

Next year our influencer list should be confirmed during campaign build up. It was a pleasant experience to run this campaign with very little paid media ads as opposed to previous years, which shows us that the content that we create is engaging and impactful - therefore shared widely. Activating with I AM NOT MANY - Marketing via Twitter was also a great idea and led us to new audiences in CPT, the same should be activated for JHB audiences next year.





Featuring all funder logos

FESTIVAL TRAILERS (ALL PLATFORMS) 7,766 Views

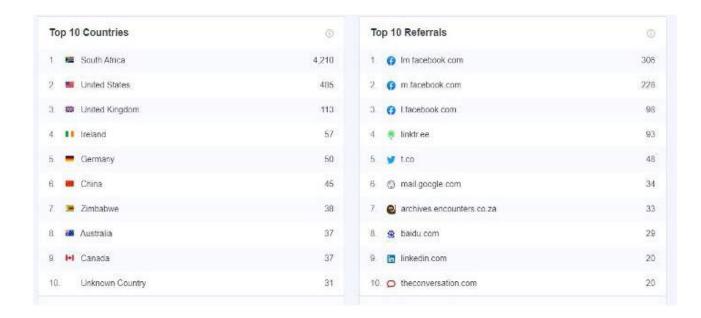
Created by Ashleigh da Silva, the trailers featured excerpts of documentaries from the Festival with additional logo animation by Shukry Adams.

7,583 Page View

www.encounters.co.za was managed by Kim Schutt this year. The newly implemented layout allowed for a better user experience on all devices.



Top Posts/Pages	(
1. Welcome - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	2,179
2. Schedule - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	2,105
3. Films Archive - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	1,163
4. Booking Information - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	479
5 ENCOUNTERS TALKS - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	330
6. Press Releases Archives - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	327
7. Girl, Taken - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	273
8 African Moot - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	262
9. Welcome - Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	254
10 Section 16 Encounters South African International Documentary Film Festival	211



Facebook @encountersdoc

Total reach: 53,115 | 214 new followers | 30,998 post engagements | Paid Reach: R2,639.88



Linktree



Twitter @encountersdoc

59,300 impressions | 3,289 followers | 345 mentions



Instagram @encountersdoc Total reach: 12,600 | 3,137 followers | 587 engagement

Mook 1 **Insights Overview** Week 2 23 May +6 July Researching of the state of the Substant Basic data Appointe reached 12.68 +73.1% Accounts impligated 587 +438% Total followers \$1.97 +16.975 Nock 4 Week 3 Rosel 49 Top Locations ingthe Restland Cape Texas 31% Johannesburg 14 6% Southers 2.7% Protocia 2.6% Kentbury 2.3%



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Encounterador reached +781% more accounts compared to April - May 22

TOTAL PUBLICITY VALUE **R 4,700,326.71**

The Festival recorded a total of 107 mentions across all media.

PRINT

BROADCAST

31 clippings R 1,843,566.39 23 clippings **R 1,222,311.74** 53 clippings **R 1,634,448.58**

ONLINE

Bizcommunity

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Encounters South African International Documentary Festival announces new board members								A series and most inter of the annual set of the annual set of the annual set of the second set of the
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News24



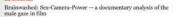
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Daily Maverick

DAILY





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 -The documentary 'Girl, Taken' premiers at the Encounters Documentary Film Festivial on Saturdia yerening - It trills the graphing stary of Zephany Hurse (now Inneen as Michó Solonnoh who was kidrapped as an indrar from hir mother's hospital Beddale and remuted with her biological arenes TS 'years kiter - Sara-Jayne King chass to Solomon about her journey of healing in a moving interview.



