



PRESS RELEASE

AFRIKAMERA 2025: CHANGE

11–16 November 2025

City Kino Wedding, fsk, Sinema Transtopia, BrotfabrikKino, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Maaya, Heinrich Böll Foundation

From 2024 to 2027, the film festival AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA will focus on diverse, inspiring, groundbreaking and sometimes contradictory perspectives on key social and political issues of the present and future of the African continent with four main themes: BELIEVE * CHANGE * REFLECT and CREATE.

This year's CHANGE edition will focus on films that address common gender roles and their structural and social implications, questioning existing power relations and established norms. The emphasis will be on films by female and female-identified directors.

In addition, highlights of current African cinema that have premiered and won awards at major international festivals will be shown. There will also be two short film programmes, which traditionally attract a great deal of interest, including this year's CHANGE focus.

With **AFROTRONIX live + film programme** at MAAYA (14 November), the festival presents a special event consisting of a live concert and a specially curated short film format at a new location. Afrotronix is the Afrofuturistic project of Chadian producer and musician Caleb Rimtobaye. Equipped with the DOM – a helmet that symbolises the updated knowledge of his ancestors – he combines electronic music with urban fashion, contemporary dance and digital art in his live shows. Caleb Rimtobaye is also responsible for the film music of the Chadian contribution DIYA (13 November), which will be shown at AFRIKAMERA 2025.

Talks and networking events

Networking and the exchange of know-how between filmmakers, producers, distributors, festival organisers and non-governmental organisations have always been a central part of AFRIKAMERA. This year, in cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, we are organising the workshop **Representation Meets Resources: The Power of Self-Determination** (13 November), an exchange of views on practical strategies for financing and authentic storytelling in film and art for female and queer filmmakers in cooperation with ProQuote Film and Schwarze Filmschaffende e.V.

Participation by invitation only.

In the talk **Breaking into the Industry: Training and Strategies for Women Filmmakers** (16 November) with Chanelle Ellaya (Ladima Foundation South Africa), Paula Essam (actress, author, board member of ProQuote Film) and Mariame N'Diaye (director), moderated by ShaNon Bobinger, the speakers will highlight opportunities, developments and synergies to increase the visibility and presence of women in the film industry. In cooperation with the German Africa Foundation

And following the screening of the film adaptation of the novel *UNE SI LONGUE LETTRE* by author Mariama Bâ (16 November), there will be a talk on Bâ's significance for the feminist movement in Senegal and the particularities of film production based on an exceptional literary work. With Angèle Diabang (director of *UNE SI LONGUE LETTRE*), moderated by Arlette-Louise Ndakoze. In cooperation with the Institut Français Deutschland

SPOTLIGHT ON WINDHOEK will follow directly after this year's festival edition on 19 November with a special programme as part of the anniversary programme for "25 Years of Town Twinning Windhoek – Berlin" at Sinema Transtopia, featuring Namibian director and producer Joel Haikali, who will present the programme **WINDHOEK SHORTS** (Namibia 2019–2024) with current short and medium-length films from the Namibian capital, the project **IMAGE RESTITUTION** (Work-in-Progress (2025)) by artists Laura Horelli and Hildegard Titus, and **SORRY FOR THE GENOCIDE** (Work in Progress (2025)), a documentary by Wave In Motion Medienproduktion about the journey towards reconciliation between Namibia and Germany. There are also two film works by filmmaker and media artist Christian Zipfel: **THE SOIL OF THE NAMIB: VR** (2023) and **A PLACE IN THE SUN** (2018).

From the film programme:

AFRIKAMERA opens with **PROMIS LE CIEL/ PROMISED SKY** (Tunisia, France, Qatar 2025, 11 November) by Tunisian-French director Erige Sehiri. Ivorian pastor Marie, young mother Naney and student Jolie meet in Tunis. They form a special community in which each of the women tries in her own way to build a new life. When they take in four-year-old Kenza, whose parents died while fleeing their country, their solidarity is put to the test. In the presence of the director

In **ON BECOMING A GUINEA FOWL** by Rungano Nyoni (Zambia, Great Britain, Ireland 2024, 13 November), the unwritten law that one should not speak ill of the dead is put to the test. As Shula drives home late at night in her car, she suddenly finds a dead body lying on the road – it is her old uncle Fred. In the course of the funeral ceremony, which lasts several days, she and her cousins gradually bring to light the family's open secrets, which their aunts would have preferred to bury with Uncle Fred. *The film is a portrait of Zambia's matriarchal society and tells an impressive story of the lasting trauma of sexual abuse and intergenerational alienation.*

LES INVERTUEUSES (Burkina Faso 2024, 15 November) by Chloé Aïcha Boro tells the story of the emancipation of a grandmother who was once forced into marriage and her granddaughter, who is undergoing an identity crisis in a Burkina Faso marked by insecurity, drastic security measures and internally displaced persons flooding into the cities. The story is set against the backdrop of the country's fight against terrorism, driven by the desire for freedom and self-determination.

With **UNE SI LONGUE LETTRE** (Senegal 2024, 16 November) by Senegalese director Angèle Diabang, AFRIKAMERA presents the film adaptation of Mariama Bâ's successful novel (1979). The story centres on Ramatoulaye, a 50-year-old teacher whose husband unexpectedly marries a second wife – her daughter's best friend, of all people. In letters to her friend, she reflects on love, disappointment, female solidarity, emancipation and the conflict between tradition and modernity. **UNE SI LONGUE LETTRE** was the sensational hit of the summer at the West African box office.

Set in the imaginary African kingdom of Ganzurgu, **KATANGA, LA DANSE DES SCORPIONS** (Dani Kouyaté, Burkina Faso 2025, 16 November) is an adaptation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Shot in black and white and narrated in Mooré, Dani Kouyaté gives this timeless universal story of power and political intrigue a new look by deliberately treating it as a fairy tale with references to the present day in a decidedly African context. **KATANGA** was the first Burkinabe contribution in 28 years to win the main prize, the Yennenga Golden Stallion, at FESPACO 2025.

Complete programme: <https://www.afrikamera.de/en/calendar-2025/>

AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA

The AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA festival is an initiative of the toucouleur e.V. association, a group of German and African cultural professionals who are committed to intercultural dialogue between Africa and Germany.

AFRIKAMERA has been held in Berlin since 2008 with a different thematic focus each year and sees itself as a platform for contemporary African cinema in the capital. In order to showcase African cinema in all its diversity, AFRIKAMERA cooperates with the major African film festivals from Marrakesh to Durban.

AFRIKAMERA – Current Cinema from Africa is under the patronage of Dr Uschi Eid.

Image film (2023): <https://www.afrikamera.de/festival/>

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Festival venues & tickets:

BrotfabrikKino
www.brotfabrik-berlin.de

City Kino Wedding
www.citykinowedding.de

fsk Kino
www.fsk-kino.de

Haus der Kulturen der Welt
www.hkw.de

Heinrich Böll Foundation
Free admission
Registration: https://calendar.boell.de/en/civi_register/162355

MAAYA
Tickets for concert and film programme: €20 plus advance booking fee
<https://www.koka36.de>
Box office: €20

SINEMA TRANSTOPIA
<https://sinematranstopia.com>

Programme information, bios of the filmmakers, trailers and more: www.afrikamera.de

Press photos for download: www.afrikamera.de/presse

Press contact:

Christiane Dramé
Festival coordination / Public relations
Mobile: +49. (0)173. 874 19 39
christiane.drame@fabrikpublik.de