

1. Keyti Wutikat / Go Getter 12.08

With all of Senegal's cultural, political and economic life centred in Dakar, the capital city of the country had, since decades, set itself up for overpopulation. Situated on 83 square kilometres, Dakar alone claims 23.2% of Senegal's 14 million population and is now notoriously plagued by unemployment, insecurity and an ever-growing poverty that the numerous new buildings on the seafront or the highways emerging from the ground can't hide anymore. Wutikat (meaning go getter) is a film about a woman and a man, respectively 41 and 37, a street food vendor and a taxi driver who are refusing their ordeal and standing up to survive in Dakar by any means for their dignity.

Luna Marán IYaa ëts ojts ntsëënë njikyaty (aquí viví) / lived here 9.31 min

The piece that inspired the films is the composition of Eduardo Díaz Méndez, an ayüük composer, who is also an agricultural engineer. In conversation with the artist we discovered how 'poverty' is a concept learnt from outside to see ourselves, that generates a fragmented vision of our own reality. The process of discovering our wealth is the process of the cultural re-appropriation that we have challenged the new generations. To enjoy, to honour what we are. The labelling of our people as poor, a labelling that comes from the capital cities, is a form of violence that questions what we are as people, as well as questioning our way of life and culture

3. Stuart Platt No Pattern Merchant 3.50 min

Language is political. It grants or denies status and power. It creates the poverty of expression, creating a 'cast system' of language — a place of not being able to communicate or express yourself in your own language and having to learn/adopt another form of expression. This film attempts to use the wonderful words of Tom Leonard to highlight the poverty of expression and the colonisation of language. 'Proper English' is never political: discuss.

Luna Marán

Originally from the Zapotec community of Guelatao de Juárez, Oaxaca, Marán has worked for more than a decade to develop education beyond schools, where gender equity, diversity and commonality are transversal axes. She has actively supported the formation of alternative exhibition projects such as the Sala Cine Too. She is co-founder of the Itinerant Audiovisual Camp, Aquí Cine, Cine Too Lab. She is also the founder of the production company Bruja Azul, and produced the film 'The Blue Years', which won more than 10 awards and was nominated for best debut film in Los Arieles 2018. Her first documentary was entitled Uncle Yim (AMBULANTE 2019), and she also directed the film 'Mare, Nocturnos, Me parezco tanto a ti.

Keyti

Keyti's name is associated with the beginnings of hip-hop in Senegal since he is part of the first generation that established the genre as a means of contestation for the Senegalese youth. After more than 15 years going on stage, Keyti is nowadays more active into educational programs for young marginalized people like YUMA (Youth Urban Media Akademy) working with juvenile ex-convicts. All the while he has launched a successful online news bulletin with another well-respected rapper, Xuman, called Journal Rappé. Delivered in music and in rhymes, Journal Rappé's main goal is to encourage young Senegalese to engage into politics more and puts forward ideas of good governance, participative democracy and citizenship, youth education, etc. Keyti's Journal Rappé has garnered millions of views online and has been replicated in many African countries. Outside his music activities as co-founder of Journal Rappé, Keyti is also known for his commitment to education, especially with marginalized groups like juvenile convicts. He has worked on the Prison Tour, a creative program involving creative writing courses for detainees in the prisons of the capital city of Dakar. From to 2014 to 2017, he is also mentored and taught French and English to juvenile exconvicts through the Youth Urban Media Akademy (YUMA) project with Africulturban.

Staurt Platt

Stuart Platt has over 20 years experience producing and creating cinematic images for film and television, as well as composing music for them. He is also a photographer and journalist. His work has been played/broadcast/read/screened across most UK broadcasters and he has worked with film production companies around the world. Starting out as a photographer as a child, having been taught by his grandfather to take pictures since the age of 10, he moved into making films in his early 20's. Stuart initially made dramas before moving into documentary. Independent projects are key to Stuart and he splits his time between larger funded projects and small independent ones. Always he tries to be involved with work that creates openings, inspirations and meaningful change for individuals & communities and the wider society. His passion for these things have taken him to work with individuals and communities across the globe in countries that include Cambodia, USA, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Mexico, Ireland as well as here in Scotland and the UK.