



A film by
Mohammed Soudani

L'AFRIQUE DES FEMMES

in memory of
Tiziana Soudani

(Women's Africa)

Produced by Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera /SRG SSR
Documentary, 89 min

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You can download clips here:
[L'afrique Des Femmes 1-1 subtitles.mp4](#)
[L'afrique Des Femmes 2-1 subtitles.mp4](#)

You can download stills here: [JPEG](#)

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

75 years have passed since African countries gained independence. Since then, many projects have been put in place to make Africa become an independent economic power. We can certainly say that the result was catastrophic, or, worse, a total failure.

We know that dictatorship is the number one interest among presidents of African countries and it's well understood that almost the whole continent lives under a dictatorship with a backward economy. We also know that the former European colonisers never wanted a truly developed and autonomous Africa. Today other countries such as China and Japan are taking over.

I met and carefully listened to women of all categories: from those who have access to the highest reaches because they have studied hard, to those who have been cast aside because they have never been to school, but are very active within society.

The meetings, the discussions and debates which gave life to this project impose themselves on our conscience. I tried to put into images the stories of women who work, who struggle daily, who don't think about defeat and never give up in spite of their suffering, their fights, the desolation around them. They are the hope of a new Africa. My main objective was to give voice and convey their intimate beliefs, and to understand the causes and legitimate revolts of every woman who has decided to go through with it. These are testimonies from women who are not afraid and are ready to act.

This film, in which my wife and producer Tiziana Soudani believed from the very beginning, was developed with her support right up to the end of shooting and is dedicated to her.

Mohammed Soudani

SYNOPSIS

Senegal, Rwanda, Mozambique, Kenya, Ivory Coast and Burundi are the birthplaces of women who in Mohammed Soudani's film represent the symbol of the rebirth of a continent torn apart by genocide, hunger and war. Society's revenge is not a story of men, but of vanguard women who, despite pressures, obstacles and increasingly difficult challenges, recount their success in the failed history of the continent's last 70 years.

ABOUT MOHAMMED SOUDANI

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY AND FILMOGRAPHY

Mohammed Soudani
1949 – Algerian and Swiss citizenship

Born in 1949 in El-Asnam, Algeria, Mohammed Soudani emigrated to Ticino, Switzerland, 30 years ago, where he became one of the most appreciated and creative Swiss film and television directors. Very sensitive to the African situation and relations with Europe, he won the 1998 Swiss Film Award in Solothurn as Best Fiction Film with "Waalò Fendo (la où la terre gèle)".

A cameraman for Algerian television from 1970 to 1971, after studying at IDHEC (Institut des Hautes Ecoles Cinématographiques) in Paris, he worked first as a cameraman and then as director of photography at Polivideo SA in Switzerland until 1986. During this period, in 1980, he trained as a director of photography in the United States.



Photo © Ti-Press / Samuel Golay

He taught audiovisual at:

- the I.T.A.M. Institute and Video Presse in Paris
- Fininvest in Milan
- SUPSI, University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland
- CISA, (International Academy of Audiovisual Sciences), Lugano/Locarno (Switzerland)

ABOUT MOHAMMED SOUDANI

«CINEMASUISSE»

<https://www.rts.ch/play/tv/cinema-suisse/video/cinema-suisse-saison-2-mohammed-soudani-710?id=5122517>

ABOUT AMKA FILMS PRODUCTIONS

PRODUCTION COMPANY'S BIOGRAPHY AND FILMOGRAPHY

Amka Films Productions is active in the film and television production of feature films and documentaries. Founded in 1987 by Tiziana Soudani (1955-2020) and Mohammed Soudani (director of *Waalò Fendo*, Swiss Film Award 1998, Best Fiction Film), it became a public limited company in 1988. Among many others, Amka Films produced the box-office hit *Bread and Tulips* by Silvio Soldini, the award-winning *Happy as Lazzaro* by Alice Rohrwacher, and the recent *Favolacce (Bad Tales)* by the D'Innocenzo brothers.

