

FILMS, VIDEOS & DVDs FOR

African Studies

The Future Of Mud: A Tale of Houses and Lives in Djenne

A Film by Susan Vogel

Presented by the Musée National du Mali

**NEW
release**

This constructed documentary blends information with narrative to show the cycle of mud building and the lives of masons in Djenne, a UNESCO World Heritage city in Mali.

THE FUTURE OF MUD focuses on the mason Komusa Tenaepo, who hopes that his son will succeed him. The film shows a day in the life of the mason and Amadou, his young helper from a poor family near Timbuktu, as Komusa decides whether to allow his son to leave for schooling in the capital.

The film reveals the interdependence between masons, buildings, and lives lived in them. It examines the tenuous survival of the inherited learning of masons, and the hard work that sustain this style of architecture. It shows life in Djenne's mud buildings: courtyards, a blacksmiths' workshop, a modern white vinyl sitting room, the construction site, and Friday prayers at the great mosque.

In interviews, family members talk about the town of Djenne, its buildings, and their desires for the future, as do a distinguished Koranic master, and a staff

member of the government office charged with preserving the architecture of Djenne.

The film ends with thousands of participants at the annual replastering of Djenne's beloved mosque, an age-old event, which, for the first time, has been specially staged in hopes of attracting tourists.

**2007 RAI International Festival
of Ethnographic Film**

58 minutes | color | 2007

Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-01**



Living Memory

A Film by Susan Vogel

Produced by Susan Vogel, Samuel Sidibé, Eric Engles & the Musée National du Mali



LIVING MEMORY is a film about Mali's ancient culture, and its position in the country's society today. Filmed with a Malian crew, cut to the beat of Malian music, the film offers an alluring mosaic of perspectives.

Home of the ancient empires, this landlocked desert nation is one of the ten poorest countries yet, paradoxically, a rich culture flourishes, and Malian artists are prominent in contemporary Africa.

Samuel Sidibé (Director of the Musée National du Mali), the brilliant Malian cinematographer Racine Keita and Susan Vogel (founder of the Museum for African Art, New York) provide unparalleled access and an insider's vision.

The film is constructed in six sketches, focusing on Ritual Arts, Culture on Display, Style, Architecture, Contemporary Artists and Music. Alternately sensual, ironic, beautiful and humorous, the film exposes tensions in a culture assailed by modernization, Islam and global tourism, yet confident that it will maintain its own distinctive character.

"Engages the full sweep of Mali's contemporary artistic production with an exceptional visual and conceptual clarity... A must see film for... students of African art and culture."

—Mary Jo Arnoldi, Curator, African Art and Culture, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

"Ambitious... Richly textured."

—Holland Cotter, The New York Times

"Eloquently describes the power of tradition in contemporary Malian society... Recommended!"

—Educational Media Reviews Online

🏆 2005 New York African Film Festival

🏆 2004 African Studies Association Film Festival

53 minutes | color | 2003

Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order #AF7-02



Malick Sidibé: Portrait of the Artist as a Portraitist

A Film by Susan Vogel

This short but sweet film looks at the work of the renowned African artist whose photographs have documented social and cultural changes in Mali over a forty-year period. In a rare interview, this self-taught photographer, now seventy years old, discusses his views of photography as a "social art form."

MALICK SIDIBÉ showcases many of his best known photos, especially those documenting Malian youth culture in the Sixties.



"Brilliant!... perfect for teaching African art and photography."—Christraud M. Geary, Curator of African and Oceanic Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

"A timely and highly welcome portrait... highly recommended for all interested in Malian visual culture and the history of photography!"

—Professor Tobias Wendt, University of Bayreuth, Author of *Snap Me One: Studiofotografen in Afrika*



🏆 Golden Lifetime Achievement Award to Malick Sidibé, 2007 Venice Biennale

🏆 2006 African Studies Association Film Festival

8 minutes | color | 2005

Sale/DVD: \$125 | Order #AF7-03

Fang: An Epic Journey

A Film by Susan Vogel

FANG mixes documentary and fiction techniques to recount an African art object's journey through a century of peril and adventure, and uses the film styles of each historical period to tell its story—a whole century of Western attitudes towards African culture packed into 8 minutes.

