



AFRICAN FILM WEEK

10.-15. October 2016 | Goethe-Institut

On the inauguration of the African Union building for Peace and Security and the visit of German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel to Ethiopia.



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WELCOME NOTE BY THE AMBASSADOR OF GERMANY



The German Embassy in Addis Abeba is proud to support the African film week organized by the Goethe-Institut. This film week coincides with the visit of German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel to Addis Abeba to officially hand over the German-built Peace and Security Building to the African Union.

Both events are interrelated: The African film week presents eight films displaying the impressive cultural diversity and richness of the African continent. The movies come from different African countries and are made by African directors, with African actors for an African (and even global!) audience.

The same philosophy is behind the building donated by the German government to the AU's Peace and Security Council: It will support Africa in finding African solutions to African problems in the areas of peace and security. Enjoy the African film week 2016!

Ambassador Joachim Schmidt,
German Embassy Addis Ababa

WELCOME NOTE BY THE AU COMMISSIONER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS



It is a privilege and honor for me to write this welcome note for the African Film Week to be organized by the Goethe-Institut from 10 to 15 October 2016 on the occasion of the visit of German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel to the African Union to hand over the Peace and Security Building to the African Union.

The African Film Festival is coming at an opportune time when the AU Assembly has just established a continental African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission which is charged with the mandate to coordinate the development of the cinema and audio-visual industry in the Continent, project the positive image of Africa, celebrate African diversity and identity as well as ensure the contribution of the film industry in the economy of the Continent.

We would like to thank the Goethe-Institut for joining the celebrations with the initiative of the African Film Week. Seeing more of each other's cultural achievements, enabling exchange and cooperation will also foster peace and security.

Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko

Commissioner for Social Affairs at the African Union Commission

INTRODUCTORY REMARK



There is a perception that African films are better known outside Africa than here on the continent, and that it is easier to find Hollywood and Bollywood films here than good African films. But there is so much that the innovative African film scene has to offer. Our selection of eight feature films from Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Mauretania, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia, reflects the diversity of African cinemas.

Selecting the films for our African Film Week was not easy and I would like to thank the film curator Katarina Hedrén for putting together this programme. All films have gained national and/or international recognition through awards and festival invitations in the last years and represent excellent filmmaking from their respective countries.

Welcome to the African Film Week - welcome to the Goethe-Institut!

Dr. Julia Sattler

Director Goethe-Institut Addis Ababa

AFRICAN FILM WEEK



■ Côte d'Ivoire

Director: [Phillipe Lacôte](#)
Cast: [Abdoul Karim Konaté](#), [Isaach De Bankolé](#), [Reine Sali Coulibaly](#)
Genre: [Drama](#)
100min | [Nouchi, French with English Subtitles \(2014\)](#)

The skilfully told story of *Run* (nicknamed after his primary survival strategy) reflects three stages of his life. His childhood as a rainmaker apprentice and subsequently his travels around the country with Greedy Gladys – a woman who eats copious amounts of food in front of audiences for a living. As the country descends into violence, Run joins a nationalist militia, only to leave when its leader opposes Run's independent mind. Shortly afterwards, Run reappears, disguised as a madman, to settle the score for himself and his country.

After a documentary about the civil war, Philippe Lacôte chose fiction to further explore how violence has ripped Côte d'Ivoire apart. *Run* was part of Cannes official selection in 2014 and was selected as Côte d'Ivoire's Oscars entry 2016.

Tuesday 11 Oct, 6.30pm

Run (Côte d'Ivoire, 2014)



■ Democratic Republic of the Congo

Director: [Djo Tunda Wa Munga](#)
Cast: [Patsha Bay](#), [Manie Malone](#), [Diplome Amekindra](#)
Genre: [Action Drama](#)
98min | [Lingala, French, Portuguese with English Subtitles \(2010\)](#)

Money - the reason for living and the principal cause of death - is the only thing that matters in Djo Tunda Wa Munga's version of Kinshasa. Riva is a hard working hustler, who has returned to his hometown with a truckload of petrol, which he is planning to sell. During a night out he meets Nora and falls in love. As a consequence, he has to deal with her gangster boyfriend in addition to the angry crook he stole the petrol from.