Michela Pini and Amel Soudani are now producers for Amka Films

Michela Pini studied at the University of Brescia, where she graduated in Film Sciences. She has worked as executive producer in several productions and for several directors such as Alice Rohrwacher, Ursula Meier, Denis Rabaglia and Daniele Ciprì. She is a member of GARP (Groupe suisse auteurs, réalisateurs et producteurs) and the Solothurn Swiss Film Days Society (SGSF - Schweizerische Gesellschaft Solothurner Filmtage). She is also president of the Ticino Film Commission and member of the AFAT committee, the Ticino Film and Audiovisual Association. She has participated in several workshops such as Cannes Producers Network, Torino FeatureLab, FIDLab Marseille, Berlinale Talents Berlin, Ekran+ Warsavia and Production Value Helsinki.

Amel Soudani studied at IULM University in Milan, where she graduated in Public Relations and Advertising and completed her studies with a Master in Business and Management at the HTW in Chur. After working as casting and press office for several Swiss films, she started working at Rete Tre (RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera) as Community Manager and Multimedia Assistant. She then worked for two years at FDFA Presence Switzerland as Head of Digital Communication for Expo Milano 2015. In 2016, she became head of communications and member of the board of director of the Locarno Film Festival. From 2018 to 2020 she has worked as a communication and operations consultant for the Compagnia Finzi Pasca, for which she actively participated in the Fête des Vignerons project in Vevey. Amel is also member of the Swiss Cinema Academy and of the board of AFAT (Ticino Film and Audiovisual Association).

IN DEVELOPMENT

KLARA WENDEL

by **Andreas Müller and Dorothée Elmiger**,
fiction feature film

IL LEGAME

by **Alessandra Müller** fiction feature film

DOPPELGÄNGER

by **Erik Bernasconi with Gimel collective**,
fiction series

INVELLE

by **Simone Massi**, animation feature film,
in co-production with Minimum Fax Media (I)

IN PRE-PRODUCTION

BODY ODYSSEY

by **Grazia Tricarico**, fiction feature film,
in co-production with Revok Film (I)

CHIMERA

by **Alice Rohrwacher**, fiction feature film,
in co-production with Tempesta (I)

IN PRODUCTION

RED

by **Mara Manzolini, Andrea Pellerani
and Élodie Dermange**, animated documentary

IL CANTO DEL RESPIRO

by **Simona Canonica**, documentary

COMPLETED (Selected filmography)

FICTION

2021

ARIAFERMA

by Leonardo Di Costanzo

117', in co-production with Tempesta (I) and Dolce Vita Films (F)

with Toni Servillo, Silvio Orlando, Fabrizio Ferracane, Salvatore Striano

Mostra internazionale d'arte cinematografica Venice 2021

2020

IL DEMOLITORE DI CAMPER

by Robert Ralston

written by Luca Saltini, Tina Boillat, Lara Fremder, Daniela Gambaro

87', a prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera 56. Solothurn Film Festival; Film Festival del Garda, 34. Castellinaria

2020

FAVOLACCE (Bad Tales)

by Fabio D'innocenzo, Damiano D'Innocenzo

98', a co-prod. Pepito Produzioni, Rai Cinema (I), Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera (CH) with Elio Germano, Barbara Chichiarelli, Gabriel Montesi, Lino Musella

Berlinale 2020, Silver Bear Award for the best screenplay;

5 Nastri d'Argento 2020 for best film, screenplay, producer, picture, costumes;

European Film Awards Nomination Best European Screenwriter;

13 nominations for the David di Donatello 2021: film, director, original screenplay, producer, supporting actor, supporting actress, photography, production design, editing, sound, hairstyles, David giovani; Award for Best editing

Zürich Film Festival, Swiss Premiere

Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi Zurich, international sales: The Match Factory

2019

LOVE ME TENDER

by Klaudia Reynicke

83', a prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera with Barbara Giordano, Antonio Bannò, Gilles Privat,

Maurizio Tabani, Anna Galante, Federica Vermiglio Locarno Film Festival 2019, Cinéastes du Présent; Toronto International Film Festival 2019, Discovery; BFI London Film Festival 2019; 16. Festival de Cine Sevilla 2019; AFI Festival 2019; 10th Athens Avant Garde Film

