

# SHORT FILMS

Short films are not only the entry point for young film-makers into the art form, but also hone the skills required to tell a compelling story over a short space of time. The 29th Durban International Film Festival presents a selection of 60 short films from 30 countries, 29 of which are South African and a further 13 made in other African countries.

## 3 CIGARETTES

*d. Stephen De Villiers, South Africa 2007 5*

Angela, Bonginkosi and Jennifer are three characters whose seemingly unrelated choices influence each other's fate. For each of them, a cigarette is the only hope they have left.

*Filmmaker in attendance*

*English and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 50 min*

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**Imagine Africa Package 4**  
24 KwaSuka 18h00

## AB1

*d. Nikolay Moutaftchiev, Bulgaria 2008 5*

A girl snatches a purse from a woman in the park. Soon her life will depend on whether her victim chooses to forgive her or exact revenge.

*Bulgarian with English subtitles, Video, 10 min*

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**Short Film Package 2**

## AGENDA

*d. Dirk Grobber, South Africa 2007 5*

At Very Important Meetings where Very Important Issues are discussed by Very Important People, the excitement levels predictably dwindle until the arrival of the tea-girl. She becomes the most interesting feature of the meeting's agenda. A stop-frame 'junkmation' beauty.

*Filmmaker in attendance*

*No dialogue, Video, 7 min*

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**Short Film Package 4**

## ALTER EGO

*d. Kuba Gryglicki, Poland 2007 5*

In a far away tower is a Jester suffering from delusions of grandeur and totally obsessed with his false reflection. His reflection in a parallel universe suffers delusions of a similar kind. Animated wonder.

*No dialogue, Video, 7 min*

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**Short Film Package 4**

## ANA'S WAY

*d. Richard Vazquez, Spain 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

Ana walks slowly through a yellow landscape desolated and burned by the sun. Her destination is a jail where her husband is held prisoner. Will she be able to deliver the small bundle she carries with her?

*Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 9 min*

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## ANGELS

*d. Lee-Ann Olwage, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

Paul has decided he wants to get his life together and his new girl friend insists he joins her at church. The dangerous trip to church with thugs blocking the subway becomes the test of his faith and the means for his deliverance.

*Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 12 min*

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## APPLE

*d. Jonas Rudstrom, Sweden 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

A young girl spots the most delectable-looking apple on a tree across the hedge. The problem is, the tree belongs to the most dangerous man in the neighbourhood.

*No dialogue, Video, 6 min*

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## AREA BOYS

*d. Omeliu Nwanguma, Nigeria/United Kingdom 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

Petty thieves Bode and Obi decide to break away from their gang and cut ties with their boss Dele. Forced to flee the city in search of a better life, their rebellion could easily cost them their lives.

*Pidgin English with English subtitles, Video, 25 min*

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## AT THY CALL

*d. Christopher-Lee dos Santos, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 2**

Set in apartheid South Africa 1984, this is the story of a young man whose Afrikaner values are tested as he accepts the compulsory draft into the military and befriends a rebellious Englishman. He must decide to either stand up for what is right or answer the Call to the Republic and his family.

*English, Afrikaans and French with English subtitles, Video, 35 min*

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## BAREFOOT ON THE STAGE

*d. Andrea Rovetta, Italy 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

The audition is the ultimate test of an actor's ability to be versatile and show his talent, but what performer cannot share a tale of the audition from Hell? An actress shows exactly how far she would go to get the role she's auditioning for.

*Italian with English subtitles, Video, 5 min*

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## **BERGIE IN MY BOOT**

*d. Jacorine van der Westhuizen, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

Cape Town used car salesmen will sell you anything if the price is right, and if you're nice you may even get a combi-full of homeless people as an extra item.

*Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 9 min*

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## **BLUNDER HUNTER**

*d. George Cristacopoulos, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

Our protagonist, Pvt. Eugene Hunter must contend with an army of mosquitoes hell bent on running riot in his home at night. He dons his night-vision goggles, kills the light and waits in the shadows for the battle to begin. Animated mayhem.

