

# MAMA AFRICA: MIRIAM MAKEBA! OPENS AT IFC CENTER ON JAN. 19, 2018

*Mika Kaurismaki's award-winning documentary traces the life, activism and music of Miriam Makeba, the first African musicians to win international stardom!*

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES, January 11, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [MAMA AFRICA: MIRIAM MAKEBA!](#) OPENS AT [IFC CENTER](#) ON JAN. 19, 2018

Directed by Mika Kaurismaki, 2011, 90 min, South Africa / Germany, documentary in English

Miriam Makeba was one of the first African musicians who won international stardom and whose music was always anchored in her traditional South African roots. Miriam Makeba was forced into exile in 1959.

She sang for John F. Kennedy, performed with Harry Belafonte and Nina Simone, was married to Hugh Masekela and also Stokely Carmichael.

Her life was tumultuous. She always stood for truth and justice. She fought for the oppressed most importantly for black Africans, as a campaigner against apartheid. She died November 2008 after a concert in Italy.

Mika Kaurismaki's documentary, traces fifty years of her music and her performing life. Through rare archive footage of her performances and through interviews with her contemporaries we discover the remarkable journey of Miriam Makeba.



Mama Africa: Miriam Makeba  
Poster

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Worth watching as a compilation of the great singer's songs but even more worth watching as social history from the heyday of the civil rights movement to Black Power to the end of apartheid.”

*Louis Proyect*

Two musicians who played in Miriam Makeba's band for years will be on hand for Q&As: Percussionist Leopoldo Fleming on Saturday, January 20 and bassist Bill Salter on Sunday, January 21. Details available on the film's web site [Miriam-Makeba-Movie.com](#).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND SCREENERS,  
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ABOUT ARTMATTAN FILMS

ArtMattan Films celebrates in 2017 twenty five years of exposing US audiences to a large variety of films about the human experience of people of color in many parts of the world. Films released by ArtMattan Films include Kirikou and the Sorceress, The Tracker, Gospel Hill, Scheherazade, Tell Me a Story, The First Rasta, The Pirogue and most recently White Lies. More info at <http://www.AfricanFilm.com>

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Miriam Makeba



Miriam Makeba in Come Back Africa

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