EyeWitness News (EWN)

DOCCIE ANOTHER STEP IN MY HEALING PROCESS SAYS ZEPHANY NURSE: 'A STORY OF HOPE'

The second seco



City Press (First Edition)



Sowetan (freestate)

Bold films on offer at 24th Encounters South African

nternational Documentary Festival

The Herald

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The Conversation



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WHAT'S ON





Sunday Times (Western Cape), Lifestyle Magazine



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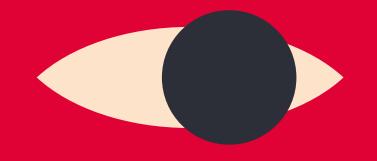
Weekend Special



'No Simple Way Home' wins big at Encounters Festival



The Star



ENCOUNTERS AWARDS

PROGRAMMERS CHOICE AWARD

The Festival's annual Encounters Programmers Choice Award recognises Outstanding Talent and New Perspectives in Documentary Storytelling for feature films in both the South African/African and International categories.

The panel was made up of Programmers, Curators and Film Writers of the 24 edition of the Encounters: Joy Sapieka, Lukhanyiso Tsita, Mandisa Zitha, Peter Machen, Taryn Joffe and Wilfred Okiche. Bringing together diverse expertise, the team programmed 16 South African/African features and 10 international features.

The selection highlights the best international films on circuit, alongside original African storytelling, in line with the Festival's vision to present films that educate, entertain and leave a lasting impact.

The Winners of Best South African/African Film and Best International Film will receive a cash prize of R5000 and the runners-up will receive a cash prize of R3000.

Best South African/African Documentary

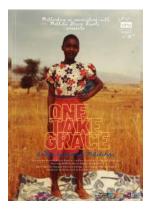
Winner: No Simple Way Home (Akuol De Mabior)



"We were moved and inspired by the exquisite interrogation of personhood, family, responsibility, and national identity. Akuol de Mabior's clarity of vision is striking, and her film deftly synthesizes a wide range of themes that speak to what it means to come from a place and yet be outside of that place. An assured and confident debut, No Simple Way Home blends the personal and the political in profound ways that rise above cliché and announces the arrival of a major filmmaking talent"

– Encounters Programmers

Special Mention: One Take Grace (Lindiwe Matshikiza)



"For its unique but considered approach to documentary film-making, as well as its deep engagement and collaboration with its subject, One Takes Grace was most deserving of a special mention and Lindiwe Matshikiza is a talent to watch."

- Encounters Programmers

Runner-Up: Transactions (Rumbi Katedza)



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"This brilliant gem grabbed the attention of the programming team with its oh-so-timely account of the complex and urgent ways that remittances from all over the world (re)shape familial dynamics and sustain the economies of countless communities. The family at the center of the story is joyously relatable and director Rumbi Katedza brings a penetrating and observational gaze into her interactions with her subjects. The result is a film that opens yet another window into the migration industrial complex and speaks with a specificity that is at once universal."

Best International Documentary

Winner: Navaly (Daniel Roher)



Runner-up: Summer of Soul (Questlove)

"The winner of the award for Best International Documentary goes to a deeply engaging film with a globally relevant narrative. Made with remarkable access to its supremely charismatic subject, Navalny is an extraordinary film that uses the full arsenal of documentary filmmaking to powerful effect."

- Encounters Programmers

Young plato

"The film Young Plato deserves a special mention because of its powerful and emotive universal message about how community violence affects children, and furthermore, the narrative shows how philosophy has been used to actively educate children about conflict resolution. The filmmakers have succeeded in portraying children's response to conflict in a school as a reflection of society, against the backdrop of a neighbourhood in the north Belfast district of Ardoyne where there is a long history of sectarian violence between Catholics and Protestants. We feel that the filmmakers have done an outstanding job of reflecting this history through editing that expresses the juxtaposition between the present and the past relations of the community."

Encounters Programmers



"The runner-up for Best International Documentary is a lovingly rendered account of a key cultural event that would otherwise have been lost to history. Beautifully edited and powerfully paced, Summer of Soul is both a vital historic document and also one of the finest concert films ever made."

