AFRIKAMERA
AKTUELLES KINO
AUS AFRIKA

P R E S S R E L E A S E

AFRIKAMERA 2026: REFLECT

9–15 November 2026

Kino Arsenal, City Kino Wedding, fsk Kino, Sputnik Kino, Miss Read Space, Heinrich Böll Foundation

From 2024 to 2027, the AFRIKAMERA film festival focuses on the themes BELIEVE * CHANGE * REFLECT and CREATE, highlighting diverse perspectives on key social and political issues concerning the present and future of the African continent.
Africa is one of the regions of the world most severely affected by climate change: drought, aridity, the exploitation of natural resources and demographic pressures, combined with often extreme poverty, mean that much of the continent is a place where issues of distributive justice and the environment – in the context of sustainable development – are of particular urgency.

This year's REFLECT programme focuses on a selection of feature films, documentaries and shorts which, on the one hand, examine the effects of colonialism on the ecological balance, climate change and the struggle for resources, the exploitation of nature by unscrupulous mining companies, and the *white saviourism* of NGOs. Other films give a voice to local environmental activists and evoke the mystical power of nature.

In addition, there are international festival highlights to discover, an exhibition by the Burkinabe artist Nyaba Léon Ouedraogo, the 360° screening 'Water & Coltan', and a panel discussion on the background to the conflicts and multifaceted exploitation in the DR Congo at the Miss Read Space in Wedding.

From the film programme:

AFRIKAMERA opens with **BEN'IMANA (LES ENFANTS DE DIEU)** by Marie-Clémentine Dusabejambo (Rwanda/Gabon/France/Norway 2026, 9 November)**.** Kibeho, Rwanda 2012. Almost 20 years after the genocide against the Tutsis, Vénéranda is working with women in the reconciliation process at so-called 'people's courts', which are intended to bring about justice and social reconciliation. But is it possible to forgive when one's entire family has been wiped out or one's own body has been tortured? When her daughter unexpectedly

becomes pregnant, Vénéranda must also come to terms with the wounds of her own past. Filmed with non-professional actresses in the local language Kinyarwanda, this powerful exploration of intergenerational trauma was the first Rwandan film to be awarded Best Debut in the 'Un Certain Regard' section at the Cannes Film Festival. Rwanda has also just submitted the film in the 'Best International Feature Film' category at the 2027 Academy Awards.
Followed by a discussion with the producer, Samatha Biffot.

The three-part documentary essay **L'ARBRE DE L'AUTHENTICITÉ/ THE TREE OF AUTHENTICITY** (Belgium/DR Congo, 2025, 10 and 11 November) by the Congolese photographer and video artist Sammy Baloji uses poetic texts to recount the consequences of ecological destruction, which began during the period of Belgian colonisation and whose effects on the environment in the DR Congo and on climate change continue to be felt to this day.

In **ONE WOMAN ONE BRA** (Vincho Nchogu**,** Kenya/Nigeria 2025, 12 November), the residents of the Kenyan village of Sayit receive, for the first time, official documents confirming their land ownership based on family lineage. For Star, a 38-year-old orphan, however, the joy turns into a nightmare: her ancestry is unknown, she does not have enough money to buy her land, and she is unmarried. When she discovers a photograph of herself as a child in the "World Book of Nomads", a race against time begins to prove her identity. A dubious deal with an NGO ultimately brings her into conflict with her community. Oscillating between drama and dark comedy, Vincho Nchogu's feature film debut questions the 'white saviourism' of international NGOs and patriarchal power structures.
ONE WOMAN ONE BRA was selected as Kenya's entry in the 'Best International Feature Film' category for the 2027 Oscars.

With the gripping musical drama **CONGO BOY** (Central African Republic/France/DR Congo/Italy 2026, 10 and 14 November), Congolese director Rafiki Fariala has adapted his own life story for the screen: 17-year-old Robert, living in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, dreams of a career as a rapper. But his parents, who fled the DR Congo, are in prison. As the eldest son, Robert has to look after his four younger siblings on his own. He juggles odd jobs with preparing for his A-levels, whilst evading the militias causing unrest in the city. One day, he hears about a music competition, and winning first place becomes his greatest hope. Followed by a Q&A with the director (10 November).

