



Cinema Africa Special Screening held in the middle of June

-Only one occasion to watch genuine African films by African filmmakers

Committee of Cinema Africa (Miho Yoshida, Director) is holding *Cinema Africa Special Screening* in Yokohama City on 12th & 13th June and 19th & 20th June, sponsored by Yokohama City and specially cooperated by the Embassy of Republic of South Africa to Japan.

These screening will be held in two venues in different dates. The *part 1* is to be held in *Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse's* event space (Naka-ku, Yokohama City), as a part of *African Festa 2010* (hosted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan). The *part 2* is to be held in *Yokohama Landmark Hall* (Nishi-ku, Yokohama City).

There are six films altogether, among which two films are screened as Japanese premiere. **PUMZI** (South Africa/Kenya, directed by Wanuri Kahiu) is Kenya's first Science Fiction short film, and the story took place in "Post World War III in Eastern Africa". It has just won **BEST SHORT FILM AWARD** in *Cannes Independent Film Festival* on 23rd May. Feature film, **AFRICA PARADIS** (Benin, directed by Silvestre Amousou) is a topical social comedy which ironically portrays a role reversal of the current world we are in, a prosperous superpower "United States of *Africa*" is a dream continent, Africa where white immigrants pour in from degenerated Europe. **IZULU LAMI/My Secret sky** is a film with full of hope in which a small brother and sister, who lost their mother, try to find their own way by striving in a big city. It received a good press in Nara International Film Festival. ※ Please refer to the attached film information pages for details.

On this special occasion that African continent receives world's attention with its first World Cup, we, Cinema Africa, sincerely hope that latest true voices of Africa can be heard as much as possible in Japan.

■■ SCHEDULE ■■

Part 1 12th & 13th June in African Festa 2010

Venue Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse/Lecture Corner

12th, Sat 13:00~14:30 Short films [PUMZI/MENGED/WE ARE ALL RWANDANS/ALPHONE]

13th, Sun 13:00~14:30 AFRICA PARADIS

Part 2 19th(Sat) & 20th(Sun)

Venue Yokohama Landmark Hall (5th floor of Landmark Plaza)

3 min from Minato-Mirai Sta. (Minato-Mirai Line), 5 min from JR Sakuragicho Sta.

19th 13:00- IZULU LAMI 15:30- AFRICA PARADIS & PUMZI

20th 13:00- AFRICA PARADIS & PUMZI 16:10- IZULU LAMI

■■ About&Contact ■■

CINEMA AFRICA is a non-profit organization who has organized African film festivals in Japan since 2007. Please contact us for further information.

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FILM INFORMATION

AFRICA PARADIS ★Japan Premire

Feature/85 min/Bénin and France/2006/Language : French/Subtitle :

English/Directed by Sylvestre Amoussou

Best Sets Award and The ECOWAS African Integration Award at 2007 FESPACO

<Synopsis>

Europe, among them France, has become underdeveloped due to acute economic and political crisis while Africa has gone through very thriving development. As Olivier and Pauline, a French engineer and a French teacher, can no more decently live in their country, they decide to immigrate into the United States of Africa. Unfortunately they don't manage to get an entry visa and therefore call on a smuggler. From that time on their life turns upside down and they face the grim reality of immigration : they experience the position of illegal immigrant, the difficulty to find a decent job and on top of that the political use of immigration.



PUMZI ★Japan Premire

Sci-Fi/20 min/South Africa, Kenya/2009/Language : English

Subtitle : Japanese/Color/Directed by Wanuri Kahiu

Best Short Film(Cannes Independent Film Festival 2010) etc.

<Synopsis>

A 20 min Sc-Fi film about futuristic Africa, 35 years after World War III "The Water War"

Nature is extinct. The outside is dead. Asha lives and works as a museum curator in one of the indoor communities set up by the Maitu Council. When she receives a box in the mail containing soil, she plants an old seed in it and the seed starts to germinate instantly. Asha appeals to the Council to grant her permission to investigate the possibility of life on the outside but the Council denies her exit visa. Asha breaks out of the inside community to go into the dead and derelict outside to plant the growing seedling and possibly find life on the outside.



IZULU LAMI / My Secret Sky

Feature/93 min/South Africa/2008/Language : Zulu/Subtitle : English&Japanese

Directed by Madoda Ncayiyana

DIKALO Best Feature Film prize - Pan African Film Festival, Cannes 2009

Also screened at Nara International Film Festival 2009

<Synopsis>

When ten-year old Tembi and eight-year old Kwezi lose their mother, their aunt comes to 'take care' of them. Unfortunately, once she's sold the family's possessions and fled, the children are left with nothing - apart from a traditional Zulu mat, which their mother had been working on when she died.

Taking their destiny in her hands, Tembi convinces her young brother that they should hitch to the big city of Durban. But once they arrive in the city, they find themselves adrift in a terrifying metropolis. The very essence of Tembi and Kwezi's bonds are threatened and the city itself becomes a monster that threatens to completely overwhelm and defeat our plucky young protagonists.



MENGED

Short / 21 min / Ethiopia / 2006 / Language : Amharic / Subtitle : Japanese / Directed by: Daniel Taye Workou / Screened at Cinema Africa 2008

A lot can happen in the Ethiopian countryside on the long way to the market. A father and his son follow everybody's good advice... and come back to their senses. Adapted from a traditional Ethiopian Folk Tale, "Mened" is very much a parable for Ethiopia today: a country in transition between modernism and traditional belief.



WE ARE ALL RWANDANS

Short/25min/Rwanda,UK/2007/Language : Kinyarwanda/Subtitle : Japanese/Directed by : Debs Gardrér-Paterson

Supported by Rwanda Cinema Center, Cornerstone Film&Media Trust/ Screened at Cinema Africa 2008

March 1997, at Nyange Secondary school in Rwanda. The students live and study together as friends, regardless of whether they are Hutu or Tutsi. When rebels attack their school one night - in the hope of slaughtering the Tutsis as a message to the peace-seeking government, the students are faced with a terrible decision: betray their friends or risk their own lives. Filmed in Nyange school - ten years after the attacks took place, with the cooperation of the local community and several survivors, 'We Are All Rwandans' is a short film about courage, friendship and the power of unity.



IGARE RYA RUFONSI/ALPHONSE'S BIKE

Short/10 min/Rwanda/2007/Language : Kinyarwanda/Subtitle : English&Japanese/Directed by : Eric Kabera/Production : Rwanda Cinema Center // Screened at Cinema Africa 2008

The bicycle is a symbol of progress for Rwanda, yet only 1 out of 40 can afford a bike. On the floor of the Virunga mountain, where the gorillas have their habitat, there is Alphonse with his genius bike that impresses every body in his community. And those who cannot afford the same bicycle have got another alternative. This wooden bike ingenuity has inspired a mountain bike race award winner Tom Richy from US. He supports initiatives based on the bicycle as a tool and symbol of hope.

