



PRESS RELEASE EMBARGOED UNTIL MIDNIGHT SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

Buckle your seatbelts for a journey through time and space: Africa in Motion is back

The full 2014 Programme will launch at 10am on Monday 29th September

Tickets for go on sale for all events across 17 days at venues across Glasgow and Edinburgh

Scotland's ninth annual celebration of African cinema will run from 24th October – 9th November 2014

The ninth annual Africa in Motion Film Festival will announce its packed 2014 programme at 10am on Monday 29th September, with tickets to all events going on sale then.

Exploring the theme of 'Looking back, reaching forward', Scotland's major celebration of African cinema showcases classic and contemporary fiction features, diverse short films, insightful documentaries and stunning animations in a range of venues across Glasgow and Edinburgh, including the Glasgow Film Theatre, the Centre for Contemporary Arts, Summerhall and Filmhouse.

The Festival opens in Edinburgh on 24 Oct with the UK premiere of *Soleils (Suns)* a beautiful and philosophical film that takes us on a journey across Africa through time, made by celebrated director Dani Kouyate from Burkina Faso.

A major strand of this year's Festival will be a focus on 20 years of South African democracy, featuring live performances as part of Afrovibes, a UK-wide tour of South African live performance, with accompanying 'Township Cafés' which will act as festival hubs in the Centre for Contemporary Arts (Glasgow) and Summerhall (Edinburgh). Each café will host a lively mix of late-night music, pop-up performances, debates, delicious South African food and free family workshops. The films featured in South Africa at 20 will then embark on a UK-wide tour entitled South Africa at 20: The Freedom Tour from October 2014 – February 2015.

Other strands include a focus on Rwandan cinema (marking 20 years since the Rwandan genocide) which will feature a masterclass from pioneering Rwandan filmmaker Eric Kabera; a retrospective of overlooked African classics including the 1928 silent film *Siliva The Zulu*, performed with a specially composed live soundtrack

from Nigerian musician Juwon Ogunbe, launching the new book *Africa's Lost Classics: New Histories of African Cinema*; and the rare chance to catch African science fiction movies, in conjunction with the BFI's Days Of Fear and Wonder nation-wide sci fi season.

In addition to the main city centre venues, throughout the Festival the AiM Nomad Cinema will wander into new and inspiring venues around Scotland, unpacking cinema magic and enthralling a diverse range of audiences with African cinema. It will journey across communities, holding screenings in a diverse range of places.

Festival Founder and Adviser, Lizelle Bisschoff, says, 'this year we are very excited to bring to Scotland a diverse array of inspiring, innovative and beautiful stories from across the African continent. With multi-genre film screenings, special events, masterclasses, guest filmmakers from across the continent and the AfroVibes live performances, this year's festival has something for everyone!'

Since its inception in 2006, the Festival has introduced nearly 20,000 audience members to the brilliance and diversity of African cinema. To view the full programme and book tickets, visit www.africa-in-motion.org.uk.

Media Contact

For tickets, hi-res images and interviews with the festival curators and / or visiting filmmakers please contact Ruth Marsh on 07824468396 / press@africa-in-motion.org.uk

Notes to Editors

1. Africa in Motion is an audience-based festival, founded in 2006 by African film researcher Lizelle Bisschoff. The main aims of the festival have been, since its inception, to introduce Scottish audiences to the brilliance of African cinema and to overcome the under-representation and marginalisation of African film in British film-going culture. Over the past eight years we have screened close to 350 African films to audiences totalling around 20,000 people!
2. Principal funder: Creative Scotland. Funders and supporters: Awards for All, Voluntary Action Fund, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Stirling; Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh; Scottish Documentary Institute; Global Development Academy, University of Edinburgh; Society for Francophone Postcolonial Studies; Buni TV.