*No dialogue, Video, 5 min*

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## **BROTHER'S KEEPER**

*d. Molebogeng Angoma, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

Rudzani is bright young man whose life is a constant struggle for the bare necessities, including the fees for his matriculation studies. His brave stand against the lure of crime however, leaves him in a lot of trouble.

*English, Video, 15 min*

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## **CENTRE FOR FINE ART ANIMATION AND DESIGN**

*d. Students and tutors, South Africa 2008 S*

**28 CFAD 14h00**

An animated show-reel from Durban's creative precinct. Films were made under the leadership of award-winning political cartoonist Nanda Sooban.

*Filmmakers in attendance*

*Various, Video, 10 min*

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## **CHARCOAL TRAFFIC**

*d. Nathan Collett, Somalia/Kenya 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

There is another war taking place in Somalia as charcoal producers out to make money whatever the cost threaten the environment and the pastoral life known for centuries in the desert.

*Somali with English subtitles, Video, 7 min*

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## **CHINESE WHISPER**

*d. Oliver Rauch, Germany 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

A game of broken telephone among third grade children looks set to devastate one child as the others make fun of him. But one classmate wisely turns the game on its head in his interception of the message.

*German with English subtitles, Video, 3 min*

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## A CHRISTMAS TALE

d. Aaron Naidoo, South Africa 2007 S

Short Film Package 3

Who goes on a blind date on Christmas Eve? Well Winston does, and his date endures service from a weird, unhelpful waiter, awkward silences and conversations that would best be replaced with silence.

English, Video, 18 min

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## COMMANDO

d. Stephen De Villiers, South Africa 2007 S

24 MTB 12h00; Short Film Package 2

After two years in the Anglo Boer War, Deneys Reitz witnesses the killing of two of his close friends by a British firing squad. An encounter with a wounded British officer in the veld teaches Reitz about compassion.

English, Afrikaans and Sotho with English subtitles, Video, 17 min

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## CONFESSIONS

d. Daddy Ruhorahoza, Rwanda 2007 S

24 MTB 12h00; Short Film Package 2

Mentally tormented by a grave mistake made in his past, a man goes to a confessional. But what does the priest do when the sins committed require a lot more than ten Hail Marys for penance?

French with English subtitles, Video, 15 min

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## THE CULPRIT

d. Jako Tromp, South Africa 2007 S

Short Film Package 4

When Madala's garden plants turn up eaten by a mysterious culprit, all the residents of the garden rally together to find the culprit and restore peace and order.

English, Video, 5 min

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## CUTTING SILENCE

d. Reina-Marie Loader, South Africa 2007 S

24 MTB 12h00; Short Film Package 2

In a small North African family, Karida's mute mother Haadiya has lived with the effects of female genital mutilation all her life. Now that Karida's turn has come to be circumcised, her mother is filled with a doubt that questions a centuries old tradition.

English, Video, 27 min

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## DREAM'S GARDEN

d. Jamshid Bayrami, Iran 2007 S

Short Film Package 5

A little boy badly wants to play football, but there's no one to play with in the desert. Undeterred, he soon finds an interesting solution to his problem.

Persian with English subtitles, Video, 10 min

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## FIXED FRAME FILM FESTIVAL

*d. Various, South Africa 2008 S*

25 Kwasuka 18h00

Now in its second year, the Fixed Frame Festival held at KwaSuka Theatre presents a kaleidoscopic package of minute-long fixed frame films by Durban filmmakers.

*Filmmakers in attendance*

*Various, Video, 1 min X 60*

## FATHERLAND

*d. Desmond Denton, South Africa 2006 S*

24 MTB 12h00; Imagine Africa Package 2

Conraad returns to the family farm where his father died in a fire and finds that the place still holds many memories for him. With his step-father bent on selling the farm, will Conraad be able to prevent him?

*Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 13 min*

## GUBI – THE BIRTH OF FRUIT

*d. Philippa Hermann, South Africa 2006 S*

Imagine Africa Package 1

An experimental film that weaves an interesting fable around the chain of birth and rebirth that sustains life, told through a pair of lovers in an ancient tribe that lived in mystical times.

