

XXIV. BLACK INTERNATIONAL CINEMA BERLIN 2009

"I may not make it
if I try,
but I damn sure won't
if I don't..."
Oscar Brown Jr.

A Complexion Change

MAY 7-10

TRIBUTE

Chancellor Willy Brandt
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
President John F. Kennedy
President Barack Hussein Obama

Rathaus Schöneberg

in cooperation with
Commissioner for Integration
Tempelhof-Schöneberg

John-F.-Kennedy-Platz
10825 Berlin-Germany

International & Intercultural Diplomacy

A Fountainhead® Tanz Theatre Production
www.blackinternationalcinema.de

German Commission for UNESCO

Our festival is supported as an ideal project by the German Commission for UNESCO, Bonn. As a result we received the following letter of acknowledgement from Christine M. Merkel, Head of the Division for Culture and Memory of the World.

"A COMPLEXION CHANGE 2009-2011 is an International Media Project with a very contemporary and innovative approach. It aims at contributing to the strengthening of international understanding, peace and friendship among peoples. It promotes intercultural dialogue in the spirit of the ideals and aims of UNESCO.

The German Commission for UNESCO appreciates this initiative. We kindly ask you to assist Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith and the Fountainhead® Tanz Theatre / Black International Cinema Berlin / The Collegium - Forum & Television Program Berlin & Cultural Zephyr e.V. as well as all other co-organizers and project participants in realizing this project.

We are convinced that this idea can offer inspiring experience to many people in the region."

RAILBOOKERS

"Since it was founded in 1986, the Black International Cinema festival in Berlin has developed into one of the most highly-regarded film events in Europe and movie fans will have the chance to experience it for themselves between May 7th and 10th. Produced and directed by the Fountainhead® Tanz Theatre, the extravaganza is an interdisciplinary and intercultural celebration of the contribution made by black actors and directors in the world of film. The focus of the festival is to present works of a cultural, artistic and political nature coinciding with the general social, economic and educational interests of people from Africa. Open to all filmmakers and visitors, the event provides a platform for the impact of cinema from the African Diaspora and people with an interest in intercultural relations. The Fountainhead® organization is committed to fighting religious, ethnic and gender persecution and seeks to battle discrimination through dialogue and understanding. By using art, theatre, dance, music and seminars, the foundation believes that prejudice against disadvantaged groups can be challenged and stronger links within society can be forged. Visitors will be treated to powerful and thought-provoking examples of cinema from the past and present."

FILM & SEMINAR PROGRAM

THURSDAY • MAY 7

ADMISSION FREE • EINTRITT FREI

4.30 pm • 16.30 h

OPENING CEREMONY Bibliothek (Library)

SPOKEN WORD

Friends • Neighbors • Music

Presenters:

Yamil Borges - USA/Berlin
Prof. Donald Muldrow Griffith - USA/Berlin
MFA Kera - Madagascar/Berlin
Astrid Koki - Cameroon/Berlin
Harry Louiserre - Guadeloupe/Berlin
Yvette Robertson - USA/Berlin
Mike Russell - USA/Berlin

Catering: Barbara Saltmann, Ya-Man - Jamaica/Berlin

6 pm • 18 h

YEK ROZE POR DARD / ONE DAY FULL OF PAIN

Director: Sattar Chamani Gol
Documentary, Color, 20 min., Iran 2008
Kurdish with English subtitles

There is an old man in a Kurdistan village in Iran, who sets broken bones with very simple tools.

LEIMERT PARK: THE STORY OF A VILLAGE IN SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES

Director: Jeannette Lindsay
Documentary, Color, 87 min., USA 2006
English

8 pm • 20 h

PRINCE OF BROADWAY

Director: Sean Baker
Narrative, Color, 130 min., USA 2008
English

"Prince of Broadway" is the story of Lucky and Levon, two men whose lives converge in the underbelly of New York's wholesale fashion district.

SEMINAR PRESENTATION Kinosaal (Cinema) "Males and Society"

Presenters: Yamil Borges, MFA Kera, Astrid Koki, Harry Louiserre, Yvette Robertson, Mike Russell

10.15 pm • 22.15 h

ASHEGHHA / LOVERS

Director: Kaveh Ghahremany
Experimental, Color, 1,5 min., Iran 2008
no dialogue

BAD HAR KOJA BEKHAHAD MIVAZAD / WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT WANTS

Director: Naryam Esmikhani
Experimental, Color, 2 min., Iran 2008
no dialogue

This is the story of a photographer who takes a photo of a woman through a window.

BAD HAR KOJA BEKHAHAD MIVAZAD / WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT WANTS

Director: Kaveh Ghahremany
Experimental, Color, 3 min., Iran 2008
no dialogue

I became beautiful, when the air of your presence danced with me.

NAGHAHIHA / PAINTERS

Director: Kaveh Ghahremany
Experimental, Color, 2 min., Iran 2008
no dialogue

It would be nice if we were aware of how beautifully the paint drops on the canvas of a lid.

ZENDEGI PAS AZ MARG / NEXT LIFE

Director: Kaveh Ghahremany
Experimental, Color, 2 min., Iran 2008
no dialogue

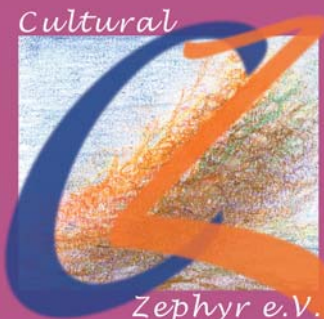
Perhaps if we knew upon reaching the place where seeds turn into plants, we would realize once more how beautiful and free we will be, then we would never fear death.

