

Kadongo Kamu

TRAILER

The traditional music of Kadongo Kamu, native to the Buganda Kingdom, is once again capturing the essence of modern Uganda, openly discussing and educating mass society about issues such as HIV and AIDS.

RUNTIME: 08:59

COUNTRY: UGANDA

FILMING LOCATION: BUGANDA KINGDOM, UGANDA

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

SOURCE: A24 MEDIA

SCRIPT

Originating in Uganda, the rebirth of Kadongo Kamu music, after the fall of the dictator, Idi Amin, has reinvigorated the music scene, capturing the essence of modern Uganda.

Uganda was thrown into turmoil when General Idi Amin took over the country in the 1971 coup, unleashing a reign of bloody terror, murder and social unrest. Many professionals, including doctors, artists and other intellectuals were either murdered or forced into exile during this time. Political expression via creative means was banned.

Kadongo Kamu musicians could not practice their traditional music and had to suspend its production. However, after the Museveni led National Resistance Army took control of Uganda in 1986 the arts were given hope of reviving themselves. Kadongo Kamu was practiced again and once more became a medium through which the stories of Uganda could be told.

The music is rooted in Kampala, capital of the traditional Buganda Kingdom. Here it was used by minstrels to inform the King or Kabaka about the activities of their court. The Kadongo Kamu music means 'One Guitar' music. It employs the medium of song to narrate stories and provide solutions and morals.

The language of the music is metaphorical and symbolic. Kadongo Kamu employs the tools of humour, mime and community theatre to generate positive values upon which current social conduct can be based.

It also deals with a variety of themes that affect the Ugandan society, for example, love, male/female tensions, family values, dangers of gossip, effect of modernity on morals and the mistreatment of HIV/AIDS sufferers, including orphans. Kadongo Kamu allows a means through which these difficult to discuss issues can be brought to the fore and debated.

Kadongo Kamu also allows female artists to express their interpretations of social issues as they now practice the art and stage performances.

The musicians of Kadongo Kamu are very adept as they are successfully able to merge modern musical instruments with this traditional art.

The Kadongo Kamu genre is a popular one today. There are many live performances which are fairly lucrative. The music has evolved in parallel to Uganda's evolution and is very much part of Ugandan history and culture.

As the world becomes more technologically advanced, Kadongo Kamu hopes to remain a platform through which the future generations of Ugandans can be educated, informed and entertained about themselves, their society and their historical heritage.

SHOTLIST

01:00 VARIOUS SHOTS OF UGANDAN HILLSIDE AND LANDSCAPE

01:19 VARIOUS SHOTS OF A WATERFALL

01:23 SHOT OF A LAKE WITH A SMALL BOAT ON THE LAKE

01:26 SHOT OF A MAN ROWING A SMALL BOAT ON THE LAKE

01:27 SHOT OF GENERAL OF NATIONAL RESISTANCE ARMY IN UNIFORM

01:29 VARIOUS SHOTS OF SOLDIERS FROM THE NATIONAL RESISTANCE
ARMY IN MARCHING AND IN MILITARY TRAINING

01:36 SHOT OF A GROUP OF CIVILIANS WALKING DOWN A STREET BEING
LED BY A POLCEMAN

01:38 SHOT OF CIVILIANS GETTING ONTO A PLANE AT THE AIRPORT
DURING THE IDI AMIN ORDERED EXPULSION OF ASIANS

01:41 ITV, EMMANUEL TIMUSIIMEMUTEBILE, FORMER PERMANENT
SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UGANDA (ENGLISH)

“Artists were very very scared because the national intelligence was out listening on every doorstep and looking at everything, so that you were not going to say or write anything that could be seen as inciting the public, artists like the late Byron Kawadwa were killed”

02:01 SHOT OF SOLDIERS MARCHING AND ARMY TANKER MOVING IN
BACKGROUND

02:04 ITV, Rwangeze Sirumaga (English)

“War, war, war is the disruption of all the processes that we are trying to build.”