*No dialogue, Video, 7 min*

## HAKIM

*d. Ismail Sahin, Germany/Tanzania 2007 S*

Short Film Package 1

At the age of one, Hakim is found at the side of his dead mother by an old man who sends him to a children's village for AIDS orphans. There he meets Aga, a kindhearted educator whose stories captivate the kids and allows them to live life in the now.

*Swahili with English subtitles, Video, 15 min*

## A HAPPY THERMOMETER

*d. Mina Yonezawa, Japan 2008 S*

Short Film Package 4

Boy thermometer meets girl thermometer and they make baby thermometers. Everything is peachy until an unexpected event put the Thermometer family in jeopardy. Can they escape from the crisis safely? Animated metaphor for the global age.

*No dialogue, Video, 4 min*

## HUGH

*d. Navarr/Nouveau/Pommie/Turbe, France 2007 S*

Short Film Package 4

An old Shaman tells three young children the legend of how the sky once hung so low that people had to walk bent. But one day children changed the world by lifting up the sky with sticks. Slick animation.

*French with English subtitles, Video, 9 min*

## I DON'T FEEL LIKE DANCING

*d. Evi Goldbrunner and Joachim Dollopf, Germany 2008 5*

**24 MTB 12h00; Short Film Package 5**

Three young soldiers stationed in a war zone are bored with the routine. After one of them is rejected by a native girl, they decide to follow her to the shadows and exact a violent kind of revenge.

*English, Video, 7 min*

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## I LOVE YOU

*d. Rogerio Manjate, Mozambique 2007 5*

**Short Film Package 2**

A young boy naively in love with his neighbour, who is a prostitute, wants to talk to her about the dangers of contracting HIV but doesn't know how. He eventually finds an innovative way to get his message across.

*No Dialogue, Video, 3 min*

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## INFLATION

*d. Christina Anderson, Zimbabwe 2008 5*

**Imagine Africa Package 1**

A ten thousand Zimbabwean dollar note looks set for a promising future as it is withdrawn to hire a television but its value and its prospects diminish as it travels on a downward spiral that sees it end up used as cigarette paper for a homeless man.

*English, Video, 2 min*

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## JO'BURG

*d. Thabo Wolaardt, South Africa 2007 5*

**Imagine Africa Package 3**

In the heart of Johannesburg, a young newspaper vendor is battling to meet his expenses and provide medicine for his ill brother. His attempt at supplementing his income brings him into contact with a pregnant woman who has just uncovered a terrible secret about her fiancé.

*English, Sotho and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 22 min*

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## THE JUJU DOCTOR

*d. Mellamy Ileogben, Nigeria 2007 5*

**Imagine Africa Package 2**

As a young man Nigerian Fere was mesmerized by the local Juju Doctor and his superstitious cures. So much so that Fere took his fatal advice. Now wiser, he wants to stop the man he blames for ruining his life.

*Pidgin and Ijaw with English subtitles, Video, 19 min*

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## KAMMAKASTIG LAND

*d. Brandon Oelofse, South Africa 2007 5*

**Imagine Africa Package 4**

After the death of his father, Fourie embarks on a nation-wide trek to dispose of his father's ashes at Cape Point. Along the way he discovers some of his father's secrets, as well as a new perspective on his world.

*English, Video, 29 min*

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## LAND OF FEAR

*d. Desmond Denton, South Africa 2005 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 2**

On her eighteenth birthday, Lain sneaks out in her new car to meet up with her friends against her father's wishes. As she tries to sneak back in, her father mistakes her for a robber and the results are tragic.

*Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 6 min*

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## LOADED

*d. Mark Brunger, South Africa 2007 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 2**

Ex-con Cole has given up the life of crime, fast cars and guns to make an honest living working at a hotel. That is until a friend from his past shows up with an offer he cannot refuse.

*English, Video, 15 min*

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## LE BULLE

*d. Raminosoa Mamihasina, Madagascar 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

A young foreigner is stuck in a "Bubble" that is his hotel in Madagascar. His days are alike, the luxury has become a routine for him, until an insect and a local woman begin to visit him during his lunches.