- Encounters Programmers

Special Mention: Young Plato (Neasa Ni Chianáin, Declan McGrath)

ADIAHA AWARD

The Adiaha Award presented by the Ladima Foundation with Encounters to an African Woman Filmmaker for Best Documentary. The Ladima Foundation is a proudly Pan-African, woman- only focused film and content industry initiative, founded and led by African women. With programmes intentionally aimed at the full range of women in the industry, from emerging to professional, the Ladima Foundation is connected to its community, is committed to excellence, and is flexibly dynamic and adaptive in its approach.

This year, the Jury included Nyasha Kadandara, Karin Slater and Zanele Mthembu. The winner of the 2022 edition of the Adiaha Award receives \$2000 towards her next production and an invitation to attend the 2023 Dortmund Cologne International Women's Film Festival, where her film will be screened.

Winner: No Simple Way Home (Akuol De Mabior)



"No Simple Way Home draws you into a world of humble politics in an intimate way through beauty and music and strong female leads. The film asks difficult questions through profound mother-daughter conversations in a country in its early years of formation. Akuol de Mabior emulates her mother's humility in the way she tells a personal story."

- Adiaha Jury



"As leaders in our industry, we aim to train, build capacity, recognise, promote, and develop women within Africa's unique film, TV and content spaces."

- The Ladima Foundation

Runner-up: Lobola, A Bride's True Price? (Sihle Hlope)



"This film is sure to spark debate. A brave and intimate portrait where filmmaker, Sihle Hlophe shows her vulnerability and takes us on a journey with exclusive access to a widely practiced tradition of bride price."

- Adiaha Jury

Special Mention: One Take Grace (Lindiwe Matshikiza)



"By combining animation, point-of-view filming and dramatic theatre, the visual language of the filmmaker Lindiwe Matshikiza pushes the boundaries. A beautifully written film about the compelling Grace Maphela and the many acts of her life."

– Adiaha Jury

BEST EMERGING FILMMAKER AWARD

As part of the inaugural partnership between Encounters and Free Film School, the winner of the **Best Emerging South African Filmmaker Award** will receive four tailored mentorship sessions, through Free Film School's facilitator network, either remotely or in-person; and advance access to Free Film School's Cape Town classes and events from August to to December 2022.



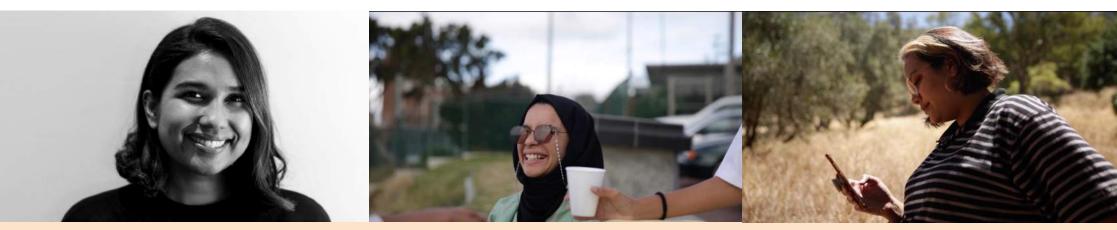
Free Film School is a film and arts education cooperative that provides alternative, accessible and Africa-centric skills-sharing between established and aspiring filmmakers, writers, artists and activists in South Africa. Based in Cape Town, Free Film School hosts free, weekly classes at Bertha House, which include workshops, screenings, field trips and networking opportunities. We wish all the filmmakers success in their future endeavours!

An-Nisaa (Women) (Thaakirah Behardien)



UCT CENTRE FOR FLM AND MEDIA STUDIES MESSYNS ANAMENT THAAKIRAH BEHARDIEN COCCUM-RANDWERS LIAN MAASDORP ADAM HAUPT FERTIMUS RUDHISHANA DANIELS RUSHDA DEANEY SHAKIRAH DRAMAT "An Inspiring coming of age story involving female bodies becoming assertive and taking back their power through unique mediums of expression. Well done on a seamless and creative edit, as well as an emotionally impactful story."

