



## MINI FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

SCREENINGS: THURS & FRI : 10H30 13H30 15H30  
SAT : 10H30 12h00

<b>Freedom is a personal journey</b>	<b>02/09 – 10h30</b>	<b>Akiedah Mohammed</b>
<b>A Fisherman's Tale</b>	<b>02/09 – 13h30</b>	<b>Riaan Hendricks</b>
<b>Cinderella of the Cape Flats</b>	<b>02/09 - 15h30</b>	<b>Jane Kennedy</b>
<b>Between Joyce &amp; Remembrance</b>	<b>03/09 – 09h30</b>	<b>Mark Kaplan</b>
<b>Strong Enough</b>	<b>03/09 – 10h30</b>	<b>Penny Gaines</b>
<b>Cosmic Africa</b>	<b>03/09 – 13h30</b>	<b>Craig and Damon Foster</b>
<b>When the War is Over</b>	<b>03/09 – 15h30</b>	<b>Francois Verster</b>
<b>Ask me, I am positive</b>	<b>04/09 – 10h30</b>	<b>Teboho Edkins</b>
<b>Girlhood</b>	<b>04/09 – 12h00</b>	<b>Tracy Collis</b>

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CHECK [WWW.LEARNINGCAPE.ORG](http://WWW.LEARNINGCAPE.ORG) FOR FURTHER DETAIL.

## **Learning Cape Festival – Mini Film Festival**

### **A Fisherman's Tale**

26 min

Director: Riaan Hendricks

This sterling directorial debut is an unusual sensitive and personal tribute to the director's parents. Unable to communicate with his father, but wishing to find a connection, the filmmaker seizes his father's fishing lines and joins the crew of a snoek boat. Failing miserably as a fisherman, he poetically captures the chores, rituals, uncertainty and dignity of a hard life on the open ocean. He also delicately presents the despair the subsistence fishing community of Kalk Bay feels as globalisation, government policy and commercial operations leave them high and dry.

Hendrick's emotional eulogy offers a personal conversation to his parents, by bringing to light the hardened reality of an increasingly marginalized fishing community at the very tip of Africa.

Courtesy of [www.riaandhfilms.com](http://www.riaandhfilms.com)

### **Freedom is a Personal Journey**

49 min

Director: Akiedah Mohammed

An illusive concept, freedom means many things to many people. Mohammed attempts to discover the personal interpretation of its meaning by two very different characters who have been through the South African prison system. Seizing her own idea of freedom at a young age, Miriam embarked on a career of petty crime, a path that ended behind bars with hardened professionals. To Gertrude, freedom came through expression. Her defiance of the government landed her in 'solitary' with a horrifying programme of interrogation. Both return to Pollsmoor to discuss how incarceration forced them to find a way to create their own freedom.

Courtesy of Maxi D Productions and the director

### **Between Joyce and Remembrance**

68 min

Director: Mark Kaplan

*The family of a slain activist confronts his killer*

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings offered South Africa and the world a chance to confront apartheid atrocities. But little is known of the impact of families of victims and whether real reconciliation ever took place at a personal level. This film unflinchingly confronts these questions by following Joyce and Sikhumbuzo Mtimkulu, mother and son of slain student activist Siphiso Mtimkulu. Siphiso's killer Gideon Nieuwoudt attempts to gain their forgiveness, culminating in one of the most dramatic meetings of its kind ever filmed.

**Cosmic Africa**

72 min

Director: Craig & Damon Foster

*The journey through African cosmologies with one of South Africa's first black astronomers.*

"I know so much about the stars, yet so little about my own continent and how my people are connected to the sky." With these words South African Astronomer Thebe Medupe embarks on a quest to ground his science in African knowledge. His journey takes him to meet with Ju/'hoansi people in Namibia, whose stories link terrestrial mysteries with the movements of the stars; to the Dogon of Mali, whose night sky maps provide signposts for how to live on earth; and into the Sahara desert, where a cosmic clock attests to the African origins of astronomy. "Cosmic Africa" is a beautifully shot, densely layered meditation on how we relate to the cosmos.

**Girlhood**

2002 26min Video

Dir: Tracey Collis

A devastating look at life on the streets in the Cape Flats, focusing on Kashiefa and her friends. She has hustled, done time in a reformatory, and witnessed and fallen prey to the brutality of a place where gangsters, guns, mandrax and rape are endemic. Now she is pregnant and desperately wants to turn her life around - and finally gets a shot at it. Unsentimental, expertly shot and creatively executed, Girlhood lifts the lid on the bleak realities facing many teenagers in South Africa's urban slums. We welcome Tracey Collis who will introduce her film.

*Courtesy of Dancing Light Productions / e.tv.*

**Ask me, I am positive**

50 min

Director: Teboho Edkins

The successful *Steps for the Future* is a collection of films from the southern African region. It tackles, with fascinating diversity, the reality of living with HIV / AIDS.

This thought-provoking road movie takes the Steps programme through its obvious educational extension. It shows three HIV-positive young men, Moalosi, Thabiso and Thabo, as they journey on the road to the most remote areas of Lesotho breaking the taboos and ignorance that surrounds the pandemic. With direct honesty they answer pertinent and absurd, but all-important, questions about their status. As the journey progresses, they share the disbelief, fear and lack of understanding of their condition. But, as their friendship grows, they also discuss the problems inherent in living positively and a deep desire to have a normal, honest relationship.

Courtesy of Day Zero Productions

**When the War is Over**

65 min

Director: Francois Verster

*Two former anti-apartheid militants, one an army captain captain, the other a gang member*

“When The War is Over” explores the effects of the struggle against apartheid on survivors from the Bonteheuwel Military Wing (BMW), a militant teenage self-defense unit affiliated with the ANC in the mid-1980’s. Focusing on two ex-activists, Gori and Marlon, this documentary reveals the scars left among what has become the country’s lost generation. Gori has become an army captain, finding their paths in life: The battle against apartheid is won, but what now?

**Cinderella of the Cape Flats**

58 minutes

Director: Jane Kennedy

This uplifting documentary sweeps us along in the growing excitement at the one time in the year when Cape Town’s 86, 000 textile workers are consumed by a joyous and innocent distraction: the annual 27th Spring Queen pageant. Concentrating on Tex Truform, Kennedy follows and delves into the contestant’s dreams and aspirations. Our excitement grows as each contender competes against her colleagues – learning to shimmy down the catwalk, lose her inhibitions, choose the all-important dress, and hold her own among scores of other contestants. First, in front of her home crowd, and, before the whole industry. Offset against the socio-economic reality of the worker’s lives. *Cinderella of the Cape Flats* is a kaleidoscope of fun and frivolity, masking a new

economic reality in silk and sequins. Courtesy of SABC 1

**Strong Enough**

26 min

Director: Penny Gaines

This documentary follows a group of women from the “colored” township of Ocean View as they struggle to survive by taking up the “man’s” job of fishing in the rough waters off Cape Town. We follow them through their daily lives, both on land and at sea, in the tiny boat the women call “Strong Enough” because, like them it continues to withstand bad weather. Their dream falters when a corrupt new system for granting fishing permits threatens to cut them out of even that precarious livelihood.