*No dialogue, Video, 9 min*

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## LE SAVIOR

*d. Andriantomga Ridha, Madagascar 2008 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 4**

This animated film is about a man who journeys to the city filled with anticipation but he soon realises how strange city life is and the adjustments he is required to make to fit in. First prize winner at the Short Film Encounters of Madagascar.

*No dialogue, Video, 9 min*

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## MON DESTIN (MY DESTINY)

*d. Joakim Johnattan, Madagascar 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

A young boy living on the streets with nothing but his makeshift guitar gets no sympathy from passersby and has nowhere to go. Seeing an older guitarist inspires him to seek his destiny as a musician.

*No dialogue, Video, 4 min*

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## MUTI

*d. Martinus Lamprecht, South Africa 2007 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 1**

Muti killings leave a small village in a grip of fear with accusations flying around. Ayanda must find her husband's killer and protect her son from becoming the next victim, but who can she trust?

*Filmmaker in attendance*

*Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 24 min*

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## MY GRIEVANCE

*d. Siyabonga Godfrey Dlamini, South Africa 2008 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 2**

A spoilt young man lands on the streets after squandering his parents' money on drugs and alcohol. The harsh life on the streets prompts him to find his way back home, but will he be welcome there?

*Filmmaker in attendance*

*Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 20 min*

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## MY PLACE IN THE DARK

*d. Gareth H. Graham, South Africa 2006 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

Lovers Alex and Nicole are involved in a car accident that sees Nicole completely paralysed from the neck down and Alex blames herself as she was driving at the time of the accident. A story of the lengths that true love will go to when tested.

*Filmmaker in attendance*

*English, Video, 29 min*

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## ONE WEDDING AND A FUNERAL

*d. James Brown, South Africa 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

Having left her uncle's house under a cloud of false accusations, Kareena returns years later for her grandfather's funeral and her cousin's wedding. The family gathering stirs many hidden wounds and offers an opportunity for Kareena to exact revenge.

*Filmmakers in attendance*

*English, Video, 33 min*

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## OTHELLO

*d. Kai Welf Hoyme, Germany 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

This Shakespearean classic is reconstructed by a body and cinematographic choreography, played to the music of the Italian band Giardini di Miro.

*No dialogue, Video, 6 min*

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## PAPY

*d. Djo Tunda Wa Munga, Democratic Republic of Congo, 2007 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 3**

Police officer Papy contracts HIV and passes it on to his religious wife. His wife leaves him and this sets him off on a journey of self-acceptance that sees him speaking about his condition as widely as national television.

*French with English subtitles, Video, 50 min*

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## PRIVATE LIFE

*d. Abbe Robinson, UK 2006 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

A couple sneaks into the lavatory of a Manchester train station and comes out well prepared for a weekend spent indulging in forbidden pleasures. When the police try to apprehend them, there is a greater crime underway, one which none of them would have suspected.

*English, Video, 16 min*

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## QUB

*d. Arvieu/Colchen/Debat-Burkharth/Boucher, France 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

Man's obsession with the ability to control life is turned on its head as an old scientist's experiments with genetic modification go very awry. 3D animation gone wild.

*French with English subtitles, Video, 7 min*

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## RASPBERRIES

*d. Morgan Davidsen, Norway 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

Two brothers dream of a better life as they set out to sell raspberries in a virtually empty town. The last customer left gracefully points out a flaw in the goods on display. All dreams are dashed until the visitors roll into the scene.

*No Dialogue, Video, 7 min*

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## SANKAMBE SHAKE

*d. Martin Sen, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

Sankambe's fortunes seem certain when he discovers that his cow produces very popular strawberry flavoured milk after eating strawberries. But when the strawberries run out in the fields, he finds himself in a bit of a predicament as the chief orders more and more of the stuff. Delicious animated treat.

*English, Video, 25 min*

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## THE SHADOW BOY

*d. Justine Puren, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

Before she dies, Thabo's mother leaves him with the task of looking after his sister and planting a seed that will dispel all hunger. In this animated tale, the life in the city soon takes its hold of Thabo and he forgets his seed as well as his duty.