- Free Film School Jury

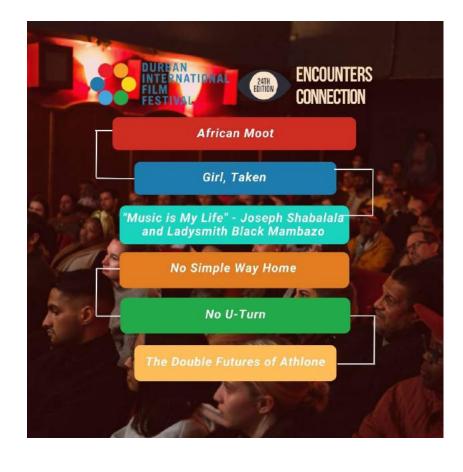




PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Encounters continues its strategic partnership with Durban International Film Festival (DIFF), creating an enhanced platform for local filmmakers. These co-presentations preclude filmmakers from being forced to choose one or the other festival to launch their films, and affords increased visibility and reach for documentary filmmakers from the continent.

This year, the two Festivals co-presented the following films and shared marketing activations to grow audiences:





The 4th Rough Cut Lab Africa in partnership with the NFVF, SAGE, DocA and The Refinery, invited eight African documentary film projects in the late offline stage to pair up directors and editors on the projects, with African story consultants from all fields of filmmaking.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

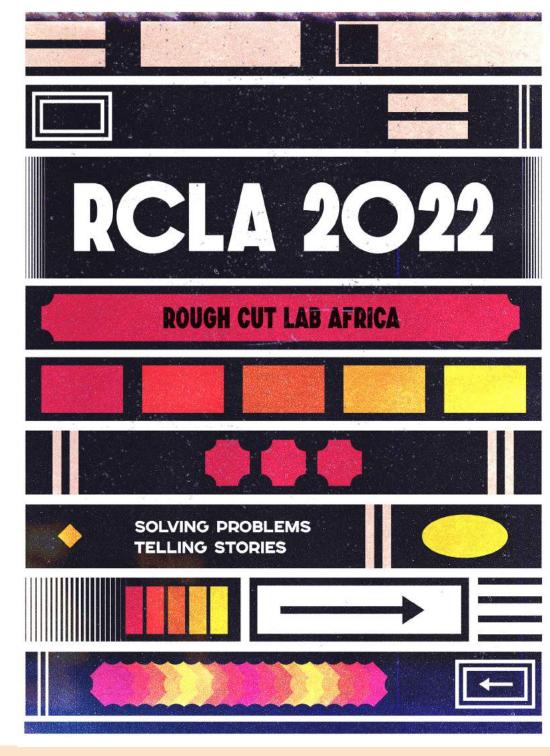
HERE WE ARE AGAIN FOR A NEW EDITION OF ROUGH CUT LAB AFRICA 2022 AND FOR MOST OF US WE ARE STILL CONSTRUCTING, PLANNING, SCHEMING, REVELLING IN THE MAGIC INTENDED AND UNPLANNED, HOLDING OUR HEADS IN OUR HANDS AND WAITING, ALWAYS WAITING FOR TIME, MONEY AND A GREAT BIG HUG.

THATS WHERE WE COME IN.

RCLA 2022 IS HERE TO INTERROGATE AND SUPPORT YOUR JOURNEY. TO MEET YOU ALONG THE PATH OF YOUR PROJECTS. TO HOLD YOUR HAND FOR A LITTLE WHILE AND TO SAY THAT WHAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR HANDS IS UNIQUE, SPECIAL AND DESERVES TO BE SEEN.

YOURS IN COMRADESHIP, KHALID SHAMIS





Successful Projects

Banned: Joe Bullet - South Africa Naledi Bogacwi Director Vusi Africa Editor

Behind Closed Doors - Morocco Yakout Elhababi Director & Editor

Before the Final Picture - Egypt Aya Tallah Yusuf Director & Editor Sumer Abdelnasser Producer

Black Women and Sex - South Africa

Godisamang Khunou Director Catherine Meyburgh Editor

Abu Zabaal Prison 1989 - Egypt Bassam Mortada Director Ahmed Abo El Fadl Editor

I am a Script Girl - Egypt / Mexico Mina Nabil Director Martha Uc Editor

100 Years of Servitude - South Africa Tara Erica Moore Director & Editor

I Thought Prison was a Silent Place -South Africa Pippa Dyer Director Zizipho Keswa Editor

