

## **BIOGRAPHY**

### **Sindi Gordon**

**Producer/Director**

**Award winning filmmaker and programmer**

Sindi Gordon's experience in the film industry spans across three continents: Africa, Europe and North America.

#### **USA 2001-present**

Sindi worked for three years as a Producer and Director, at ROJA Productions, New York on the PBS series, **Matters of Race**, a provocative exploration around the issues of race in contemporary America. Sindi produced and directed a one hour documentary for the series **We're Still Here**, a contemporary look at two communities often overlooked in the race dialogue: American Indians and Native Hawaiians. Sindi won the prestigious **Henry Hampton Award (2004)** for Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking for '**We're Still Here**'.

Since 2005, Sindi has been a script writer for Missing Pixel Production Company and has also been developing her own project, **Dreams of America**, a documentary that explores the psychological and cultural impact of Americanization within the African Caribbean British Community.

#### **UNITED KINGDOM 1999-2001**

Sindi served as an Assistant Director and Actor in **Vagabondia**, a short film by director Isaac Julian. It was **nominated for the Turner Prize, 2001**. The film was about two Creole women (ghosts from colonial pasts) and a vagabond dancer who invade London's Sir Soane's Museum. Sindi produced a short film, **Cousins**, that was broadcasted on Carlton Television. The film was a poetic documentary that portrayed an 80 year friendship and kinship between two cousins originally from Barbados now living in England. She also programmed a seminal, **Taking Care of Business** event at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London; bringing together twenty of the most successful African women filmmakers with 12 Commissioning Programme Executives from several European countries.

#### **SOUTHERN AFRICA 1996-1999**

Sindi produced documentaries for Southern African Broadcast Corporation (SABC Television) in South Africa, one of which was called, **State of Emergency**, a disturbing investigation into the violence against women. The documentary included a personal interview with **Nelson Mandela**. After the airing of the documentary Sindi was asked to co-produce a television programme that created a platform to discuss and explore solutions around the issue of rape. The show included a live US satellite component which set precedent in the history of Southern African television, linking studio audiences between Johannesburg and Washington DC, USA. Whilst in South Africa, Sindi coordinated the **2nd Johannesburg Film Festival**. The festival was groundbreaking for post-apartheid South Africa. The festival lasted for six weeks and featured more than 40 films, many of which had been previously banned. The screenings took place throughout South Africa from outdoor screenings in remote rural areas to the metropolitan cinemas in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

She was also one of the leading co-ordinators at *Sithengi* (Southern African International Film and Television Market), bringing together African filmmakers and European and North American funders and distributors

Sindi worked extensively throughout Southern Africa working with filmmakers and creating platforms to develop and expose their work in countries such as Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Madagascar and Zimbabwe. In 1995, she organized a documentary forum for UNESCO in Harare, Zimbabwe creating a unique opportunity for Southern African filmmakers to collaborate, and initiate new projects. Sindi was the founder of **Women of the Sun**; a non-profit organization committed to training and supporting women filmmakers of African descent. The central office is in South Africa, although workshops have taken place in the UK, the USA, Kenya and Trinidad and Tobago. Members of Women of the Sun have currently made 12 short films.

### **UNITED KINGDOM 1995**

Personal Assistant to Director Isaac Julian on the film **Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask** 1995. The documentary explores the pre-eminent theorist of the anti-colonial movement of the Twentieth century. Fanon explored the psychological impact of racism on both colonized and colonizer. This innovative film biography restores Fanon to his rightful place at the center of contemporary discussions around post-colonial identity.

### **EDUCATION**

Professional Certificate in Print and Radio Journalism  
University of Westminster, London, England (1986-1987)

BA Honors in Caribbean, Spanish and Latin American Studies  
London Metropolitan University, England  
(1988-1991).

Third World Newsreel Film and Video Production Workshop  
New York, USA (1994)

Postgraduate Diploma Film and Television Production  
New Media School, Sheffield England (1995-1996)

### **CONTACT**

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