Festival 2019; Pöff23 Tallin Black Nights Film Festival 2019; 55. Solothurn Film Festival, Panorama; Il Cinema Svizzero contemporaneo 2020 (online); Festival del Cinema Svizzero, Venice 2020 (online); Kyiv IFF Molodist 2020; Artekino Festival 2020; BAFICI (Buenos Aires International Festival of Independent Cinema) 2021

Swiss distribution: First Hand Films, international sales: Summerside Int'l

2019

BARBARA ADESSO

by Alessandra Müller

80', a prod. Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera

with Cristina Zamboni, Roberto Molo, Giuliano Gavin, Anna Gavin, Margherita Coldesina

Solothurn Film Festival 2019; Othermovie 2019, special mention to the director; Vail Film Festival 2020, Best feature film; Tokyo Lift-Off Online 2020; Hollywood womens international film festival 2020

2018

LAZZARO FELICE (Happy as Lazzaro)

by Alice Rohrwacher

120', a co-prod. Tempesta and Rai Cinema (I)/Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera/Ad Vitam (F)/Pola Pandora (D)

with Adriano Tardiolo, Luca Chikovani, Alba Rohrwacher, Nicoletta Braschi, Sergi Lopéz

Official selection Cannes 2018, best scenario award, candidate for the Nastri d'Argento 2018;

New York Film Festival; Zürich Film Festival 2018; Busan Film Festival; Chicago Film Festival 2019, Best Film Award; European Film Academy 2019, Best Film award;

4 nominations for The European Film Academy, EFA Young Audience Award; 9 nominations David di Donatello 2019; 3 nominations Ciak d'Oro 2019

Release in the USA by Netflix, Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi Zurich, International sales: The Match Factory

2017

L'INTRUSA (The Intruder)

by Leonardo Di Costanzo

95', a co-prod. Tempesta and Rai Cinema (I)/Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera (CH), Capricci (F) with Raffaella Giordano, Valentina Vannino, Martina Abbate, Anna Patierno, Marcello Fonte

Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, Cannes 2017; Eurimages Award to the Best European Coproduction 2017;

Golden Globe Best Film 2018

Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi ZH, International sales: The Match Factory

2016

IL NIDO (The Nest)

by Klaudia Reynicke

75', a co-prod. Amka Films (CH) and Tempesta (I) with Ondina Quadri, Fabrizio Rongione, Sonia Gessner, Diego Ribon, Giovanni Franzoni, Luigi Diberti, Giosia Gilardi

Locarno Film Festival 2016, Cinéastes du Présent; 30th Braunschweig International Film Festival 2016; Ventana Sur 2016, Market, Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival 2016; 32nd Santa Barbara International Film Festival 2017 (Nominated for ADL Stand Up Award); 52. Solothurn Film Festival 2017; 34. Uruguay International Film Festival 2017; Swiss Cinema in Venice 2017; Sguardi Altrove Milan International Women Film Festival 2017; Bolzano Film Festival Bozen 2017; Minneapolis International Film Festival 2017; Montevideo Uruguay International Film Festival 2017; Neue Heimat Film Festival Freistadt 2017; São Paulo International Film Festival 2017; Swiss Focus Guwahati International Film Festival 2018

Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi ZH, International sales: The Open Reel

2016

LE ULTIME COSE

by Irene Dionisio

90', a co-prod. Tempesta, RAI cinema (I)/Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera (CH)/Ad Vitam (F) with Christina Rosamilia, Fabrizio Falco, Roberto De Francesco, Alfonso Santagata, Salvatore Cantalupo, Anna Ferruzzo

Venice film festival 2016, Critics' Week; Asti Film Festival 2016, Prize Best Actress to Christina Rosamilia and Prize Best Director to Irene Dionisio; Mittelcinema Festival 2016; Festival du Film Italien de Villerupt 2016, Prize of jury Amilcar; Solothurn Film Festival 2017; Göteborg Film Festival 2016

