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What do you see?

Matamba Kombila

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What do you see?

O que vê?

MATAMBA KOMBILA

Independent Filmmaker

contact@dougantsi.com

I am the offspring of parents who originate from the coloniser's land and the colonised one. I am generally well integrated on the colonised land, yet often perceived as "white". On the coloniser's land, I am othered. Therefore, when the discussion about gaze arises, I often wonder where mine stands. I don't have an answer to that. But I believe that my film work speaks to the questioning, so I submitted myself to an exercise. I selected excerpts of my films that are emblematic of my work, hoping that analysing them would provide an answer.





My work tells me st
exile, resilience, tra
dom, love, exploitati

-
- 1 "A Walk in Beauty" | ©DougantsiFilms.
 - 2 "Legacy by Studio189" | ©studio189.
 - 3 "Mundele" | ©DougantsiFilms.



When I started looking for common-
 ty between all of the
 all of my films, I not
 suns, grass, leaves, tr
 As well as the prese
 natural elements, su
 organic patterns, in
 I noticed that I ofte
 said elements when
 brings me back to m
 frequently went to B
 of the family. Then,
 fitting any establishe
 was a special breed.
 prehend how to rela
 fault, nature became
 always physically cl
 and always inspiring
 learned a lot from h
 come my co-creator

-
- 1 "EMO" | ©DougantsiFilms.
 - 2 "Legacy by Studio189" | ©studio189.
 - 3 "Mundele" | ©DougantsiFilms.



Through my work, I
consciousness and making
more just communities

Friends recently taught
nature in several African
All, just like Human
European definition
all except the Human
ment of the natural
phant, a tree or a rock

1-2 “Sens Dessus Dessous” | ©DougantsiFilms.
3 “Legacy by Studio189” | ©studio189.



Surrounding my pro
representation of it c
of our ancestors, all
see. It's a reminder t
es never to forget to l
to leave prejudice an
der to the greater go

—

- 1 “Sens Dessus Dessous” | ©DougantsiFilms.
- 2 “A Walk in Purpose” | ©DougantsiFilms.



I want to entice the
caring beyond them
that surrounds us is
us. As much as we are

—

“DD Teddy Bear” | ©MyriaMMaxo.

Filmography

EMO. Matamba Kombila. Dougantsi Films, Gabon, 2021, 45 min.
Legacy by Studio 189. Matamba Kombila. Studio 189, Ghana, 2020, 14 min.
influenceu.ses.rs. Matamba Kombila. Holowaba Groupe, Guinea/Gabon, 2020, 28 min.
Mundele. Matamba Kombila. Dougantsi Films, Congo/Gabon, 2019, 10 min.
Sens Dessus Dessous. Matamba Kombila. Dougantsi Films, Gabon, 2018, 93 min.
DD Teddy Bear. Matamba Kombila. MyryaM Maxo, USA, 2016, 4 min.
A Walk in Purpose. Matamba Kombila. Dougantsi Films, USA, 2014, 4 min.
A Walk in Beauty. Matamba Kombila. Dougantsi Films, USA, 2014, 5 min.

Biographical note

Matamba Kombila is an award-winning self-taught filmmaker, a conservationist, an educator and an author. At 40 in 2010, she decided to leave the fashion industry where she had always worked. She had reached a glass ceiling and wanted to push further her creative side. She decided to follow her heart and took on filmmaking. Her films aim to raise consciousness to create better, more just communities. It has been screened in festivals worldwide and broadcast on commercial television and VOD. Through her production company *Dougantsi Films*, she produces short or feature documentaries or fiction and creates commercial content for companies or institutions. Her mini TV/Web series, *Sens Dessus Dessous*, 2018, is currently in distribution, and her most recent work, the stage play “*EMO*”, 2021, is in distribution.

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