



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Kenya Israel Film Partnership

Film production workshop in Homa Bay

KFC at Cannes Film Festival

Kalasha International Film Festival & Market

KFC Partners with Israel for co-production

In the month of May, Nairobi was abuzz with upcoming and practicing film makers alike flocking the Sarit center to meet and greet renowned film makers from Israel who were in Kenya for three days of Israeli film screenings dubbed Sherekea Israel Festival.

The peak of the festival besides some two master classes run by the Israeli film makers was a capacity building workshop on matters around policy, co-production and financing that the Commission facilitated for local film makers featuring Tova Ascher a film director and editor whose debut feature film, "A.K.A. Nadia" was internationally premiered in November 2015 and Dan Wolman a film director based in Jerusalem whose earliest film Michael Sheli (My Michael) was produced in 1974. The two shared their unique ways of film making in a panel of film experts also drawn from the country.

The Sherekea film festival was also a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the unification of the city of Jerusalem.

In the recent past, major hits have been adapted from Israel to international audience that include: the ShowTime's hit thriller "Homeland" adapted from the Israeli drama "Prisoners of War," the NBC game show "Who's Still Standing" originated in Israel among others. It is from this background that KFC sought collaboration with the Israelis with a common objective to promote joint screenings of Israel and Kenyan films while encouraging participation in such film festivals in the two countries to showcase Israel and Kenyan films.

The creative industry had an opportunity to learn business technology skills models being developed by Israel film companies to distribute films and audio-visual content online.

The film makers also got a chance to network and explore co-production deals that can give both countries greater access to international markets.

Keep it here for updates on follow up meetings with the Israeli film makers that KFC will be facilitating towards pursuing local content development.

County Edition Film Production Workshop goes to Homa Bay County

Thirty youth in Homa Bay County had their skills in film making polished through a production workshop facilitated by the Kenya Film Commission and supported by Communications Authority. Apart from informing and educating the trainees on the latest trends in the local film industry, the workshop that ran from 29th May to 2nd June 2017 sought to enable participants develop further film production skills in Directing and Production, Screen-script writing, Acting, Editing and Cinematography.

The Commission in collaboration with Communications Authority of Kenya has been at the fore front in pursuing the expansion of local content in the country while at the same time, seeing to it that the film industry is recognized as a main contributor to the economic growth of the country.

Film financing, distribution and marketing of content were marked as some of the essential skills required by film makers to reach the target of attaining quality and affordable local content that will enhance production, and post production initiatives all geared towards facilitating the uptake of 60% local content quota by free to air TV broadcasters by the year 2018.

The next training programme will be in Homa Bay County at the end of April 2017; Are you an upcoming film maker in Homa Bay County and interested? Email us via info@filmingkenya.com.

"I learnt a lot from the workshop especially so when we a sample script and broke it down into stage directions. Homa Bay County did not disappoint as a great filming location owing to its diverse landscape", noted Lavintah Atieno Ombek.

"Homa Bay County did not disappoint as a great filming location owing to its diverse landscape" Sam Segele, Facilitator

Diary of Upcoming Events

9th June 2017

Film Producing Institutions in Kenya Film Festival

6th to 9th June, 2017

Korean Film Festival, Alliance Françoise Nairobi Kenya

12th to 14th July, 2017

Soko Filam at ZIFF

13th to 23rd July, 2017

Durban Film Festival

September 2017

Coast Film Festival

16th to 22nd October 2017

Kalasha International Film Festival and Market

8th to 13th October 2017

C/M International Festival for Short Films

5

4

KFC at Cannes Film Festival 2017

Kenya content has gone international; this affirmation comes from the just concluded Cannes Film Festival after 'Neophobia' from Kenya was selected by the festival's short film corner panel and creative minds group to screen from 24th to 26th May 2017.

The 17 minutes film, a modern day fairy tale tells the story of a young woman obsessed with old routines and an unwillingness to try new things but is forced to completely rethink and overthink her life when she unexpectedly finds an appreciation for a modern hair dryer

The film from Kenya was the only Short African film to screen at the prestigious festival now in its 70th year. A Kenyan delegation led by the Kenya Film Classification Board who sponsored the filmmaker, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Sports Culture and Arts and the Kenya Film Commission Ag. CEO Caroline Kittur, accompanied Marcus Maina, the Film Director in the 3 days it screened to a fully parked theater.

The KFC team established co-production, training and financing opportunities, with the District Creative Media Group, CNC- France National Centre of Cinematography and South Africa National Film and Video Foundation.

Going forward, the commission will pursue and explore the signing of a treaty with CNC to kick start film business opportunities in the offing



Some of the participants at the HomaBay workshop

Below: Marcus Maina, takes a selfie after his film screened



Pathway to Paradise



The KFC team with Get in the Kitchen host Mwaniki Mageria

By Caroline Njoroge

After a number of follow-ups with our lead contact Keziah Kariuki the producer at Young Rich TV, an email came through on Saturday evening; "This week we will be shooting get in the kitchen on Monday at Brackenhurst in Limuru and on Tuesday at The Forest respectively". Since the correspondence between us and the production house was on short notice, we opted for the forest. Yes, again this month the courtesy bus team was still on Waiyaki way.

