



Celebrating Women Filmmakers
Birds Eye View Film Festival
4-12 March 2010
BFI Southbank, ICA and Barbican

“Eclectic, inspiring and thought provoking” - Little White Lies
“An important celebration of women filmmakers” – The Independent

Birds Eye View is back for its 6th annual Film Festival of celebrating, championing and showcasing women filmmakers.

The 6th Birds Eye View Film Festival boasts 9 jam-packed days of features, docs, shorts and live music to silent film. With award-winning films from the likes of Drew Barrymore, Isabel Coixet and Kim Longinotto, a special masterclass from the Oscar-nominated Danish director Susanne Bier, and specially commissioned live scores to silent films from Mira Calix, Gwyneth Herbert and Patti Plinko. Plus guest star appearances from Gillian Anderson and Jane Horrocks, and a month-long retrospective celebrating iconic blondes on screen. Tickets on sale now - don't miss out!

For more festival info please see www.birds-eye-view.co.uk/festival

AFRICAN FILMS



FROM A WHISPER

Plus Director Q&A

Dir. Wanuri Kahiu, Kenya 2008

ICA Cinema 1, Wed March 10, 6.30pm

ICA Cinema 2, Thu March 11, 8.30pm

Winner:

Best Picture, Best Director, Best Soundtrack, Best Screenplay, African Movie Academy Awards 2009

Deeply affecting, multi-award-winning drama exploring emotional recovery from the impact of Nairobi's terrorist bombings of 1998.

A family is torn apart by the terrorist bombing of the US Embassy in Nairobi in 1998, in which over 250 people died and the aftershocks of which still tremble today. Years after the horrific event, a teenage girl is still searching for her mother, through radical art and less than legal adventures. Kahiu's emotionally powerful drama swept the board at last year's African Movie Academy Awards, we say rightly so!

Wanuri Kahiu

Wanuri Kahiu is one of Kenya's most talented young filmmakers. Having trained in the US and worked on *The Italian Job* and *Catch A Fire*, Wanuri is now back in Kenya and working on several new projects. Look out for her highly-anticipated sci-fi short *Pumzi* at festivals later this year.

Screening in partnership with Africa in Motion funded by The Commonwealth Foundation

KENYAN DOUBLE BILL

Killer Necklace & Wangari Maathai: For our Land

Plus Skype Director Q&A

ICA Cinema 1, Thu March 11, 6.00pm

A rare opportunity to hear direct from two outstanding Kenyan women filmmakers, with a double bill of equally compelling documentary and drama.

KILLER NECKLACE

Dir Judy Kibinge, Kenya, 2008

Adapted from a graphic novel, this stylish drama tells of the chasm between rich and poor in contemporary Kenya. A young man tries to stay away from the enticements of crime as he longs to buy his girlfriend the necklace that she covets. Nothing is as it seems as the story unfolds and its layers unravel.

Judy Kibinge

Judy Kibinge was born in Nairobi in 1967 and is an artist, writer and filmmaker. Her main works are *Dangerous Affair* (2002), *Project Daddy* (2004), *Peace Wanted Alive* (2009) and *Coming Of Age* (2008).

FOR OUR LAND

Dir Wanuri Kahiu, Kenya, 2008

Kenyan environmental and social justice activist Wangari Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. Through her Green Belt movement she has planted 30 million trees in her motherland and protected endangered indigenous forests. A one-woman tour-de-force, Maathai captures camera and audience with her infectious fervour as she advocates pro-democracy and environmental restitution causes in this inspiring documentary.

Wanuri Kahiu

See biography above for *From a Whisper*.

In partnership with Africa in Motion and funded by the Commonwealth Foundation



DOCUMENTARIES

ROUGH AUNTIES

Plus Director Q&A

Dir. Kim Longinotto, UK 2009

ICA Cinema 1, Sun March 6, 2.30pm

ICA Cinema 2, Tues March 9, 6.15pm

WINNER: Grand Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival 2009

A celebration of the strength and compassion of the 'Rough Aunties' who care, and fight, for South Africa's abused children, from one of the world's best documentary makers.

Caring for Durban's abused children and fighting for their rights in equally fierce measures, the women behind Bobbi Bear are a force to be reckoned with. Strong, passionate and fearless, they show an unbounded capacity for love and empathy in the face of harrowing work and personal tragedies. *Rough Aunties* handles painfully raw subject matter with honesty and respect – a testament to the unerring wisdom and compassion of the 'Rough Aunties' of Bobbi Bear.

Kim Longinotto's films are the benchmark for heartfelt, but never patronising, social issue documentaries

Screening in partnership with Branchage Film Festival, kicks off a campaign to raise awareness and funds for Bobbi Bear.

MY NEIGHBOR, MY KILLER

Dir. Anne Aghion, US/France 2009

ICA Cinema 1, Thur March 11, 8.30pm

"A much-needed examination of the challenging yet necessary process of justice and reconciliation in the aftermath of genocide", Newsweek.

Truth and Reconciliation, Rwandan style - a hugely insightful exploration of the complicated process of restoration in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide.

One of the rare documentary films to be accepted as Official Selection at Cannes, this in-depth study explores the Gacaca Tribunals in Rwanda, open-air hearings in which Rwandan Hutus charged with the 1994 genocide and having been released from prison, are judged by Tutsi survivors and citizen-judges. Aghion charts the complicated emotional impacts as well as the practical consequences of this groundbreaking legal experiment in reconciliation and justice.

Documentarian Anne Aghion spent almost ten years filming *My Neighbor* in a tiny hamlet in Rwanda.

Screening in partnership with DocHouse.

TO BOOK

For full programme and booking information, visit www.birds-eye-view.co.uk/2010/festival



ICA

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