

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Africa in Motion launches its most ambitious programme to date**

**Africa in Motion (AiM) Film Festival 2013, Thursday 24 October – Sunday 3 November, Filmhouse Cinema, Edinburgh, Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT) & Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA), Glasgow, plus ‘pop-up’ cinema venues in both cities**

Scotland’s biggest celebration of African cinema today launches its 2013 programme, “our most ambitious programme to date” according to Artistic Director Lizelle Bisschoff. Featuring the best in contemporary African film for the eighth consecutive year, the 2013 programme takes the theme *Twende: Africa on the Move* (“twende” is a Swahili word which translates as “let’s go!”). A diverse programme of documentary and fictional films (over 40 titles including seven UK premieres) will capture Africa’s richness and beauty through movement, literal and metaphorical, from the movement of people across regions and borders with films about immigration and asylum, through political, cultural and social movements, to movement in its more literal form with films about sport, dance and street life in African cities.

Bisschoff says of the 2013 programme: “We are consolidating our expansion to Glasgow with an extended programme, including several outreach and community screenings in interesting and unusual places, both in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Our pop-up venues include an empty swimming pool, a haunted pub, a Moroccan-style lounge and an African restaurant. We also have a number of directors in attendance, including South African maverick filmmaker Jahmil Qubeka, who will be here to talk about his brilliant and controversial feature film, *Of Good Report*, which was banned and then unbanned at the Durban International Film Festival in July.”

The festival opens inEdinburgh on Thursday 24th October with a screening of *Grigris*, the inspiring story of a young man living in N'Djamena, capital of Chad, who dreams of becoming a dancer in spite of his physical disability and his dangerous involvement with a gang of petrol smugglers, and inGlasgow on Friday 25th October with a screening of *Of Good Report*, the controversial, semi-comic story of an English teacher who has an illicit affair with one of his pupils. The festival closes inEdinburgh on Sunday 3rd November with a screening of *The Forgotten Kingdom*, the UK premiere of a poetic journey through the stunning rural hills of Lesotho, a tiny country landlocked by South Africa, and in Glasgow on the same night with a closing night party featuring an East African-themed VJ event inspired by a phenomenon that has emerged predominantly in Uganda and Tanzania and utilising AiM’s ever-growing short film collection.

The full programme is available at:

Africa in Motion (AiM) Film Festival - www.africa-in-motion.org.uk

Tickets for all events are now on sale at:

*Filmhouse Cinema -* www.filmhousecinema.com

*Glasgow Film Theatre -* www.gft.org.uk

**Notes to editors:**

Interview opportunities: AiM Founder and Curator Lizelle Bisschoff, Edinburgh Coordinator and Curator Justine Atkinson, Glasgow Coordinator and Curator Natalia Palombo and AiM’s guest filmmakers are available for interview by phone or email before the festival and in person during the festival.

Film images and the AiM 2013 trailer are available at the press section of the AiM website. For DVD screeners and an online viewing facility plus all press enquiries please contact: Miles Fielder, press@africa-in-motion.org.uk, 07760 284 177, Studio 49, Out of the Blue Drill Hall, 30-36 Dalmeny Street, Edinburgh EH6 8RG.

Africa in Motion (AiM) Film Festival is a UK limited company (SC290337) with charitable status in Scotland (SC043215).