"Highly Recommended! [A] little gem."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

🏆 2004 African Studies Association Film Festival

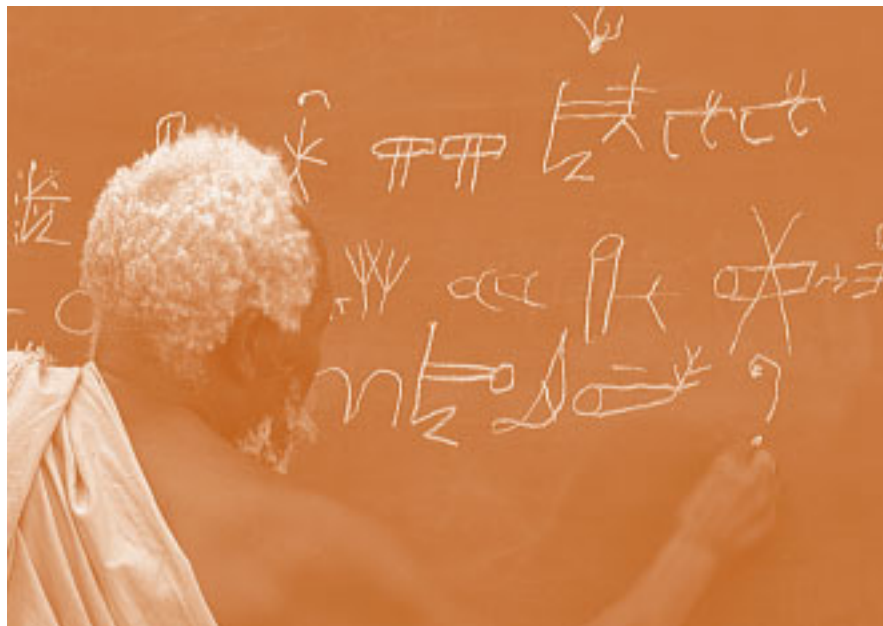


8 minutes | color/b&w | 2001

Sale/DVD: \$125 | Order #AF7-04

Bruly Bouabré's Alphabet

A Film by Nurith Aviv



In the 1950s, Ivory Coast artist Frederic Bruly Bouabré created several hundred pictograms, based on one-syllable words in his language, Bété, to help people in the Bété community learn to read more quickly. Although some 600,000 Bétés live in the Ivory Coast, their language is not taught in schools, and all education is conducted in French.

Bouabré's 400 pictograms, in various combinations, provide a playful yet tangible method of instruction, as demonstrated in BRULY BOUABRÉ'S ALPHABET. As the now elderly Bouabré explains, his aim was to "form a specific African writing from scenes of human life." Today a small number of people continue to use Bruly's alphabet, and museums around the world have exhibited his drawings.

 **2006 Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival**

 **2005 African Studies Association Film Festival**



"Recommended! Excellent."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

"[Bouabré] deciphers the world as a visual text, creating a comprehensive guide to everything and everyone. Over decades Bouabré created a visual manuscript, an art manifesto, of life, death and everything; a metaphysically sympathetic curation of the entire modern world."

—BBC

17 minutes | color | 2004
Sale/DVD: \$150 | **Order #AF7-05**

Photo Souvenir

A Film by Paul Cohen & Martijn van Haalen



Now Release During the euphoria of a newly independent Niger in the 1960s, Philippe Koudjina worked as a photojournalist and later opened his own photo studio. For many years his snapshots of the youth scene in Niamey and his family portraits provided Koudjina with a good living.

Today Koudjina has fallen on hard times. He is no longer able to take photos because he is slowly losing his sight to glaucoma. After being hit by a car, he must use crutches to get around, and he can't afford medical care. His cameras, photographic equipment and a disorganized collection of negatives gather dust in a cupboard, while he begs on the street in order to survive.

PHOTO SOUVENIR features interviews with Koudjina, who recounts his photographic heyday, while reminiscences by friends and acquaintances are complemented by many of Koudjina's distinctive black-and-white photos.

Koudjina's desperate situation is contrasted with the fortunes of other African photographers such as Malick Sidibé and Seydou Keita, whose work



from the same period has brought them renewed attention and financial rewards.

While the film documents the effort by two French photo connoisseurs to organize an exhibition of Koudjina's work in Paris, PHOTO SOUVENIR reveals the fickle cultural process by which one-time "photo souvenirs" become "photographic art."

"PHOTO SOUVENIR has a visual power, it is poetry."—Skrien Filmmagazine

 **Golden Calf for Best Documentary, 2006 Netherlands Film Festival**

54 minutes | color | 2006
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-06**



The Life and Times of Sara Baartman— “The Hottentot Venus”

A Film by Zola Maseko

FRIF CLASSIC This film tells the story of the Khoi Khoi woman who in 1810 was taken from South Africa, and then exhibited as a freak across Britain. The image and idea of “The Hottentot Venus” swept through British popular culture. In 1814 she was taken to France, where

she became the object of scientific and medical research that formed the bedrock of European ideas about black female sexuality.

Using historical drawings, cartoons, legal documents, and interviews with noted cultural historians and anthropologists, *THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SARA BAARTMAN*

deconstructs the social, political, scientific and philosophical assumptions which transformed one young African woman into a representation of savage sexuality and racial inferiority.

“A telling and quite powerful film.”

—American Historical Review

“Excellent...An important film.”

