



Participatory Video Across Continents

Festival of Participatory Video films

January 29 and 31 - @Goethe Institut in Nairobi

ESoDoc International is a training initiative aimed to accompany filmmakers, new media professionals and NGO-collaborators in the develop of their social documentary projects suitable for the International Markets. Within this framework, in partnership with the **Goethe Institut** in Nairobi, a Participatory Video festival has been organized with a series of screenings showing films realized with this technique. Participatory Video (PV) is a set of techniques to involve a group or community in shaping and creating their own films, using video to aid learning and engagement. It allows participants to use video equipment to be creative and tell their own stories about different issues. The process of film making is equally as important as the film itself. Both can be used as a means to greater participation.

ESoDoc International is organized by **ZeLIG-School for documentary, television and new media** (Italy) in collaboration with **AMREF** (Kenya/Italy) and **Formedia** (India) and financed by the **European Union's Media Mundus Programme**.

For more information about ESoDoc International visit <http://international.esodoc.org>

Events summary:



Sunday 29th of January

3pm: **TV Slum and African Spelling Book**

5pm: **AFRICA LIVE: The Roll Back Malaria Concert**

7pm: **My Camera My World**



Tuesday 31st of January

6pm: **Hidden Truth and Crying Shame**

Location:



Goethe-Institut Nairobi
No. 3, Monrovia Street
Maendeleo House
Nairobi

More information:



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FILMS SINOPSYS:

Sunday 30th of January, start at 3pm

TV Slum

Directed by Angelo Loy - Italy/Kenya 2002 - 56 minutes

"With the videocamera in their hands: wir kinder vom Nairobi zoo. At night, in the sandy optical mould of the digital support, they look like eye sparkling lemurs, moving with faded gestures from their occasional pallets, at the edges of rubbish hilled suburbs. (...) A document that recalls how life is just few steps beyond our western cities where we breath the comfortable air of fortified residential areas. (...)."

These the words a film critic used when writing about this first of AMREF's Participatory Video. TV SLUM tells the story of Daniel "the killer", the leader of a street gang, through the eyes of a group of eight street boys and girls trained to use the videocamera. It is a jouney into street life, through a series encounters with violence and dream.

Sunday 30th of January, following "TV Slum"

African Spelling Book

Directed by Angelo Loy - Italy/Kenya 2005 - 61 minutes

A as AFRICAN, B as BEAUTY, C for CITY, D for DREAM ... the African Spelling Book is a collection of twentyone episodes, each lasting 3-4 minutes, written, filmed and narrated by a group of more than seventy street boys and girls from Nairobi (aged 12 up to 22 ys old). It is the product of a participatory video project based on a writing laboratory where youth was asked to write stories starting from a letter of the alphabet. The ASB aims at giving boys and girls' intimate points of view on the main issues concerning their life.

Sunday 30th of January, start at 5pm

AFRICA LIVE: The Roll Back Malaria Concert

Directed by Mick Csáky – UK 2006 – 56 minutes

The first-ever Roll Back Malaria Concert took place in Dakar, Senegal on 12-13 March 2005. For the first time, a huge concert was organised by Africans, for Africans and in Africa. The event featured top African artists led by internationally renowned Senegalese singer, songwriter and composer Youssou N'Dour and including established stars such as Baaba Maal, Salif Keita, Orchestra Baobab, Manu Dibango and Khaled as well as rising young African talents. The event reached roughly 30,000 spectators and an additional audience of one billion worldwide via television, DVD, radio and CD, celebrating the continent's creative energy and bringing a message of empowerment and hope for tackling its major scourge: malaria.

AFRICA LIVE had been conceived by Youssou N'Dour and documentary film director Mick Csáky of UK independent television production company Antelope as a celebration of Africa's creativity and vitality, and had been later dedicated to malaria in order to use the concert's reach as a powerful tool for communicating vital information about malaria.

Sunday 30th of January. start at 7pm

My Camera My World

Directed by Kavita Das Gupta – India 2011 – 53 minutes

Three sets of children live their life at different levels of negotiations, in three different parts of India. The children: social orphans from Kolkata, upper middle class children from Delhi and adivasi (indigenous) children from Madhya Pradesh. These children are not only separated by geography but also their socio-political milieu. Chances are that they may never encounter each other in their contemporary worlds.

A project gets underway to select a few children from these three diverse groups and share with them few basic filmmaking skills – enough to enable them to put together their thoughts and ideas into a short film within a window of couple of weeks. A Participatory Video process.

Facilitated by a community media practitioner and a documentary filmmaker, the children go through a process of introspection and interrogation of their lives. They relive their histories and dream their future. They meander in and out of their fears, their ecstasies. What they author and own, is a piece of film, they are proud of. They travel to a common destination, where all the children filmmakers meet and build bridges into each other's lives, mediated through their films.

The film *My Camera My World* tries to capture the journey of the children's camera from the life around them to the world inside them....of their memories and thoughts.

Tuesday 31st of January. start at 6pm

Hidden Truth

Directed by Penelope Machipi - Zambia 2011 - 21 minutes

Filmed by the first women's filmmaking collective in rural Zambia, *Hidden Truth* is an intimate portrayal of the effects of domestic violence on women and children in Samfya, a remote region of Northern Zambia.

The documentary is told through the eyes of five women, all victims of domestic violence, and their children and siblings. They provide a moving account of the emotional, psychological and physical trauma that they have suffered, and highlight the need for better legislation to protect victims of domestic violence.

In a country where more than half of women over the age of 15 have suffered physical abuse, and in a culture where women are discouraged from speaking out, *Hidden Truth* provides insight into a world that is rarely exposed.

The documentary was filmed by the Samfya Women Filmmakers – the filmmaking group who were featured in *Where the Water Meets the Sky* - who use film as a way to challenge injustices in their community and advocate for change.

The film won the prize for *Best Documentary* at the 2011 Zanzibar International Film Festival.