

MOMENTO FILM presents

OUAGA GIRLS

a film by THERESA TRAORE DAHLBERG


DRAGON AWARD NOMINEE
Göteborg Film Festival

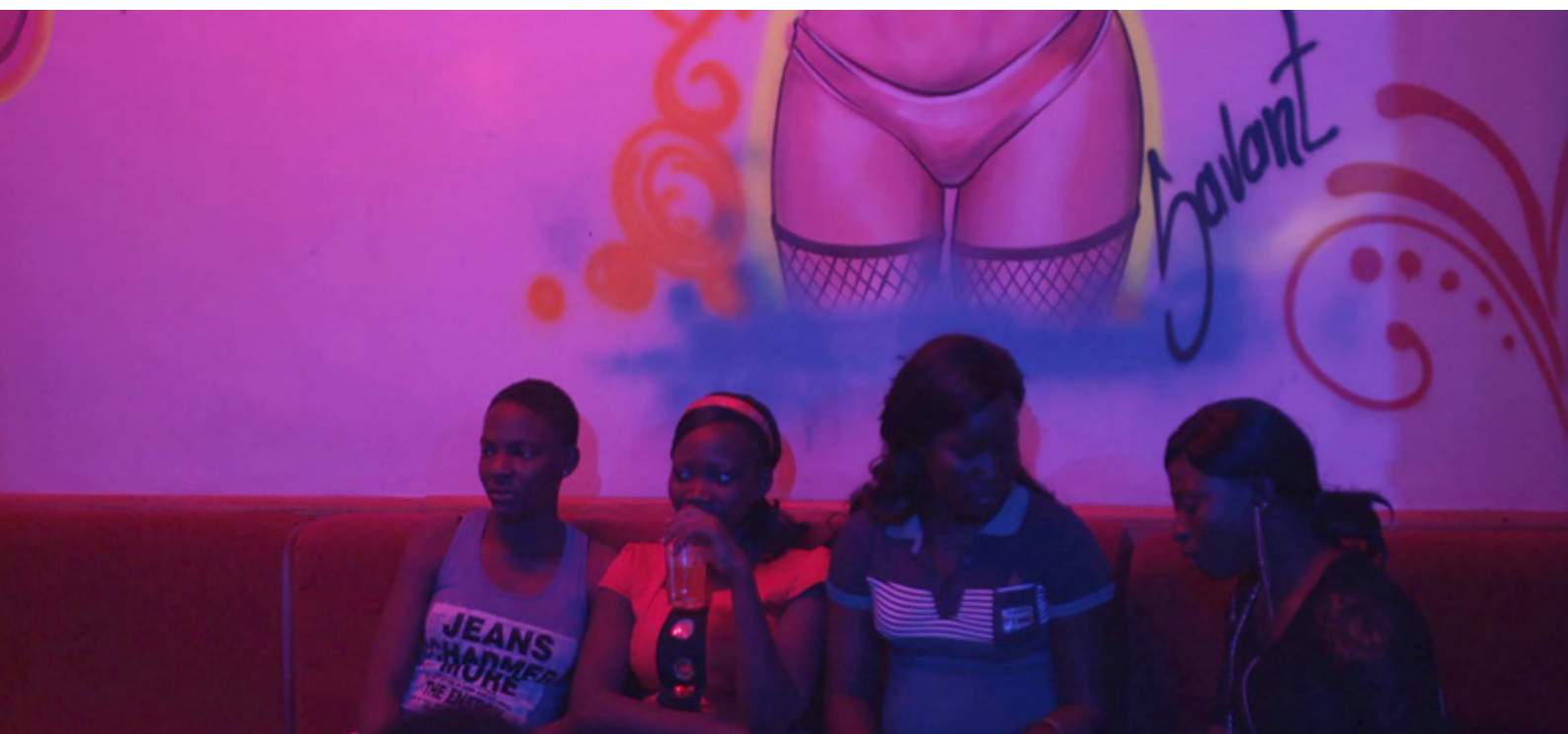

FESPACO 2017
Pan-African Film Festival


TEMPO
OFFICIAL SELECTION
TEMPO DOCUMENTARY
AWARD



DIRECTED BY THERESA TRAORE DAHLBERG PRODUCED BY DAVID HERDIES/MOMENTO FILM (SWE) CO-PRODUCED BY ESTELLE ROBIN YOU/LES FILMS DU BALIBARI (FRA), SAÏDOU RICHARD TRAORE/SEYDOU BURKINA S.A. (BF) & FILM I VÄST (SWE) CINEMATOGRAPHERS IGA MIKLER & SOPHIE WINOVIST
EDITED BY ALEXANDRA STRAUSS & MARGARETA LAGERQVIST ORIGINAL SCORE CHRISTOFFER BOTH, SEYDOU RICHARD TRAORE & JENNY WILSON COLORIST HECTOR MORA SOUND EDITOR CHRISTIAN HOLM & ANDERS KVARNMARK RE-RECORDING MIXER ERIK BJERKNES SOUND DESIGN SUPERVISOR THOMAS JAEGER
POST PRODUCTION MANAGER NICLAS MERITS GRAPHIC DESIGN BARFUTURA WITH SUPPORT FROM THE SWEDISH FILM INSTITUTE/ANTONIO RUSSO MERENDA & CECILIA LIDIN, NORDISK FILM & TV FOND, DOHA FILM INSTITUTE, AIDE AUX CINEMAS DU MONDE, CENTRE NATIONAL DU CINEMA ET DE L'IMAGE ANIMEE, FRENCH INSTITUTE, THE SWEDISH ARTS GRANTS COMMITTEE, REAKTOR SVODST, FILMBASEN DEVELOPED WITH SUPPORT FROM THE CREATIVE EUROPE PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN UNION IN ASSOCIATION WITH SVT, DR, YLE, AFRIDODS, RUV





“With Ouaga Girls I want to capture the trembling time before choices are made, the time before everything will be changed. When dreams, desires and courage get mixed up with opinions, fears and society’s expectations of what a woman should be.”

