All shows are in the evening.
Welcome to the 17th Encounters South African International Documentary Festival – the country’s outstanding documentary event where for 10 days, over 101 screenings, 42 films will play in 2 cities, in 4 cinemas to 1,000s of people.

Driven by the love of documentaries the Encounters Team, a collective of passionate staff and volunteers, presents you with a banquet of documentary highlights from Mzansi and abroad.

We know that this year’s programme will excite, provoke, challenge, entertain and inspire you.

We play host to many filmmakers and internationally renowned professionals, experts in their field, and invite you to share in the stories behind the films, the repercussions of what they tell, and what the future holds. There will be Q&As after certain screenings, Panel Discussions, Master Classes and Industry events. Among our guests are Emmy Award-winning Francois Verster, Tribeca award-winner Camilla Nielsson, who will both conduct Master Classes, and panelists Odette Geldenhuys, producer of the award-winning The Shore Break, and Dr. Tim Noakes tackling That Sugar Film.

We congratulate all filmmakers whose films has been selected for 17th edition of the Festival.

The Festival’s funders and partners are paramount to the sustainability of the Festival. The National Film and Video Foundations (NFVF), primary funder of the Festival, continues to develop and grow the local film industry by supporting Film Festivals nationally. The NFVF will host an Industry Engagement aimed at disseminating information on their activities.

With the additional support of the Bertha Foundation, Al Jazeera, Wesgro, Backsberg Cellars, the HCI Foundation and What’s On!, Encounters continues to enhance the status of documentaries in the country.

We look forward to seeing you often!

The Encounters Team
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Design & Layout

Tania Bester – Print • Amanda Dominy – Web

Booking info

Ticket price R50

Cinema Nouveau V&A
Cinema Nouveau Rosebank
TicketLine on 0861 MOVIES (0861 668 437)
www.cinemanouveau.co.za

The Bioskpe 011 039 7306
www.thebioscope.co.za | info@thebioscope.co.za

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SOUTH AFRICAN FILMMAKING IS COMING INTO ITS OWN. STORIES SO COMPPELLING YOU CAN’T LOOK AWAY. TALENT THAT DELIVERS ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. WE’RE READY TO BRING SOUTH AFRICAN STORIES FROM OUR STREETS TO THE WORLD.

#FROMOURSTREETS
WESGRO PRESENTATION
Friday 5 June 2pm – 2.30pm
Monica Rorvik, Film and Media Promotion manager for Wesgro (Western Cape tourism, investment and trade promotion agency), will elaborate on the film and media promotion service offered by the agency.

NATIONAL FILM & VIDEO FOUNDATION ENGAGEMENT WITH INDUSTRY
Friday 5 June 2.45pm – 4pm
The NFVF will present their Audience Development Research findings.

Big Fish, The Foundry, 74 Cardiff Road, Green Point

RSVP: festival@encounters.co.za
For more information visit www.encounters.co.za
Francois Verster Master Class

Francois Verster’s acclaimed and wide-ranging body of documentary work has firmly established him as one of our foremost contemporary filmmakers. In 2014, he was the first South African to be included in IDFA’s Masters section with his latest work, The Dream of Shahrazad. In this Master Class, Verster will explore the creative possibilities in alternative documentary narratives and styles – a discussion so important to South Africa, with its endless stories and perspectives – and how to get these alternative points of view noticed in the commercial-minded marketplace.

Camilla Nielsson Master Class

Behind the scenes of Nielsson’s award-winning Democrats is a film in itself. Shot in Zimbabwe, under a repressive regime in the throes of change, the film is a primer on crafting the pillars of story and character out of complex interpersonal dynamics as it navigates the risky byways of a sensitive, politically-charged environment. With a background in anthropology, Nielsson achieved the nigh impossible, near invisible she infiltrated the behind-the-scenes politics, earning the trust and respect of her subjects and allies, with respect and trust. This Master Class is an exceptional opportunity to join Nielsson as she revisits her process, from financing what seemed to be the most un-commercial of concepts, to premiering a documentary would take this Zimbabwean story around the world.
Sound of Transkhanda

Ntombe Thongo Live – Friday 5 June 8:30pm Labia

Encounters proudly hosts Ntombe Thongo, Eastern Cape ‘Transkhanda’ musician, live at the première of The Shore Break, for which he composed the memorable, local soundtrack. Born and raised in Mthambalala village, 25km from Port St Johns, this SAMA-award-winning artist blends traditional instruments such as Umrhubhe, uHadi, and a 12 string guitar with his background as a traditional healer. “Seventy percent of the things which I sing about come from my dreams”, he explains. “Music and healing go together. I am healing those who listen to my music”.

Law of the Land Panel Discussion

The Shore Break Talks with the Legal Resources Centre
Saturday 13 June 5:30pm Labia

Documentary-activism in action! The discussion continues around the story of a disenfranchised Pondoland community that reverberates throughout the country. What does ‘free prior consent’ mean for rural communities? What does it mean in the context of development? Is there freedom in poverty? Is there a way of determining ‘prior’? Whose consent are we interested in? In this panel discussion, Odette Geldenhuys, The Shore Break producer and Webber Wentzel attorney, discusses these issues with Legal Resources Centre’s Henk Smith, Wilmien Wicomb and Sheldon Magardie about this battle of national importance.

Our Cape Town? Panel Discussion

Young Capetonians & Their City – Saturday 13 June 8pm Labia

How far can we say we’ve come, when our city centre remains accessible only to the few? When youth from the townships and Flats feel, are, isolated in the heart of what should be their home? In Ndi Vumeni: Faniswa and Jas Boude (screening in tandem) young women and men from Khayelitsha and Valhalla Park respectively take over the city – dancing and skating – their voices echoing on the stone-cold CBD streets. After the screening of their films, join the The Moving Stories dance group and the skaters of Jas Boude and the filmmakers who’ve captured their stories, in conversation with performance artist, Faniswa Yise, to discuss turning the Mother City into a space everyone call their own.
Filmmakers In Conversation

Crafting the Story

Beats of the Antonov – go to encounters.co.za for time, date and venue

The South African Guild of Editors (SAGE) talks to Khalid Shamis (SAGE member), and producer Steven Markovitz, about their collaboration with Sudanese filmmaker Hajooj Kuka on the Toronto award-winning Beats Of The Antonov.

