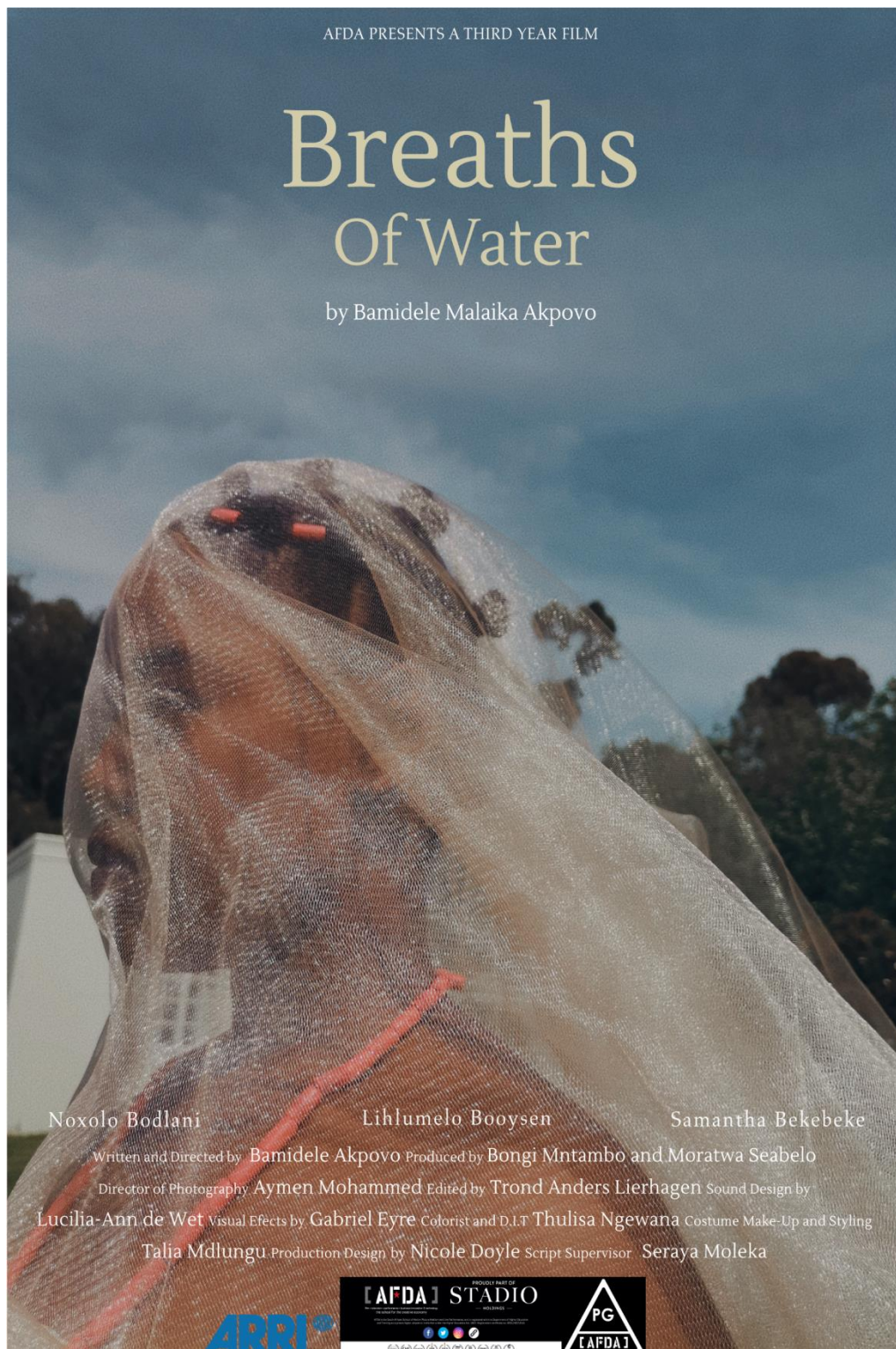


## ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



## FILM INFORMATION

TITLE: Breaths of water

PRODUCTION COUNTRY: SOUTH AFRICA

GENRE: Magical Realism

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

RUNNING TIME: 12 MINUTES

RATING: PG

VIEWING RESTRICTION:

FORMAT: QUICKTIME scope 2:39

ASPECT RATIO:

SOUND: 5, 1 STEREO



### DIRECTORS STATEMENT

So where are you from?"

This is one of those questions that has always been interesting when inevitably asked, because I never

Quite know where to start.

My upbringing has been made up of a medley of cultural influences, brought in by my Beninese and

Liberian heritage as well as my Kenyan roots. This alongside several experiences in different cities

Across the continent, has informed my perspective on the world and more importantly my love for

People, culture and stories.