6 THINGS I NEVER TOLD YOU

Directors: Stacey L. Holman, Cinque Northern, Ed Durante, Rod Gailies/OBC, Caran Hartsfield, James Richards
Narrative, Color/B/W, 92 min., USA 2005/06
English

"6 Things I Never Told You" is an anthology of short films, dealing with committed romantic relationships in flux.

"I may not make it if I try,
but I damn sure won't if I don't..."
Oscar Brown Jr.



"Mankind will either find a way
or make one."
C. P. Snow

FRIDAY • MAY 8

4.45 pm • 16.45 h

BLAS: EL HOMBRE E SU LEYENDA / BLAS: THE MAN AND HIS LEGEND

Directors: Galina Likosova & Hernán Humberto Restrepo
Documentary, Color, 58 min., Colombia 2008
Spanish with English subtitles

Composer, conductor, and music professor Blas Emilio Atehortúa is one of the most important people in the history of the arts in Colombia and of the continent, during the 20th and 21st centuries.

5.45 pm • 17.45 h

IN PRISON MY WHOLE LIFE: Mumia Abu-Jamal

Director: Marc Evans
Documentary, Color, 93 min., USA 2008
English

This film follows 25 year-old William Francome's investigation into the arrest of Mumia Abu-Jamal, famed death-row prisoner and award-winning Black Panther journalist.

SEMINAR PRESENTATION Kinosaal (Cinema) "Mumia and the World"

Presenters: Siera and guests

8 pm • 20 h

BAHA / THE WILD FLOWER

Director: Shripakash
Narrative, Color, 117 min., India 2008
Nagpuri with English subtitles

This is the story of a tribal boy who wants to become a singer, in the capital city of a poor and tribal domi-

nated province in India, whose parents want him to be an officer.

8.30 pm • 20.30 h

PROSE & POETRY / PROSA & POESIE

Bibliothek (Library)
Presenters: Rolf Gänssrich, Friedo, Martin Miersch, Elisabeth Quast

10 pm • 22 Uhr

MUKHBIIR

Director: Mani Shankar
Narrative, Color, 130 min., India 2007/8
Hindi with English subtitles

This is a film about a young man and the many masks he wears... enacting a desperate drama where forgetting the lines, means instant death.

SATURDAY • MAY 9

10 am • 10 h

MATIK / LIPSTICK

Director: Babak Meinghi
Narrative, Color, 6 min., Iran 2007
no dialogue

DIGAR KASI NIST / THERE IS NOBODY ANYMORE

Director: Kaveh Ghahremany
Experimental, Color, 6 min., Iran 2008
Persian with English subtitles

Hope for that day...

SONOR / BORDER

Director: Sattar Chamani Gol
Narrative, Color, 10 min., Iran 2008
Kurdish and Persian with English subtitles

An Iraqi family, while escorting their bride from Iran, confront a frontier official who prevents them from crossing the frontier. They are forced to utilize a deviated path to arrive in their own country.

DAR KOCHÉ BAD MIYAD / THE WIND IS BLOWING IN THE LANE

Director: Diako Yazdani
Documentary, Color, 9 min., Iran 2008
Persian with English subtitles

A teenage boy selling saplings enters a dry and treeless town. He faces strange and bizarre reactions from the residents as he is unable to find customers for his saplings.

MAHTAB ROYE BO / MOONLIGHT ON THE CANVAS

Director: Amir Hossein Tarabi
Narrative, Color, 24 min., Iran 2008
Persian with English subtitles

A young man goes to a painter and wants him to draw a portrait of the girl he loves.

UN LUGAR EN EL MUNDO / A PLACE IN THE WORLD

Director: Juan Falque
Documentary, Color, 33 min., Senegal 2008
French with English subtitles

Religion exists since man is man. They change their rites and cultures, and share the same essence and support to develop the positive qualities of a human being.

12 am • 12 h

TORKO, TORENTO, TEHRAN

Director: Kaveh Ovaisi
Experimental, Color, 9 min., Iran 2008
Persian with English subtitles

"Torko, Torento, Tehran" depicts the story of three Iranian taxi drivers in three cities of the world.

NOLLYWOOD AAN DE SCHELDE / NOLLYWOOD ABROAD

Director: Saartje Geerts
Documentary, Color, 48 min., Belgium 2008
English and Dutch with English subtitles

John dreams of a career as a famous and respected Nollywood filmmaker, and of building a life in Europe. But then he becomes involved in a shady affair, is arrested and convicted of inciting prostitution and complicity in people trafficking.

ABORTION DEMOCRACY: POLAND/SOUTH AFRICA

Director: Sarah Diehl
Documentary, Color, 50 min., Germany 2008
English and Polish with English subtitles

The documentary feature explores and contrasts changes in Poland and South Africa, regarding abortion laws and their impact on the lives of women.

2 pm • 14 h

IOWANGA / TRYST

Director: Zahra Aliakbari
Narrative, Color, 7 min., Iran 2008
Kurdish with English subtitles

A young woman and man want to speak with their families in order to resolve an old animosity, but...

SIGAR KESHIDAN DARBAD / SMOKING IN THE WIND

Director: Zahra Aliakbari
Narrative, Color, 11 min., Iran 2008
Persian with English subtitles

"Smoking in the Wind" is not a story. It is an image of routine life nestled in silence and expectations.