Djo Tunda Wa Munga's action-filled debut feature, *Viva Riva!* was the first Congolese film to be screened at the Toronto International Film Festival and the Berlin International Film Festival and has sold widely internationally.

Wednesday 12 Oct, 6.30pm

Viva Riva! (DRC, 2010)



■ Ethiopia

Director: Yared Zeleke
Cast: Rediat Amare, Kidist Siyum, Welela Assefa
Genre: Drama
 94min | Amharic with English Subtitles (2015)

Yared Zeleke's contemplative debut feature tells of Ebrahim, a 9-year-old boy, who is sent by his impoverished father to live with relatives after the passing of his mother following a severe drought. Ebrahim struggles to find his place in the family and when his foster-father announces that the boy's beloved goat will be slaughtered for an upcoming holiday celebration, Ebrahim knows that he has to leave.

Lamb was Ethiopia's 2015 Oscars entry for Best Foreign Language. The beautifully shot film - the first Ethiopian feature to be included in the official selection of Cannes Film Festival - has screened at numerous film festivals across the world.

Monday 10 Oct, 6.30pm	<i>Lamb</i> (Ethiopia, 2015)
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■ Mauretania

Director: Abderrahmane Sissako
Cast: Ibrahim Ahmed, Abel Jafri, Toulou Kiki
Genre: Drama
 97min | Arabic, French, Bambara, English, Songhay, Tamashek with English subtitles (2015)

Cattle herder Kidane lives peacefully with his family nearby the ancient town of Timbuktu, now seized by jihadists. After Kidane accidentally kills a neighbour in a conflict over grazing land, he is sentenced by the occupiers to compensate the neighbour's family or be executed. A man of little means, he is unable to pay. Consequently, the family, who until then have escaped the absurd and cruel rule under which the townspeople suffers, face the full might of the jihadists' version of sharia law.

Celebrated Malian-Mauretanian filmmaker Abderrahmane Sissako does not shy away from complexity and contradiction in his multi-award winning fourth feature film.

Thursday 13 Oct, 6.30pm	<i>Timbuktu</i> (Mauretania, 2015)
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GIDI BLUES

📍 Nigeria

Director: Femi Odugbemi
Cast: Gideon Okeke, Hauwa Allahbura, Lepacious Bose
Genre: Drama
103min | English, Igbo with English Subtitles (2013)

'Success comes before work only in a dictionary' says Odugbemi about his feature fiction debut, *Gidi Blues*, whose names alludes to 'Las Gidi', as Nigeria's bustling capital is known. Akin is a playboy, who thinks nothing of living off his mother's flourishing business, until he meets Nkem, a no-nonsense young woman with her heart set on making a difference. Their encounter sets of a sequence of events, which push Akin to think differently about life and purpose.

Seasoned documentary maker, film festival director, writer and photographer Femi Odugbemi's light-hearted and romantic take on such serious matters as maturity and responsibility premiered in Lagos earlier this year.

Saturday 15 Oct, 6.30pm

Gidi Blues (Nigeria, 2016)



UNDER THE STARRY SKY

📍 Senegal

Director: Dyana Gaye
Cast: Marème Demba Ly, Souleymane Seye Ndiaye
Genre: Drama
90min | Wolof, English, French, Italian with English Subtitles (2013)

Gaye's first feature, which follows three protagonists in Senegal, Italy and the United States, is an empathetic take on the African Diaspora experience shared by so many. Sophie travels to Turin in search of her husband Abdoulaye and finds a new kind of freedom instead. Abdoulaye moves restlessly between continents in search of a break. Thierno, who grew up in the US, experiences Dakar for the first time to attend the funeral of his estranged father.

Senegalese filmmaker Dyana Gaye has previously directed several widely screened short films (incl. the musical comedy *Saint-Louis Blues*). Among the awards won by *Under the Starry Sky* is the Swedish film festival CinemAfrica's award for Best Film in 2014.