So That We Stay Alive - Algeria Amine Kabbes Director Yanis Kheloufi Editor



Awards

I Am A Script Girl Mina Nabil, Egypt and editor Martha UC, Mexico

100 Years of Servitude tara Erica Moore, South Africa

I Thought Prison was a Silent Place Pippa Dyer and editor Zizipho Keswa, South Africa

Pro-Res delivery package from The Refinery Cape Town awarded to:

So That We Stay Alive Amine Kabbes and editor Yanis Kheloufi, Algeria

Full grade from Cult Post Production awarded to:

Banned: Joe Bullet Naledi Bogacwi and editor Vusi Africa, South Africa

Full poster design from Anima Creative Studio awarded to:

Before the Final Picture

Aya Yusuf and producer Sumer Abdel Nasser, Egypt

Full grade from The Refinery Cape Town awarded to:

Abu Zabaal Prison 1989 Bassam Mortada and editor Ahmed Abu El Fadl, Egypt

RCLA Consultants

Carol Howell - South Africa Jackie Le Cordeuir - South Africa Candice Odgers - South Africa Marouan Omara - Egypt Sam Soko - Kenya Angela Wamai - Kenya





CONCLUSION

ver the last two years Encounters has successfully shifted the Festival to online platforms. The easing of government restrictions globally provided Encounters with an opportunity to re-introduce in-person events and adopt a hybrid approach for the 24th edition of the festival. The virtual festival has received the largest audience attendances in the lifespan of the festival, but has come with many challenges. There has been a decline in online audiences recently due to online fatigue, and the widening choice of streaming platforms, along with rising costs of living currently affecting the public. Within this context, the Festival organisers opted for the increased benefits of a hybrid model, that provide stakeholders with both physical and limited virtual activities. The audience numbers achieved are a success for the determined middle ground. The feedback from the filmmakers has been positive, with most appreciating the opportunity to participate in live Question and Answer sessions, networking

opportunities and increased visibility of their films to communities beyond the city-centre.

The Festival could have achieved increased attendance numbers with a full online presence through the virtual cinema platform. However, the limited budget secured did not allow for this investment. For future festivals, the online programme will remain a feature of the programme to allow increased access to other viewers in the rest of the provinces in the country. This will further grow audiences, especially for local documentaries with benefits for filmmakers.

Other challenges that affected planning and the roll-out of the festival include the rolling blackouts caused by loadshedding in the country. This especially hampered some of the Outreach programmes scheduled. It was also difficult to plan around uncertainties of government Covid-19 restrictions, which were eased the morning of the opening of the Festival. The organisers believe an earlier announcement would have aided in increased attendances. It would have been beneficial to invite international guests who bring opportunities for skills transfer, financial opportunities and networking to the local industry. However, the festival organisers planned for a smaller festival that did not have the infrastructure to host delegates. With improving post-pandemic conditions globally, this will be improved for the future.

The success of the 24th edition could not have been possible without the financial support of core funders, who continue to support our shared mandate for growing the documentary industry. The partnerships with industry and other stakeholders is imperative to the high calibre of programming and builds sustainability for the festival.



FESTIVAL STATISTICS

IN NUMBERS FESTIVAL

6588 NUMBER OF SCREENINGS

TOTAL FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE

81 FESTIVAL VENUES

12

FEATURES

26

SHORTS

27

WORLD PREMIERES

16

SA/AFRICAN PREMIERES

23

PROGRAMME BREAKDOWN

SA/AFRICAN FEATURES

16

INTERNATIONAL FEATURES

10

SA/AFRICAN SHORTS

22

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

5

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

11,060 2011 2012* 10,909 6,030 2013 2014 6,817 2015 6,915 2016 11,997 10,302 2017 10,803 2018 2019 9,672 2020** 16,000 4,966 2021*** 6,588 2022

*18 Day Festival

** 10 Day Virtual Festival - Free Tickets

*** 10 Day Hybrid Festival - No Free Tickets

No * 10 Day Festival

SOUTH AFRICAN SELECTION DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

> FEMALE NON-BINARY



VHITE

OVERALL PROGRAMME REPRESENTATION





COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION

Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Mali, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, and Zimbabwe.