—Anthropology Review Database

Best African Documentary, 1999 FESPACO African Film Festival (Ouagadougou Burkina Faso)

2001 African Literature Association Conference Film Festival

1999, 2000 & 2001 African Studies Association Conference Film Festivals

53 minutes | color | 1999 **CC**
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-07**



End of the Dialogue

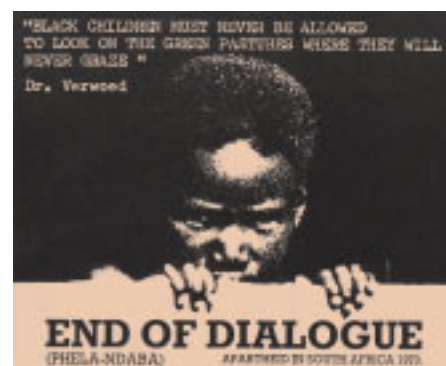
A Film by Antonia Caccia, Chris Curling, Simon Louvish, Nana Mahomo, Vus Make & Rakhetha Tsehlana

END OF THE DIALOGUE is a landmark film that was one of the first to reveal the full horrors of apartheid to the world. Made in 1970, the film is valuable not only as a record of apartheid, but also as a record of how people's understanding of South Africa was then changing. Produced by a group of black South African exiles and film students based in London, it caused an uproar when it was originally released. More than 30 years after the images and facts still shock.

“Powerful and distressing... A remarkable film.”

—Observer (London)

2003 African Studies Association Conference Film Festival



44 minutes | color | 1970
Sale/DVD: \$298 | **Order #AF7-08**

Last Grave at Dimbaza

Directed by Chris Curling & Pascoe Macfarlane

Produced by Nana Mahomo, Antonia Caccia & Andrew Tsehlana

FRIF CLASSIC In 1969, a small group of South African exiles and British film students formed Morena Films in London to produce films about apartheid. In 1974 they produced one of the first, and certainly one of the most influential, films about South Africa's racist regime. *LAST GRAVE AT DIMBAZA*—shot clandestinely and smuggled out of the country—had an enormous impact on global opinion at a critical moment in the anti-apartheid struggle, revealing to audiences worldwide the shocking inequalities between whites and blacks in South Africa. It went on to win major awards at many international film festivals. With a newly restored digital master, *LAST GRAVE AT DIMBAZA* is now available for the first time on DVD.



By combining its clandestinely-photographed scenes of everyday life with relevant statements from National Party leaders such as B.J. Vorster that characterize the government's unabashedly racist policies, *LAST GRAVE AT DIMBAZA* becomes a stunning indictment of the apartheid system, which had controlled South Africa since 1948. The film's concluding scenes, contrasting increasing labor unrest and strikes amongst black workers and the compulsory training in armaments use for all white South Africans, dramatically foreshadows the conflict that developed during the following two decades, and which culminated in the end of apartheid with the nation's first multiracial elections in 1994.

“Provides a window to a world one cannot easily forget... provides the viewer with a clear understanding of the life of the average black person in South Africa.”—Esmeralda Kale, Educational Media Reviews Online

“Continually juxtaposes the two communities of South Africa to ghastly effect, and the cold statistics of its commentary are unbearable.”

—Time Out

2006 African Studies Association Film Festival

Best Film, 1975 FESPACO African Film Festival

55 minutes | color | 1974 **CC**
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-09**

Filmed throughout South Africa, from Capetown to Johannesburg, as well as in the surrounding black townships and the desolate bantustans, *LAST GRAVE AT DIMBAZA* visually portrays the stark contrasts between living and working conditions for the majority populace of 18 million blacks and the 4 million whites who rule over them. In addition to revealing the migratory labor system, which separates black families for most of the year, and a repressive passbook policy to control black workers' movements, the film examines the gross inequities in such areas as housing, education, health care, industry, and agriculture.

The Return of Sara Baartman

A Film by Zola Maseko




Sara Baartman arrived in London in 1810. For the next five years, she was a popular freak show attraction. When she died in Paris in 1816, Baartman was dissected by the French scientist Georges Couvier, who saw her as little more than an ape.

The full story of her life and death is told in *The Life and Times of Sara Baartman* (see p. 8). THE RETURN OF SARA BAARTMAN continues the story, and tackles difficult issues of artifact and human remains repatriation and the rights of indigenous people.

THE RETURN OF SARA BAARTMAN offers some closure on a tragic episode of racism and imperialism. After returning Baartman to South Africa, however, questions and uncertainties remain. For how does an exploited spirit return home, when home, and the accompanying culture, is gone?



*"Recommended!
Fascinating!
Striking imagery,
camerawork,
and music."*
—Educational
Media Reviews
Online

-  **2004 African Studies Association Film Festival**
-  **2004 African Literature Association Film Festival**
-  **2004 Pan African Film Festival (Los Angeles)**

55 minutes | color | 2003 
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-10**



Everything Must Come to Light

A Film by Mpumi Njinge & Paulo Alberton

EVERYTHING MUST COME TO LIGHT tells the unusual stories of three dynamic lesbian sangomas (traditional healers) in Soweto, South Africa.