International sales: Ad Vitam

2015

SANGUE DEL MIO SANGUE

by Marco Bellocchio

100', a co-prod. Kavac Film, IBC Movie and Rai Cinema (I)/Barbary Films (F)/Amka Films, RSI Swiss Radio and Television (CH) with Roberto Herlitzka, Pier Giorgio Bellocchio, Lidiya Liberman, Fausto Russo Alesi, Alba Rohrwacher, Federica Fracassi, Alberto Cracco, Bruno Cariello, Toni Bertorelli, Filippo Timi, Elena Bellocchio, Ivan Franek

Mostra internazionale d'arte cinematografica Venice 2015, Prize Fipresci; Toronto Film Festival 2015

Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi ZH, International sales: The Match Factory

2014

LE MERA VIGLIE (The Wonders)

by Alice Rohrwacher

111', a co-prod. Tempesta, RAI cinema (I)/Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera (CH)/Pola Pandora (D)

with Sam Louwick, Sabine Timoteo, Alba Rohrwacher, Monica Bellucci, Maria Alexandra Lungu

Festival de Cannes 2014, Grand Prix Du Jury; Filmfest München 2014, Best Film; Zürich Film Festival 2014 Gala Premiere; New Horizons Abu Dhabi Film Festival 2014, "Black Pearl Award"; Sevilla European Film Festival 2014, Special Jury Award; Mar del Plata Int. Film Festival 2014, Best Screenplay; Silver Ribbon 2014, Special Ribbon to Alice Rohrwacher for the international success of the film Special Mention in the context of the Guglielmo Biraghi Awards for new actors to Maria Alexandra Lungu.

Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi ZH, International sales: The Match Factory. Sales in more than 25 countries

Complete filmography Fiction: amka.ch/fictions

DOCUMENTARIES

2022

L'AFRIQUE DES FEMMES

by Mohammed Soudani

89', a prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera, SRG SSR, Nikady's Production, Pro-human equality

Locarno 2020, The Films After Tomorrow National Competition; 57. Solothurn Film Festival 2022

2021

SOGNANDO UN'ISOLA

by Andrea Pellerani

77', a prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera

Vision du Réel 2021 National Competition

International Sales: Antidote Sales

2020

ONLY A CHILD

by Simone Giampaolo

6', a prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera, SRG SSR

Encounters Film Festival 2020; Los Angeles Animation Festival 2020, Best Combination-Mixed Media Award; 56. Solothurn Film Festival 2021; Nomination at Swiss Prix Award as Best animated Film 2021; Silk Road International Film Festival 2021; Animac 2021; Tampere Film Festival 2021; 5th Indian World Film Festival-2021, Best director (Animation); 25eREGARD-Festival International du court métrage 2021 (Young competition), Best Youth Short Film Award; Mecal Pro 2021 Barcelona International Short and Animation Film

Festival; Aspen Short Film Festival 2021; 12th International Animation Short Film Festival of Roanne, International Audience Award; American Documentary and Animation Film Festival 2021; Ecu-European Independent Film Festival 2021; International Trickfilm Festival, Grand Prix Special Mention, SWR OnlineFilm Audience Award; Animafest Zagreb; One Country One Film Festival, Best Animation Film Award; 16thAnim!Arte International Student Animation Festival of Brazil; La Guarimba; Animatricks 2021; Euganea Film Festival, Premio Cinemambulante; Cabriolet Film Festival; Florida Anim Festival; Siggraph; Neum Animated Film Festival; Animadeba; 16th Anim!Arte - International Student Animation Festival of Brazil: Second place award in Environmental Film-Professional section; Maracay International Film and Video Festival

Shortlisted in the 94. Academy Awards 2022

International Sales: Premium Films

2019

AMAZONIAN COSMOS

by Daniel Schweizer

87', a prod. Amka Films, Horizon2 Films, RTS Radiotélévision suisse, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera 55. Solothurn Film Festival 2020
18th International Festival Signs of the Night – Bangkok, Edward Snowden Award;
Festival dei diritti umani di Lugano 2020; Cinema Ambiente 23rd Environmental Film Festival Torino 2020; Delemont-Hollywood Festival 2020; Festival Filmar en America Latina 2020; Montreal Independent Film Festival; 18. Festival Internacional Signos da Noite - Lisboa (6. Edição) special mention of the Jury; One World - International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival 2021

