

AFRIKA EYE

6-16 NOV 2021



FILM ARTS MUSIC CULTURE

afrikaeye.org.uk #AfrikaEye2021



WELCOME!

Afrika Eye is thrilled to be back it's been too long and we're so ready to bring you films which tell stories of lives lived and lives imagined and the worlds in between. We celebrate filmmakers who bring important issues to our attention and highlight the extraordinary within the ordinary.

With twelve or more feature films, shorts and our very own home-grown offering **Rooted in Bristol**, it's a hard choice. Watershed's opening night is a blast of fantastic music from Nigeria, with Siji Awoyinka's **Elder's Corner**, then live in the bar afterwards with **Lifting Spirits** – Moroccan 'gnawa' grooves with Justin Adams and master of the gimbri, Mohamed Errebbaa. The remarkable documentary **It Must Make Peace** gives us more astonishing music from Mali on Saturday.

We're very proud to be screening Chad's master filmmaker, Mahamat-Saleh Haroun's latest film, **Lingui -The Sacred Bonds**, an exceptional meditative drama on the plight of women in a patriarchal society.

New partnerships and new venues bring fresh perspectives into Afrika Eye. This year we've welcomed Rising Arts, Sheba Soul, Queer Vision and Kiki Bristol to share in curating some very special films: **The Bronze Men of Cameroon**, **Rocks** and **Difficult Love** are just a few.

Huge thanks to our host venues this year: Watershed, Easton Community Centre, The Cube, The Old Picture House Tottenham, The Curzon, Clevedon and Felix Road Adventure Playground.

Annie Menter – Festival Director



Pop Up Teepee Screening and Storytelling

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

Felix Road Adventure Playground
Felix Rd, Easton, Bristol BS5 0JW

SAT 6 NOV

Screening 1: 11:15 - 13:30 / Screening 2: 15:15 -17:00

'Pay what you feel' tickets: Adult £3 min/child £2 min from **Headfirst** or on the door. Limited numbers so book early | Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult.

Film: **Kirikou & the Sorceress**

Inspired by folk stories from Senegal, this enchanting adventure tells how tiny but brave Kirikou outwits a powerful sorceress.

Stories: with indigenous **South African storyteller //Kabbo Hue Ferdinand**

There'll be hot chocolate and popcorn, blankets and cushions but wrap up warm!



Rocks

In partnership with Rising Arts

Easton Community Centre
Kilburn St, Easton, Bristol BS5 6AW

Film screening, Q&A

MON 8 NOV | 19:00, film starts 19:30

Tickets: £7/£5 from **Headfirst** or on the door.

Dir. Sarah Gavron | 2019 | UK | English
93 mins | PG

"Empowering, uplifting teenage girl power"

The Guardian (2019)

Popular black British teenage girl, Rocks (Bucky Bakray), has big dreams for the future whilst living in Hackney. Her world is turned upside down when her mother suddenly takes off and she is forced to find ways in which she can avoid her and her brother being taken into care.

Post screening discussion curated by young people from Rising Arts, a Bristol based not-for-profit agency supporting 16 -25 yr olds with creative ambitions

The Movement / Fati's Choice

DOUBLE
BILL

The Cube Microplex
Dove Street South, Bristol BS2 8JD

WED 10 NOV | Doors 18:30 | Tickets: £12 / £7 conc
from **Headfirst** or on the door.

The Movement: 19:00 - 20:31

Dir. Sharon Walia | UK | 2018 | English | 91 mins | cert 15

Fati's Choice: 20:51 - 21:33

Dir. Fatima Dadzi | Ghana | 2021 | English Subtitles

40 mins | cert 15 | UK Premiere

Q&A: 21:40 - 22:00 (Speakers TBC)

The Movement: A revealing and uplifting film about ordinary people who have stepped in where governments have held back. Filmed over one year by journalist and former refugee worker Sharon Walia, this is testament to the



generosity and fearlessness of those battling to save migrants on land, sea and air. This is their story.

Fati's Choice: Fati, unhappy with her prospects as an unsettled migrant, returns from Italy to take care of her five children. She faces stigma and rejection as a returned migrant, from gossiping neighbours and friends, who paint her as a failure.



Difficult Love / Beyond, There's Always A Black Issue Dear

DOUBLE
BILL

In partnership with Kiki & Queer Vision

The Cube Microplex Dove Street South, Bristol BS2 8JD

THU 11 NOV | Doors 19:00 | Tickets: £12 / £7 conc
from **Headfirst** or on the door.

