

THE 17TH EDITION OF ZIFF PROMISES EXCITING & DIVERSE LINEUP

The Zanzibar International Film Festival 2014 will present an exciting range of special programmes, workshops, world premieres, director forums, discussions and awards. With its biggest and most impressive line-up to date, ZIFF 2014 promises more than ever for fans of film, music and culture.

World and African Premieres

79 films will be screened in the 10-day festival foregrounding films from Africa and the Dhow countries and spiced up by award winning film from international film festivals. The films come from 35 countries with 38 short films, 23 feature length films and 18 documentaries.

Included in this line up, the Oscar nominated film *Mandela: A Long Walk to Freedom* will be the opening film of the festival.

There will also be two World Premieres taking place during ZIFF with Sean Hodgkinson (Trinidad & Tobago) hosting the World Premiere of his film *A Story About Wendy 2*. This film is the follow up to the first short comedy that gained international acclaim.

The 2nd premiere reflects the undying links of culture that ZIFF has with the East African Community, with Malawi's *Bela* continuing in the path forged some years ago with Malawi's first major feature film *Seasons of Life*.

ZIFF Welcomes Top Filmmakers

ZIFF will welcome over two dozen filmmakers from around the world who will present their works as well as host workshops. A special Script Writing Workshop to be facilitated by UK's top filmmakers Special Guest Director Nick Broomfield (Big and Tupac) will also take place.

Visiting directors will also include Biyi Bandele the Director of the acclaimed *Half a Yellow Sun* which premiered in 2013 at the Toronto Film Festival and was included in the Official Selection for festivals including Dubai, London and Gothenburg.

Also attending ZIFF this year and joining Biyi in running Script Writing Workshops will be Don Edkins from South Africa. Edkins is a well-known documentary filmmaker and producer. The 15 workshop trainees will come from the 5 countries of the East African community.

ZIFF is also proud to welcome Sadegh Daghighi from Iran. His 2013 film, *Little Hero* about the Iran / Iraq war is the latest in over 300 documentary and short films he has produced.

Other filmmakers attending the festival include:

Biyi Bandele (Nigeria) – Half a Yellow Sun
Richard Pakleppa (South Africa) – Taste of Rain / Body Games
Don Edkins (South Africa)
Marc Hoerferlin (UK)
Nick Broomfield (UK)
Hilda Ngania (Tanzania) – He Hurts me
Gilbert Ndahayo (Rwanda) The Rwandan Night
Eva Knopf (Germany) Majib's Reise
Max Reid (Tanzania – The Kiss
Justin Bitagoye (Burundi) – Rwegasore
Morten Vest (Germany) – Welcome to Loliondo
Owen Beck (Cambodia) - Bngvel
Mathias Luthardt (Germany) White Shadow
Sadegh Daghighi (Iran) Little Hero
Yahya Bozi Klbambe (Tanzania) – Little Town Bagamoyo
Michael Adeyemi (UK) Sodiq
Aylin Basaran (USA) Being There
Sean Hodgkinson (Trinidad & Tobago) – A Story About Wendy 2
Ntare Mwine (USA/ Uganda) Kuhani
David Cecil (Uganda) – Byebye Muzungu
Liliane Mutuyimane (Rwanda) Strength in Fear
Cedric Ido (Burkina Faso) Twaaga
Anaeli Kihunrwa (Tanzania) Dukuduku
David Charles Smith (USA) One Step Beyond

Sembene Ousmane Award

The *Ousmane Sembène Films for Development Award* film prize is to be awarded for the fifth time at the ZIFF to a film focused on development policy issues. The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH is the main sponsor of the prize along with ZIFF. It carries prize money worth US \$5,000 designed to help the winner in his or her future filmmaking career.

Bongo Movie Screenings & Award

This year, ZIFF will also screen a series of Swahili language films at our new venue, the Double Tree Hilton. Daily screenings from the 15th – 22nd will see 8 nominated films compete for the 6 ZUKU Bongo movies awards for technical excellence in the industry. ZUKU awards include Best Male and Female Actors, Director, Cinematographer, Music and Producer.

Workshops & Forums

With its continuing commitment to developing filmmakers and encouraging dialogue, this year ZIFF offers a range of workshops and forums.

MAISHA Screenwriting Lab: June 7th to 16th

MAISHA is Film Lab was founded in 2004 as a way to train and empower East African filmmakers. Since then over 400 participants have produced over 30 short films. For the ZIFF MAISHA Lab, 15 participants were selected from a pool of applicants based on their short screenplay ideas. The screenwriting lab participants will have networking

opportunities with their fellow filmmakers and their community, as well as with their mentors. This is the first time the Maisha lab will be run in Kiswahili language.

The Zuku Scriptwriting Workshop June 19 – 21st

In April 2014 ZUKU announce its desire to commission feature length Swahili films for broadcast on Zuku Swahili Movies, the only TV channel dedicated to showcasing the best of Swahili films 24/7. Zuku Swahili Movies is a premium movie channel tailor made for all audiences within the East African region.

The 5 selected scripts will undergo development with renowned film directors and script writers including

- Mitchell Peck (Hollywood Producer of 3 studio movies)
- Nick Broomfield(Big and Tupac)
- Martin Mhando (Maangamizi)

Storytelling And Film Script Writing: June 18 – 21st

Filmmakers from East Africa (3 from each country- Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania) will attend this workshop. The workshop is funded by the East African community in collaboration with the GIZ.

