

# 10th Annual African Diaspora International Film Festival in Washington DC - August 19-21, 2016

*The DC African Diaspora International Film Festival (ADIFF) will hold its 10th Anniversary from August 19 to 21 with 18 films, including 12 US and DC premieres.*

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, August 11, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Highlights in the festival include the DC premiere presentation of award-winning documentary "The Man Who Mends Women - The Wrath Of Hippocrates" by Thierry Michel and Colette Braeckman, portrait of Doctor Denis Mukwege, internationally known as the man who has assisted thousands of women sexually abused during the 20 years of conflict in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. There will be a Q&A after the screening.

"Invisible Heroes: African-Americans in the Spanish Civil War" by Alfonso Domingo and Jordi Torrent explores the story of those African-Americans who were part of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain. Director Jordi Torrent will be on hand for a Q&A after the screening.

New Zealand 2014 Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Film Category "White Lies" by Dana Rotberg is set in the Maori community in colonial times New Zealand. It will be shown with

"White Like the Moon" by Marina Gonzales Palmier about a Mexican-American girl who struggles to keep her identity when her mother forces her to bleach her skin.

"Hogtown" by Daniel Nearing, is a beautifully shot – in black and white - murder mystery set in 1919 against the backdrop of the Chicago race riots of that year. Visually stunning, "Hogtown" is - according to the Chicago Sun-Times - "The most original film made in Chicago about Chicago to date." Director Daniel Nearing and lead actor Herman Wilkins will both attend the screening.



The Man Who Mends Women



Invisible Heroes: African Americans In the Spanish Civil War

To celebrate its 10th anniversary in Washington DC, ADIFF offers a Double Opening Night featuring special guest, poet, playwright, activist: Sonia Sanchez. Seminal figure in the 1960s Black Arts Movement; mentor to generations of poets and hip-hop artists. Champion for peace: in the classroom, on the street, and around the world, Sonia Sanchez will participate in a Q&A following the screening of award-winning documentary "BaddDDD Sonia Sanchez". Co-director Sabrina Gordon will also attend the screening. Following the Opening Night VIP Reception, Qasim Basir, writer and director of "Mooz-Lum" (2010) will be on hand to present his latest drama "Destined" (2016) which just won Best Director and Best Lead Actor at ABFF. In *Destined*, a pivotal moment in 13-year-



New Zealand 2014 Oscar Submission in the Foreign Language Film Category

old Rasheed's life splits off into two possible outcomes: in one, he becomes an up-and-coming architect and in the other, a powerful drug lord.

The CANDOMBLE & SANTERIA Program, Closing Night program of DC ADIFF 2016, features the classic film "Oggun: An Eternal Presence" by Afro-Cuban director Gloria Rolando and DC Premiere "Yemanjá: Wisdom from the African Heart of Brazil" by Donna C. Roberts and Donna Read. In *Oggun*, Gloria Rolando relates the patakin or mythical story of Oggun, the tireless warrior who, enamored of his mother, decided as punishment to imprison himself in the mountains. Narrated by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker, *Yemanjá* is a documentary film about the Candomblé spiritual tradition in Bahia, Brazil, a vibrant African-derived culture which evolved from slavery's brutal past.

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"The African Diaspora International Film Festival is a festival of diversity and inclusion built around the human experience of people of color."

*Dr. Reinaldo B. Spech, ADIFF  
Founder and Curator*

ADIFF DC presents the History of Resistance in The

Caribbean program with films set in Haiti, Cuba and Jamaica. The French film "Toussaint Louverture" by Philippe Niang is a two-part epic drama about the life story of the man who led the first successful slave uprising that gave its independence to Haiti. "Maluala" by Sergio Giral takes us into a Palenque, a settlement of Maroons in Cuba, "Catch a Fire" by Menelik Shabbaz explores the reasons and consequences of the Morant Bay Rebellion of 1865 in Jamaica and "The Price of Memory" follows a group of Rasta men who petitioned Queen Elizabeth II for slavery reparations. Director Karen Marks Mafundikwa will be on hand for a Q&A after the screening of her film *The Price of Memory*.

Thanks to the support of the Embassy of Switzerland, ADIFF DC 2016 proudly presents three short dramas that explore a multicultural and multiracial Switzerland: "Discipline" by Christophe M. Saber, "Inland" by Piet Baumgartner, and "Objection VI" by Rolando Colla. In "Discipline," after a father disciplines his disobedient child in a grocery store, strangers become involved and a quarrel breaks out. In "Inland," based on a true story, Alina is fifteen when her stepfather, a stately Nigerian, is arrested for dealing drugs and her world is turned upside-down. "Objection VI" reconstructs the true story of a crude process of deportation that took place in 2010 in Switzerland.

The African Diaspora International Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. The 10th Annual DC African Diaspora Film Festival is made possible thanks to the generous support of the following institutions: The Africana Studies Program and the Global Women's Institute at George Washington University, ArtMattan Productions, TV5 Monde, Home Advisor, Africa World Now Project, WPFW, WEAA and the Embassy of Switzerland. The GWU Marvin Center is located at 800 21st Street NW in Washington D.C.

For screeners, to set up interviews with filmmakers and/or receive high resolution images, please call 212-864-1760 or e-mail Diarah N'Daw-Spech at [pr@nyadiff.org](mailto:pr@nyadiff.org).

## ADIFF WASHINGTON DC 2016

### ===== Schedule at a Glance =====

Friday, August 19, 2016

#### ===== OPENING NIGHT

7:00pm | Discipline & BaddDDD Sonia Sanchez + Q&A

8:30pm | Catered VIP Reception

10:00pm | Destined + Q&A

Saturday, August 20, 2016

#### ===== RESISTANCE IN THE CARIBBEAN PROGRAM(from 10:00am to 6:30pm)

Toussaint Louverture

10:00am |Part 1

11:50am |Part 2

2:00pm | Maluala

4:00pm | Jamaican History Program: Catch a Fire & The Price of Memory+ Q&A

6:45pm | Invisible Heroes + Q&A

8:45pm | Objection VI & Hogtown + Q&A

Sunday, August 21, 2016

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10:00am | Stories of Colorism: White Like the Moon & White Lies

12:20pm | Inland & Sexy Money

2:10pm | The Man who Mends Women + Q&A

5:00pm | Stand Down Soldier + Skype Q&A

7:30pm | CLOSING NIGHT – Candomble & Santeria Program:

Ogun & Yemanjá: Wisdom from the African Heart of Brazil + Q&A

Diarah N'Daw-Spech

African Diaspora International Film Festival

2128641760

email us here

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