Personal Visions

Riaan Hendricks, Steve Kwena Mokwena & Lebogang Rasethaba Saturday 6 June 3pm Labia

Hendricks’, Mokwena’s and Rasethaba’s most recent works, all being screened at this year’s Encounters, (Wild Dog & Mrs Heart, Jazz Heart and Prisoner 467/64 respectively), are testament to their wildly different styles – from observational, historical, experimental – and backgrounds – in the arts, advertising and activism. But, what these established and emerging local directors have in common is a distinct sense of personal vision when it comes to subject matter and approach, while consistently creating acclaimed works in a challenging film industry. Join Dr. Litheko Modisane of UCT’s Centre for Film & Media in discussing the makings of art and a career with three of South Africa's finest documentary auteurs.

Other Panel Discussions ... Go to encounters.co.za for updates, like Tim Noakes on That Sugar Film on Saturday 13 June 5:30pm CNV&A – and more!

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Beats of the Antonov

HAJOOJ KUKA | Sudan / South Africa | 2014 | 68min

In the rare quiet between government air raids, a collective sigh of relief can be felt, blowing through Sudan’s Blue Nile and Nuba mountain regions—a sigh that brings with it, of all things, music: sung and strummed and drummed, on makeshift and traditional instruments, a cultural treasury of memory and survival. With agile camerawork that dances amongst the colourful scarves of mothers and girls, that huddles in lamp lit tents and dives into trenches to escape a passing bomber, filmmaker and war reporter Hajooj Kuka weaves a thread where life daily teeters on a knife edge and, nonetheless, goes on.

Courtesy of the Director and Producer

- Toronto IFF People’s Choice Award, Luxor FF Best Documentary, Cordoba African FF Best Documentary.
- IDFA, San Francisco FF, Dubai IFF, Göteborg IFF

Asni: Courage, Passion & Glamour in Ethiopia

RACHEL SAMUEL | Ethiopia | 2013 | 80min

A voice accompanied by the hypnotic strains of the *krar*, mesmerised Ethiopian filmmaker Rachel Samuel since first she heard it on her father’s radio. It belonged to Asnaketch Worku, legendary diva and cultural icon, Ethiopia’s Edith Piaf of the 50s and 60s. At a time when men were still playing female roles in theatre productions, Worku brazenly took to the stage—first as an actress, then as a wildly popular musician—pioneering the way for other women performers. She was the original ‘Independent Woman’, the Beyoncé of her day, famed for her trailing dresses, swaying hips, and notorious for her many lovers ... a woman who dared sing the lyrics: “Why should I have my own husband, when I can share yours?”

Courtesy of the Director

- FESPACO, Pan African FF, Film Africa
Between The Devil and The Deep

HEINRICH DAHMS | Netherlands / South Africa | 2015 | 93min

Young Steven Figaji is dead: depending on who you speak to, drowned during his arrest for poaching the coastline’s endangered perlemoen, or killed by the police, another casualty in the town of Hawston’s ongoing saga of fishermen vs the Law. Because, with fishing quotas drastically cut, Hawstoners must play a dangerous game to survive. Family man, Sherman Pharo (who films the heart-poundng underwater footage) sees no way out, nor does Ellen who lives with her tik-addict beloved, Staggie. All the while, the Figaji family stubbornly mourns their lost son. Like the calm of an evening tides, Between The Devil and The Deep deceptively pulls us into dangerous waters, where sorrow and despair churn into rage – a sea shanty harmonising the shared unpredictibilities of nature and mankind.

Courtesy of the Director

Coming of Age

TEBOHO EDKINS | Lesotho / Germany / South Africa | 2015 | 63min

High in the snow-covered mountains of the Lesotho Highlands, school-dropout Retabile watches over his family’s flock of sheep. His younger brother, Mosaku, observes anxiously, knowing Retabile will soon leave him, to undergo initiation in the wilderness. In the nearby village of Ha Sekake, best-friends-forever, Lefa and Senate, are about to have their bond tested when Senate is granted a place at a better school in the faraway city. The wind howls, the snows melt, and the seasons change in this gorgeously-lensed, lyrical pastorale. And yet always-surprising director, Teboho Edkins, doesn’t present us with a simplistic idyll: Tension and desperation undercut the countryside’s peaceful beauty in this subtle, but robust ode to youth, anywhere, and the bittersweet romance between age and experience.

Courtesy of the Director

SCREENS WITH: Courage 11min & Nostalgie 11min
The Dream of Shahrazad

FRANCOIS VERSTER | South Africa / Egypt / Jordan / France / Netherlands | 2014 | 107min

In the classic of Arabian literature, *1001 Nights*, Princess Shahrazad saves the lives and soul of her people through her skilled storytelling. Now, Verster draws from this rich tapestry to weave his own tale for modern times, crossing the pre- and post-revolution territories of the Arab Spring, in which creativity and storytelling form the life-blood of resistance. A Turkish conductor prepares his orchestra for a performance of Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade* in the shadow of Gezi Park, his story intermingling with that of a young Lebanese internet activist, an Egyptian artist and a Cairo theatre troupe, forming a constellation of characters and stories in a shimmering, hybrid film unlike any other.

*Courtesy of the Director*

IDFA, Human Rights Watch FF

El Gort

HAMZA OUNI | Tunisia / United Arab Emirates | 2013 | 88min

If Holden Caulfield was Tunisian and had a best friend, his story may be like that of Khairi and Mohamed; a foul-mouthed curse in the black night of post-Arab Spring disillusionment. A pre-dawn bang on the door and the two friends are off to work, loading bales of hay onto trucks crisscrossing the countryside. It’s a job they abhor almost as much as their country. They’d much rather curse the Revolution, get drunk in caves, terrorise pedestrians from the back of scooters, look for sex and dream of escaping Tunisia to become drug dealers in Italy. And all the while watch the best years of their lives slip away. The Revolution has come and gone, but so what? “This is Tunis. This is our fucking life.”

