

THE HOMES WE CARRY

A documentary by Brenda Akele Jorde



DOC Leipzig
German
Competition
2022

FILM
FIVE



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SYNOPSIS

THE HOMES WE CARRY portrays a family torn apart by the turmoil of world history between Germany, Mozambique and South Africa. At the center is Sarah, a young Afro-German mother. She wants her daughter to have the relationships she herself lacked as a child. Therefore, she travels with her to Africa, where her own father and the child's father are waiting for them. But meeting Luana's father, who suddenly has to grow up when Sarah shows up at the door with his daughter, presents both of them with great challenges. Meanwhile, Sarah's father Eulidio recalls the almost forgotten and unjust history of the Mozambican contract workers in the former GDR. In his nostalgic daydreams, he returns to the origins of his European family and their sudden separation - a fate he shares with many other German-Mozambican families.



PW: Homes-22

DOK Leipzig
German
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THE HOMES WE CARRY

WORLD PREMIERE

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THE HOMES WE CARRY

a production of **FILM FIVE** in co-production with the **FILM UNIVERSITY BABELSBERG KONRAD WOLF** and **RUNDFUNK BERLIN-BRANDENBURG**
with the participation of **EULIDIO DANIEL NHAMBIRO** and **SARAH DEICHSEL** directed by **BRENDA AKELE JORDE** co-directors **DAVID-SIMON GROB** and **MALTE WANDEL**
editor **LAURA ESPINEL** cinematographer **DAVID-SIMON GROB** music composer **LENNA BAHULE** sound design **JAKOB MÄSEL** re-recording mixer **MANUEL MEICHSNER** commissioning editor **ROLF BERGMANN**
executive producers **YAN SCHOENEFELD**, **STEFAN KAUERTZ** producers **FLORIAN SCHEWE**, **MIRIAM HENZE** funded by **MEDIENBOARD BERLIN-BRANDENBURG**
created within the framework of the **INITIATIVE LEUCHTSTOFF** by **RBB** and **Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg**

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A woman with braided hair is seen from behind, holding a young child. They are standing in front of a large crowd of people, some of whom are wearing white clothing. The scene appears to be outdoors, possibly at a public event or festival. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the woman and child in the foreground.

PRESS

Afro-German documentary director Brenda Akele Jorde's debut feature is a touching family saga of love and loss, historic betrayal and mixed cultural identity.

The Film Verdict

While 'Afro-American' is a common term, I'm not sure I came across 'Afro-German' before seeing this documentary, *The Homes We Carry*. And that is exactly director Brenda Akele Jorde's point: Afro-Germans have been largely ignored and neglected

Business Doc Europe



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FACT SHEET

Original title	The Homes We Carry
English title	The Homes We Carry
Production year	2022
Length	89 mins.
Genre	Documentary feature
Color s/w	Color
Image format	2K; 1,85:1; 25fps
Sound format	5.1
Shooting Format	2K
Shooting Locations	Maputo (Mosambik) Springs (Südafrika) Berlin (Deutschland)
Original Languages	German, Portuguese, English, Zulu
Subtitles	English, German
Production company	Film Five GmbH
Co-produced by	Konrad Wolf Film University of Babelsberg
Funded by	Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

CREW

With	Eulidio Daniel Nhambiro Sarah Deichsel Luana Deichsel Eduardo Pinto Goenha
Treatment	Brenda Akele Jorde David-Simon Groß Malte Wandel
Director	Brenda Akele Jorde
Co-Director	David-Simon Groß Malte Wandel
DoP	David-Simon Groß
Editing	Laura Espinel
Sound	Till Aldinger Brenda Akele Jorde André Estevão Bahule
Sound Design	Jakob Mäsel
Re-recording mixer	Manuel Meichsner
Original score	Lenna Bahule
Producers	Florian Schewe Miriam Henze
Com. editor	Rolf Bergmann (rbb)



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As an Afro-German director I want to tell stories and origins of Afro-German families, so we see ourselves represented and therefore as a part of German society. Showing the story of Sarah's family means making Afro-German identity visible and emotionally tangible across generations. Like many others, Sarah eventually understands that being Afro-German is not a contradiction, not wrong and unwanted, but an enrichment and a wonderful gift.

20,000 Mozambicans worked hard in the GDR and were cheated out of their money. This history is not part of the German cultural memory, even though the contract workers contributed significantly to the construction of (East) Germany. When Sarah, the daughter of the Mozambican contract worker, talks about her experiences as a black child in East Germany after the fall of the Wall, she speaks for many Afro-German children who felt very uncomfortable in their skin and had to struggle with their blackness for a long time.



BIOGRAPHY

Brenda Akele Jorde

Brenda Akele Jorde (1993, Germany) studies Documentary Film Directing at the Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf since 2018. Her films so far deal with self-empowerment through art, queerness or effects of migration for the individual. *THE HOMES WE CARRY* is her feature documentary film debut and her master's film project at the University. Brenda also studied and worked in cultural institutions in France, Chile and Australia and is also a trained circus pedagogue.

FILMOGRAPHY

The Homes We Carry (89 mins., GER, 2022)

Va-Bene (11 mins., Ghana, 2018)

Stick of Joy (5 mins., GER, 2020)

A way of breathing (9 mins., Iran, 2020)



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PRODUCTION

FILM FIVE is an award-winning production company based in Berlin, dedicated to producing high-end, creative documentaries and fiction films for local and global audiences.

FILM FIVE has succeeded in taking home a variety of prestigious awards. KOKA, THE BUTCHER won Best Short at the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival and DON'T FORGET ME won the 35. Torino Film Festival. NO GOLD FOR KALSAKA was part of the line-up at IDFA while winning Best Documentary at the AMAA Awards and WHEN A FARM GOES AFLAME was selected for the 71. Berlinale. PROLL! was awarded with the Golden Lola for Best German Short Film 2021 and the German Camera Award 2022. Our 6-part documentary series SCHWESTA EWA - RAPPER. CONVICT. MOTHER streams on RTL+ and our investigative documentary THE HUNGARIAN PLAYBOOK is available on ZDF/ZDFinfo. LOVE, DEUTSCHMARKS AND DEATH won the Audience Award of the Panorama section of the 72. Berlinale and celebrates its cinema release across Germany, Austria and Turkey. The documentary GLADBECK: THE HOSTAGE CRISIS streams on NETFLIX and won the German Television Award for Best Editing.

Co-produced by



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BerlinBrandenburg



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