

wexner center
for the arts

For Immediate Release

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**FILMS FROM EIGHT AFRICAN COUNTRIES SCREENED AS PART OF
TOURING AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL AT THE WEXNER CENTER**

Continuing its mission to bring the best in international cinema to Columbus, the Wexner Center for the Arts will screen movies from the New York-based **African Film Festival** four Wednesdays **in May**. Now approaching its 10th year, the African Film Festival is committed to sharing the diversity of African cinema with North American audiences. This traveling festival version includes four programs ranging in tone and genre, featuring films from eight African nations. Each evening includes a feature-length work preceded by a short film. Admission per night is \$5, public; \$4, members, OSU students, and senior citizens; and \$2, children under 12.

Wednesday, May 1

7 pm: *Yellow Card* (John Riber, 2000)

Watt (Balufu Bakupa Kanyinda, 1999)

Following the screening, Dan Pellegrom, president of Pathfinder International, answers questions about *Yellow Card*, a Pathfinder-produced film. A free dessert reception, open to the public, follows in the café. Pathfinder International is a nonprofit organization that provides access to quality family planning and reproductive health services in the developing world.

Yellow Card (Zimbabwe; 90 mins.) focuses on 17-year-old Tiyane, who's more successful as the star of his city's soccer team than he is managing his love life. The film is a smash hit among African teenagers. *Watt* (Congo; 19 mins.) is about a boy who loves his boom box, much to the annoyance of his girlfriend.

Wednesday, May 8

7 pm: *Temporary Registration* (Gahité Fofana, 2001)

A Girl for Souleymane (Dyana Gaye, 2000)

Temporary Registration (Guinea; 78 mins.) follows Mathias, a young French-Guinean who travels from France to find his biological father and is distracted by drifters he encounters on his journey. In *A Girl for Souleymane* (Senegal; 24 mins.), a young Senegalese man overcomes solitude and poverty as he makes a new life for himself in Paris.

news release

Wednesday, May 15

7 pm: *Dollar* (Imunga Ivanga, 1999)

A Close-Up on Bintou (Fanta Régina Nacro, 2000)

Dollar (Gabon; 92 mins.) focuses on Mougler, a teenager in Libreville worried about his mother's health who takes desperate measures to help her. The raucously comic *A Close-Up on Bintou* (Burkina Faso; 30 mins.) portrays the struggles of a housewife determined to educate her daughter despite her husband's objections.

Wednesday, May 22

7 pm: *In the Name of Christ* (Roger Gnoan M'bala, 1993)

Smoke in the Eyes (Francois Woukache, 1998)

In the Name of Christ (Ivory Coast; 90 mins.) follows a drunken man who attracts a cultish army of followers after experiencing visions of a childlike god. In *Smoke in the Eyes* (Cameroon; 23 mins.), an indecisive girl from Zaire travels to Brussels to spend time with a young African filmmaker.

EVENT SUPPORT

The African Film Festival is presented with support from **Pathfinder International** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**. International films, documentaries, and visiting filmmaker presentations are presented with support from the **Ohio Arts Council**. Support for the 2001–02 film/video season is provided by the **Rohauer Collection Foundation**.

CALENDAR INFORMATION: African Film Festival

Description: African Film Festival featured in May at the Wexner Center.

Dates and times: May 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 7 pm

Location: Wexner Center Film/Video Theater, 1871 N. High St. at 15th Ave.

Tickets per evening: \$5 general public; \$4 members, OSU students, and senior citizens; \$2 children.

Ticket outlets: Wexner Center Ticket Office, 614/292-3535

Public information: www.wexarts.org or 614/292-3535. For more information on the films, visit the African Film Festival web site at www.africanfilmny.org.

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Images of several of the films available upon request.

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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