



CALL ME KUCHU

Friday 23 November 2012 - 6.30pm

Directors: Katherine Fairfax Wright and Malika Zouhali-Worrall
Country: US
Year: 2012
Duration: 87 minutes
In English and Luganda with English subtitles

In an office on the outskirts of Kampala, veteran activist David Kato labors to repeal Uganda's homophobic laws and liberate his fellow lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender men and women, or "kuchus." But David's formidable task just became more difficult. A new "Anti-Homosexuality Bill" proposes the death penalty for HIV-positive gay men and prison for anyone who fails to turn in a known homosexual. David is one of the few who dare to publicly protest the country's government and press. Working with a dedicated group of fellow activists, he fights for Kampala's kuchus on Ugandan television, at the United Nations, and in the courts. Because, he insists, "if we keep on hiding, they will say we are not here." With unprecedented access, Call Me Kuchu examines the astounding courage and determination required to battle an oppressive government, a vicious media and a powerful church in the fight for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights.

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TYRANNY HAS A WITNESS

Human Rights Watch is one of the world's leading independent organisations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights. We work tenaciously to lay the legal and moral groundwork for deep rooted change and fight to bring greater justice and security to people around the world. Through the Human Rights Watch Film Festival we bear witness to human rights violations and create a forum for courageous individuals on both sides of the lens to empower audiences with the knowledge that personal commitment can make a difference. The film festival brings human rights abuses to life through storytelling in a way that challenges each individual to empathise and demand justice for all.

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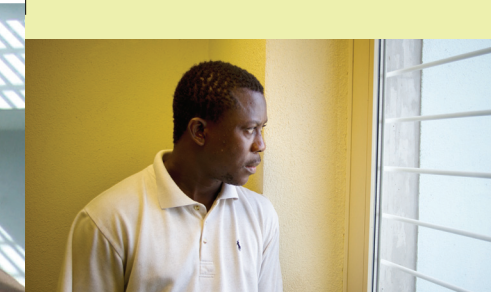
FILM FESTIVAL



Alliance Française de NAIROBI,
Monrovia/Loita Street,
Nairobi ☎ 19 — 23 November, 2012

There will be a panel discussion after each screening

Entry Free



SPECIAL FLIGHT

Monday 19 November 2012 - 6.30pm

Director: Fernand Melgar

Country: Switzerland

Year: 2011

Duration: 100minutes

In French with English subtitles



WORDS OF WITNESS

Tuesday 20 November 2012 - 6.30pm

Director: Mai Iskander

Country: Egypt/US

Year: 2012

Duration: 68 minutes

In English and Arabic with English subtitles



THE ISLAND PRESIDENT

Wednesday 21 November 2012 - 6.30pm

Director: Jon Shenk

Country: US

Year: 2011

Duration: 100 minutes

In English and Dhivehi with English subtitles



LOVE CRIMES OF KABUL

Thursday 22 November 2012 - 6.30pm

Director: Tanaz Eshaghian

Country: Afghanistan/US

Year: 2011

Duration: 71 minutes

In Dari and Pashto with English subtitles



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Fernand Melgar's intimate and emotionally charged portrait of the rejected asylum seekers and illegal migrants in Switzerland's Frambois detention centre reveals a world that few know from the inside. With amazing access to his subjects, Melgar introduces us to a community of men who share friendships, fears, and a similar fate. There are three possibilities for every resident: to leave free with asylum granted, to leave the country by choice on a regular flight, or to leave in custody on a so-called 'special flight' back to their country of origin. As planes come and go in the background, the staff—who are caretakers, counsellors, and friends to the men there—have heart-felt dialogues about the well-being of residents. In the end though, the staff reflect society's attitudes towards migrants, and are also recipients of the residents' resentment—making them simultaneously friend and foe. And that fact is most evident when staff must prepare one of the men to leave on a special flight.



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Director: Mai Iskander
Country: Egypt/US
Year: 2012
Duration: 68 minutes
In English and Arabic with English subtitles

Defying cultural norms and family expectations, 22-year-old Heba Afify takes to the streets to report on an Egypt in turmoil, using tweets, texts and Facebook posts. Every time Heba heads out to cover the historical events shaping her country's future, her mother is compelled to remind her, "I know you are a journalist, but you're still a girl!" Her coming of age, political awakening and the disillusionment that follows, mirrors that of a nation seeking the freedom to shape its own destiny, dignity and democracy. Heba's words bear witness to the heady optimism of a country on a path to self-determination, the toppling of a dictator, the difficult transition toward democracy, the courageous challenge to the ruling military who cracks down on the opposition, and the celebration of a cultural shift where a younger generation inspired a country to "lead themselves."



THE ISLAND PRESIDENT

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Jon Shenk's The Island President tells the story of President Mohamed Nasheed of the Maldives, who must grapple with the daunting prospect of his country fighting for physical survival and his citizens becoming 'environmental refugees.' After bringing democracy to the Indian Ocean nation following 30 years of despotic rule, Nasheed now faces an even greater challenge: rising sea levels that threaten to submerge the Maldives' nearly 2000 islands. The Island President captures Nasheed's first year in office, culminating in his trip to the 2009 Copenhagen Climate Summit, where the film provides a rare glimpse of the political horse-trading that goes on at such a top-level global assembly. Nasheed leverages the Maldives' underdog position as a tiny country, harnessing the media's power and overcoming deadlocks by appealing to other developing nations for unity.



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Jailed for running away from home to escape abuse, for allegations of adultery, and other "moral crimes," the women of Afghanistan's Badum Bagh prison band together to fight for their freedom. Love Crimes of Kabul follows three young prisoners as they go to trial, revealing the pressures and paradoxes women in Afghanistan face today, and the dangerous consequences of refusing to fit into society's norms. Their defiant actions come to be seen as threats to the very fabric of society, and their acts of self-determination as illegal. Will life outside prison enable these women to experience the freedom they desire? Filmmaker Tanaz Eshaghian brings us into the lives of these "outsiders," and we watch as teenage romantics learn to become steely-eyed negotiators in an effort to secure their future, brokering their freedom with courage, charm, and skill.