The relationship between the Sangomas and their ancestors, the roles the ancestors play in Sangoma healing powers, and the role they play in shaping Sangoma sexuality are focal points in this documentary.

"A fascinating documentary."
—Feminist Collections Quarterly

-  **2002 African Studies Association Film Festival**

25 minutes | color | 2002
Sale/DVD: \$225 | **Order #AF7-11**



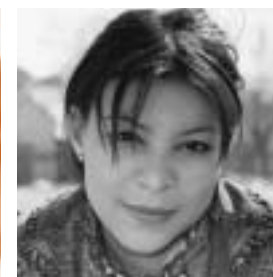
21 Up South Africa: Mandela's Children

Directed by Angus Gibson

An ITV Production

NEW release Featuring scenes shot in 1992, 1999 and 2006, this documentary follows the lives of South African children—rich and poor, black, white and "mixed race"—from all over the country, from the townships to the bushveldt. In the process 21 UP SOUTH AFRICA offers unique insights into the social and political changes occurring throughout the country since the fall of Apartheid.

First filmed as 7-year-olds in 1992, these 11 individuals are ordinary South Africans growing up at a time of enormous social change. We see them now at the age of 21 making their way in the new South Africa and, as we roll back time in this unique chronicle of their lives, we also see them aged 14 and 7. We see where they started—in township slums, old-school mansions and white suburbs—their world divided along racial lines, as the policy of Apartheid begins to crumble.



"An engaging, real-life view of historic social change. Having survived political conflict and violent crime, these youngsters' most deadly battle has been with AIDS."—DigiGuide

"Angus Gibson has never been content to simply follow the conventions of film and television industries around him. Through his works he has explored, questioned, and challenged cultural and racial taboos of South Africa in order to carve out space for television and films that reflect the peoples of his native country."—MIT Office of the Arts

69 minutes | color | 2007
Sale/DVD: \$398 | **Order #AF7-12**

Mobutu, King of Zaire

A Three-Part Film by Thierry Michel



This is the definitive visual record of the rise and fall of Joseph Désiré Mobutu, ruler of Zaire (the Congo) for over 30 years. Drawing upon 140 hours of rare archival material and 50 hours of interviews, **MOBUTU, KING OF ZAIRE** tells the story of the man at the heart of Central Africa's post-colonial history.

Part One – Quest For Power

Covering the years from Mobutu's birth until 1969, Part One documents his journey from cook's son to President of the Congo. In an interview former CIA Station Chief Larry Devlin confirms that Mobutu was seen as a replacement for Patrice Lumumba. Archival footage shows Mobutu's coup in 1965, Lumumba in captivity with Mobutu looking on, and the ensuing four-year civil war.

Part Two – An African Tragedy

Part Two documents his rule from 1969 to 1988. By 1970 Mobutu was the undisputed ruler of Zaire, controlling its riches, property and people. Resistance was brutally repressed, and economic crises were constant, as described here by Mobutu's advisors.

Part Three – The End of a Reign

As the Cold War ended, Mobutu felt increasing pressure to open the political process to opposition. Part Three documents the emergence of an opposition movement led by Etienne Tshisekedi, the National Conference (1990 to 1992), and the 1996 rebellion led by Laurent Désiré Kabila.

In May 1997, Kabila, Mobutu and South Africa's President Nelson Mandela met in Kinshasha. Within weeks Kabila took the city, Mobutu fled, and he died in exile in September of that year. The film uses the best contemporary documentary material of all of these events.

In **MOBUTU, KING OF ZAIRE** Thierry Michel has crafted an essential history and documentary resource.



"A stunning documentary."

—American Historical Review

"Remarkable!... fantastic footage and revealing interviews... Excellent!"—David Moore, University of Natal, Durban, for H-SAfrica

"Great cinematic drama. A rarity."

—Mail and Guardian

 **2001 African Literature Association Film Festival**

 **2000 African Studies Association Film Festival**

162 minutes | color | 2000

Sale/DVD: \$490 | **Order #AF7-13**

On the Rumba River

A Film by Jacques Sarasin



In the Democratic Republic of the Congo today, nearly sixty years after his first hit record, Wendo Kolosoy, affectionately known as "Papa Wendo," remains a well-known and beloved musician. Renowned for his development of Congolese rumba—a popular musical style that blends rumba, beguine, waltz, tango, and cha cha cha—Wendo is still active, now in his 80s, continuing to perform and to record albums.

ON THE RUMBA RIVER introduces us to this legendary musician, along with veteran members of his band. The film also treats us to musical performances by the group, in rehearsals, impromptu jam sessions, and lively public performances.

