

PUNK IN AFRICA

A film by Keith Jones and Deon Maas



Synopsis (56 words/389 signs):

PUNK IN AFRICA is the story of the multi-racial punk movement within the recent political and social upheavals experienced in three Southern African countries: South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. In these societies, the punk subculture represented a genuinely radical political impulse, playing out against a backdrop of intense political struggle, economic hardship and even civil war.

Synopsis (113 words/690 signs):

PUNK IN AFRICA traces this until-now untold story from its roots in the underground rock music of early 1970s Johannesburg, the first multi-racial punk bands formed in the wake of the Soweto Uprising and the militant anti-apartheid hardcore and post-punk bands of the 1980s to the rise of celebratory African-inspired ska bands which sprang up from Cape Town to Maputo in the democratic era of the 1990s. Today, an emerging generation of bands continue to draw on this legacy to confront the political challenges of contemporary Zimbabwe and the uncertain identity issues of the Afrikaans minority in South Africa as the scene also begins to spread across the rest of the African continent.

Synopsis (160 words/1049 signs):

Three chords, three countries, one revolution... **PUNK IN AFRICA** is the story of the multi-racial punk movement within the recent political and social upheavals experienced in three Southern African countries: South Africa, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. In these societies, the punk subculture represented a genuinely radical political impulse, playing out against a backdrop of intense political struggle, economic hardship and even civil war.

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Directors Bio

Keith Jones has worked on numerous music-related film and media projects in both Europe and Africa, and was Program Director of the Music on Film Film on Music festival in Prague, Czech Republic from 2005 to 2007. He co-directed the 2008 documentary *Durban Poison*, a musical-political road movie about the first black-owned cultural institution in South Africa, which was the first Czech-South African documentary co-production.

Deon Maas is a long-standing presence in the South African media scene. He has variously worked as a journalist, photographer, producer, radio host and television personality. Among his prior documentary films are *Who Killed Johannes Kerkorrel?* and *My Big Fat Afrikaner Wedding*. He also served as a creative producer on the SAFTA-winning SABC 2 music reality program *Jam Sandwich* and is the author of the best-selling travel book *Witboy in Africa*.

Director's Statement

I think Simon from Toxik Sox said it the best when we interviewed him at the Tattoo Convention in Cape Town in January. "The job of any punk band is to criticise the government, no matter who the government is." When we started working on the idea for Punk in Africa the political angle was the thing that got us going the most. We were interested in how this eurocentric social revolution became a bone fide political movement in South Africa and how the idea of the political revolution spread through certain African countries as the politics of those countries started demanding harder protest – Kenya after multi-party democracy was allowed in 1992, Mozambique after the civil war and Namibia after Nujoma took it over.

CREDITS:

Director:	Keith Jones, Deon Maas
Producer:	Jeffrey Brown, Keith Jones, Deon Maas
Director of Photography:	Gary K. Griffin
Editor:	Andy Wills
Location Sound Recordist:	Jonathan Chiles
Post-production:	Jiří Čvančara
Graphic Design and Credit Sequence:	DJ Zhao
Associate Producer:	Bill Botes, David Chislett
Production company:	Meerkat Media, Peligroso Productions & Bohemian Lion
Year of production:	2011
Shooting format:	HD / Super 8
Screening formats:	HD, BetaDigital, DVD-Region
Screening ratio:	16:9 HD
Sound:	Stereo
Original Languages:	English, Afrikaans, Portuguese
Subtitles available:	English, Czech, Portuguese
Versions available:	52min./82min.
Festival participations:	Durban IFF, Festival do Rio, Rotterdam IFF
Date of premiere – Domestic:	July 2011
Date of premiere – International:	October 2011

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