

ANTELOPE

AFRICA LIVE

The Roll Back Malaria Concert documentary film

Directed by Mick Csáky

A 120-minute music documentary film about the spectacular AFRICA LIVE concert taking place in the city of Dakar, in the West African Republic of Senegal, during the nights of Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th March 2005, to promote the global Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

Executive Producers Mick Csáky and Pierre-Olivier Bardet.

Co-producer Katharina von Flotow. Artistic Directors Martin Meissonnier and Michelle Lahana.

An Antelope / Idéale Audience co-production in association with Xippi productions.

The AFRICA LIVE concert:

- Approximately 20 groups of Africa's finest musicians will be performing for about 40 minutes each to a sell-out audience in the 100,000 capacity Léopold Senghor stadium in Dakar during the nights of 12-13 March 2005.
- The line-up of musicians, subject to contract, includes: **Youssou N'Dour** (Senegal) and the **Cairo Orchestra** (Egypt) with special guest **Khaled** (Algeria); **Baaba Maal** (Senegal), **Orchestra Baobab** (Senegal), **Daara J** (Senegal), **Ali Farka Touré** (Mali), **Oumou Sangaré** (Mali), **Salif Keita** (Mali), **Angelique Kidjo** (Benin), **Seun Kuti** (Nigeria) with special guests **Manu Dibango** (Cameroon) and **Tony Allen** (Nigeria), **Tiken Jah** (Ivory Coast), **Tinawiren** (Mali), **Corneille** (Rwanda), **Corneille** (Rwanda) and **Lokua Kanza** (Congo) and others.
- The AFRICA LIVE concert is being staged by Xippi, the music production company of Senegalese superstar Youssou N'Dour, based in Dakar.
- The AFRICA LIVE concert is being staged to promote the Roll Back Malaria Partnership with generous funding from the UN Foundation, Sumitomo Chemical Company, ExxonMobil and Novartis.

The 120-minute AFRICA LIVE concert documentary:

- This 120-minute concert documentary record of the AFRICA LIVE concert, filmed with exclusive access, will lend itself to extensive multi-media distribution via television, DVD and radio; with extended versions of the concert performances for television and DVD.
- All song lyrics, interviews and speeches will be translated with sub-titles in the language of the respective television broadcasters worldwide.
- Plans are under way to set up toll-free telephone numbers in the countries of the television broadcasters to enable television viewers worldwide to pledge funds to fight malaria.
- Television broadcasters already committed to transmitting the 120-minute AFRICA LIVE concert documentary in 2005 include the **BBC** in the UK, the **Arté** channel in France and Germany, **France 3** in France, **TV5** worldwide to French-speaking people, **SVT** in Sweden, **YLE** in Finland and **NRK** of Norway; with confirmations awaited from **ABC** Australia, **NPS** Holland, **DRS** in Switzerland, **3SAT** in Germany, Switzerland and Austria, and **PBS** in the USA.

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- The 120-minute concert documentary is being made available free to television broadcasters across the African continent, along with a half-hour anti-malaria education film.

A brief outline of the 120-minute AFRICA LIVE concert documentary:

INTRODUCTION

The documentary will start with Youssou N'Dour explaining his ambitions for the AFRICA LIVE concert. Firstly, to celebrate the enduring diversity of musical forms in Africa today, providing the world with a timely reminder of what musical genius resides within the African continent. Secondly, to stress the importance of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in combating the human and economic devastation caused by malaria.

A medical expert will explain that every 30 seconds an African child under 5 dies of malaria. This means 3,000 children are dying every day, with over one million dying every year. He will also explain that a relatively small sum of money could reverse this tragic statistic.

Youssou, along with his AFRICA LIVE concert production team, is seen pulling together this ground-breaking pan-African concert—something that he and many Africans have been dreaming about since the very earliest days of African independence.

During the two weeks leading up to the AFRICA LIVE concert, Youssou will be seen supervising the building of a giant concert stage designed by Oumou Sy within the Léopold Senghor stadium in the outskirts of Dakar, as lighting, sound and video systems are erected.