On the D-day, I remember my boss asking for clear directions of where we were going before she stepped into another meeting, and looking all confused I told myself "the email said Limuru, can anybody get lost in Limuru?" But I somehow chose to ignore the static voice in my head and instead I consulted Google map, it should be easy, I thought, the one place to go to for quick answers to all our issues. . After a frantic search Google map was just giving me directions up to Kimende area, then showing the images of a thick forest instead I thus I sought the help of the IT in the office. "Who even goes all the way to the forest to produce a TV show surely?", I remember a colleague quipping as we left our offices to head to Waiyaki way. Our first stop was within the Limuru town center to ask for directions; a local villager who was up and about selling his wares to dis-interested commuters at the main bus terminus gladly told us "drive on straight to Kimende then branch off to the left you will see a bridge pass keep going until you get into the forest".

Yes, the mention of the word forest now confirmed to us that indeed we were headed to the forest. At this moment on, there was less talk in the car. We somehow knew we were in for a long ride, but we chose instead to enjoy the fresh air and the serene landscape. But at the back of my mind, I couldn't help but wonder why in the forest. A colleague exclaimed "it feels like I am going to see my people in shags!" (rural area in slang) we all bust out in laughter but still shaking our heads as to the reasons we were still headed to the forest. Through the 20minutes or so from the junction it was all silence as everybody seemed to be in their own world appreciating the view outside as the car went uphill, in the mid-morning sun rays the sky drenched the entire forest into green and the short grass on the plains turned a pale limpid green. And then finally, the car came to a stop as we were ushered into the fresh mountain air, crisp sunshine, and a magnificent balcony. As the day grew hotter the blue heavens faded into a hard white, the whole landscape was bathed into the most unearthly shades of blue and white, I have never seen anything more gorgeous than the forest, listening to the humming vibrations of the zip lining, as well as the chirping of the birds and still air, we lost ourselves in the picturesque view of the Keriat forest that is dangling at almost 100m off the ground. Standing there, time felt as flat and still as the plain spread out before us, each of us deeply buried in our own thoughts, we had a voice behind us "you are here" and as we turned around it was the host of the Television show get in the kitchen Mr. Mwaniki Mageria. He was too excited to see all of us there and it took one hug after another as he ushered us in with his team.

Pathway to Paradise Con'td...

Hours later into our conversation with get in the kitchen crew, they were ready to continue rolling their cameras to finish their episode for the day and this was our cue, our time was up, we took our "moment of fame photos with the crew members present and did our usual handshakes and left the set. To our pleasant surprise, we were treated to a lavish lunch overlooking the forest at their famed restaurant

As we left, we were fortunate to catch Mwaniki's attempt at the Zip lining tour, there are a total of 6 zip lines varying in length and the guides let you fly through the forest at incredible speed with spectacular views, a fantastic activity to do as a group because there is so much to see and it comes with a dose of adrenaline, you'll never stop talking about it. And with that we finally got back into the car ready for a 45-50minutes drive back to Nairobi, all thanks to the Get in the Kitchen team and crew. Want to be part of the tours that the Commission is taking to local production houses? Drop us a line at info@filmingkenya.com

Short Film Competition

You are a Kenyan under the age of 35 with a zeal to inspire, influence thoughts and spark imagination in the fight against terrorism? Then here is your chance to win half a million Kenya Shillings! All you need to do is create an original short video on counter terrorism. The film should be 5 minutes maximum. Get more information here: <http://www.lengaugaidi.co.ke/>

Save the Date!

Clear your schedule and save the date for the Kalasha International Film Festival & Market coming up on October 16th to 22nd in Nairobi Kenya. The event brings together both international and local film, TV and creative players all under one roof for a Film Festival, a Film & TV Awards and a Film & TV Market. A call for submission will be communicated soon; watch out for updates via the website www.kalashainternational.com and KFC social media pages

The Slum Film Festival 2017 Coming Up

The 7th Edition of the Slum Film Festival (SFF) kicks off on 2nd to 6th October 2017 in Nairobi. In the last 6 Editions, Slum Film Festival has become an important annual event for the promotion of cinema and filmmaking in Kibera, Kawangware and Mathare, Nairobi's biggest informal settlements, where two of its partners Slum TV and Hot Sun Foundation work.



SFF invites filmmakers from across the world to submit their short format films to the annual Slum Film Festival. This year's theme will be 'Governance'. The competitive film categories for which awards are given are: The Slum Voice Award, Best African Film Best Documentary Film, Best Short Film (narrative) Best Community News Piece, Judges Choice Award and People's Choice Category

This year, films resonating with the theme 'Tales of Good governance' and having a strong social message will be prioritized



Kenya Film Commission
P.O. Box 76417 - 00508
Jumuia Place, Lenana Road
Nairobi, Kenya
Office Tel: +254 020 2714073 / 4
Office Cell: +254 729 407497,733 650068
Fax: +254 020 2714075
<http://www.kenyafilmcommission.com>

Find us on:  