

FILMOGRAPHY - MARK KAPLAN

PRODUCTION RECORD (United States of America 1983 - 1985)

- Copley Square - 1983 Director, Camera & Editor

This 12 minute tape was made for an Environmental Art Programme

- Flood without a Dam - 1985 Director, Camera & Editor

A twenty minute documentary on the effects of the Holocaust on the children of survivors through the experience of one family.

- Pull Ourselves Up or Die Out - 1985 Editor

25 minutes in length this tape was an update of the material shot by the renowned ethnographic filmmaker, John Marshall, on the !Kung Bushmen in Namibia.

PRODUCTION RECORD Zimbabwe

- Bound to Strike Back 1986 Co-Director / Producer, Editor

An 80 minute special that looks at the dynamics of repression and resistance in South Africa.

- Something to Sing About 1987/8

A two-part, half-hour program that looks at the Co-operative Movement in Zimbabwe and Botswana.

- Reconciliation in Zimbabwe 1990 Director / Producer

A half-hour film chosen to represent Zimbabwe in the first Southern African Film festival, this film looks at the first decade of Zimbabwe's independence.

- Your Child is my Child 1991 Director / Editor

A half-hour docu-drama that explores the theme of child maintenance and the role of the traditional courts in dispensing justice.

PRODUCTION RECORD South Africa

- The Stone Kraal 1993/4 Sound / Off-Line Editor

A half-hour programme on the history of the Castle in Cape Town which encapsulates 300 years of colonial history.

- District Six 1995 Director / Producer & Camera

A one hour programme comprising a documentary insert and a panel discussion around District Six in Cape Town from its devastation caused by the Group Areas Act during the Apartheid years to the present. Produced for RWC TV.

- The Core of the Conflict 1995 Director/ Producer & Camera

A one hour programme comprising a documentary insert and a panel discussion around Grabouw in the Western Cape where conflict over land and housing between black and coloured communities has erupted raising questions about ethnic identity, historical legacies and power struggles. Produced for RWC TV.

- Now that we are Free... 1995 Director/ Producer & Camera

A 26 minute documentary around black/coloured conflict in the Western Cape. The programme explores racism, identity issues and the rise of coloured separatism. Commission by IDASA (Institute for Democracy South Africa).

- If Truth be Told 1996/7 Director

Three-part, one hour documentaries around the South African Commission for Truth and Reconciliation.

- Coordinated a Media Peace Centre 2 day workshop (January 1997) between the TRC (Truth & Reconciliation Commission) and journalists (print, television and radio).

- Africa: Search for Common Ground 1997 Joint Series Producer

A 13 part documentary series for television and radio that looked at conflicts throughout the African continent. **Silver Plaque Award in the International Series category at the 46th Annual Columbus International Film and Video Festival, 1998.**

- Where Truth Lies 1999 Producer/ Director

30 minute documentary that examines issues of truth, healing and reconciliation as they reveal themselves through the story of one family, that of Sipo and Joyce Mtimkulu who face up to one of their son's killers in an unforgettable encounter. **Joint first prize at the One World Media Awards for Best International Documentary 1999, (London, June 1999). Best of the Festival Award, Vermont International Film Festival, 2000. Bronze Plaque, 48th Annual Columbus International Film and Video Festival, 2000.**

- Where Truth Lies Radio documentary 1999 Executive Producer

30 minute radio documentary version of the above. In three languages, English, Afrikaans and Xhosa.

- Post TRC Community Radio Workshop 2000 Joint Head of Project

Through a process of two workshops 6 community radio projects from across the country design and produce 6 radio programs that tackle issues such as justice, reconciliation, reparations, healing. Completion at end of March 2000. A partnership between Ubuntu TV and the IAJ (Institute for the Advancement of Journalism).

- Hopes on the Horizon radio pilot documentary 2002 Executive Producer

Features two 30 minute radio documentaries on the 30 year struggle in Eritrea and on the Women's struggle in South Africa. This was produced for Boston-based film production company, Blackside Inc.

- Hopes on the Horizon 2 hour radio documentary 2002 Executive Producer

In partnership with Blackside Inc, Ubuntu TV & Film Productions, 8 x 15 minute radio documentaries drawn from across the African continent were produced. They augment and go wider than the TV programs that are part of the same series.

- African Renaissance 2001 Series Producer

3 x 13 half-hour documentaries (Television and Radio) made for and about obstacles to transformation on the African continent. This series is a follow-up to the above-mentioned *Africa: Search for Common Ground* series.

- The Road to Reconciliation 2002 Producer/Director

Three half-hour documentaries that illustrate the complexities of achieving Reconciliation in South Africa. These films are to support the work of the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation.

- When the War is Over 2002 Co - Producer

A feature length documentary that looks at the lost generation of so-called coloured South African youth who in the 1980's were known as the BMW - the Bonteheuvel Military Wing. The film chronicles where the key members of this group have ended up viz one being a member of the new South African national defence force, another the head of a local gang.

The Lion's Trail 2005 Co - Producer

A feature length documentary tracing the fate of the most famous melody to ever come from Africa: "Mbube", the song which later evolved into "Wimoweh" and "The Lion Sleeps Tonight". The film tells how a piece of music written by a rural South African became not only world famous but also the subject of

exploitation, criminal deals and massive legal disputes. **Emmy Award, 2005. For Outstanding Cultural and Artistic Programming.**

Strong Enough 2002

Producer

A half-hour documentary by first time Director, Penny Gaines about the first group of fisherwomen in South Africa. **Awarded a Silver at the 2002 Stony Awards.**

Reverse Swing 2003

Producer/Director

A two-part half hour series that goes behind the scenes of South African cricket before and during the Cricket World Cup to depict the action through the eyes of spectators filmed in surprising places all over South Africa. The series shows why cricket is so much more than just a game.