*Courtesy of the Director*

Visions du Reel, Abu Dhabi FF
In Search of Our Own: The Forgotten Legacy of Norman Eaton

ADRIAAN DE LA REY & PIERRE-JACQUES KOTZÉ | South Africa | 2014 | 76min

In the ‘burial tomb’ which is today’s Pretoria, the buildings of architect Norman Eaton are time machines to another world: a forgotten city of elegance and refinement in the heart of apartheid. The subtle grandeur, harmony of line and space, as well as Eaton’s signature, exquisitely detailed patterning can still be seen in his best known structures, from suburban houses designed for Pierneef and Alexis Preller, to the Netherlands Bank, the UNISA Kleinteater and Polly’s Arcade in Central Pretoria – some of which are neglected and crumbling, yet others have passed into obscurity, overtaken by the vicissitudes of modern tastes. Eaton the man remains somewhat of an enigma, but in this documentary tribute friends, critics and fellow-architects gather to pick through his legacy, finding a place for his memory in contemporary South Africa.

CT Mon 8 @ 6.30 Labia Intro – Jo Noero
JHB Wed 10 @ 6.30 Bio Q&A

Jazz Heart

STEVE KWENA MOKWENA | South Africa | 2015 | 60min

“The things that stand between me and my father make it hard for us to look into each other’s eyes.” Acclaimed filmmaker Mokwena (Driving With Fanon, A Blues for Tiro) returns with a personal narrative that reconnects him to his father – jazz musician Andrew ‘Bra Pat’ Mokwena – and a horde of unmentionable grudges and regrets. Beginning with a routine investigation to track down the man who stole Bra Pat’s pension, Mokwena is drawn semi-reluctantly into a vortex of memory and ancestry. As the two Mokwena’s ‘drag their hearts’ across the city of Johannesburg in search of their souls, spoken words, dreams, movie lines and jazz, always jazz, are the accompaniment to this plaintive, ultimately healing, tug at the heart strings.

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Blood Money 11min

CT Sat 6 @ 8 CN Q&A | Fri 12 @ 6.30 Labia
JHB Sun 14 @ 8 Bio Q&A
Nurturing global talent, exposing relevant stories and connecting them to audiences for powerful, positive social impact.

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www.berthafoundation.org

Photo courtesy of STEPS / Max Thabiso Edkins
My Death doesn't belong to Me
CHARLES O’GUST KUTU | Burkina Faso
| 2014 | 51min
Kutu is “the merrymaker, admirer of good beers and devilish celebrations.” However, his father’s untimely passing has made the comedian-turned-filmmaker think more about death – his own in particular. What kind of send-off can he ensure for himself? Will there be drinking and feasting? What about Can-Can dancers? In the religious milieu of Burkina Faso, death is no simple matter and so Kutu sets off on an investigation, from graveyards to funeral parlors, pitting imams against traditional leaders, even his wife is drawn into the battle for the raconteur’s soul. A cross between a Burkinabe Ali G and a biker David Attenborough, Kutu’s journey is rich in local idiom, a unique black comedy, African-style.

Courtesy of the Director

Docs Afriques Saint-Louis, Afrique en Docs

Screens with Conway on a Monday 20min

Ndi Vumeni: Faniswa
NOMAKHOMAZI DYOSOPU | South Africa | 2014 | 48min
“I’d rather be making art than screaming,” says actress and performing artist, Faniswa Yisa – and living in Cape Town, where after 5pm black people must run for the train before vanishing behind the visible borders of the outlying townships, screaming is necessary. Yet, when she meets the Moving Stories, a dance group in Khayelitsha, Faniswa can scarcely believe that two decades after apartheid, these born frees still feel excluded from the supposedly rainbow city, afraid of abelungu and uncertain how to behave in the public spaces they rightfully own. Faniswa calls up performing artists Masello Motana and Khanyisile Mbongwa to stage a radical, live intervention with the Moving Stories in the CBD, reclaiming their existence with a battle cry in the indifferent urban jungle.

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Jas Boude 14min
African Films

Out on the Street
JASMINA METWALY & PHILIP RIZK | Egypt | 2015 | 72min

On a roof-top overlooking the Cairo metropolis is an unusual theatre where a group of working-class men rehearse and stage confrontations, stories from everyday life. Police brutality, fabricated charges and exploitation all come under the unforgiving glare of the spotlight. Dissent is brewing in a newly privatised factory, and the manager – played here by a worker – plots how to cling to his control and profits, setting his security guards against his workers, calling in favours from a minister. Slipping between roles and characters, fact and fiction, between the blurred lines, is the truth – not just of factory life, nor solely of Egyptian issues – but a global social struggle against rampant capitalism, a systematised dispensability of human beings, felt just as harshly across our continent, and our world.

Courtesy of the Directors

Prisoner 467/64: The Untold Legacy of Andrew Mlangeni
LEBOGANG RASETHABA | South Africa | 2015 | 52min

Andrew Mlangeni prefers to remember himself as one of the ‘backroom boys’, a lesser known struggle hero, and the 11th accused in the Rivonia trial alongside Nelson Mandela. But his contribution to the end of apartheid was profound. Like Mandela, he had committed himself to an ideal for which he was prepared to die. After 26 years on Robben Island, Mlangeni emerged a respected member of the ANC, epitomising the values that made possible a democratic South Africa. Rasethaba assembles many of the major names in South African struggle-history to recount Mlangeni’s life. Present too is Mlangeni himself, and his two daughters whose missed childhoods are the only bitter memory that haunts Mlangeni about his devotion to the struggle.

Courtesy of the Director

Joizi IFF

Screens with Oswenka: Dignity in a Three Piece Suit 16min

CT Wed 10 @ 8.30 CN
JHB Tue 9 @ 6.30 Bio

CT Sat 6 @ 5.30 CN
JHB Sun 14 @ 6 Bio Q&A
We’re famous
for our mountain,
and our oceans, and our desert, and our forests, and our city, and our rivers, and
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competitive rates, a skilled and established commercial and stills industry, as well
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The Siren of Faso Fani
MICHEL K. ZONGO | Burkina Faso / France / Germany / Qatar | 2015 | 89min
African cloth, woven by Africans, worn by Africans. This was one of Thomas Sankara's dreams fulfilled upon the opening of Faso Fani, the factory that would make Koudougou the textile capital of Burkina Faso. Just over a decade later, Faso Fani stood abandoned, yet another casualty of the World Bank and IMF's programme of shock therapy. Director Zongo, grew up enthralled by this 'jewel of a factory', which endowed its employees with refrigerators, mopeds and hard-earned national pride. Armed with a videocamera, he retraces Faso Fani's legend, rising beyond his role as documentarian to challenge Faso Fani's old workforce to rejoin and use their expertise once more, to bring them profitability and independence.

