



The Rainbow Nation at the Visions du Réel 2017 Focus South Africa presents 20 films and 5 projects

7 December 2016, Nyon (Switzerland)—**South African cinema will be at the heart of the Focus section of the 48th edition of Visions du Réel, Festival international de cinéma Nyon. In partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Focus South Africa will shed light on the high quality of this country's production, which offers diverse and passionate filmmaking. 20 documentaries will be unveiled to the general public during the Festival (21-29 April 2017) and 5 film projects still at the development stage will be presented by the South African directors and producers invited.**

With the Focus section, Visions du Réel and its Doc Outlook – International Market (DOCM) explore the documentary creations of a Southern or Eastern country. The aim of the Focus, supported for the seventh consecutive year by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), is to introduce its films to the general public as well as the professionals, while simultaneously bringing South African institutions, producers and filmmakers into contact with their counterparts from all over the world by inviting them to the Festival. Focus Talk, a special day open to the public and dedicated to encounters and discussions about this country's cinematography, is taking place on 25 April 2017. At the end of this day, the most promising film project will be awarded the Prix visions sud est, with a prize of CHF 10,000.

South Africa: a Rainbow Nation and its cinema of many nuances

Exploring personal, political and social themes, South African film invites the public to discover the complexity of a country that has many ethnic groups and no fewer than 11 official languages. "Reflections on the past are omnipresent, but it is concerns over the present and the future of South Africa that dominate the perspectives of its talented filmmakers", notes Luciano Barisone. The re-appropriation of classic films, dance and music; examinations of power, politics and human rights; reflections on liberty, sexuality, gender... from the daily fight of a white homeless person roaming the streets of Johannesburg to the dangerous life of gangs in the ghettos of Cape Town, from the townships to the mountains of Lesotho to a beauty salon: the themes, both universal yet so specific, of the films in the Focus South Africa offer a panorama of this country's cinematography which will delight professionals of the field as well as the general public.

Discover the 20 films selected: www.visionsdureel.ch/en/industry/activities/focus/films-2017

Discover the 5 film projects selected: www.visionsdureel.ch/en/industry/activities/focus/projects-2017

Save the date

22 March 2017 — Press conference and announcement of the full Festival programme

21 to 29 April 2017 — 48th edition of Visions du Réel, Festival international de cinéma Nyon

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