

# AFRICA ALIVE



In 2022, the Africa Alive Festival screened, among others, the Angolan film “Air Conditioner” (2020), shot by the film collective “Geração 80”.

## Africa Alive

Frankfurt has hosted the annual film festival since 1994

Fostering a lively dialogue between cultures, helping to dismantle prejudices and enriching multicultural Frankfurt are the objectives of the Africa Alive Festival, which has been firmly anchored in the cultural programme of the City of Frankfurt since 1994. Each February, the DFF – Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum, Filmforum Höchst and further cooperation partners cast the spotlight on African productions and debates. Mostly films are shown, but there are also concerts, readings, a children’s programme and a panel discussion on each of the focus topics. This year, the festival had to be postponed due to the pandemic. It was finally held for the 28th time on 22 – 29 September 2022.

This year’s thematic focus was Algeria’s independence, which celebrated its 60th anniversary on 5 July 2022. Screenings included the restored classic “Chronique des années de brasse” (1975) by Mohammed Lakhdar-Hamina, winner of the Golden Palm

in Cannes in 1975. The film made it clear that the resistance had already begun long before 1 November 1954, the official beginning of the Algerian War. Lina Soualem’s documentary “Leur Algerie” (2020) is dedicated to her grandparents, who emigrated from Algeria to France as a young couple, but never talked about their past and the painful memories.

The festival is organised by the DFF – Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum, the Filmforum Höchst of the Volkshochschule Frankfurt, Africa Foundation e.V., Afroton Kulturprojekte, and Dialog International. But other cultural institutions, initiatives and associations in Frankfurt as well as private individuals also contribute to the festival’s success. Countries and topics in recent years have included the Arab Spring (2012), Generation Change (2016), African Utopias (2018) or Sudan (2020). In 2019, the festival was awarded the Integration Prize of the City of Frankfurt.

In 2022, the Africa Alive Festival also focused on the work of film collectives: presented were “Geração 80”, a collective of creative individuals from Angola who stand for a new, innovative generation, the directors’ collective “Yes! That’s Us” from Uganda, the ensemble “The Living and the Dead” from Haiti and “The Nest Collective” from Kenya, a multidisciplinary group that came together in Nairobi in 2012 and has since produced works in the fields of film, music, fashion, visual arts and literature. The group came to fame through its queer film anthology “Stories of Our Lives” (2014), which won multiple awards.

[www.africa-alive-festival.de](http://www.africa-alive-festival.de)