The film's exploration of the history and continuing popularity of Congolese rumba is set against a backdrop of political turmoil that has afflicted this African nation for decades, from the repressive regime (1965-1997) of Mobutu Sese Seko, an ongoing civil war, and a fragile contemporary peace.

"Fascinating... will prove a big draw with World and African music crowds as well as documentary lovers and those interested in current African affairs... Key to the film's power is its total involvement in Wendo's musicmaking."

—Robert Koehler, *Variety*

"The film captures the daily life of the founder of the Congolese rumba in the company of thirty musical artists... The emotion is pure. The sadness also... One cannot speak of modern music without evoking the name of Wendo Kolosoy."

—Le Potentiel

86 minutes | color | 2005

Sale/DVD: \$398 | **Order #AF7-14**



Gacaca Living Together Again In Rwanda?

A Film by Anne Aghion



In 1994, decades of politically motivated ethnic scapegoating culminated in a wholesale slaughter of the Rwanda's Tutsi minority. Vast numbers of ordinary citizens became killers, some willingly and some by force. More than 800,000 lives were taken, and the country was left in a state of devastation.

Venturing into the rural heart of the nation, GACACA, LIVING TOGETHER AGAIN IN RWANDA? follows the first steps in a bold experiment in reconciliation: the Gacaca (Ga-CHA-cha) Tribunals, which represent a remarkable democratization of justice for a people accustomed to dictatorial authority.

The Tribunals offer a voice, and perhaps a therapeutic catharsis, to survivors. The film crew was

present when the nearly 1,000 Rwandans were gathered for the first of a series of open-air "Pre-Gacaca" hearings, whose two-fold purpose is to clear the prisons of innocent detainees by public approbation, and to educate Rwandans about the Gacaca trials to come.

Amidst a people renowned for their reserve, Anne Aghion spent six weeks recording the intertwining stories of survivors and prisoners, and their visions of the future. GACACA opens a chapter to a new era, and is an astonishing, intimate look at the strength of the human spirit.

"Recommended. This is a fine film which will fuel many lively discussions not only on the issue of justice in Rwanda, but justice in the face of heinous crimes against humanity."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

🏆 2005 Association of Genocide Scholars Conference

🏆 2003 African Studies Association Film Festival

55 minutes | color | 2002
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order #AF7-15



In Rwanda We Say... The family that does not speak dies

A Film by Anne Aghion



Aghion's influential 2002 film *Gacaca, Living Together Again in Rwanda?* (see p. 12) captured the testimonies of both survivors and killers in the remote community of Ntongwe. IN RWANDA WE SAY... returns two years later, as close to 16,000 of these suspects, still untried, are released across the country. Having confessed to their crimes, and having served the maximum sentence the Gacaca tribunals would eventually impose, perpetrators of appalling crimes are sent home to plow fields and fetch water alongside the people they victimized.

IN RWANDA WE SAY... focused on the release of one suspect, tracking the effect of his return on a tiny hillside hamlet. What unfolds is astonishing. Little by little, people begin to talk in a profound,

articulate way—first to the camera, and then to each other—as these neighbors negotiate the emotional task of accepting life side by side.

"With extraordinary sensitivity, Aghion takes us into the heart of the problem of reconciliation in a post-genocidal society—not with wordy abstractions but with the earthy, real expressions of the people, victims and accused criminals, who must try to live together. Those seeking to know whether reconciliation is possible in Rwanda must look for their answer in this compelling expression of Rwandan voices."

—Alison des Forges, Senior Advisor to Human Rights Watch, Africa

"Recommended!"

—Educational Media Reviews Online

🏆 2005 Association of Genocide Scholars Conference

🏆 2004 African Studies Association Film Festival

🏆 2004 African Literature Association Film Festival

54 minutes | color | 2004
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order #AF7-16



Donka: X-Ray of an African Hospital

A Film by Thierry Michel

Built in 1959 just before independence, the Donka Hospital in Conakry, Guinea, was designed on a European model, with little consideration for African realities. The most important hospital in the country, its plight typifies the crisis affecting the entire African health sector.

Over the years the hospital has accumulated substantial debt that neither the Guinean state nor international agencies will pay. Compelled to develop its financial autonomy, the hospital enforces a pay-as-you-go policy. This financial strategy is rigorously applied, but at a high human cost.

In this hospital of last resort, families strive to save a child or parent, but without money, there are no drugs and little chance for survival. Revenues rise, but access to treatment diminishes.

As we follow the floor-to-floor progress of patients, their families, doctors and nurses, portraits alternate to form a living chronicle where tragedy meets hope.

"Illuminates the dedication of the few who struggle against the darkness."

—San Francisco International Film Festival



**Golden Spire Award Winner,
1997 San Francisco Film Festival**

59 minutes | color | 1997

Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-17**

6000 a Day— An Account of a Catastrophe Foretold

A Film by Philip Brooks

Filmed largely in Uganda and South Africa, where the AIDS crisis has been most devastating, this film reveals how the world's top decision makers knowingly failed to prevent the spread of AIDS. 6000 A DAY examines the failure of key individuals, prominent NGOs, and governments to act as they allowed a catastrophe to fester.