Critical Journalism Workshop June 15th – 18th

Collaboration Of Tanzania Media Fund (TMF) And Ziff

This workshop aims at bringing together practicing media journalists around issues of common interest in advancing critical and investigative journalism. This time around we invite 10 journalists to ZIFF and provide them with a critical and cultural context for them to practise a range of multimedia journalism within the creative media industries available during ZIFF.

NASS Research Centre Cultural Diplomacy Research Conference: Creative Practice, Context and Commentary: a Dialogue on Inspirational Production.

In the unity of commentary and creative practices we see the seeds of inspirational production, where philosophizing is not seen as a separate activity from production itself. In these circumstances the completed film (or a creative) work can potentially provide and inspiration for another creative work without the verbal or written commentary.

The Madiba Legacy: The Struggle Continues on Thursday 19th June, from 7.30-8.30pm.

This workshop will look at the struggles still facing South Africa today, as Danny Schechter, filmmaker and media critic, argues “what we do know, though, is that the ANC, when it came to power, was more preoccupied with political change than with economic change. And I think the problems that we’re facing in South Africa today and in many other countries are because movements for change don’t focus on economics. They mostly focus on politics.” The forum will be chaired by Shirley Gunn Executive director of the Human Rights Media Centre South Africa.

Women's Panorama

Over the years, ZIFF has used the platform of the Women's Panorama to highlight and address pertinent gender, - health and social issues. The Panorama therefore becomes a medium of Women's Power and Visibility. The Women's Panorama commonly comprises of a series of workshops, seminars and symposia organized and centred on the visibility of women in and through the medium of cinema, the arts and the media.

Village Panorama Press Conference on 16th at 17h00

The Village Panorama is a chance for all Zanzibaris to participate in the ZIFF. A panorama of films is taken out to the villages of Zanzibar combining an assortment of educational and entertainment films. A mobile video unit van tours the villages creating an evening in each where the whole community is able to watch a program of films. The panorama visits 5 villages, which are well distributed over the island and will screen the *Why Poverty* films which have been dubbed into Kiswahili.

Public Events / Exhibitions

Difficult Dialogue Forum: Land & The Environment June 18th 19L20, The Old Fort Ampitheatre

This forum is open to the public and presents a chance for experts and the lay-person to engage in critical discussions about topical issues. This year's issue looks at land and the environment.

Sisygambis – Old Customs House

An exhibition from France, the Tryptic by Les 7 Portes/Sisygambis will be on offer for 7 days of the festival while popular art and fashion exhibition *Afrika Tumefika* from Uganda will also be featured

Music & Performance

Music-wise the festival will feature 13 performing groups with Didier Award, the Senegalese maestro performing on the opening night on 14th June.

The closing night will see the Habib Koite and his band perform in the Mambo Club

Groups from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and South Africa are scheduled to entice audiences over the 9 nights of the festival

New Sponsors

With the 10-year event sponsorship of ZUKU, ZIFF has seen more sponsors come aboard acknowledging the role that the arts play in each community. Last year we welcomed Tanzania Media Fund, ComNet, Cello, and United Petroleum.

This year we welcome the Fastjet, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Double Tree Hilton Hotel, The ARTerial Network and Steps International. Steps International is a non-profit organisation based in Denmark with offices in South Africa and Denmark. Steps will be providing films in the international acclaimed *Why Poverty?* series for circulation in villages in Zanzibar and Pemba. The ARTerial Network will organize a forum aimed at mapping and monitoring the state of freedom of expression for artists in Africa. It will involve a weeklong training programme for 20 coordinators selected from around the continent.

Online Ticket Purchases

To ensure that visitors are able to get their tickets in time and conveniently ZIFF has entered into an agreement with 3G Directpay, which will provide with the online payment service for the nine-day bounty of special programming and festivities. Passes will be available for purchase at www.ziff.or.tz

About ZIFF

The Zanzibar International Film Festival is the longest running film-festival in East Africa, with global credibility and instant Pan-African recognition.

The ZIFF Festival of the Dhow Countries is organized by ZIFF, a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 1998 in Zanzibar to promote and showcase the culture of the Dhow Countries. Every cent raised from sponsors and donors ensures the widest possible accessibility of high- quality international screenings and cultural events to all sections of the Tanzanian population.

The ZIFF Festival of the Dhow Countries is a catalyst for the promotion and development of the region’s cultural industries. It encourages and supports the development of artistic skills and the infrastructure necessary for a vibrant and innovative arts environment.

The festival programme gives particular prominence to the visibility and interests of women and children, including the youth.

The main panorama features international film and video screenings, and international retrospectives along with music and performances, main stage events, exhibitions, workshops and seminars.

Emphasis has been given to The East African Film Makers forum and this will continue in Festival 2014, as will dialogues with various filmmakers from across the region.

About ZUKU

Zuku is a homegrown East African brand under Wananchi Group. It was established with the aim of making quality home entertainment and communication services accessible to a rapidly growing, choice conscious East African middle class. Zuku TV has over 70 channels on the Zuku Satellite platform and more than 120 channels on the top-end Fiber platform.

Zuku is proud of its nine exclusive Zuku channels, which were developed in East Africa, especially for East African audiences. Zuku Movies (4 channels), Sports, Afrika, Life, Swahili Movies and Kids offer a unique combination of international and regional programming of all genres.

For more information: www.ziff.or.tz, www.facebook.com/zanzibarinternationalfilmfestival, @ZIFF_2014 #ZIFF2014

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