As musicians arrive from all across the African continent, there will be numerous glimpses of the city of Dakar—featuring the faded magnificence of the impressive government buildings, the traffic jams and the lively fish market on the dramatic Atlantic seashore next to the old Medina where Youssou grew up and where his father still lives and works as a blacksmith.

THE CONCERT GETS UNDER WAY

As the sun drops into the sea, tens of thousands of people pour into the Senghor stadium. The majority of them will be African, but several will be coming from Europe and North America.

Some 15 to 20 minutes into the 120-minute documentary, the AFRICA LIVE concert will kick off with an appropriately rousing musical number—to a roar of appreciation from the sell-out audience.

The concert will be shot with up to five digital video cameras over two nights to ensure high quality coverage from a variety of angles. There will be an additional camera crew covering off-stage activity including the hectic work of the technical team managing the concert. Also, several interviews will be filmed with musicians and members of the audience to capture the euphoric mood of the historic event.

In all there will be some 20 musical performances within the documentary. Consequently, the edited performances, averaging about 5 minutes each, will add up to approximately 100 minutes of the total 120-minute running time.

GRAND FINALE

Well after midnight on the second night, as the AFRICA LIVE concert event draws to a close, there will be one last big musical number led by Youssou N'Dour involving all musicians onstage, with the audience joining in. Youssou will remind the audience of the Roll Back Malaria message underpinning the concert.

Once the AFRICA LIVE concert is over, it is more than likely that many of the musicians will want to participate in a jam session at Youssou's famous Club Thiossane, so the final section of the film may well end up in the club.

Delivery dates:

The completed 120-minute music documentary will be available for broadcasting worldwide from 1 July 2005.

A DVD of the 120-minute music documentary, incorporating the half-hour anti-malaria education film, will be available by the autumn.

4 one-hour concert programmes, directed by Martin Meissonnier, will also be available by 1 July 2005, with DVD versions to follow.

Mick Csáky – Director of the 120-minute AFRICA LIVE concert documentary:

The AFRICA LIVE multi-media pan-African music project was conceived by the UK-based documentary filmmaker Mick Csáky.

Mick has already filmed more than a dozen music and documentary programmes in Africa. During the past 30 years he has produced and directed more than 100 productions, and executive produced a further 600 television and film productions. In 1972 he produced and directed his first 52-minute music film in Africa called **BERBER** (for ITV's *Aquarius* programme). Subsequently, in 1983, he was the executive producer and one of the episode directors of the multi-award winning 8 x 1-hour documentary series **AFRICA**, presented by the historian Basil Davidson (Channel Four).

Additional credits as executive producer and/or producer & director include the Emmy-winning **CHASING A RAINBOW: The Life of Josephine Baker** (Channel Four), **REBEL MUSIC: The Bob Marley Story** (Channel Four / 13/WNET), the opera film for cinema, television and DVD **MOZART IN TURKEY** (BBC2), 6 x 1-hour series **THE MIDAS TOUCH** with Anthony Sampson (BBC2/TV Asahi), 6 x 1-hour **PEOPLE'S PLANET** (NHK/CNN).

Martin Meissonnier – Artistic Director and TV Director

Martin Meissonnier, with Michelle Lahana, will be responsible for selecting the line-up of African superstars performing during the AFRICA LIVE concerts of 12-13 March 2005.

Also, Martin will be the TV director responsible for the TV crews shooting the AFRICA LIVE concert recordings, and for the editing of four 1-hour concert programmes for TV and DVD drawn from the best performances of the AFRICA LIVE concert.

Since the 1970s Martin has been promoting and producing a number of key African musicians including Fela Kuti, King Sunny Ade, Salif Keita, Papa Wemba, Khaled and Manu Dibango.

From 1989-1995 he created and directed the music magazine **MEGAMIX** for La Sept on France 3 and then Arté. In 1995 he directed the 52-min music documentary **MUSIC IS MY DRUG** (Canal Plus), in 2003 he directed the 90-min **THE LIFE OF BUDDHA** (Arte), and in 2004 the 52-minute **ON GOD'S RIGHT** (Canal Plus).

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