

2021 DURBAN JUMPSTART/ PAS WORKSHOP

BEDROCK SOUTH-AFRICA



MAIN DATA

Category Afro-Western road movie
Length 110 minutes
Language Afrikaans, Afrikaaps, Nama, English and Xhosa
Shooting format 4K
Shooting location Western Cape, Northern Cape
Shooting dates November 2022
Expected date of completion 23 July 2023
Stage of production Script development

PRODUCTION

Budget 530 000 €
Financing in place 10 000 €
Production company Azania Rizing Productions
Workshop & platform attended Jumpstart 2021

CONTACT

Producer - Adrian Van Wyk - adrianvanwyk99@gmail.com

Director - Kurt Otabenga Orderson - director@azaniarizing.com

SYNOPSIS

After Roslynn reveals that she is three months pregnant, Lewellyn aka "Krimmel" becomes riddled with anxiety about what the future holds for his growing family as a young man. This escalates when his grandmother is robbed of her pension grant. His insecurities are aggravated by Roslyn's contemplation of whether they are ready to keep their unborn baby or not. Krimmel, a bushdoctor, co-owns a bustling herb-stand with his best friend Simon, on a major transport junction in Cape Town. One of his regular customers brings news of a new-age diamond rush gaining momentum in the Northern Cape town of Kleinsee. Simon's excitement and offer to accompany him, feeds into Krimmel's delusions about prospective diamonds and the actual treacherous conditions experienced on the BedRock. He must decide to either embark on a life-threatening mission for his diamond or remain with Roslynn and their baby.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The essence of Bedrock is rooted in the migration of indigenous knowledge between the Northern and Western Cape provinces of South Africa. Bedrock investigates important questions regarding ecological destruction, land ownership, and who within a society has access to the earth's natural resources. During this current historical moment, where land distribution without compensation is a mainstream topic, Bedrock travels to the epicenter of this debate utilizing the naive views of a young man, activating humble logic to answer specific questions, thriving within the collective South African imagination. The damage and colonial violence of mining as an excavation force is a significant factor within South Africa's historiography. The historical impression of mining on the South African landscape has left both a literal and metaphorical void. Historically, mining towns such as Kleninsee located on the epicenter of the diamond belt, and migrant workers became dependent on multinational mining conglomerates. However, once these forces left the particular contexts due to their own financial decisions, unemployment numbers skyrocketed. Amid the overarching socio-economic and political questions lies the ideological views and ideas of our protagonist Krimmel's orthodox and conservative views on masculinity and his understanding of women's reproductive rights. The protagonist has to learn all of these various lessons from a distance while finding the treasure that entices him.

12th **Durban FilmMart**
VIRTUAL EDITION 2021



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DIRECTOR KURT OTABENGA ORDERSON



Kurt Otabenga Orderson is an award-winning filmmaker from Cape Town, South Africa. He has directed several feature-length documentary films shot between five continents and more than 20 shorts. His films serve as a creative pedagogy by making use of historical, archival, political, and transnational solidarity traditions. «Not in My Neighbourhood», his most recent film, has screened at over 27 film festivals and won several international awards. At present, he's currently in the early pre-production stage with his upcoming magical realism feature narrative, «ApeTown.»

PRODUCER ADRIAN VAN WYK

Adrian Van Wyk is a filmmaker/producer and cultural historian from Cape Town, South Africa. He holds a Master's degree in History from Stellenbosch University, with his thesis Reflecting on the manifestations of Cape Town Hip Hop. Adrian is currently in collaboration developing, writing, producing and directing a slate of feature fiction & documentary films alongside Azania Rizing Production including the magical realism coming of age film ApeTown, as well as co-Directing a documentary film titled Notes From The Underground: A Cape Town Hip Hop Story.