Zoey Martinson's comedy **THE FISHERMAN** (Ghana 2024, 13 November) is set in a Ghanaian coastal village where Atta Oko has lived as a fisherman for decades. When he is forced into retirement, his life is turned upside down – until a talking fish gets caught in his net. Together with three eccentric business partners and the fish, he travels to Accra to secure a loan from a bank to buy his own boat. With magical realism and biting satire, this comedy tells the story of traditional fishermen's struggle against environmental destruction and displacement in the face of rapid urban development and the establishment of commercial seaports.
THE FISHERMAN was Ghana's first official entry in the competition at this year's Venice Film Festival.

AFRIKAMERA X MISS READ

The MISS READ SPACE project space in Berlin-Wedding will become a festival hub featuring a variety of event formats during AFRIKAMERA 2026.

EXHIBITION
NYABA LÉON OUEDRAOGO "SACRED: HUMAN, ANIMAL AND PLANT"
With the exhibition SACRED: HUMAN, ANIMAL AND PLANT, AFRIKAMERA presents Nyaba Léon Ouedraogo's photographic work in Berlin for the first time.

In this series, the Burkinabe photographer explores the unique connection between humans, animals, nature and spirituality. The sacred crocodiles of Bazoulé are far more than just a photographic subject here: they symbolise memory, tradition and the sacred.
The images tell the story of a living heritage deeply rooted in the traditions of Burkina Faso. At the same time, they highlight the fragility of this balance in the face of climate change and the ongoing loss of natural habitats.

360° SCREENING
WATER & COLTAN
Daniel Kötter, Yasmine Bisimwa, Olande Byamungu, Christian Muhigwa
Germany/DR Congo 2021, original version with subtitles, 52 mins
Artist Talk with Daniel Kötter & Olande Byamungu

WATER & COLTAN explores the consequences of mining for the land and communities in western Germany and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Whilst WATER envisions post-human near-future scenarios for the former coal-mining region on the Ruhr, COLTAN transports its audience directly to the sites of struggle waged by women in artisanal coltan mining camps in South Kivu in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Based on joint research by the filmmaker with social worker Yasmine Bisimwa, lawyer Olande Byamungu and engineer Christian Muhighwa, and drawing on Homer's myth of Tantalus, this 360° documentary brings together two local facets of one and the same violent global phenomenon: the extractivist exploitation of natural and human resources, with its long-term consequences for the environment and society.

TALK
WHY IS THE CONGO NOT THE RICHEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD?
with Olande Byamungu (DR Congo), activist and lawyer, amongst other roles; moderated by Dr Daniel Tödt (German Africa Foundation)

In Germany, there is still far too little awareness of the situation in the DR Congo, one of the world's most resource-rich countries, which is currently also being ravaged by an Ebola epidemic. For over 30 years, there has been fighting over resources there: The region possesses strategic metals such as cobalt, coltan and lithium, as well as copper, tin and manganese – key components in, for example, computer and mobile phone manufacturing. Various African militias and international forces are attempting to gain control of these

resources to satisfy the global demand for raw materials, plunging the region into chaos and claiming hundreds of thousands of victims.
In this panel discussion, filmmakers, activists and experts will discuss with the audience the current situation in the region, the ongoing conflicts, the struggle for control over the resources and the impact on Congolese society.

AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA
The AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA festival is an initiative of the toucouleur association, a coalition of German and African cultural practitioners committed to fostering 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 collaborates with major African film festivals from Marrakesh to Durban.
AFRIKAMERA – CURRENT CINEMA FROM AFRICA is held under the patronage of Dr Uschi Eid.

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

AFRIKAMERA 2026: REFLECT is funded by: Cross-genre funding for festivals and film series (four-year cycle) from the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion. In partnership with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the German Africa Foundation e.V., the Arsenal Kino, City Kino Wedding, fsk Kino, Sputnik Kino and Miss Read Space.

Festival venues & tickets:

KINO ARSENAL
Plantagenstr. 30, 13347 Berlin
www.arsenal-berlin.de/kino/kino-info/

CITY KINO WEDDING
Müllerstr. 74, 13349 Berlin
citykinowedding.de

FSK KINO
Segitzdamm 2, 10969 Berlin
fsk-kino.de

SPUTNIK KINO
Hasenheide 54, 10967 Berlin
www.sputnik-kino.com

MISS READ SPACE
Gerichtstr. 35, 13347 Berlin
https://missread.com/
free admission

HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION
Schumannstr. 8, 10117 Berlin
www.boell.de
free admission
Registration: https://calendar.boell.de/en/event/mother-city

The full programme, filmmakers' biographies, trailers and more:
https://www.afrikamera.de/en/calendar-2026/

Press images 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

AFRIKAMERA – Current Cinema from Africa
9–15 November 2026, Berlin
www.afrikamera.de