Courtesy of the Director

The Shore Break
RYLEY GRUNENWALD | South Africa | 2014 | 90min
Pondoland's Wild Coast is an exquisite backdrop for this high-stakes saga, which casts a new light, and accompanying shadows, across our country's uneven landscape. An Australian mining company's efforts to win over the communities of Amadiba pits local tour-guide, Nonhle, against her opportunistic, conniving cousin in a vicious battle for the hearts and minds of their neighbours. Through this nuanced drama Grunenwald deftly interweaves a parallel political conspiracy to oust the Pondo Royal family with a lilting score by local artist Ntombe Thongo and evocative sand animation. As self-interest clashes with morals and ideals, simple scenarios betray a deeper subtext of subterranean problems, hidden like the contested titanium, biding their time to explode.

Courtesy of the Director and Producer

International Environmental FF Best Documentary
IDFA First Appearance Competition, Hot Docs, Sydney FF

CT Fri 5 @ 8.30 Labia Live Event | Sat 13 @ 5.30 Labia Panel
JHB Fri 5 @ 6.30 CN Q&A | Fri 12 @ 6.30 Bio

CT Wed 10 @ 6.30 CN
JHB Sun 7 @ 5.30 Bio
**Wild Dog and Mrs Heart**

**RIAAN HENDRICKS** | South Africa | 2015 | 52min

‘Dare to Care’ is emblazoned across the Animal Welfare Helderberg’s bakkie. It’s a slogan that’s especially true for inspectors, Pieter and his fiancée Nadia, because to care is to have their hearts broken – a dozen times a day as they’re forced to euthanise healthy, abandoned pets. If society can be judged by how it treats its animals, *Wild Dog & Mrs Heart* exposes our throw-away, desperately ailing country – unable, unwilling, to take care of its own citizens, and even less so their animal companions. The harsh reality aside, it is from a deep wellspring of tenderness that Hendricks unflinchingly and unsentimentally tells this story, of the animals who share our homes and hearts, whose scars are scored and unfading on our skin.

*Courtesy of the Director*

Screens with *The Fighter* 28min

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**CT** Sun 7 @ 8 | **CN** Q&A | **Thu 11 @ 6.30** | **Labia**

Q&A

**JHB** Tue 9 @ 8 | **Bio** Q&A
The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution
STANLEY NELSON | USA | 2015 | 113min
As police killings of African-American men trigger US-wide protests, it’s never been more important to revisit the revolutionary spirit of the 1960s. Then change seemed unstoppable, civil rights were a popular priority and The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, at the crest of this uprising, stood for the protection of the disenfranchised in general, and people of colour in particular. Nelson, a master of historical documentary, presents a rousing primer to the movement, its leaderships and enduring ideals, through a boundless wealth of meticulously assembled archive footage that transports us into the inner sanctums, the marches, the rallies, the shake-downs and the streets where the Panthers took over the public imagination by demanding all power for all people. A struggle that is far from over.

Courtesy of PBS

Approaching the Elephant
AMANDA WILDER | USA | 2014 | 90min
School and rules seem inseparable. Not so for a group of idealistic teachers who, with a handful of kids and limited resources, boldly establish the world’s 262nd Free School, a drastic experiment in antiauthoritarian learning. In high-contrast black and white and at child’s-eye-view, we follow their anarchic progress over their first year, constantly on the brink of chaos, interspersed with minor democratic victories. There are no classes, all rules are decided by vote: it’s a wild, transfixing journey that not only captures in glorious human shades the coming-of-age of children, but also the origins of any society that fools itself that it can ‘get along’. “Is this really working?”, laughs Alex, the school’s passionate and increasingly agitated director, “We probably won’t know for 20 years.”

Torino, CPH:DOX, True/False, Rotterdam IFF, Göteborg IFF
Democrats

CAMILLA NIELSSON | Denmark | 2014 | 100min

_Democrats_ is a miracle. For cameras to infiltrate the pantomime-of-pretence that is politics seems impossible, least of all in Zimbabwe. To do so takes diplomacy and downright magic, all exhibited by this riveting film, along with unprecedented, exclusive access to African politics. After an electoral debacle which saw Robert Mugabe granted yet another term, international pressure forced ZANU-PF, his party, to draft a new constitution, consulting Zimbabweans across the country. The two men entrusted with this mammoth task were Paul Mangwana of ZANU-PF and Douglas Mwonzora of opposition MDC-T. With tension crackling between Mangwana's joker and Mwonzora's straight guy, these two unlikeliest of collaborators must cling together if they're to weather what is about to be a massive political storm.

_Courtesy of the DFI_

**Academy Award 2015: Best Documentary**
**New York Film Festival, CPH:DOX, IDFA**

CitizenFour

LAURA POITRAS | USA / Germany / UK | 2014 | 110min

History waits for no one, certainly not for cameras. But Pulitzer Prize-winning filmmaker Poitras beat it at its own game with _CitizenFour_ – winner of 2015’s Documentary Oscar. Poitras and _Guardian_ journalist Glenn Greenwald were the first to be contacted by Edward Snowden (aka CitizenFour) in blowing the whistle on the shocking extent of the NSA's surveillance of American and global citizenry. After months of covert communications and Deep-Throat-style mystery, Poitras and Greenwald finally met Snowden in Hong Kong. There, holed up in an hotel room for a week, they unwind and re-build the story that was to become one of the greatest dramas of our generation, played out here in real time and space, turning history into something we can all be part of.

**Academy Award 2015: Best Documentary**
**New York Film Festival, CPH:DOX, IDFA**
The Iron Ministry
JP SNIADECKI | USA / China | 2014 | 83min

Cinema Verité as you’ve never before experienced, *The Iron Ministry* invites you aboard a thrilling long-distance train journey across China. We travel the class carriages from back to front and back again as the passengers eat, sleep, chatter, debate, buy, sell and exist – crammed together in a sensory explosion of sight, sound, smell and taste. Raw meat for sale hangs in the gangways, cigarettes are smoked and shared along with politics and religion, hawkers push their wares through the throngs of the third class carriage, and a young woman gazes out the window, wondering what fate her destination will bring. For anyone who still expects cinema to take them on a true journey to another place, *The Iron Ministry* is undoubtedly an essential big-screen experience.