2019

MONSIEUR PIGEON

by Antonio Prata

56', a prod. Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera
55. Solothurn Film Festival 2020;
18th International Festival Signs of the Night – Bangkok, The Main Award for Documentaries;
Mediterraneo Video Festival 2020; 18. Festival internacional Signos da Noite - Lisboa (6. Edição) Finalist at Paris Film Festival 2021; VALÈIFF València Indie Film Festival!

2019

ONE MORE JUMP

by Emanuele Gerosa

82', a co-production Graffiti Doc.(I)/Amka Films (CH)
60. Festival dei popoli 2019, Premio Cinema AmoRe; 68. Trento Film Festival 2020

Prix Europa 2020, Best European TV Documentary Award

World Sales: Fandango

2018

GREETINGS FROM NOWHERE

by Andrée Julikà Tavares and Gianluca Monnier

63', a prod. Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera and Parapluie Pictures

2017

GOTTHARD – ONE LIFE, ONE SOUL

by Kevin Merz

95' a prod. Amka Films and RSI radiotelevisione svizzera
Locarno Film Festival 2017 Piazza Grande; 53. Solothurn Film Festival 2018
Swiss distribution: Filmcoopi ZH, International sales: The Open Reel, DVD Sales Impuls

2017

NON HO L'ETÀ

by Olmo Cerri and Simona Casonato

93', a co-prod. Amka Films, REC Association, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera (CH)/Tempesta (I)
Vision du Réel 2017 Swiss Competition; Festival Internazionale Visioni dal Mondo 2017 Milano
Swiss distribution: Spot-On Distribution

2017

CERN – THE SENSE OF BEAUTY

by Valerio Jalongo

75', a co-prod. Amka Films, RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera, La Frontera video & film (CH)/Ameuropa and RAI cinema (I)
Vision du Réel 2017 Swiss Competition; Festival Internazionale Visioni dal Mondo 2017 Milan; Selected for the Prix Europa 2017
Swiss distribution: First Hand Films, Italian Distribution: UBU Distribution, International Sales: First Hand Films

2017

L'ULTIMO GIRO

by Andrea Pellerani

75', a prod. Amka films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera
Festival Internazionale del Cinema Documentario primavera 2017 Taranto Official Selection