2021 DURBAN JUMPSTART/ PAS WORKSHOP

GOD'S WORK SOUTH-AFRICA



MAIN DATA

Category	Social Satire/Coming-of-age drama
Length	110 minutes
Language	English & isiZulu
Shooting format	Digital
Shooting location	Durban inner city & Durban outskirts
Shooting dates	May 2022
Expected date of completion	October 2022
Stage of production	Development/acquiring funding

PRODUCTION

Budget	732 537 €
Financing in place	8 850 €
Production company	Maverick Resistance
Workshop & platform attended	Jumpstart 2021

CONTACT

Producer - Sithabile Mkhize - sithabile218@gmail.com

Director - Michael James - michaeljvn@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

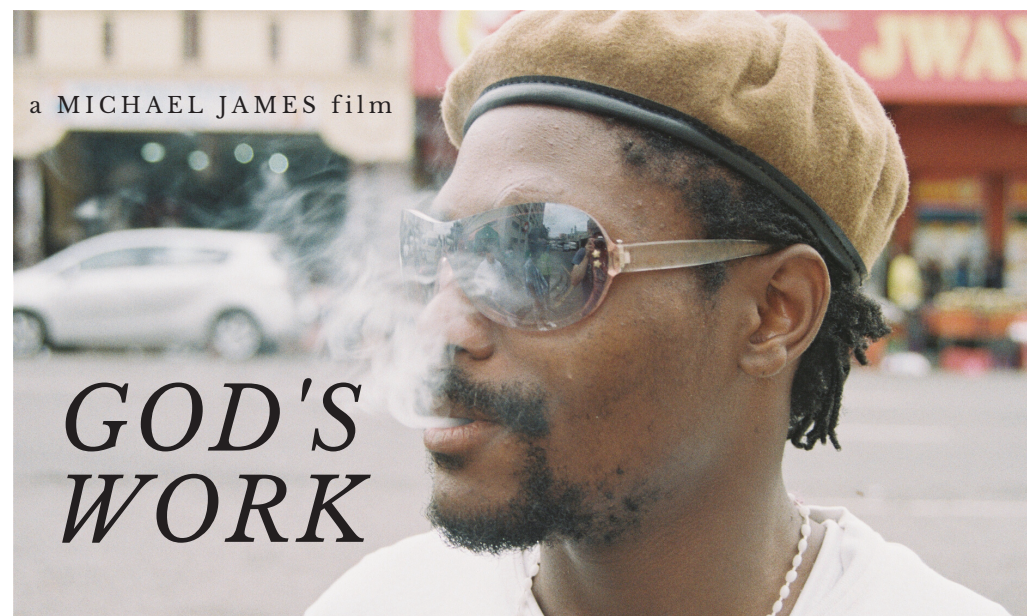
On the streets of Durban, four homeless friends – Sandile, Lwazi, Zwelithini, and Bongumusa – struggle to exist on the margins of society. These friends live with the single intent of escaping the grinding poverty they have known all their lives. To do this they must outrun and outwit the authorities, hustle on street corners, and sleep with their eyes wide open - because death and suffering walk hand-in-hand with life on the streets. In the midst of this, Sandile is haunted by visions of a ghostly theatre in which an unseen audience watches him perform the suffering of his life - a recurring theme that blends the real and the unreal together to confront both the characters and the audience with lingering questions regarding the ways in which reality is ultimately determined by others more powerful than us. The more they try to escape this oppressive reality the more they become ensnared by its godlike presence, culminating in both revelation and tragedy when Sandile is struck down in the middle of the street by a car. As Sandile's life wanes the lines between reality and fantasy finally collapse and the characters are thrown headfirst into their final confrontation with death and absurdity.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

God's Work is a film that explores the humanity in the lives of people who are often seen as sub-human, as well as a film that explores how such lives are exploited and broken down by a system that not only benefits from their pain and but also forces such pain to be performed before the eyes of those who profess goodwill and charity. This is a film that looks deeply at such dark realities, but it is also a film that explores such realities with humour and satire - a perfect combination so as to engage both the hearts and minds of audiences. The film's two primary cinematic references are Mathieu Kassovitz's La Haine and Alejandro Iñárritu's Birdman. Just like La Haine, the film will follow the seemingly aimless and misfiring adventures of a group of disillusioned men trying to escape the struggles of poverty and oppression. Through a blend of avant-garde style as well as a raucously entertaining story of dire human exploits, we intend to capture the rage and the joy alive within the troubling world of the characters, in the same way that La Haine brings to life both the intensity of life in France in the 90's for people living on the so-called margins. Alongside this, our film will also follow in the steps of Iñárritu's Birdman in the sense that it will not shy away from breaking cinematic rules that serve the purpose of allowing the audience deep into the surreal nature of the human mind.