*Courtesy of the Director*

- Cinematography: Grand Prize, Jihlava IDF: Best Documentary
- Berlinale
- CT Sat 13 @ 8.30 CN | Sun 14 @ 5.30 Labia
- JHB Tue 9 @ 6.30 CN

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Iranian
MEHRAN TAMADON | Iran/France | 2014 | 105min

After three years, atheist Iranian expat Mehran Tamadon has done it: he’s convinced four Muslim clerics, defenders of Iran’s Islamic Republic, to spend a weekend living under one roof in the hope of brainstorming a way for all Iranians to co-exist, regardless of belief. As the clerics arrive for the mother of all sleepovers, the stage is set for a gripping experiment, a war of words as Tamadon pitches his liberal convictions against dogma, realising that the boundaries between them are hard to define. Debating issues from women’s rights to music and freedom of speech, this is an epic cat and mouse game laced with poison, fascinating entertainment and the sober reminder that mankind is destined to find conflict amongst itself, no matter how advanced it believes it is.

*Courtesy of the Director*

- Berlinale
- CT Sat 13 @ 8.30 CN | Sun 14 @ 5.30 Labia
- JHB Tue 9 @ 6.30 CN

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Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck

BRETT MORGAN | USA | 2015 | 132min

Ghostly, electric, this biography to end all biographies is like the man himself: a blurred whirlwind of sound, image, memory, pain and legend. Rewind to small-town Abderdeen, where Cobain spent his childhood, rejected and unmanageable, nurturing a creative flame-turned-firestorm which became rock sensation, Nirvana. Titled after an early audio collage, Montage of Heck mashes interview, animation, audio, live footage and diary entries into a scrapbook in four dimensions. But its beating heart is inscribed onto the never-seen-before VHS home movies of the young Cobain family – Kurt, his wife Courtney Love, and daughter Frances – which reveal not just an artist cracking under the responsibility of being a doomed prophet, but a man chasing a dream of happiness he couldn’t believe in.

Courtesy of SK Nouveau

Sun 14 @ 8 Labia

The Look of Silence

JOSHUA OPPENHEIMER | Denmark / Finland / Indonesia / Norway / UK | 2014 | 103min

When Oppenheimer’s astounding The Act Of Killing was released, it was hailed as the documentary event of the decade, breathtakingly capturing the boastful re-enactment by Indonesian militiamen of their million murders in 1965. In this equally exceptional companion piece, Oppenheimer returns, this time to the victims, embodied by humble village optometrist, Adi, whose brother was murdered at the whispered-about Snake River. “Why should I remember, if remembering breaks my heart?” sings one of the killers. Adi watches quietly in the afternoon sunlight, knowing that even if no one is ready to discuss the past, he will keep asking questions, softly confronting his brother’s murderers, while fitting them for glasses – improving their eyesight so they can remember.

Courtesy of the DFI

★ Venice FF: FIPRESCI Prize, Berlinale: Peace Award

Sun 14 @ 5 CN

CT Fri 5 @ 9 CN | Fri 12 @ 9 CN | Sun 14 @ 8 Labia

JHB Sat 6 @ 8 CN | Wed 10 @ 8.30 CN | Sun 14 @ 5 CN
On the Bride's Side
ANTONIO AUGUGLIARO, GABRIELE DEL GRANDE, KHALED SOLIMAN AL NASSIRY | Italy / Palestine | 2014 | 89min

It should be fiction, but it's true. Refusing to watch while thousands of refugees from the conflict-ravaged Arab world die attempting to infiltrate the safety of the European Fortress, a group of young Italians concoct the perfect plan: no one could suspect a wedding party. So, with five asylum-seekers, a marriage is fabricated and a journey begins, crossing the mountains into France, through Germany, Denmark and onwards to Sweden. It's the most relevant and thrilling of contemporary road movies, nuanced with humour, heartbreak and extreme suspense. The Italians risk a jail sentence for human trafficking, while for the refugees it's the danger of returning to the places they've risked their lives to escape. Utterly unique, On The Bride's Side takes cinema-activism - and independence - to new, unforgettable heights.

Pixadores
AMIR ESCANDARI | Finland / Denmark / Sweden / Brazil | 2014 | 93min

Cripta Djan is the leader of The Strongest Ones, one of Sao Paulo's teaming Pixadore Crews: graffiti ‘vandals’ who free-climb buildings, the higher the better, to tag their names – all life’s given them for free. Djan is the revolutionary, while his crew of William, Biscoito and Ricardo train-surf and graft by day, and paint by night. But, what happens when the pixadores are co-opted into the establishment? Travelling to Berlin on a cultural exchange, they fling themselves hilariously and tragically into a debate that echoes all the way to South Africa, where public space isn't for the public, art is for the élite and true freedom is hard to come by. Strikingly filmed in black and white, Pixadores is a turned-on, tuned-in youthful force of the now.

Venice FF, IDFA First Appearance Competition, Göteborg IFF
The Salt of the Earth
WIM WENDERS & JULIANO RIBEIRO SALGADO | France / Brazil / Italy | 2014 | 110min

The awe-inspiring monochrome images of Brazilian photographic maestro, Sebástiao Salgado, are finally exhibited here on the big screen that they almost seem made for. Their majesty, and the horrors of mankind and the wonders of nature they represent, is tempered by two different, but equally intimate, honest perspectives: that of friend and world-renowned filmmaker, Wim Wenders (Pina, Buena Vista Social Club), and Salgado’s son, Juliano. Both blend into the background to make way for Salgado’s great works, behind every one of which is a story – of famine, war, exodus and the brutality that almost destroyed the ex-economist’s ability to photograph, hope and live. With a luscious score and sound design, this engrossing, provoking, Oscar-nominated work has a philosophy all of its own.