Friday 14 Oct, 5pm

Under the Starry Sky (Senegal, 2013)

TELL ME SWEET SOMETHING



■ South Africa

Director: Akin Omotoso
Cast: Nomzamo Mbatha, Maps Maponyane, Thishiwe Ziqubu
Genre: Romantic Comedy
90min | Zulu, English with English Subtitles (2015)

Now in her mid-twenties, former teenage writer sensation Moratiwa is running a close-to-bankruptcy bookstore in downtown Johannesburg. The brainy beauty has not followed up on her early success and has lost faith in love. When Moratiwa's best friend Tshaka – a published self-help guru – takes her out clubbing, she meets Nat, a model who does not read. Slowly things begin to change.

Tell me Sweet Something is filmmaker Akin Omotoso's third feature film. The heart-warming rom-com won awards for Best Screenplay and Best Actress in a Supporting Role at the 2016 African Movie Academy Awards and has screened at numerous film festivals.

Saturday 15 Oct, 4pm

Tell Me Sweet Something (South Africa 2015)

AS I OPEN MY EYES



■ Tunisia

Director: Leyla Bouzid
Cast: Baya Medhaffar, Ghalia Benali, Montassar Ayari
Genre: Drama
102min | Arabic, French with English Subtitles (2015)

Leyla Bouzid's debut feature is a vibrant coming-to-age story about Farah, who has just graduated from high school with excellent grades. Her loving but controlling mother expects her to study medicine, but Farah has her eyes on a career in music with her rebellious band. Adventurous, passionate and full of self-esteem, the young woman underestimates the influence of those who prefer that things remain the same.

Bouzid won the award for Best Short Film for *Zakaria* at the pan-African film festival Fespaco in 2015. *As I Open My Eyes* has won her acclaim, awards and nominations at film festivals around the world.

Friday 14 Oct, 7pm

As I Open My Eyes (Tunisia, 2015)

SCREENING SCHEDULE

Date and time	Film
Monday 10 Oct , 6.30pm	<i>Lamb</i> (Ethiopia, 2015)
Tuesday 11 Oct , 6.30pm	<i>Run</i> (Côte d'Ivoire, 2014)
Wednesday 12 Oct , 6.30pm	<i>Viva Riva!</i> (DRC, 2010)
Thursday 13 Oct , 6.30pm	<i>Timbuktu</i> (Mauretania, 2015)
Friday 14 Oct	
- 5pm	<i>Under the Starry Sky</i> (Senegal, 2013)
- 7pm	<i>As I Open My Eyes</i> (Tunisia, 2015)
Saturday 15 Oct	
- 4pm	<i>Tell Me Sweet Something</i> (South Africa 2015)
- 6.30pm	<i>Gidi Blues</i> (Nigeria, 2016)

VENUE

Goethe-Institut

Free entrance

GENERAL INFO



The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global reach. We promote knowledge of the German language abroad and foster international cultural cooperation. We convey a comprehensive image of Germany by providing information about cultural, social and political life in our nation. Our cultural and educational programmes encourage intercultural dialogue and enable cultural involvement. They strengthen the development of structures in civil society and foster worldwide mobility.

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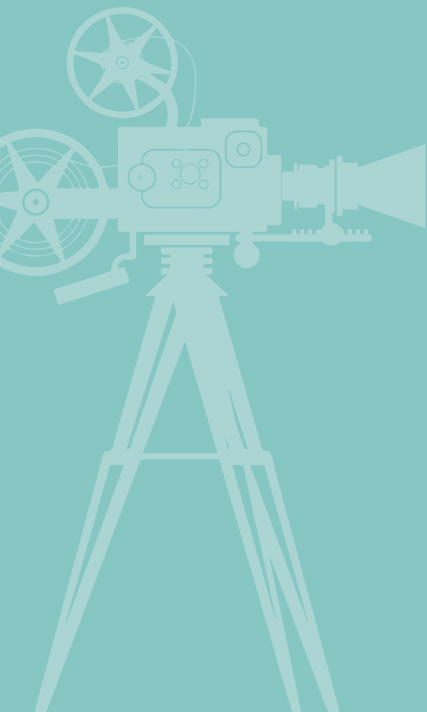
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For the programme visit:
www.goethe.de/addis

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