02:10 SHOT OF A BUILDING UNDER RECONSTRUCTION

02:12 SHOT OF A GROUP OF MEN AT A BUILDING SITE PASSING BRICKS
FROM ONE MAN TO THE NEXT

02:16 SHOT OF FOUR MEN PAINTING THE ROOF OF A BUILDING

02:18 ROTATING SHOT OF FLAGS, FROM BELOW, LEADING INTO VARIOUS
SHOTS OF THE KAMPALA SHERATON HOTEL

02:26 SHOT OF BRIDAL PARTY – BRIDE AND BRIDESMAIDS

02:30 VARIOUS CLOSE UP SHOTS OF WOMAN IN TRADITIONAL CLOTHES
SINGING

02:35 VARIOUS SHOTS OF MUSICIANS PLAYING DRUMS AND GUITARS, AS
WELL AS WOMEN SINGING AND DANCING

03:08 VARIOUS SHOTS OF WOMAN SINGING THROUGH MICROPHONE AND
DANCING TO THE MUSIC

03:16 VARIOUS SHOTS OF CROWDS OF PEOPLE HANGING AROUND THE
ENTRANCE TO THE THEATRE / MUSIC FESTIVAL

03:23 VARIOUS SHOTS OF TWO PEOPLE PERFORMING KADONGO KAMU A
SET ON STAGE

03:54 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“The phrase means one guitar, or, a single guitar and it is music played by what you may call a number of big stars; Paolo Kathero, Fred Sevata, think Daniel Gula is still going, and so on, now this music is rooted in the culture of the minstrels, again going back to a pre-colonial times, people used to move around with a single harp, which we call intongoli or indingidi, which is like a fiddle with one string, and they used to sing songs dealing with social criticism and political criticism and and so on”

04:28 VARIOUS SHOTS OF A BAND PLAYING INSTRUMENTS AND A MAN
SINGING

04:53 SHOT OF WOMEN DANCING ON STAGE

05:14 ITV, EMMANUEL TIMUSIIMEMUTEBILE, FORMER PERMANENT
SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UGANDA (ENGLISH)

“Kadongo Kamu is a, is really an adaptation, in my opinion, an adaptation of the two cultures getting a guitar, which is a Western instrument, and putting the art of storytelling, which is typically African”

05:32 VARIOUS SHOTS OF A MAN ON STAGE TELLING A STORY THROUGH
KADONGO KAMU

05:48 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“What Kadongo Kamu did was it remained consistent in talking about things other than simple love and whatever, when the Kingdoms were abolished a lot of songs emerged out of that, when regimes fall, a lot of songs emerged from Kandongo Kamu”

06:03 VARIOUS SHOTS OF A MAN PERFORMING KADONGO KAMU, WITH A BAND PLAYING AND WOMEN DANCING IN THE BACKGROUND, AS WELL AS A TRUMPET SOLO

06:15 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“It remained, music, popular somehow but invisible for a very long time, now it is becoming institutionalized, but because of I think new technology, and because of the fact that culturally, Ugandans are, and Africans everywhere, are looking again at their own roots”

06:34 VARIOUS SHOTS OF A MAN ON STAGE PERFORMING KADONGO KAMU

07:09 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“If you talk about something that genuinely represents modern Ugandan music, it is that music form”

07:16 ITV, EMMANUEL TIMUSIIMEMUTEBILE, FORMER PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UGANDA (ENGLISH)

“I grew up listening to stories, and every time you listen to a story, it, the story would be waiting for that moment when your grandmother would sing that beautiful song. “

07:24 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“One of the things that they do often in their performances is that in between the songs to have little drummers depicting what they’re talking about, but it’s just the music, when you hear the music it is so modern, yet so traditional”

07:38 VARIOUS SHOTS OF KADONGO KAMU BARBERSHOP STORY

09:05 ITV, STEPHEN RWANGYEZI, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
NDERE TROUPE/CENTRE/FOUNDATION (ENGLISH)

“The level of musicianship is so high, the level of of thought that goes into the theme is also very high”

09:13 VARIOUS SHOTS OF MEN AND WOMEN PERFORMING IN A KADONGO
KAMU

END