"A fascinating study."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

**2002 African Studies Association
Film Festival**



55 minutes | color | 2002

Sale/DVD: \$248 | **Order #AF7-18**

Everything's Fine

A Film by Daisy Lamothe



**NEW
release**

Seydou Konaté is a doctor in Nongon, a small village in Southern Mali, without electricity or telephones, isolated by two rivers with no bridges, and a 10-hour drive on a dirt road from the capital of Bamako. Working out of the Community Health Care Center, with limited staff and technical facilities, he is the only doctor for more than 40,000 inhabitants.

EVERYTHING'S FINE portrays Konaté's everyday routine, meeting with patients in his office, treating a variety of injuries and ailments in the clinic, lecturing people on the use of condoms to prevent AIDS, warning against the dangers of using water from contaminated wells, insisting on regular vaccinations for young children, dealing with complications of pregnancy, and even comparing professional notes with a traditional healer who comes in for a diagnosis.

Through its engaging portrait of this self-styled "bush doctor," who must try to prevent epidemics of cholera and AIDS as well as deal with the all-too-common but no less life-threatening problems of dehydration and diarrhea, EVERYTHING'S FINE offers revealing insights into the challenges of health care in Africa today.

"Brings out the plight of current health care standards in rural Africa, intertwined as they are in every country, with political and economic realities...recommended for academic library collections supporting health sciences programs, particularly public health, African studies programs, and sociology programs."

—Lori Widzinski, Health Sciences Library,
University of Buffalo, for Educational Media
Reviews Online

**Heritage Award, 2006
Cinema du Réel**

78 minutes | color | 2006

Sale/DVD: \$398 | **Order #AF7-20**

Our Friends at the Bank

A Film by Peter Chappell



The economic development of many countries depends on the World Bank. Often criticized and blamed for politically unpopular policies, and confronted with numerous setbacks, the Bank is experiencing a difficult time with regard to which strategies to adopt, particularly in Africa.

Uganda, a country that emerged from the dictatorship of Idi Amin and years of civil war with relatively high rates of economic growth, is one of its "model cases." OUR FRIENDS AT THE BANK looks at the relationship between the Government of Uganda and the World Bank over a period of 18 months, filming events at the highest levels of both.

Traveling between Washington, DC and Uganda, Peter Chappell followed the negotiations between the World Bank and Uganda in order to understand and describe the mechanisms that shape the reality of North-South relations, economic and political policy, as well as the future of millions of people.

"Full of insights and shrewd observations... essential viewing for anyone interested in aid and development."—Michael Holman, Africa Editor, Financial Times

Library Prize, 1998
 Cinéma du Réel (Paris)

85 minutes | color | 1998
Sale/DVD: \$248 | **Order #AF7-21**



Diamonds and Rust

A Film by Adi Barash and Ruth Shatz

Off the coast of Namibia, the crew of a diamond-mining trawler works tirelessly around the clock in an atmosphere fraught with racial and political tension.

"Fascinating and powerful."—DOX Magazine

2001 Golden Gate Award,
 San Francisco International Film Festival

73 minutes | color | 2001
Sale/DVD: was \$440 now \$348 | **Order #AF7-22**



The Price of Aid

A Film by Jihan El Tahri



Every day the U.S. donates millions of tons of food to famine victims and other starving people in the world's poorest countries. This provocative documentary, through an in-depth case study of a recent famine crisis in Zambia, shows how these aid programs solve an immediate crisis but at the same time create worse long-term problems for the recipient nation.

THE PRICE OF AID reveals the vast bureaucratic network of American aid agencies involved in the "hunger business." U.S. aid policies are explained in interviews with representatives from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Coalition for Food Aid, CARE, the World Bank, the Farm and Foreign Agriculture Service, the Food for Peace Program, and U.S. government officials.

Zambian government officials, including former and present Ministers of Agriculture, as well as Zambian farmers, explain how foreign food donations perpetuate a state of dependency among African and other Third World countries, undercutting local agriculture and development projects.

The film discusses this complex issue in a global context, including the role of the international media in identifying famine crises, how America's export of genetically modified foods creates



problems for African agriculture and public health, and how foreign aid is involved in the trade war between the U.S. and European countries.

"Highly Recommended!... an essential addition to collections of African and postcolonial studies."
—Educational Media Reviews Online

"A Winner! Informative, well-balanced, and credible."—Catholic Library World

2005 African Studies Association Film Festival

2004 International Film Festival on Human Rights (Geneva)

56 Minutes | color | 2004
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-23**

J'y Crois—I Believe in It

A Film by Emile Adriaan van Rouveroy van Nieuwaal & Maarten van Rouveroy van Nieuwaal



A beautifully composed political documentary investigating the decentralization process in Mali, J'Y CROIS is the new film from noted African Studies scholar Adriaan van Rouveroy van Nieuwaal (Leiden University). From the desert sands of the north, in the ancient city of Ségou, on the banks of the Niger River, and to the agricultural fields in the south, J'Y CROIS

looks at the decentralization reforms from the perspectives of all Malians.