Difficult Love: 19:30 - 20:18

Dir. Zanele Muholi | South Africa | 2010 | English | 48 mins
cert 18A

BTAABID: 20:45 - 21:15

Dir. Claire Lawrie | UK | 2019 | English | 30 mins | cert 18A

Q&A: 21:30 - 21:50 curated by Queer Vision + Kiki Bristol

Difficult Love provides a glimpse into Muholi's life and the struggles of other black lesbians in South Africa in 2010. A highly personal take on the challenges facing black lesbians seen through the lens of celebrated photographer, Zanele Muholi, who fearlessly uses her camera to raise awareness and generate an understanding of the importance of lesbian rights. We ask what has changed in the intervening years.

Beyond: There's Always A Black Issue Dear:

A treasure trove of London's LGBTQ+ cultural history with untold stories where 1970's Soul, Disco and Punks met in underground clubs. A vibrant exploration of the role black British Londoners played in the LGBT+ movement and how their voices have been airbrushed out of Queer history. These are the untold stories.



Guitar and Gimbri - Lifting Spirits

LIVE MUSIC

FRI 12 NOV | 22:00-23:45 | Watershed Café Bar

Guitar & Gimbri – Lifting Spirits led by guitar maestro Justin Adams and Gnawa master Mohamed Errebbaa - featuring Dave Smith on drums & the exceptional Idriss Yamdah on percussion

Harnessing the deep trance power of Gnawa, this new collaboration channels a strong North African vibe with echoes of Adams' mastery of desert blues. Once you're in the groove, it'll be hard to leave! Trance power.....



Elder's Corner

FRI 12 NOV | 20:00 | Watershed | £11 / £8.50 conc, over 60s / £5 24+under, refugees | Dir. Siji Awoyinka | 2020 Nigeria, USA | English + subtitled | 96 mins | cert 12A

Inspired by his extensive record collection, director and musician Siji Awoyinka travels back to Nigeria in search of the musical icons of the 'highlife' & 'juju' eras, who roll back the years. Musicians whose lives were both bruised and ignited by political unrest, migration & colonialism give moving oral testimonies and studio performances. Music connects deeply to their identities. From the birth of Afro-beat, this is a joyful celebration of some of the most influential music to come out of Africa.



This is not a Burial, it's a Resurrection

SAT 13 NOV | 14:00 | Watershed | £8.50 / £5 24+under, refugees | Dir. Lemohang Jeremiah Moses | 2019 Lesotho, South Africa, Italy | English | 120 mins | cert 15

A remarkable and otherworldly film from landlocked Lesotho. As Mantoa's life draws to a close, her spirit of resistance is ignited by capitalist threats to her land and community. Tradition, politics and spiritual beliefs at the heart of this extraordinarily powerful story.

It Must Make Peace

SAT 13 NOV | 17:15 | Watershed | £8.50 / £5 24+under, refugees | Dir. Paul Chandler | 2018 | Mali, Canada
English | 96 mins | cert 18

Speakers: Andy Morgan and guests.

Across the remote regions of Mali, despite globalization and violent extremism encroaching on them from all directions, the people continue to play their music in accordance with cultural traditions. With moving performances and interviews, *It Must Make Peace* gives voice to Mali's artists using their extraordinary talents to bring peace and unity to a region increasingly vulnerable to economic and political uncertainty.



The Bronze Men of Cameroon

Film curated by Akula Agbami (Sheba Soul)

SUN 14 NOV | 13:30 | Watershed
£8.50 / £5 24+under, refugees
Dir. Florence Ayisi | 2020 | Cameroon, UK | English | 55 mins | cert 15

Speakers: Florence Ayisi in conversation with Akulah Agbami

A film which explores cultural heritage, continuity and change in the bronze casting traditions of the Bamum People of Western Cameroon. Now an endangered tradition as global trends impact on a way of life that has sustained livelihoods over generations.

Rooted in Bristol

Premiere

SUN 14 NOV | 15:45 | Watershed
£8.50 / £5 24+under, refugees
Dir. Manu Maungandze & Annie Menter | 2021 | UK | English | 30 mins

Speakers: Manu Maungandze, Annie Menter and guests.

Rooted in Bristol is a documentary celebrating the contribution that people of African heritage have made in creating and sustaining kitchen gardens over many decades, on allotments across Bristol. Exploring personal histories and experiences, it raises the question: who has access to green spaces and how can we make that access more equitable?