Theresa Traore Dahlberg, director

SYNOPSIS

A group of young women tweak machines and hammer away at a school for auto mechanics in Ouagadougou in this poetic story about life choices, sisterhood and the endeavor to find your own way.

In a country with youth unemployment at 52 percent, jobs are a hot issue. The young girls at a mechanics school in Burkina Faso's capital Ouagadougou are right in the middle of a crucial point in life when their dreams, hopes and courage are confronted with opinions, fears and society's expectations of what a woman should be. Using interesting narrative solutions, Theresa Traore Dahlberg depicts their last school years and at the same time succeeds in showing the country's violent past and present. This is a feature-film debut and coming-of-age film with much warmth, laughs, heartbreak and depth.

DIRECTOR'S VISION

All transitions are fragile. With this film I wanted to capture the trembling time before choices are made, the time before everything will be changed. When dreams, desires and courage get mixed up with opinions, fears and societies expectations of what a woman should be. The feeling of no longer being a child, yet not owning your life, but still feeling like you are on top of the world on a Saturday when you are out with your friends. Your friends are your everything, and life keeps happening to you while you are trying to figure yourself out. With *Ouaga Girls* I wanted to do an intriguing and inspiring growing up story with warmth, laughter and depth.

"I spent my teenage years in Ouagadougou. I remember the red dust, the mopeds, how the school environment could sometimes feel like a prison and how my classmates meant everything to me. I also remember how I always tried to understand and relate to what was expected of a young woman, the feeling of no longer being a child but not yet an adult. With this film, I want to describe what it's like to be a young woman in Burkina today."

Theresa Traore Dahlberg, director

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Director Theresa Traore Dahlberg was born in 1983. She grew up on the Swedish island of Öland and in Burkina Faso, and is now based in Stockholm. After a few years in New York assisting directors, photographers, and production managers she studied film production – first at the New School in New York and then at the Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts. Her graduation film, *Taxi Sister*, which follows the female taxi driver Boury in Dakar, Senegal, received international praise and has been screened at festivals worldwide. During the last couple of years, Theresa has produced a television series for SVT and been involved in different film and art projects internationally (New York, Haiti and Burkina Faso) constantly stretching the boundaries of art, film and documentary. She is now pursuing her master's in fine art at The Royal Institute of Art in Sweden. *Ouaga Girls* is her feature length debut.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

2010 – **Taxi Sister**, short documentary, 28 min

2010 – **The Alien** (Utomjordingen), short documentary/fiction, 10 min

2009 – **On Hold**, short documentary, 30 min

PRODUCER'S BIO

Since the start in 2011, Momento Film has established itself as one of the most vibrant independent documentary production companies in Sweden, producing numerous short and feature documentaries and establishing strong networks internationally. With 15 films already produced and premiered in some of the most important international film festivals (IDFA, Hot Docs, CPH:DOX, GIFF etc.), Momento Film has successfully moved into fiction film production with *Madre* premiering in the Official Short film competition in Cannes 2016. Currently, Momento Film is working on a slate of fiction and documentary projects among which the following can be mentioned: *Amparo* by Simón Mesa Soto, *The Gods* by Ahang Bashi and *Hamada* by Eloy Domínguez Serén.

As a director, I think Theresa has a wonderful ability to capture the poetry of everyday life. With a strong cinematic presence, she manages to take on the subject of the young woman's situation in Burkina Faso and make it political without pointing fingers.

David Herdies, producer



SHORT INFO

Director:	Theresa Traore Dahlberg
Starring:	Bintou Konate, Chantale Nissougou, Mouniratou Sedogo, Catherine Nea, Dina Tapsoba, Marthe Ouedraogo, Rose Kientega, Adissa Balboné & Nathalie Yanogho
Produced by:	David Herdies/Momento Film
Co-produced by:	Estelle Robin You/Les films du Balibari, Saïdou Richard Traore/Seydoni Burkina S.A. & Film i Väst
Countries of production:	Sweden, Burkina Faso, France & Qatar
Cinematography:	Iga Mikler & Sophie Winquist
Editor:	Alexandra Strauss & Margareta Lagerqvist
Original Score:	Christoffer Roth, Seydou Richard Traore & Jenny Wilson
Colorist:	Hector Mora
Sound Editor:	Christian Holm & Anders Kwarnmark
Re-recording Mixer:	Erik Bjerknes
Sound design supervisor:	Thomas Jaeger
Post Production Manager:	Niclas Merits

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In association with SVT, DR, RUV, Afridocs, YLE.

HD / 16:9 / 80 min / French and More / English subtitles

CONTACT INFO



www.momentofilm.se
www.facebook.se/ouagagirls

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