I started writing from a very young age and more often than not, the style of these stories took on the

Form of the stories I grew up on, Enid Blyton and Penguin Classics type books among others. It was

Only years ahead that I would begin to explore African literature and eventually fall in love with it. I

Am deeply inspired by the passionate nature of both African literature and oral tradition; the proverbs,

The riddles, the associations, the songs, the variety and colour...all things that have always inspired me , When I began doing film, one of my core desires was to take the stories I'd read and written, the Experiences I'd lived and heard about and place them on the screen. It took some time to find my Voice in the filmic medium but once I did, I primarily wanted to re-imagine the African narrative and Experiment with the overall look and feel of African cinema.

Breaths of Water represent just that, a discovery of self. It represents my inclination to daydream and. Have my head up in the clouds as well as my interest in relevant current topics. Though it I was able to experiment with my vision and hope to beautifully present a question on our perspectives about our different cultures and heritage as Africans in quickly changing times.

## Logline

A young catholic girl began to explore her cultural, roots as she embarks on a journey of healing and self-discovery that is marked by surreal expirences orchestrated by divine entity

## Tagline

The truth is in the water .

### Synopsis

After a series of unfortunate events, a young Catholic girl begins to explore her African traditional religion as she sets on a path of healing and self-discovery that is marked by a number of surreal experiences in her day to day life orchestrated by a divine entity Oshun.





### CAST BIOGRAPHIES

#### Maite Rakabe- OSHUN

Maite Rakabe was born in Limpopo, Polokwane and raised in Johannesburg. Her love for performing began from an early age and thoroughly enjoyed "make believe games" that involved acting, of course.

She is currently completing her final year at AFDA, the South African School of Motion Picture Medium and Live Performance in Cape Town, specialising in Screen and Stage Acting. She's been in various productions and a few highlights include Three Sisters by Chekov directed by Lara Bye, Horn of Sorrow directed by Nhlanhla "den" Mkwana and Agamemnon-Greek directed by Fanyiswa Yisa

Maite would describe herself as an introverted extrovert that enjoys going on hikes and meditating when she's not performing. She is excited to start her career path in performing arts, as soon as she has graduated!

### Lihlumelo Booysen-FEYI

Lihlumelo Booysen is a 22 year old from Port Elizabeth, currently doing her 3rd year in Live Performance at AFDA. She's always known that she was born to perform from a young age because she did ballroom dancing, but her love for acting started in church and primary school when there were talent shows and concerts. When she was in high school, she heard of AFDA and she told her parents about, but they weren't too keen, because they didn't believe that she could make a living from the degree and they had never even heard of AFDA so they didn't trust her whole plan, but ever since her first performance in first year, her mother has seen that AFDA has started to believe that her daughter can make a living from acting. "It's been an intense 3 years at AFDA but the hard work that we put is always worth it in the end" says Mello.



## Crew Biographies

### BAMIDELE MALAIKA-Director\Writer



Born in Nairobi, Bamidele first started taking an interest in books as soon as she could speak. What

Would develop into a possibly life-long love for words and stories, began with the tantrums of a

Toddler frustrated by the fact that she couldn't read things like her mother. And so it began, an early

Gravitation towards the world of writing and storytelling.

Influenced by both her Beninese and Liberian heritage, Bamidele is particularly passionate about

Bringing African stories to screen that reflect our reality as well as draw the mind out of it, if only for a moment. She believes that through magic and fantasy we are able to create our ideals. We are also

Able to comment on the negatives of our societies in an artful way that provokes thought and shifts , In perspective, Being a director-writer she hopes to create films that draw from her rich cultural heritage as well as the daydreamer and anthropologist within her to communicate and highlight matters too important to be ignored.





### **BONGI MNTAMBO-PRODUCER**

Bongi Mntambo was born and raised in East London in the Eastern Cape from a very young age she's known that she wanted to peruse a career in the arts she participated in all drama productions throughout her primary and high school years. After Matriculating she moved to Cape Town to begin her journey at AFDA where she originally came for Live Performance but ended up loving producing one of her mottos in life is do what you have to do so you can do what you want to do.



### **MORATWA SEABELO-PRODUCER**

Hello my name is Moratwa Seabelo, acting as one of two producers for this film crew. I come from a dry small town known as Mahikeng in the North West province, right on the border of our neighbouring county Botswana...I enjoy reading, organizing and singing.

I believe it is our responsibility as creative to push ourselves and others in finding new ways of expanding and fine tuning our capabilities as African story tellers at every chance we get.

SERAYA MOLEKA –SCRIPT SUPERVISOR



Seraya was born in Kinshasa, DRC. With close bloodlines from Angola and further ones from Sudan, her mind is spread across the continent. She believes that all her stories ought to derive from the soil in which she was born or lead back home. When she is not writing, she learns of the many African cultures to enrich her storytelling. At core, she's a learner— as long as she's learning, so she is living. Her biggest dream is to bring film education to her native land and provide scholarships for talented disadvantaged children to pursue an education in filmmaking."