2016

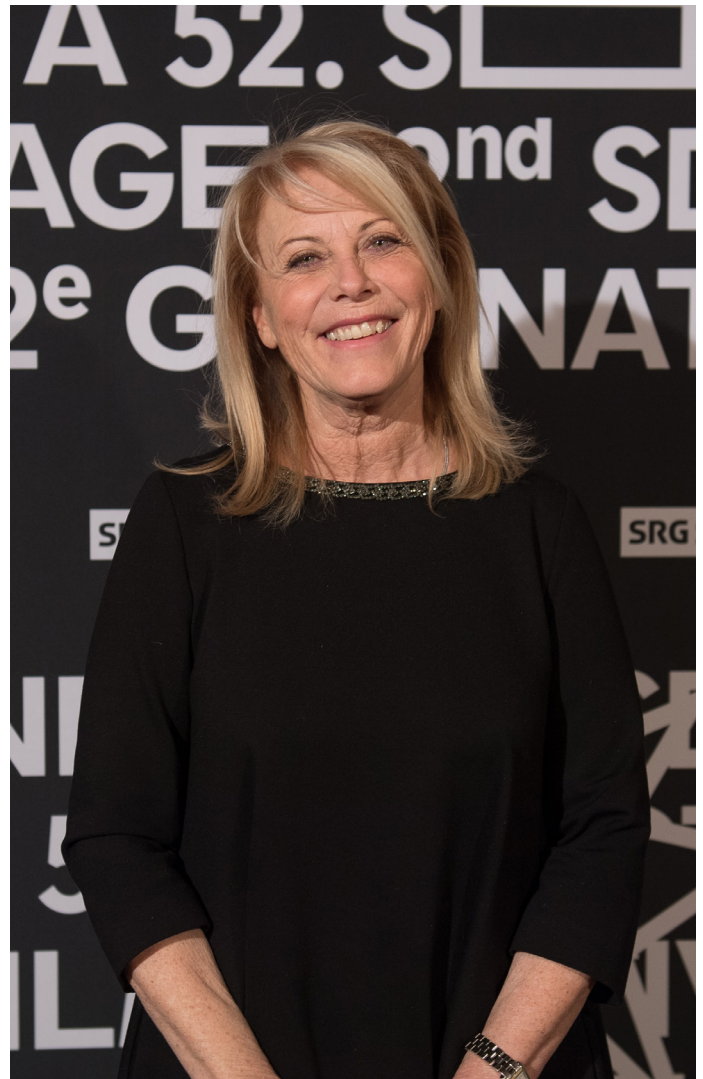
RUNA LLACTA

by Stephanie Rauer

55', a prod. Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera

Complete Filmography Documentaries: amka.ch/documentaires

Tiziana Soudani (1955-2020), who founded Amka Films together with her husband Mohammed Soudani (director of "Waalo Fendo", Swiss Film Award 1998, Best Fiction Film) was a member of ACE, EFA and the Swiss Film Academy and was for several years a member of the fiction/documentary board at the Federal Office of Culture and the Film Fund & Commission Südtirol/Alto Adige. Among the numerous awards received we can mention the "Los Angeles La Femme Film Festival" Production Award, the "UK-Italy Creative Industry" Awards for the best innovative budget at the Venice Film Festival, the Ciak d'Oro Award with Carlo Cresto Dina as best producer for "L'intervallo" by Leonardo Di Costanzo, the Premio Repubblica e Cantone Ticino as best producer at the Locarno Film Festival, the prize of honour for her contribution to Swiss cinema at the Solothurner Filmtage. She was also a member of the jury for numerous festivals, including the Zürich Film Festival, FrontDoc Aosta, GIFF (Geneva Film Festival), Festival du Noir Courmayeur, Festival dei Popoli Firenze, Mannheim, Swiss Film Prize and Pardi of tomorrow at the Locarno Film Festival.