*English, Video, 25 min*

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## SHAMEELA

*d. Trevor Louw, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

Shameela's only desire in the world is to sing, whether on stage or as a member of the Kaapse Klopse. Her husband, however, has other ideas about what his wife should do.

*English and Afrikaans with English subtitles, Video, 10 min*

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## SIBAHLE

*d. Joshua Rous, South Africa 2006 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 4**

Justin wants to get out of South Africa. He's bought his plane ticket and he's on the way to the airport to start his new life in England, but his escape won't be so easy as there are mischievous three-year-olds on the loose.

*English, Video, 30 min*

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## SUPER PATRIOTS AND MORONS

*d. Tawanda Gunda, Zimbabwe 2007 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 1**

This is a screen adaptation of a play by the same name that was the first stage play to be officially banned in post-independence Zimbabwe. The story charts the downfall of greedy Super Patriot as his friends and enemies turn on him.

*English, Video, 45 min*

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## TASHA

*d. Matthew A. Brown, South Africa 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

Introverted Dean's encounter with innocent small town girl Tasha during a vacation gives him just the confidence he needs to fit in with the in-crowd. A second encounter in his more superficial environment however, spells the end of the innocent relationship.

*English, Video, 28 min*

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## THE AFTERNOON HAS EYES

*d. Hari Carlos Sama, Mexico 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 3**

Julian and Alejandro find an abandoned briefcase. Is it a briefcase full of ransom money and problems or is it empty? As long as they leave it unopened, anything is possible. About the difficulties of changing and the lulling security of the comfort zone.

*Spanish with English subtitles, Video, 15 min*

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## THE SMILING DOG

*d. Shohreh Jandgahian, Germany 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 1**

In the world where adults make war and perpetuate their own suffering destroying each other, a little girl is thinking of peace.

*No dialogue, Video, 9 min*

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## TOLERANTIA

*d. Ivan Ramadan, Bosnia and Herzegovina 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 5**

Two primitive Ice Age creatures obliterate each other because of different religious beliefs. Animated moral mastery.

*No dialogue, Video, 7 min*

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## TOT OU TARD

*d. Jadwiga Kowalska, Switzerland 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

Two creatures, one nocturnal and the other not, collide at a point of intersection between day and night in their search for sustenance and light. Surreal animated beauty.

*No dialogue, Video, 5 min*

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## TWO MEN AND A BOY

*d. James Tjekisa Hall, Swaziland 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 2**

A heart rendering account of how two orphans survive after the deaths of both parents leave them destitute. Based on a true story.

*Swati with English subtitles, Video, 9 min*

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## UHAMBO

*d. Mthuthuzeli Cuba, South Africa 2008 S*

**Short Film Package 2**

A young Zulu warrior dreams of his father who died in battle. Guided by his ancestral spirits, he must recover his father's remains in a faraway land. An inspired traditional tale.

*Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 24 min*

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## UNGRATEFULNESS

*d. Erik Kruger, South Africa 2007 S*

**Short Film Package 4**

While hunting the Hare, Snake finds himself trapped behind a rock and the only person there to rescue him is Man. With his freedom attained, Snake sets out to teach Man a lesson about ingratitude. Mesmerising animated tale.

*English, Video, 5 min*

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## WALK LIKE A MAN

*d. Asivhanzhi "Asi" Mathaba, South Africa 2008 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 3**

Rudzani arrives in Johannesburg with hopes of studying law, but after his uncle leaves him in the lurch, he finds himself on the other side of the law.

*Venda and Zulu with English subtitles, Video, 24 min*

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## WHAT HAPPENED IN ROOM 13

*d. Dilman Dila, Uganda 2007 S*

**Imagine Africa Package 1**

Peter, whose infidelity knows no bounds, finds himself with a predicament as his friend's wife dies while with him in a hotel room. Now the chief suspect, he stands to lose everything unless he runs away.