 Courtesy of the Directors and Producers

Cannes, San Sebastian FF, IDFA

Silvered Water, Syria Self-Portrait
OSSAMA MOHAMED & WIAM SIMAV BEDIRXAN | France / Syria | 2014 | 93min

A searing concoction of eye-witness video and intimate correspondence, Silvered Water is impossible to ignore, even in a media-saturated time numbed to the horrors pouring from the world’s forgotten conflicts. Assembled from ‘1001’ phone videos captured by Syrian civilians in the midst of an unimaginable nightmare, exiled filmmaker Ossama Mohamed sends desperate emails to his collaborator and muse, Simav who is trapped in the besieged city of Homs. Even more heart-rending than the graphic violence are moments of purest beauty: in the midst of rubble that was once his city, a little boy picks mulberries with the joy of all children discovering the world. In this master-piece, not only of cinema but 21st century activism, we too will discover the world, never to be the same again.

 Courtesy of the Directors and Producers

Cannes, Toronto IFF, IDFA, New York FF, BFI London FF, CPH:DOX
That Sugar Film

DAMON GAMEAU | Australia | 2014 | 90min

Damon Gameau is on a mission. With his first child expected, he's going to use his own body to test what could be the greatest danger to his young family's healthy future: Sugar. Swearing to a two-month diet of only hidden sugars, those secreted away in supposedly 'healthy' foods, Gameau assembles a crack team to monitor the effect on his body and mind, travelling from Australia to the sugar-captals of the USA, along with cameo appearances from Stephen Fry and Hugh Jackman. Delivering it's bitter-pill message in a glittering, candied wrapper, That Sugar Film is as funny as it's frightening, promising to change the way you think about what you buy, eat and believe what it means to be healthy, whether you have a sweet tooth or not.

Courtesy of Times Media Films

Toto and His Sisters

ALEXANDER NANAU | Romania | 2014 | 93min

Young Toto and his teenage sisters, Andreea and Ana, are on their own, fending for themselves in the hard-knock city of Bucharest. Their mother's in prison for drug trafficking, telling parole officers that her brothers are minding the kids. If only it weren't so: Toto's uncles have turned the house into a drug den, with junkies shooting up on the couch while the ten-year-old tries to sleep. Ana's already an addict, pushing Andreea and Toto together in an against-all-odds fight for what little notion of 'family' remains. Toto's story has touched hearts world-wide in this festival favourite, in which Emmy-Award-Winning director Alexander Nanau hands over the camera to Andreea, creating the film's most heart-breaking moments in this work of profound humanity.

Courtesy of Outlook Films

☆ Warsaw IFF: Best Documentary, Zurich IFF: Best Documentary

Tribeca, Hot Docs, DOK Leipzig, San Sebastian IFF

CT Mon 8 @ 8.30 Labia | Tue 9 @ 6.30 CN | Sat 13 @ 5.30 CN Panel
JHB Thu 11 @ 6.30 CN | Sun 14 @ 8 CN

CT Mon 8 @ 8.45 CN | Thu 11 @ 6.30 CN
JHB Sat 13 @ 8 Bio
Virunga

ORLANDO VON EINSIEDEL | UK / Congo | 2014 | 100min

Before capturing the hearts of audiences around the world and only two days before this Oscar- and BAFTA-nominated films’ première, Virunga Park Warden Emmanuel de Merode was gunned down. He had just delivered damning evidence that proved the World Heritage Site was in grave danger. De Merode was one of dozens of park employees risking their lives in the unstable DRC region of Rumangabo, protecting the land so essential for locals, and home to the world's last mountain gorillas. Threats abound as the Congo's fragile peace crumbles, bringing rebel armies into the park, while mining company SOCO International engages in unlimited corruption to get their hands on the oil beneath. These courageous stories combine in a compulsive eco-thriller, a last stand in the battle to preserve not only Virunga, but nature for all our futures.

Courtesy of the Director and Producer

Tribeca, Hot Docs, DOXA, IDFA

The Visit

MICHAEL MADSEN | Austria / Denmark / Finland / Ireland / Norway | 2014 | 83min

If an alien space craft were to land tomorrow, what would we do, we citizens of Earth? Rather, how would our governments and international institutions react on our behalf? So begins this unique documentary of an event that has never happened, as scientists and politicians (from NASA, the UK government, to the UN’s Department of Outer Space Affairs) realise – that even if they've prepared for this moment in theory, nothing has readied them for the deepest soul searching of what is about to take place. How do aliens think? Do they come in peace? And what do they think of us? Seldom are our screens visited by a work as in love with imagination as it is with science, a fabrication that leads us on a spine-tingling journey of acceptance of the Unknown.

Courtesy of Outlook Films

Sundance, Hot Docs, SXSW, Visions du Reel
Indonesia – a sprawling archipelago of 18,307 islands, 922 of which are permanently settled by some 205 million people of 300 distinct ethnic groups – is emerging from decades of repressive regimes and corruption. In 2014, Joko Widodo – known as Jokowi – was quickly becoming the country’s most popular and most unexpected candidate: the former furniture salesman and heavy metal fan had successfully governed the capital, Jakarta, for 18-months when he threw himself head-first into the presidential race, on a mission to right the wrongs of the past, and uplift his country into a new era.
Dress, for Muslim women particularly, means long, shapeless, sombre tunics. However, in secular Turkey, women are embracing bright colours, glossy magazines and high street stores. Ala Magazine is at the forefront of hijabi modes and, while catering to conservative tastes, it negotiates the complicated boundary of faith and fashion. Not everyone, even women, are happy - regarding this material shift as a sign of corruption of the modesty so fundamental to Islam. Cover Story goes behind the scenes of Ala’s day-to-day publication in a flurry of headscarves and bonnets, while the debate about supposedly ‘feminine’ values rages outside.

Nelly, Guillermina and Rebeca have hit their 60s and 70s alone, widows, abandoned by children who forget to visit. So, what better than to dance? All three women have regained their footing, thanks to the enjoyment, companionship and affirmation they gain from the open-air danzon – a genteel, sensual style originating from Cuba – which has rekindled pride and joie de vivre in the elderly.
Blood Money / Imali Yegazi!

XOLANI TULUMANI | South Africa
2014 | 11min

In the traditions of the Eastern Cape, if one person harmed another, reparations to the victim's family had to be paid in the form of a goat or a sheep. But in the urban townships, where conventional law and order have eroded, families now demand ‘Imali Yegazi’ (Blood Money). Student filmmaker Tuluman traces this modern practice, and one particular revenge drama of Shakespearean proportions, when two young enemies clash in a knife fight.  