"An engaging and educational documentary."
—International Journal of African Historical Studies

🏆 2004 American Anthropological Association Film Festival

🏆 2004 African Studies Association Film Festival

55 minutes | color | 2004

Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-24**



Red Hat—Where Are You Going?

A Film by Emile Adriaan van Rouveroy van Nieuwaal & Maarten van Rouveroy van Nieuwaal

RED HAT, WHERE ARE YOU GOING? is an analysis of the contemporary socio-political position of traditional chiefs in the West African nation of Burkina Faso. Combining archival footage with interviews of chiefs and their critics, the film looks at how the chiefs have navigated political change, and at how they interact with both the government and people today.

"Provides food for thought for African scholars and proponents of African rebirth."

—West Africa Review

🏆 2002 African Literature Association Conference Film Festival

🏆 2001 African Studies Association Conference Film Festival

47 minutes | color | 2001

Sale/DVD: \$375 | **Order #AF7-25**



Justice at Agadez

A Film by Christian Lelong



In Niger, the official justice system of this former French colony is based on the Napoleonic Code. A small percentage of the population still subscribe to superstitious beliefs and seek the advice of traditional healers. But in this largely Muslim nation, many citizens seek justice from the local Islamic judge, or "Cadi," who interprets Koranic Law.



Filmed in the village of Agadez in northern Niger, JUSTICE AT AGADEZ chronicles seven typical cases heard by the local Cadi. The film unobtrusively witnesses these seven "stories"—small civil disputes, domestic conflicts, marriage problems, accusations of theft. With the small vestibule of his home serving as a "courtroom," the Cadi listens to the complaints and often heated arguments of all parties to the dispute, listening patiently, frequently posing questions and seeking clarification, before rendering his judgment.

JUSTICE AT AGADEZ not only demonstrates the power of Islamic religious beliefs in enforcing both moral and civil behavior but also provides viewers a rare opportunity to see how Islamic law, unlike the manner in which it has often been sensationalized in the Western media, actually functions on an everyday basis.



"A passionate film!"—AfriCultures

"Recommended!... a unique opportunity to observe the practical implications of these religious practices in individuals' daily lives."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

🏆 2006 African Studies Association Film Festival

🏆 2006 One World International Film Festival

🏆 2005 FESPACO African Film Festival

🏆 2005 Kampala International Film Festival

78 minutes | color | 2005

Sale/DVD: \$398 | **Order #AF7-26**

Kuxa Kanema—The Birth Of Cinema

A Film by Margarida Cardoso

Creation of the National Institute of Cinema (INC) was the first cultural act of the Mozambique Government after independence in 1975.

Reflecting the country's commitment to independence and socialism, the history of the INC and its films cannot be disassociated from the movement embodied by the new president Samora Machel and the Mozambique Liberation Front.

Footage from the films show Mozambique's trajectory from great hope to great disillusionment. Weaving these images together with interviews with INC filmmakers, KUXA KANEMA constructs a history of the birth and death of local cinema, and the birth and death of an ideology.



"Highly Recommended!"
—Educational Media Reviews Online

 **2005 New York African Film Festival**

 **2004 African Studies Association Film Festival**

52 minutes | color/b&w | 2003
Sale/DVD: was \$390 ~~now~~ \$348 | **Order #AF7-27**

Matamata and Pilipili

A Film by Tristan Bourland

In the 1950s Albert Van Haelst, a Belgian missionary and film fanatic, made some twenty films in the Congo: the Matamata and Pilipili series. These comic heroes, an African answer to Laurel and Hardy, delighted Congolese movie-

goers.

More than fifty years later, MATAMATA AND PILIPILI reveals these forgotten gems. Through them, and through the story of their creation, and their reception by Congolese audiences, MATAMATA AND PILIPILI reclaims an important episode in Congolese cultural history.

"A significant documentary."—Professor Sheila Petty, University of Regina, for H-AfriLitCine

 **1997 African Studies Association Film Festival**

 **1997 Margaret Mead Film Festival, New York**

58 minutes | color | 1997
Sale/DVD: was \$390 ~~now~~ \$348 | **Order #AF7-28**



Lagos / Koolhaas

Written and Directed by Bregtje van der Haak



Lagos' population is expected to reach 24 million people by 2020, which would make it the third largest city in the world. Every hour, 21 new inhabitants set out to start a life in the city, a life that is highly unpredictable and requires risk taking, networking and improvisation as essential strategies for survival.