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DIRECTOR MICHAEL JAMES



Michael is a filmmaker based in Durban with a passion for meaningful storytelling. He has written several award winning plays; written and directed for television; directed and produced the multi-award winning feature film Dreams of Gomorrah; and has directed several award winning documentaries. As a writer and director he has had films represented at the Rotterdam International Film Festival Cinemart 2020, at Durban FilmMart 2019, and on the shortlist for the Cinephilia Bound FilmMart section at the Cannes Film Festival 2020. His growing cinematic vision has been influenced deeply by the likes Andrei Tarkovsky, Jean-Luc Godard, and Terrence Malick, for their desire to test the limits of cinema as well as to poetically expand the boundaries of what the art form has the potential to do in the world.

PRODUCER SITHABILE MKHIZE



Sithabile Mkhize is dedicated to telling stories that make the world a more empathetic place whilst rewriting the story of Africa in the process. Her first produced feature film, Dreams of Gomorrah, went on to win several local awards and has just been acquired by Multi-choice/Mnet for release in October 2021. She has produced internationally award winning documentaries and is also currently producing another feature film, Those Who Dwell in Darkness, where she has represented the film at the Rotterdam International Film Festival in 2020 as part of the NFVF South African delegation, at Durban FilmMart in 2019, and as a shortlisted film at the Cinephilia Bound FilmMart section at the Cannes Film Festival 2020.

2021 DURBAN JUMPSTART/ PAS WORKSHOP

THE FARMER'S TALE SOUTH-AFRICA



MAIN DATA

Category Thriller
Length 140 minutes
Language English, Setswana and Afrikaans
Shooting format 4-perf 35 mm
Shooting location North West Province (Rustenburg, Mahikeng and Lichtenburg)
Shooting dates September 2022
Expected date of completion February 2023
Stage of production In development

PRODUCTION

Budget 88 289,09 €
Financing in place 0
Production company Magic Bean Productions
Workshop & platform attended National Film & Video Foundation : Sediba Scriptwriting Programme / Jumpstart 2021

CONTACT

Producer - Oloratile Mathibe - Oloratile.Mathibe@gmail.com

Director - Calvin Mafoko - 3rdvisioncreations@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

A young man defies his parent's and enrolls at the University of North West in search of a new way of life but bound by the hierarchies and the strict rules of his father. Being the only child; and the sole inheritor of his parent's farm he decides to take a different route as for his parents hoped and wished. Molemi applies for a bursary without his parent's knowledge and the institution accepts his application after producing good marks in matriculation. He gets granted with a full sponsorship for the academic year and other expenses. Molemi embarks on a quest of the unknown, and runs off from the farm to the neighbouring town of Mahikeng. Arriving in Mahikeng, things don't go as smooth as planned. He meets a beautiful young woman Genevieve; a Communication transfer student from Kempton Park whom they instantly become acquaintances. The pair accompanies each other to the yearly Fresher's ball, on the night after drinking they play a game of truth or dare. The night advances until the morning when Molemi wakes up, and finds Genevieve brutally stabbed lying next to him. Molemi stops at nothing to prove his innocence.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Should parents impose in what their kids have to become? Or kids have their own life to live and fulfil.

In the midst of what is happening in the world at the current moment who can blame the young man? The farmer's Tale also exposes how imposing in your children's life negatively can turn them negative. Let us set to challenge the overly exaggerated confidence of a young man being too determined to find himself.

A tale of an ordinary boy who fell in an unpredictable commotion, the film is:

A tragedy without villains,

A murder without suspects.