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Jazz Heart

CT Sat 6 @ 8 CN Q&A | Fri 12 @ 6.30 Labia
JHB Sun 14 @ 8 Bio Q&A

Nostalgia / Nostalgie

XANDER FOSTER | South Africa
2014 | 11min

Alexander Foster shares a name with his father, and his father before him. But much has changed for the conservative Afrikaans family over three generations. Today, Xander’s divorced father lives in Angola, and the time has come for a father-son heart-to-heart.  

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Coming of Age

CT Fri 5 @ 8 CN Q&A | Wed 10 @ 6.30 CN
JHB Fri 5 @ 8.45 Bio

Oswenka – Dignity in a Three Piece Suit

NONDUMISO BUTHELEZI | South Africa
2014 | 16min

Before Iziskothane there was Oswenka, born of the dirt and despair of apartheid-era mining hostels. Here migrant workers looked forward to Saturday nights, discarding overalls and boots for tailored suits and polished shoes, competing for the titles of best-dressed man and most stylish performer. Today, the tradition is kept alive by Vusi Kunene, who passes down not only suits, but the pride they represent, to his children.  

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Prisoner 467/64

CT Sat 6 @ 5.30 CN
JHB Sun 14 @ 6 Bio Q&A

Courage

CHERON STEENKAMP | South Africa
2014 | 11min

Steenkamp’s family doesn’t talk about the past. After years of silence and her mother’s death, she returns to Craddock to confront her father and unearth the secrets that have never been properly laid to rest. As raw as the arid Karoo soil, Courage is an honest, simple and brave student film.  

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with Coming of Age

CT Fri 5 @ 8 CN Q&A | Wed 10 @ 6.30 CN
JHB Fri 5 @ 8.45 Bio
Conway on a Monday

IBTISEM BEN NASSIB | South Africa | 2014 | 20min

Join taxi-driver Conway as he trawls the streets of Cape Town’s CBD - whether crossing the boundaries of high-life or low-life, it’s all in a night’s work. The hours are long, but Conway is good company, regaling us with stories of his colourful past and his beloved daughter, a constant commentary of Long Street’s underworld and, when words run out, singing along to Alanis Morisette.  

Courtesy of the Director

Screens with My Death Doesn’t Belong To Me

CT Thu 11 @ 6.30  CN Q&A  JHB Mon 8 @ 6 Bio

The Fighter

DARA KELL & CHRISTOPHER NIZZA | Brazil / South Africa | 2015 | 27min

Home for 12-year-old Naomy is the so-called slum area of Rio’s Vila Autódromo, where everything she loves is being ripped apart to make way for the 2016 Olympic Park. Naomy’s wide eyes take in everything, from the cynical, illegal evictions of the Brazilian authorities to her community’s refusal to go quietly. As she comes of age, in a struggle too familiar to South Africans, Naomy musters the strength of her father, swearing to fight to the end.  

Courtesy of the Directors

Screens with Wild Dog and Mrs Heart

CT Sun 7 @ 8  CN Q&A  Thu 11 @ 6.30 Labia Q&A  JHB Tue 9 @ 8 Bio Q&A

Jas Boude

GEORGINA WARNER & IMRAAN CHRISTIAN | South Africa | 2014 | 14min

To push through the streets is the ultimate freedom. But what happens when the streets do not welcome you? Or get you killed? Scorning the dangerously built government-built joke of a skate park, the heroes of Jas Boude leave the Cape Flats ghetto - where Table Mountain remains mockingly out of reach – to infiltrate the CBD in search of a feeling and a power denied. Jaw-dropping cinematography and astute political conscience present a city which works for a few in this must-see short film.  

Courtesy of the Directors

Screens with Ndi Vumeni Faniswa

CT Sat 13 @ 8 Labia Panel  JHB Thu 11 @ 8 Bio Q&A
CAMILLA NIELSSON

Nielsson studied documentary filmmaking at Tisch and holds an MA in visual anthropology from NYU. She directed a trilogy *Good Morning Afghanistan* (2003), *Durga* (2004), and *The Children of Darfur* (2005), and in 2009 *Mumbai Disconnected*. She collaborated with Israeli video artist Yael Bartana on a trilogy *And Europe Will Be Stunned* (2011), and *Re:Constructed Landscapes* in 2012. *Democrats*, her first feature documentary, won the World Documentary award at Tribeca 2014.

NOMAKHOMAZI DYOSOPU

Director Dyosopu is the founder of One Blood Sound, based in Port Elizabeth. Her first short, *Me, My Husband and His Boyfriend* (2006), a controversial mockumentary, scooped awards at the MNet Edit Competition, before screening at the Out If Africa Film Festival. Dyosopu was among the first team of directors to launch award winning documentary series *Zola 7*. She also directs commercials.

TEBOHO EDKINS

Edkins, born in the USA (1980), grew up in Lesotho, South Africa and Germany. He studied Fine Art at UCT, followed by a 2-year post-graduate residency at Le Fresnoy, Studio National des Arts Contemporains in France. He completed a post-graduate film directing programme at the DFFB Film Academy in Berlin.

HEINRICH DAHMS


FRANCOIS VERSTER

Emmy-award winning Verster is based in Cape Town. Among his multi-award-winning films are *Sea Point Days* (2009), *The Mother’s House* (2006), *A Lion's Trail* (2002) and *When The War Is Over* (2002). He has taught or held fellowships at Columbia University, NYU, UCT, UWC and Wits and has published widely on documentary. Verster has had nine local and international retrospectives and special focus series on his work, most recently at the Jeu de Paume in Paris.
ADRIAAN DE LA REY & PJ KOTZÉ
Adriaan de la Rey graduated *cum laude* (Film & Television) studies at the Open Window Institute in 2009, and completed his Honours in Visual Communication in 2011. Among other work, his 20 short films have screened at local festivals. He lectures and is the Production Manager at the Open Window Institute.

PJ Kotzé is a full-time Film lecturer at the Open Window Institute. His short films have featured and won awards at local film festivals. He is currently working on a fiction feature film to be filmed in 2015.