Rem Koolhaas is a Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Harvard. For the past eleven years Koolhaas and students from The Harvard Project on the City have come to Lagos, Nigeria regularly to research the type of urban environment that is produced by explosive population growth.

LAGOS / KOOLHAAS follows Koolhaas during his research in Lagos over a period of two years as he wanders through the city, talking with people and recognizing the problems with water, electricity and traffic. But instead of judging the city to be doomed, he is able to interpret this "culture of congestion" positively, helping to develop a new concept of the big city.

"A fascinating and provocative insight into the very extremes of globalizing modernity and urbanization...makes for engaging and stimulating viewing."—Visual Anthropology Review

"Excellent... Highly Recommended!"
—Educational Media Reviews Online

 **2004 African Studies Association Film Festival**

55 minutes | color | 2003
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-29**



Two Selections from the Global Film Initiative

This annual series of feature films from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East help promote cross-cultural understanding through the medium of cinema.

Khorma

A Film by Jilani Saadi

KHORMA tells the story of a young orphan living in a small Tunisian town. He is under the protection of Bou Khaleb, who trains him to become a professional announcer of marriages, births, and deaths. When the apprentice is later selected to replace his ailing mentor, Khorma takes his new post seriously, but soon alienates everyone by his unorthodox methods.



"A charming yet merciless farce."—Al Jadid:
A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts

"Immerses us in the often-hilarious power struggles amongst the practitioners of the 'religion business.'"—Levantine Cultural Center

90 minutes | color | 2002
Sale/VHS: \$248 | **Order #AF7-29**

Kabala

A Film by Assane Kouyaté



"Succeeds perfectly in depicting the struggle between two generations [over] the conflict between tradition and modernity in Africa today... With a great deal of finesse, Assane Kouyate shows us the divisions surrounding this inexorable transformation of African society."—Isabelle Audin, Clap Noir

🏆 **2002 Cannes International Film Festival**

🏆 **Jury Prize, 2003 Ouagadougou International Film Festival**

107 minutes | color | 2002
Sale/VHS: \$248 | **Order #AF7-30**



Hamalla, who was banished from his village in Mali because of ancient prejudices, returns four years later, now versed in modern technology at a time when the village's holy ancestral well, symbol of the community's spirituality, has become contaminated. KABALA's poetic vision cleverly bridges its themes of the necessity of accepting technology, while at the same time leaving no doubt of the power of traditional ways.

More Films & DVDs on Africa

Story of a Beautiful Country

A Film by Khalo Matabane
A National Film Board of Canada Production



Follows the journey of a young black filmmaker traveling countrywide in a minivan in search of the "new" South Africa. His quest becomes a forum for ordinary people to talk about

controversial issues such as land, race, language, globalization, democracy, identity, and violence.

"Recommended!... Engaging."

—Educational Media Reviews Online

73 minutes | color | 2004 **CC**
Sale/DVD: \$440 | **Order #AF7-33**

White City, Black Lives

A Film by Teboho Mahlatsi

Five residents of White City, a neighborhood in Soweto, using small Hi8 cameras, tell the story of their own lives, in their own way, to represent themselves to their fellow citizens, and the world.

"An interesting, unusual and highly evocative account."—MC Journal: the Journal of Academic Media Librarianship

56 minutes | color | 1997
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-35**

Women of the Sahel

A Film by Paolo Quaregna & Mahamane Souleymane

Examines the work done in the hidden "informal sector" of Niger's economy by women, whose work helps their families survive while the men are away in search of seasonal work.

"A welcome addition."—African Studies Quarterly

52 minutes | color | 1996
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order #AF7-36**



Searching for Hawa's Secret

A Film by Larry Krotz
A National Film Board of Canada Production

Tells the story of the unlikely partnership between a Canadian microbiologist and a Kenyan prostitute in the scientific quest to find a vaccine for AIDS.

"Excellent... highly recommended."
—Educational Media Reviews Online

47 minutes | color | 2000 **CC**
Sale/DVD: \$248 | **Order #AF7-37**



Ordering Information

Please refer to Order Numbers on all Orders.

Sales: DVDs are "leased for the life of the DVD."

Shipping: An additional fee for shipping and handling is added to all sales.

Ordering: Submit all orders by purchase order, on official institutional letterhead stationery, or pay in advance of shipping. Please refer to Order Numbers on all orders.

**FIRST
RUN
ICARUS
FILMS**

First Run / Icarus Films
32 Court Street, 21st Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Phone: (718) 488 8900
Fax: (718) 488 8642
Toll Free: (800) 876 1710
mailroom@frif.com
www.frif.com

**FIRST
RUN**  **ICARUS
FILMS**

First Run / Icarus Films
32 Court Street, 21st Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

1-800-876-1710
www.frif.com

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
RIPON
PRINTERS

34 DVDs for

African Studies

Including 5 New Releases!