A tale of self-discovery, survival can only keep you alive.

You are invited to this incredibly fierce piece of work.



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DIRECTOR CALVIN MAFOKO



Calvin Mafoko is a 28 years old creative artist from the North West, Mahikeng. A graduate from City Varsity school of media and creative arts, majoring in Professional acting for camera. Participant of the NFVF: SEDIBA Scriptwriters programme (North West) 2018 - 2019 and Top 15 NFVF:

Director for Youth Filmmakers Project 2020.

Calvin gain more experience in the industry after participating/ being casted in a few theatres play production which did well in the performance sphere.

PRODUCER OLORATILE MATHIBE



Oloratile hails from the sunny streets of Mahikeng. A Private Investigator who went nabbing baddies to making cartoons. Talk about a plot twist. With a Bachelors of Arts in Motion Picture Medium, Oloratile is professionally trained as a Writer-Animator and VFX designer.

Honing his project management skills in the commercial property development industry, he gained vast amounts of experience that any film producer would find invaluable. He applied his film know-how in the Corporate and Public communications sectors, producing and managing various video materials for campaigns and projects of all shapes and sizes.

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SOWETO ON FIRE SOUTH-AFRICA



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama
Length	120 Min
Language	English/Xhosa/Afrikaans/Zulu
Shooting format	Digital
Shooting location	South Africa
Shooting dates	To be defined
Expected date of completion	To be defined
Stage of production	In early development

PRODUCTION

Budget	To be defined
Financing in place	0
Production company	NA
Workshop & platform attended	Jumpstart 2021

CONTACT

Producer - Nora Zubizarreta - norazubi@gmail.com

Director - Talia Smith- taliasavannasmith@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

A photojournalist decides to cover a student march not knowing he will capture the image that is the catalyst for the end of the Apartheid regime. All the while the South African government has its own agenda of using the incident to instil fear into white South Africans. Exploiting the picture of a mourning child and widow to Dr Edelstein — a white welfare worker, who hopes to help Sowetans but instead is caught and killed in the crossfire of the retaliating protestors. The photojournalist could not have foreseen how this image would change their lives forever. He is harassed and hunted by the Apartheid government and eventually forced into exile. Leaving his family broken and his dream of a long career in photojournalism cut short, he resents ever having taken the photo... That is until 20 years later when Nelson Mandela credits him for exposing Apartheid to the world.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

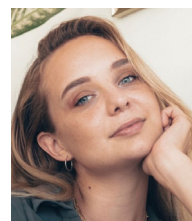
Growing up as part of the Born Free Generation (the generation born directly after Apartheid) means having access to first-hand accounts of history and understanding the importance of ensuring these stories are honoured. These stories should be shared to remind us that what is now commonplace was fought by predecessors who were prepared to die for what is now taken for granted. Now more than ever youth are mobilizing together in demanding the repair of broken systems. What is interesting about then and now is that we see how the biggest movements start, only once the travesty can be witnessed for oneself. Apartheid had been happening for close to 30 years at that point and the world knew, but only once they truly SAW it was there a demand for change. And what is interesting about a lot of these movements is that those who are now political proprietors of change, never sought to be as such. What are the ramifications of becoming an unintentional instigator for societal change? And what happens to those who become collateral damage in the pursuit of reform?



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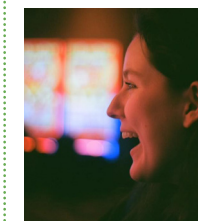


DIRECTOR TALIA SMITH



A filmmaker born and raised in South Africa. Her country's rich heritage inspired her storytelling aspirations from a young age. At 18 she followed her dreams and studied Film & TV at NYU's Tisch School of the arts. She has focussed her filmmaking career on true stories- highlighting ordinary people with extraordinary stories. Inspired by resilience and joy in the face of adversity, many of her films have thus far been centred around South African and Female lead narratives. Her latest film UMAMA was shortlisted for a student BAFTA and received the Gold Medal at the Student Academy Awards.

