

Datasheet – Ganda, the last griot

Writer-Director : Ousmane Diagana

Photography : Tarek Sami

Sound : Adama Diarra

Editing : François Vivier

Co-production : Impluvium Productions, Melody TV

With the support of Center for Cinema and Animated Image

With the support of Procirep – Company of Producers and Angoa, the Department of Charente-Maritime and the New Aquitaine region in partnership with the CNC, Africadoc as part of the Lumière d’Afrique collections.

Genre : Documentary feature

Shooting location : France, Mauritania, Sénégal

Year of production : 2018

Image format : HD, 16/9, couleur

Sound : Stéréo

Length : 63 minutes

Languages : french, soninké

Subtitles: french

Screening format : DVD, Blue-Ray, Fichier ProRes or H264, DCP

N° ISAN : 0000-0004-A48F-0000-2-0000-0000-V

Synopsis :

After the postcolonial socio-cultural upheaval in Africa, the griots caste has gradually become a caste of professional musicians.

Ganda is an exception : he has remained in the pure tradition of the griots by perpetuating the transmission of the values of the Soninke society and the African collective memory. When he dies in 2009, it is the baobab that collapses, the memory of my society that may be extinguished. I decided to repeat the last Ganda’s trip from Paris where he died to Marena, near Kayes in Mali, where he is buried. His old friends will tell us his unique story and, by analysing the meaning of his words, we will understand the prominence of singing and music in the lives of Africans.

Biography :

Ousmane Diagana (Nouakchott, Mauritania). Young mauritanian author-director graduated in commerce techniques at the Mauritanian Private Institute of commercial techniques. From writing and directing formations for length-feature documentary of Africadoc to Mali and Senegal. He was the production manager of the Filmmakers’ House of Nouakchotte and director assistant of Djibril Diaw (« 1989 ») and Harouna Keita (« On Biré Bomé »). As director

he made short-features fiction like « Le Rêve » (2008), « La couleur de mes amis » (2009), « Ma démocratie » (2009), « Le kabaret » (2014) and « L'anniversaire » (2014). He also directed documentary features « Le cinéma, mon pays et moi » (2010), « La blessure de l'esclavage » (2011), « Mémoire noire » (2012) and « Ganda, le dernier griot » (2018).