TALIA MDLUNGU-COSTUME MAKE-UP STYLIST

I was born in Cape Town South Africa and that's where I've been for the past 21 years of my life. I initially did sound, but realized I missed CDS/CMS and decided to go back and that was probably the best decision I could've made as I am really enjoying creating characters and new looks. I love special effects makeup, that's my favourite part of the discipline as I am a huge fan of horror and action films. My favourite thing about film has been learning the behind the scenes and creative processes behind films. This has made me appreciate the small details of film making. My hobbies include videography and making videos (I have a YouTube channel as a kind of portfolio of my work). I love editing. I sing and write my own songs.

AYMEN MOHAMED– CINEMATOGRAPHER



Aymen Mohamed is a visual artist based and raised in Sudan/Khartoum. Aymen's fascination with visual storytelling started when he finished high-school. Therefore, he had so much free time to explore himself and his surroundings through his camera. He decided to take the path of visual storytelling step forward and travel to South Africa \_Cape Town and study (cinematography) in the institute of (AFDA) . Aymen's visual storytelling is based on personal documentation and observations of daily life's events in the form of photo narrative and videography. He has a very good understanding to lighting and frame composition that allow him to convey his observations conceptually and emotionally.



TRON LIERHAGEN-EDITOR

Trond Anders Lierhagen is born and raised in Norway and moved to Cape Town in 2019 to complete his degree in editing and to explore the culture and life South Africa has to offer. His passion is good food and a movie. When it comes to filmmaking he like working with comedy and drama, and the way the story can change in the editing.





### THULISA NGEWANA- DATA AND GRADER

Thulisa is a young black female curious about the art of storytelling. No matter the medium, genre or field, stories and how to creatively explore and unfold them has always intrigued her. So much so, that she's majored in Colour Grading and Data Management. She feels it is important to be well rounded, knowledgeable and to understand all aspects of your field. Her fascination with story, has led her to become one of the youngest to win a LAMDA award for acting, work in publishing as a publishing assistant for Cover2Cover books and finally get a 3 year degree for film production at AFDA. Her AFDA journey may have come to an end but her passionate pursuit of storytelling will never end.



### NICOLE DOYLE-PRODUCTION DESIGNER

My name is Nicole Doyle and I am a Third Year Student at AFDA. Always had a love for films and

Theatre ever since I was in high school and was part of the drama department. Did my first set?

Building when I was in grade 9 and would love to be to creative in my spare time in arts and crafts.

When I came to AFDA my hobby became my passion. A quote that I live by from Marc Anthony, "If

You do what you love, you'll never work a day in your life."



Lucilia-Ann "Lucy" de Wet, Sound Designer

Lucy de Wet was born and raised in the southern suburbs of Cape Town. Introduced to the behind the scenes of film making from a young age by her father. She is currently a second year sound student perusing her passion of sound and music, and the exploration of the relationship between audio design and emotional reaction.



GABRIEL EYRE-VISUAL EFFECTS

Gabriel Eyre was born and raised in Cape Town, South Africa.

He is currently a third year VFX student who enjoys creating films and Participating in the post-production process. While originally wanting to be an editor, he discovered his passion for the VFX department and hobby for creating special effects.





CREDIT LIST

Cast

FEYI-LIHLUMELO BOYSEN

OSHUN-MAITE RAKABE

IKEYI-NOXOLO BODLANI

AUNTY LARA-SAMANTHA BEKEBE

Crew

DIRECTOR\WRITTER- BAMIDELE MALAKIA AKPOVO

PRODUCER –BONGI MNTAMBO

PRODUCER –MORATWA SEABELO

SCRIPT SUPERVISOR –SERAYA MOLEKA

CINEMATOGRAPHER-AYMEN MOHAMMED

EDITOT-TRON LIERHAGEN

VISUAL EFFECTS –GABRIEL EYERE

SOUND DESIGN- LUCILIA DE WET

DATA AND GRADER –THULISA NGEWANA

COSTUME MAKE-UP AND STYLIST – TALIA MDLUNGU

PRODUCTUTION DESIGN – NICOLE DOYLE

Assists

DECLAN HOOPER- CINE ASSIST

NICHEEL MADURAI-CINE ASSIST

MANGALISO B.NGWANE-CINE ASSIST

MAMELO SONGO – CINE ASSIST

WANDI –CINE ASSIST

SPECIAL THANKS

SLEEPY WILLOW COUNTRY ACCOMODATION



NGEWANA FAMILY

AKPOVO FAMILY

GQOLA FAMILY

MNTAMBO FAMILY

DUGGAN FAMILY