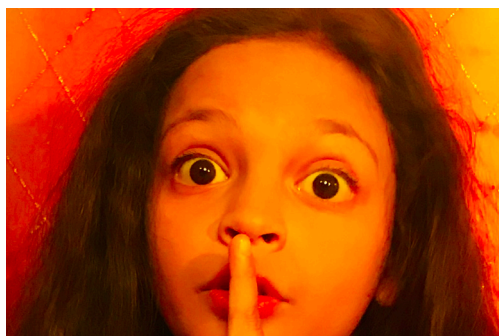
PRODUCER NORA ZUBIZARRETA



Nora's love of storytelling lead her to NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where she studied Film & Television and graduated in 2019. Throughout her time at Tisch, her work producing over 30 short films and music videos kept her as close to home as New York and as far away as South Africa. She began her professional career as a production coordinator on commercials and later for Comedy Central's Doing the Most with Phoebe Robinson. Currently she's based in LA and working freelancer in production. After producing UMAMA with Talia, she is thrilled to collaborate with her again for Soweto on Fire.

2021 DURBAN JUMPSTART/ PAS WORKSHOP

WHO KEEPS THE SILENCE ? SOUTH-AFRICA



MAIN DATA

Category ----- Drama
Length ----- 120 minutes
Language ----- English
Shooting format ----- HD
Shooting location ----- Pietermaritzburg, Kwa-Zulu Natal
Shooting dates ----- 24 November 2021 – 15 December 2021
Expected date of completion ----- July 2022
Stage of production ----- In development

PRODUCTION

Budget ----- 385 000 €
Financing in place ----- 0
Production company
Workshop & platform attended ----- Jumpstart 2021

CONTACT

Producer - Director

Kamane Govender - kamane.govender@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

It's 1986 in apartheid SA and Kaathi, 11 going on 12, dreams of becoming a writer. She lives in the poorer part of an Indian township and the oppression and violence of her country is reflected in her home. Her father drinks a lot, her mother is angry and takes it out on her and her Uncle, a no-good lay-about is sexually abusing her. But we see a bright world through Kaathi's eyes: the radiant light of friendship, her witty observations of her family and her community and her love of school. Kaathi's world is filled with light and little joys, a simple life rendered beautiful through her imagination, intelligence and her love for her friends. But things come crashing down in her world, when her best friend is raped and forbidden from speaking out, at the same time the National Party orders a State of Emergency where people are silenced in more horrifying and permanent ways. Kaathi wants justice for her friend and wants to speak the truth, but amidst the turmoil of living in a violent country and her own personal violation, will she find her voice or lose it forever?

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

South Africans are dreamers, we never lose hope. In the face of oppression, we dreamt of freedom, through divisiveness, we dream of unity. We are a special brand of people who have so much to show the world. This film is a simple tale of a young girl who has big dreams. Yet unlike many other young girls, apartheid is what has caused the weight of poverty, alcoholism, gender-based violence and sexual abuse to be thrown upon her little shoulders. And while we see her struggling to find her voice we are aware of the things that lift her above her suffering: the small yet bright joys of friendship, community, tradition and school. I want to make this film because it has an important message: that speaking up is a way of healing. This is so relevant now where movements like #BLM, #FreePalestine and #MeToo are showing us the power of using our voices. While I want audiences to take out that trauma might make us lose our potential I also want people to see the things that keep the protagonist's spirit afloat are also what makes us as South Africans so indomitable, tenacious and will never stop us from dreaming.



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DIRECTOR / PRODUCER KAMANE GOVENDER



Kamane Govender has been in the advertising industry for over twenty years and has worked on over 30 television adverts and corporate videos. She has a BA in English and Classical Civilisations and is completing her final year in English Honours. She has postgraduate qualifications in Copywriting, Journalism and Video Production. Her screenplay Chemical Age was awarded development funding from the Kwa-Zulu Natal Film Commission through Arclight Productions with Jacintha de Nobrega. Kamane is a published author and has written and made two short films: a sci-fi thriller, The Culling and a documentary, Beauty and the Beast of Coloniality.