

2021 NANTES/ PAS WORKSHOP

COME SUNRISE WE SHALL RULE

ZIMBABWE - KENYA



MAIN DATA

Category	Historical drama
Length	90 minutes
Language	English
Shooting format	Digital 4K
Shooting location	Zimbabwe
Shooting dates	January-February 2023
Expected date of completion	June 2023
Stage of production	In Development

PRODUCTION

Budget	410.000 €
Financing in place	20.000 €
Production company	LBX Africa
Workshop & platform attended	

CONTACT

Producer - Barmwel Iro - irobramwel@lboxafrica.com

Director - Nyasha Kadandara - nyasha.kadandara@gmail.com

SYNOPSIS

In 2017, standing in a crowd during a military coup, a grey-haired Ruth bumps into her childhood best friend Jack and is forced to revisit her past with nostalgia and bitterness. Flashback - teenage Ruth's quest for independence leads her into a life as an informant and then a guerilla fighter in Mozambique. All her beliefs are put to the test, and as the African society she was born into goes on to propagate the men of the movement while neglecting Ruth and her female cadres who birth the nation. While oscillating between the 1970s, and the dismal present in 2017, Ruth and Jack contemplate what it means to be Zimbabwean and to be free, not just as an African but as a black woman.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Born free in Zimbabwe, I was lucky to grow up listening to amazing stories about people who brazenly contributed to the freedom I experience. My grandfather was politically active and Auntie Ruth from down the street walked to Mozambique when she was just 15 to the training camps. I am in awe of their bravery - especially of women who are usually not associated with the term 'war veteran'.

Flash forward to the military coup in 2017, I too had revolution fever after decades of living under a dictator. But is this what my ancestors dreamed of?

These musings form the core of 'Come Sunrise, We Shall Rule' and through the protagonist Ruth, I want to explore the experiences of African women both then and now. How do we continue to be resilient in the face of endemic racism, patriarchal views under the guise of tradition? And, I hope to show how these experiences are not unique to Zimbabwe, or the colonial era; but how her story speaks to the current generation across the African continent.

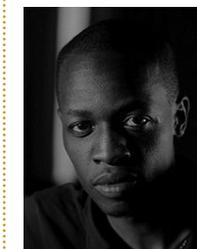


DIRECTOR NYASHA KADANDARA



Nyasha is pan-African director and cinematographer who tells stories that traverse the continent and reflect alternative voices. In 2015, her first film 'Through the Fire' about a recovering drug user won the Audience Choice Award at Atlanta Docufest. Her short documentary 'Queens & Knights' about a queer rugby team won first prize at the 2016 NBC Sports film contest Cptr'd and premiered at SxSW. In 2019, her virtual reality film 'Le Lac' that looks at the effects of climate change and the Boko Haram insurgency around Lake Chad won the Digital Narrative Award at Sheffield Doc/Fest. And, her investigative documentary 'Imported for my Body' about cross-continental sex trafficking was selected for the Human Rights Watch Festival. Most recently, she is directing her independent feature documentary 'Matabeleland' and in development for her first fiction feature 'Come Sunrise, We Shall Rule'.

PRODUCER BRAMWEL IRO



Bramwel Iro is a film producer and Co-founder of LBx Africa, a Nairobi-based production company that produces high-quality fiction and non-fiction content for global audiences. Spirited and determined, his work is a reflection of the world he engages in, and he is drawn to stories that highlight social, environmental, and political issues. He believes collaboration is the key to finding Africa's cinematic voice. Over the last nine years, Bramwel has taken part in making inspiring, thought-provoking stories that have gained critical acclaim. He was the service producer of the multi-award-winning and Oscar-nominated short film "Watu Wote/All of Us" (2017). He is also an Executive Producer on "Softie" (2020), a Kenyan documentary film that won the World Documentary Cinema Special Jury Award for Editing at the Sundance Film Festival 2020.