*No dialogue, Video, 18 min*

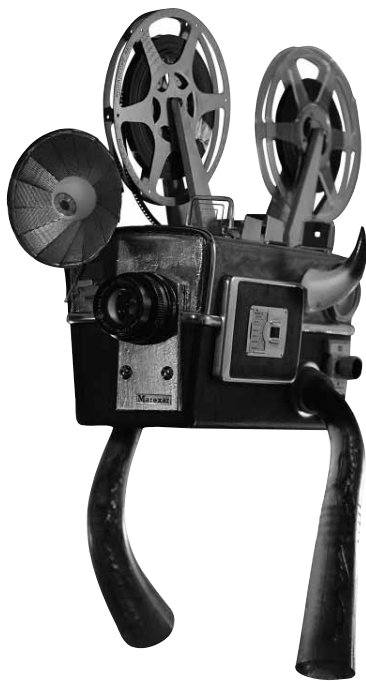
## WOLF SHADOW

d. Anna McCafferty, Australia 2007 S

Short Film Package 2

Eight-year-old Kelly believes she is being stalked by a wolf. When her older brother disappears, her mother goes to search for him, leaving Kelly alone with the presence of a wolf that might not be a dream after all.

English, Video, 10 min



## SHORT FILM PACKAGE 1

**25 KCC 16h00; 26 Cato 17h00; 03 Chest 11h00**

- APPLE
- CHINESE WHISPER
- HAKIM
- AREA BOYS
- THE SMILING DOG
- TASHA
- BROTHER'S KEEPER
- MON DESTIN – MY DESTINY

## SHORT FILM PACKAGE 2

**25 Water 12h00; 02 Nzuma 15h00**

- AB
- CONFESSIONS
- WOLF SHADOW
- I LOVE YOU
- UHAMBO
- TWO MEN AND A BOY
- AT THY CALL
- COMMANDO

## SHORT FILM PACKAGE 3

**25 Ekhaya 16h30; 26 Ntown 16h00; 01 KCC 16h00**

- BAREFOOT ON THE STAGE
- OTHELLO
- BERGIE IN MY BOOT
- THE AFTERNOON HAS EYES
- A CHRISTMAS TALE
- MY PLACE IN THE DARK
- SHAMEELAH
- LA BULLE

## SHORT FILM PACKAGE 4

**25 Water 12h00; 28 CFAD 14h00; 01 Ekhaya 15h00; 02 Molwe 11h00**

- ALTER EGO
- TOT AU TARD
- HUGH
- THE SHADOW BOY
- BLUNDER HUNTER
- A HAPPY THEMOMETER
- QUB
- AGENDA
- UNGRATEFULNESS
- SANKAMBE SHAKE
- THE CULPRIT
- LE SAVOIR

## SHORT FILM PACKAGE 5

**25 Gandhi 18h00; 03 Glebe 11h00**

- ONE WEDDING AND A FUNERAL
- TOLERANTIA
- ANA'S WAY
- DREAM'S GARDEN
- RASPBERRIES
- ANGELS
- I DON'T FEEL LIKE DANCING
- CHARCOAL TRAFFIC
- PRIVATE LIFE

## IMAGINE AFRICA PACKAGE 1

**25 KCC 16h00; 27 DCC 14h00**

- WHAT HAPPENED IN ROOM 13
- GUBI – THE BIRTH OF A FRUIT
- SUPER PATRIOTS AND MORONS
- INFLATION
- MUTI

## IMAGINE AFRICA PACKAGE 2

**26 Folwe 13h00**

- LOADED
- JUJU DR
- CUTTING SILENCE
- LAND OF FEAR
- MY GRIEVENCE
- FATHERLAND

## IMAGINE AFRICA PACKAGE 3

**26 KCC 16h00; 02 Cler 15h00**

- JO'BURG
- WALK LIKE A MAN
- PAPY

## IMAGINE AFRICA PACKAGE 4

**26 Ekhaya 12h00; 26 Ntown 16h00; 02 KCC 16h00**

- KAMMAKSTIG LAND
- 3 CIGARETTES
- SIBAHLE