STEVE KWENA MOKWENA
Mokwena is an artist, historian, writer, filmmaker, cultural activist and curator with roots in the youth development field. He has made over 10 films including the award-winning *A Blues for Tiro* and *Driving with Fanon*. Mokwena is also the co-founder and curator of the Afrikan Freedom Station, an Afrocentric multi-media gallery in Johannesburg. Mokwena has an MA in Development (University of Leeds) and an Honours in History (Wits).

LEBOGANG RASETHABA
South Africa Rasethaba moves between Johannesburg and Beijing, where he completed a Masters degree in film studies at the Beijing Normal University. His films include *Xenophobia in Paradise* (2006), *Sino* (2009) and *Metro* (2010), and music videos for Spoek Mathambo, and Hip-Hop's DJ Wordy in China.

ODETTE GELDENHUYS
Geldenhuys has a degree in Sociology (UCT) and an LLB (Wits). Her films include *Being Pavarotti*, which débuted at the 2004 Berlinale and won numerous awards, *Grietjie van Garies* which premièred at the Berlinale 2005, and her portrait of George Bizos, *Here be Dragons*. She is a senior associate in the Pro Bono Practice at Webber Wentzel. Her expertise is broadly in the field of public interest law and specifically in Mining Energy and Natural Resource.

RIAAN HENDRICKS
Hendricks first film, *A Fisherman's Tale*, was described as a “sterling directorial debut”. His most recent feature documentary, *The Devil's Lair*, achieved critical acclaim, garnering 7 awards in the process. His work is celebrated for pushing the boundaries of documentary.
CHERON STEENKAMP
Steenkamp, born in 1989, hails from Rietfontein, between the Namibian and Botswana borders. She worked as a Grade R teacher at her local primary school before being selected to study at Big Fish School of Digital Filmmaking.

XANDER FOSTER
Foster left the Navy in 2009 to study journalism and media studies, before travelling through Angola, Zambia and Nigeria. He is a graduate of Big Fish School of Digital Filmmaking.

NONDUMISO BUTHELEZI
Buthelezi was born in 1988 in Dundee, Northern KwaZulu Natal. After studying Radio Journalism and Television Production and working in the industry as an intern and production assistant she became a freelance content producer and later enrolled at Big Fish School of Digital Filmmaking.

GEORGINA WARNER & IMRAAN CHRISTIAN
Warner and Christian both graduated from the UCT in 2014 with degrees in Film Production. The pair are now based at Popsicle TV, and continue to use film as a tool to explore the creative and socio-economic landscape of South Africa.

IBTISEM BEN NASSIB
Ben Nassib grew up between Asia and Europe, before studying filmmaking in Cape Town. As a person of mixed heritage, she uses her cultural understanding to explore the many facets of life and the people around her. Conway On A Monday is her first documentary.

XOLANI TULUMANI
Born in King William’s Town, Tulumani now lives in Cape Town. After reading for Computer Studies at Cape Business College, he graduated from Big Fish School of Digital Filmmaking in 2014.
### FRIDAY 5 JUNE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Virunga Private screening</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Beats of the Antonov</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Coming of Age + COURAGE Q&amp;A + NOSTALGIA / NOSTALGIE Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>The Visit</td>
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<td>The Shore Break + Live Event</td>
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### SATURDAY 6 JUNE

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<td>Jazz Heart Q&amp;A + BLOOD MONEY</td>
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### SUNDAY 7 JUNE

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<td>Wild Dog and Mrs Heart Q&amp;A + THE FIGHTER</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td><strong>MONDAY 8 JUNE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Democrats</td>
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<td>8.45</td>
<td>Toto and His Sisters</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY 9 JUNE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30</td>
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<td>The Visit</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE</strong></td>
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<td>6.30</td>
<td>Coming of Age + COURAGE + NOSTALGIA / NOSTALGIE</td>
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### SATURDAY 13 JUNE

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<td>The Shore Break + Panel</td>
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ALL PM SHOWS

Cape Town Schedule

Labia
### Friday 5 June
- **6.30** The Shore Break + Q&A
- **8.45** CitizenFour

### Saturday 6 June
- **5.30** The Visit
- **8** Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck

### Sunday 7 June
- **6** Beats of the Antonov
- **8** Virunga

### Monday 8 June
- **6.30** The Look of Silence
- **8.30** Democrats

### Tuesday 9 June
- **6.30** Iranian
- **8.45** Al Jazeera 1 + Q&A

### Wednesday 10 June
- **6.30** The Look of Silence
- **8.30** Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck

### Thursday 11 June
- **6.30** That Sugar Film
- **8.30** CitizenFour

### Friday 12 June
- **6.30** The Dream of Shahrazad
- **8.30** Pixadores

### Saturday 13 June
- **6** The Look of Silence
- **8.15** Approaching the Elephant

### Sunday 14 June
- **5** Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck
- **8** That Sugar Film

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**Rosebank Johannesburg**
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www.cinemanouveau.co.za

**Ticket price**
**R50**

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ALL PM SHOWS

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**Johannesburg Schedule**
The Bioscope
011 039 7306
www.thebioscope.co.za | info@thebioscope.co.za

Friday 5 June
6.30  The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution
8.45  Coming of Age + COURAGE + NOSTALGIA / NOSTALGIE

Saturday 6 June
5.30  Between The Devil and The Deep
8  Democrats

Sunday 7 June
5.30  The Siren of Faso Fani
8  The Iron Ministry

Monday 8 June
6  My Death doesn't belong to Me + CONWAY ON A MONDAY
8  EL Gort + Q&A

Tuesday 9 June
6.30  Out on the Street
8  Wild Dog and Mrs Heart + THE FIGHTER + Q&A

Wednesday 10 June
6.30  In Search of our Own: The Forgotten Legacy of Norman Eaton + Q&A
8.15  Approaching the Elephant

Thursday 11 June
6.30  On the Bride’s Side
8  Ndi Vumeni: Faniswa + JAS BOUDE + Q&A

Friday 12 June
6.30  The Shore Break
8.45  Silvered Water, Syria Self-Portrait

Saturday 13 June
6  Asni: Courage, Passion & Glamour in Ethiopia
8  Toto and His Sisters

Sunday 14 June
6  Prisoner 467/64: The Untold Legacy of Andrew Mlangeni + OSWENKA: DIGNITY IN A THREE PIECE SUIT + Q&A
8  Jazz Heart Q&A + Blood Money / IMALI YEGAZI!

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