Lingui – The Sacred Bonds

SUN 14 NOV | 17:30 | Watershed
£11 / £8.50 conc, over 60s / £5 24+under, refugees
Dir. Mahamat-Saleh Haroun | 2021
Chad | English | 87 mins | cert 15

Master Chadian filmmaker Mahamet-Saleh Haroun's latest offering is a riveting and meditative drama that celebrates the way female bonds offer many a life raft when drowning in the sea of patriarchy. It explores the unforgiving laws, which Amina and her daughter Maria must navigate within their own country.



Thank You For The Rain

The Curzon Cinema

46-48 Old Church Road, Clevedon BS21 6NN

TUE 16 NOV | 19:30

Tickets: £7.80 / £6.20 conc / £5 24 + under from
www.curzon.org.uk / 01275 871 000 | Dir. Julia Dahr
& Kisulu Musya | 2017 | English | 87 mins | Cert 15

A film which brings sharply into focus the dramatic effects of climate change on Kenyan farmer Kisulu's family and his village, this story unfolds as Kisulu transforms into community leader and activist on the global stage. Addressing issues of climate change, justice, gender equality and climate refugees, this is compelling evidence of how the climate emergency is affecting the most vulnerable people

Post-screening Q&A with invited guests.

Mane

Feature + Shorts

The Old Picture House

Winton Street, Totterdown, Bristol BS4 2BW

MON 15 NOV | 19:00 | The Old Picture House | Tickets: £8 full, £6 conc from **Headfirst** or on the door.

Dir. Sandra Kramplehuber | 2020 | Senegal, Germany
English | 55 mins | cert 18

Shorts programme:

Pickney: 21:15-21:31

We Are Not The Virus: 21:31-21:35

Home Carnival Queen: 21:35-21:40

Dinah dir: Pierre Amiral: 21:40-21:50

Q&A: 21:55-22:15

Mane meaning 'me' in the Wolof language beautifully expresses the determination and spirit of two young women and their universal truth: 'only we ourselves can bring about change, out of our own ambition and will'. A compelling story of two young Senegalese women striving for victory and recognition in male-dominated spheres of a patriarchal society. In their quest for victory, they battle using visionary lyrics for women's rights & a more equal society and physical prowess.

This screening of Mane will be followed by a curated set of shorts directed by Bristol filmmaker Michael Jenkins: Pickney, We Are Not The Virus and Home Carnival Queen, followed by Dinah directed by Pierre Amiral.



AFRIKA EYE CALENDAR | NOVEMBER 2021

Sat 6

11:15 Pop up teepee screening and story telling
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Mon 8

19:30 Rocks

Wed 10

19:00 The Movement / Fati's Choice

Thu 11

19:30 Difficult Love / Beyond: There's Always a Black Issue Dear

Fri 12

20:00 Elder's Corner

22:00 Guitar & Gimbri - Lifting Spirits | Live music in the café & bar

Sat 13

14:00 This is Not a Burial, It's a Resurrection
17:15 It Must Make Peace

Sun 14

13:30 The Bronze Men of Cameroon

15:45 Rooted in Bristol

17:30 Lingui - The Sacred Bonds

Mon 15

19:30 Mane / Shorts

Tue 16

19:30 Thank You For The Rain

Felix Rd Adventure Playground
Felix Rd Adventure Playground

Easton Community Centre

The Cube

The Cube

Watershed

Watershed

Watershed

Watershed

Watershed

Watershed

Watershed

The Old Picture House

The Curzon, Clevedon

PROGRAMME SUBJECT TO CHANGE

ALL VENUES ARE OPERATING AT A REDUCED CAPACITY DUE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING.
WE ADVISE BOOKING EARLY TO SECURE SEATS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS:

www.afrikaeye.org.uk
afrikaeye@gmail.com
#AfrikaEye2021

For events at Watershed:
visit the box office, call
0117 927 5100 or book at
www.watershed.co.uk

WATERSHED COMBO TICKET

Offer for all
Full Price tickets:
Book a combo ticket
for four or more
different screenings
and get 15% off

FOR NON WATERSHED BOOKINGS:

All events not at
Watershed book at
Headfirst
except The Curzon Cinema,
which can be booked at
www.curzon.org.uk
or 01275 871 000

Main Funders and Partners

WATERSHED



THE NATIONAL
LOTTERY



The Morel Trust

Many thanks to this year's partners:

Rising Arts, Sheba Soul, Kiki Bristol, Queer Vison and The Curzon Community Cinema Clevedon