 AFRICAN MOOT

"MUSIC IS MY LIFE" JOSEPH SHABALALA AND LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO

GIRL, TAKEN

GEORGE BIZOS ICON

MANCHE, THE AFRICAN MARTYR

SECTION 16

THE DOUBLE FUTURES OF ATHLONE

THE RADICAL

THIS SIDE OF FABULOUS

AFRICAN TITLES

574

INTERNATIONAL TITLES

569

TOTAL SCREENINGS

2,562

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

207,285

FILMS PRODUCED

48

LABORATORIES RUN

10

LAB PARTICIPANTS

670

INDUSTRY SESSIONS

86

LIVE Q&AS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND INDUSTRY EVENTS

SOUTH AFRICAN GUESTS

434

INTERNATIONAL GUESTS

204

THE 24TH ENCOUNTERS SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL IS FUNDED BY:







CITY OF CAPE TOWN ISIXEKO SASEKAPA STAD KAAPSTAD



MAKING IT HAPPEN

national film and video foundation SOUTH AFRICA an agency of the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture





FILM SPONSORS & PARTNERS:



BOARD MEMBERS

Ms Azania Muendane, Ms Karen Meiring, Ms Moroba Nkawe, Ms Toni Monty, and Mr Steven Markovitz.

CORE STAFF

Mandisa ZithaFestival Director Carol de Vos....Bookkeeper

FESTIVAL STAFF

Tarha McKenzie	Festival Manager	Pfumie Ramaite	CineCentre Projectionist Assistant
Taryn Joffe	Festival Programmer $\&$ Coordinator	Lara McCusker	Publicist Intern/Photographer
Fanney Tsimong	Festival Coordinator (Johannesburg)	Bernelee Kritzinger	BTS Cinematographer $\&$ Editor
Taahir Sarguro	Production Assistant	Hannah Fleisch	Festival Report Designer & Film Writer
Jade Simpson	Technical Coordinator	Laurent Denzil Adams	Labia Cinema Manager
Kimbal Schutt	Web Designer	Lukhanyiso Tsita	Film Writer & Juror & Film Reader
Darrel Boye	Digital Services	Wilfred Okiche	Film Writer & Juror
Toby Atwell	Designer	Peter Machen	Film Writer & Juror
Ashleigh da Silva	Trailer Editor	Kealoboga Mojela	NFVF Intern
Shukri Adams	Animator	Sher Banu Omar	NFVF Intern
Joy Sapieka	Publicist and Programmer	Kirby Kruger	Film Reader
Sara Chitambo	Social Media Co-Manager	Keitumetse Kasonkola	Film Reader
Sade Donnell	Social Media Co-Manager	Kristen van Schie	Film Reader
Freddy Ogterop	Film Archivist and Programmer	Monde Kawana	Film Reader
Ridwaan	Labia Projectionist	Rati Muyambo	Film Reader
Peter	Labia Projectionist	Sara Gouveia	Film Reader

VOLUNTEERS

Alistor Adams | Anathi Ntamo | Asemahle Mankayi | Bantu Nyakaza | Colin Seas | Kimberley Turner | Lucinda van Heerden | Melody Shevlane Neo Lesenyeho | Siba Makaluza | Siphenkosi Mcotshana | Siphesihle Sibiya | Siyabonga Ndlovu | Vuyo Qwayi | Yandisa Ndzeku | Yonela Kute



BOARD MEMBERS: Azania Muendane, Karen Meiring, Mandisa Zitha, Moroba Nkawe, Steven Markovitz, Toni Monty





24TH EDITION



SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL

CONTACT

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