CAST AND CREW

CREDITS

A film by
MOHAMMED SOUDANI

Photography
MOHAMMED SOUDANI
GIORGIO GARINI

Assistant Director and Editor
GIORGIO GARINI

Original Music by
LOKUA KANZA
MARIA BONZANIGO

Sound Editing and Mix
RICCARDO STUDER

Produced by
TIZIANA SOUDANI
AMEL SOUDANI
MICHELA PINI

Co-Produced by
SILVANA BEZZOLA RIGOLINI

Associate Producers
YOUSSOUF DJIRA
ANGÉLIQUE PITTELOUD

Sound
BJÖRN CORNELIUS, SVIZZERA
ALIOUNE MBOW, SENEGAL
EUGENE SAFALI, RUANDA
ABDELAZIZ KOLY DIABATE, COSTA D'AVORIO

Applications and Financing Search
TINA BOILLAT

Production Coordinator
MIRIAM AVELLI

Production Assitants
BARBARA TADDEI
LISA FANO

Production Assistant (Ivory Coast)
MESSOU ANZIAN JOSEPH

Location manager (Nairobi)
JOSEPH MATHENGE

Set Coordinator (Rwanda and Kenya)
ANGÉLIQUE PITTELOUD

Production Assistant RSI
ALESSANDRA WITZIG

Accounting
SERGIO VIGNATI
GINEVRA REYMOND
ALAN LEMO

Legal Matters
CARLO REZZONICO

Post-Production Image
8HORSES GMBH, ZÜRICH

Post-Production Supervisor
SIMON GUY FÄSSLER

Conforming
MICHAEL HESS

Colorist and Titles
PATRISCHA FREULER

Press Office
TINA BOILLAT

Graphic Design
VERA BIANDA

Studio for Mix
CISA CONSERVATORIO INTERNAZIONALE
DI SCIENZE AUDIOVISIVE
PALACINEMA LOCARNO

Sound Editing
RICCARDO STUDER
ALESSANDRA MODUGNO

Sound Intern
ALICE PISCHETOLA

Recording Studio
LARA PERSIA, STUDIO LEMURA

Casting Instrumentalists
CLAUDE HAURI

Translations and Subtitles
FIORENZA KUTHAN, NIUMI
LUANA DONATO
MEDIAMIXTRE

Produced by
AMKA FILMS PRODUCTIONS SA

Co-Produced by
RSI RADIOTELEVISIONE SVIZZERA
DI LINGUA ITALIANA
SRG SSR

With the participation of
TV5 MONDE

Associate Producers
NIKADY'S PRODUCTION
ASSOCIATION PRO-HUMAN EQUALITY

With the support of
UFFICIO FEDERALE DELLA CULTURA
REPUBBLICA E CANTONE TICINO
FONDO FILMPLUS DELLA SVIZZERA ITALIANA
FONDAZIONE CULTURALE SUISSIMAGE

CAST INTERVIEWED WOMEN

YVONNE ERIE - Ivory Coast

She is the manager of the large Gourò Market (fruit and vegetables), entirely run by women. One of Abidjan's most active entrepreneurs in the food sector, she has become a model for hundreds of women, an example of strength through union. She has never forgotten the working-class neighbourhood of Adjamé where she comes from.

LEONI OSSO SONA - Ivory Coast

Hers is a small cocoa plantation compared to those of the big multinationals, but it is the only one entirely owned by women.

MARIANNE TENENG N'DAY - Senegal

Marianne, alongside about fifty other women, continues to work in fish processing handed down from generation to generation, despite the climate crisis and competition from Chinese and Koreans, which have made their work increasingly difficult.



MARGUERITE BARANKITSE - Burundi/Rwanda

A humanitarian activist who works to improve the welfare of children and challenge ethnic discrimination in Burundi. After rescuing 25 children from a massacre, she was forced to witness the conflicts between the Hutu and Tutsi in her country in 1993. She established Maison Shalom, a shelter that provided access to healthcare, education, and culture to over 20,000 orphan children in need. Because she protested against a third term for President Nkurunziza, she lives in exile. During the 26 years that it operated in Burundi, Maison Shalom grew into a large network of schools, hospitals, and healthcare services across the country.



WANGARI MAATHAI - Kenya

(1 April 1940 - 25 September 2011)

Wangari Muta Maathai was a renowned Kenyan social, environmental and political activist and the first African woman to win the Nobel Prize in 2004. She founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental NGO focused on the planting of trees, environmental conservation, and women's rights. Maathai was an elected member of Parliament and served as assistant minister for Environment and Natural resources in the government of President Mwai Kibaki.



MARION KAMAU - Kenya

The figure of Wangari Maathai is told through the testimony of her friend and current Green Belt Movement Kenya president, Marion Kamau.

**ANGELA MERCIA
and NORINA VINCENTE - Mozambique**

Two young Mozambican women committed to nature conservation. Angela is a vet specialized in big cats, especially lions. Norina is an entomologist and deals specifically with ants. Through environmental protection, they also fight to avoid the premature marriage of young girls nearby and to promote the education of young girls as the only possibility of development for women.

CATHERINE TETTEH - Senegal

For over 20 years she has been addressing the problem of skin depigmentation to healthcare professionals and is fighting to have the problem of skin bleaching recognised as a public health problem. She works in collaboration with representatives of the UN General Assembly in New York, the WHO, the Hospice General and associations such as Release in Fribourg. She is the founder of the Melanin Foundation, which enabled her to receive the Geneva Prize "Femmes exilées, Femmes engagées" in April 2011.

**and with:
ROGER GNOAN M'BALA**

A great connoisseur of the history of the Ivory Coast, once mayor of his city, the former capital Grand-Bassam, he is one of the most renowned African directors.