Between Joyce & Remembrance 2005

Producer/Director

A 68 minute feature-length documentary that profiles an extraordinary family from Zwide township in Port Elizabeth. It explores 3 different generations and their different belief systems which have been tested by two decades of hardship brought on by the abduction and death of their son at the hands of the Apartheid Security Police. **Award of Excellence, Film and Video festival, Society for Visual Anthropology, American Anthropological Society, 2006**

Roots Calling! 2006

Co-Producer/Director

The story of Pinise Saul whose extraordinary musical gifts are well recognised abroad but who, after years of exile, is hardly known here at home. The film deals with issues of exile and belonging and reveals how music has the power to transcend all cultural and physical boundaries.

Voorkamerfes 2006

Co-Director

Short film that shows how the small town of Darling was transformed one week-end during which theatre productions by South African and Dutch performances in the front rooms of ordinary people's houses.

Democracy X 2006

Director

A video capturing an extraordinary museum based exhibition.

Betrayal 2006

Co-Producer/Director

The story of Nokuthula Simelane, an unsung heroine, a courier for the ANC who was abducted and tortured and disappeared. Unfolds like a psychological

thriller as seen through the eyes of psychologist, academic, author, former TRC member Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela. **2007 Nomination, Best Documentary Feature, The South African Film and television Awards.**

Last Line of Defence 2007

Producer/Director

Two half-hour programme on 3 young goalkeepers and their dreams of becoming top flight professionals.

Eating Football 2008

Producer/Director

Two half-hour programme profiling Terror Fanteni, the current Bafana Bafana striker. The film follows him from Crossroads to Haifa, Israel where he currently is playing for Maccabi Haifa.

The Highgate Hotel Massacre 2009

Director

Half hour documentary on a group of survivor's of an attack designed to derail the 1994 elections. For 13 years they thought their attackers were black, now they know that it was a Third Force, white soldiers who they may well have grown up with. Exactly who the perpetrators were and who issued the orders remains elusive. **Selected for Tri-Continental Film Festival, 2009.**

Maduna Road 2009

Director

Documentary on a massacre that occurred in 1985 on the anniversary of Sharpeville. In similar vein, those killed were mostly shot in the back. In this instance though, although it has not before come to light, many of the injured were cold bloodedly shot while they were lying injured on the ground. Many went missing and there are whispers of a mass grave on a nearby farm. This investigative film seeks out the witnesses to these events and tries to establish the veracity of their claims from a variety of sources.

The Invincibles 2009

Director

Tells the story of the British and Irish Lions controversial rugby tour to Apartheid South Africa. Utilising previously unseen 8mm footage shot by three of the Lions players, the documentary is an insightful behind the scenes portrayal that is humorous and compelling. It also features some of the most shocking and brutal scenes ever witnessed on a rugby field.

Voted 5th best South African Documentary, Encounters South African and International Film festival, 2009.

The Village Under The Forest 2013

Producer/Director

Unfolding as a personal meditation from the Jewish diaspora, the documentary explores the hidden remains of the destroyed Palestinian village of Lubyia which lies under a purposefully cultivated forest plantation called "South African Forest".

Using the forest and the ruins of the village as metaphors, the film explores themes related to the erasure of memory and dares to imagine a future in which co-habitation becomes a shared possibility in Israel/Palestine.

Best South African Documentary, Encounters South African and International Film Festival, 2013.

Currently in Production:

Black Christmas

A story of Forgiveness and Restitution following a series of bomb blasts set off by extreme Right Wingers in the South African town of Worcester on Christmas Eve 1997. Four people were killed and sixty seven wounded. All but one of the victims has now forgiven the youngest of the bombers, Stefaans Coetzee, who was seventeen when the bombs went off. He has just been provisionally paroled and hopes to make good in the town of Worcester which is still today the site of massive social ills.

Silence in My Fathers House

A Jewish South African Anthropologist, Steven Robins, traces the seeds of the Nazi Genocide to the dusty Southern African interior where his Great Uncle, a fugitive from German law, became the first Mayor of a small frontier town in 1896. From here he finds unexpected links to the science of anthropology that directly implicates his own Anthropology department at Stellenbosch University in Cape Town, South Africa, where he teaches.

Science in the form of eugenics was practiced all over the world in the early part of the twentieth century. It was thought that it would lead to the betterment of mankind but instead it led, from the testing grounds of Southern Africa, to Auschwitz. By focusing on the entangled histories of the Robinsky family and the Bastards (people of mixed race) who once lived in the tiny remote Karoo town of Wiliston, we begin to understand how the seeds of world historical events such as the Nazi genocide were often planted in small, faraway places in the African colonies.

The Village Versus The Empire

JEJU ISLAND – One of the Seven Wonders of Nature, also known as The Island of Stone, as Peace Island and also as Woman's Island – is an island of beauty and wonder, with more UNESCO Natural Heritage Sites than any single geographic location on planet earth.

But, there is trouble in this paradise. It is being transformed – militarized. Its fragile ecology is currently being devastated by the construction of a naval base that is a globally dangerous provocation that imperils the island's future.

The “spirit” guide of the film, the main “driver” of the film, is Dohee Lee, a native of Jeju, who grew up on naval bases and is now living in America. Dohee Lee, an extraordinary performance artist and her work centres on jeju and its life forces. For her this is also a personal story, a plumbing of her memories as well as an expression of her political and spiritual beliefs.