



Decision and Statements of the Jury “Creative Projects”

Jury:	Uwe Brecht	Germany	Sculptor and Photographer
	Bettina Marugg	Germany	Actress
	Steffi Schmid	Germany	Teacher of voice training, movement and meditation

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Project no. 146

“Africa in Motion” film festival – Edinburgh, United Kingdom

“Africa in Motion” is a film festival founded in 2006 by Lizelle Bisschoff and Melissa Trachtenberg and organized mainly by volunteer workers. The major goal of the festival is, on one hand, to grant the Scottish audience access to the brilliant African film scene, and, on the other hand, to help African films gain access to a wider recognition by the British film scene. “We believe that the best way to learn something about Africa is to listen to African voices and to see the performances and films made by Africans themselves.” Every year the festival is accompanied by directors’ master-classes, symposia, workshops for children and African music performances.

In 2009, the focus was on films representing trauma and reconciliation in a pan-African context. “Dealing with and overcoming traumas is about filling the gap where devastating events have left blank spaces in memory. Storytelling and filmmaking are good tools to bring back memories. Even more they can successfully re-evaluate the national and collective memory by providing answers and asking the right questions, where history could not.”

On October 24th, 2009, an important Symposium on “*The Realities and Representations of Reconciliation in Africa*” took place with several international high-profile scholars, African art specialists and University lecturers.

African filmmakers and artists are successfully regaining authority on their own history, reclaiming the truth and advocating reconciliation in an exemplary way. Africa’s attempts at peacemaking and reconciliation are inspiring to us all.