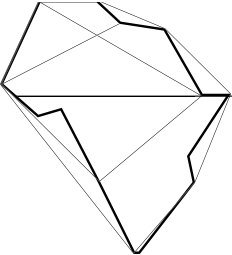




A FILM BY MILO RAU



PRESS KIT LOCARNO FESTIVAL 2017

SCREENINGS SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE

Sunday 6.8., 11h00, Kursaal (World Premiere)

Monday 7.8., 18h30, L'altra Sala

PRESS AGENT SWITZERLAND

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DISTRIBUTION SWITZERLAND

VINCA FILM, +41 43 960 39 16, info@vincafilm.ch

PRESS MATERIAL

<http://vincafilm.ch/katalog/34-das-kongo-tribunal/>

THEATRICAL RELEASE NOV. 2017

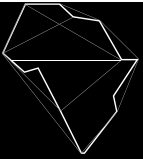
**SEMAINE
DE LA
CRITIQUE**
LOCARNO
FESTIVAL

VÉRITÉ ET JUSTICE



LE TRIBUNAL SUR
LE CONGO
DAS KONGO TRIBUNAL
THE CONGO
TRIBUNAL

SYNOPSIS

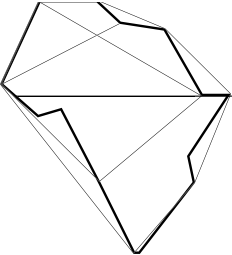


The war in Congo has caused more than six million deaths over the last twenty years. The population is suffering, but the offenders stay with impunity. Many people see this conflict as one of globalisation's crucial economic distribution battles because the country has major deposits of many high-tech raw materials.

Milo Rau succeeds in gathering victims, perpetrators, observers and analysts of the conflict for a unique civil tribunal in eastern Congo. He creates an unvarnished portrait of the largest and bloodiest economic wars in human history.



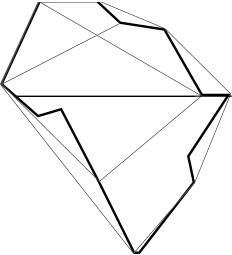
ABOUT THE PROJECT



For more than 20 years an inexplicable civil war is turning a territory as big as western Europe into hell on earth. Based on the direct or indirect involvement of all great powers of our time, the Congo War, also called the „Third World War“, has claimed up to six million lives.

Director Milo Rau succeeds in holding a symbolic tribunal in eastern Congo with the participation of all parties involved in the conflict. Presided over by a half-Congolese and half-international panel of experts as well as the two lawyers of the International Criminal Court, the central lines of the conflict in the Congo War were examined in Bukvau, based on hearings with victims, witnesses, militia officers, politicians, UN and NGO members, commodity traders and local human rights activists. The massacre in the village Mutarule and the violent expropriation and forced resettlement of the artisanal miners in Twangziga and Bisié are painting a vivid picture of the recent history, the bloody present and future of the conflict.

The second part, conducted in Berlin, broadened the perspective and placed an accent on the mechanics of globalised financial capitalism as a whole. Analysed by leading philosophers, economists, political scientists, jurists and sociologists of our time.



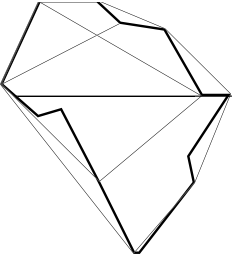
The hearings in Bukavu and Berlin were recorded by seven cameras following several research trips and filming in the run-up to the tribunal. The film team were led into the central areas of conflict, to remote villages and inaccessible mines, right in the middle of the civil war zone. We get to know people and hear stories from victims and perpetrators, government and opposition members, military forces and rebels, human rights activists, local miners as well as representatives from multinational mining concerns. Thanks to thorough investigative research, the documentary paints a film portrait exposing this tremendous economic war – the financial and political causes of it, and how it is affecting conditions locally. This is a film about conflict on a global scale, not about winning or losing, but more about the value of first world wealth.

„The Congo Tribunal looks behind the scenes of an economic war which has caused over 6 million casualties in the last 20 years. It is a thespian tribunal; however, everything is genuine: from the miner to the rebel to the lawyer from The Hague. The tribunal is staged amidst the civil war zone and recorded by seven cameras in front of 1000 spectators. Thus, The Congo Tribunal is an impossible film. Nevertheless, it exists.“

Milo Rau

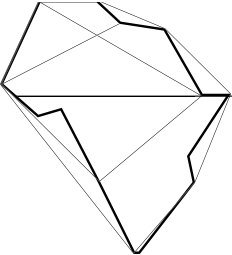


DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



The Swiss director and author Milo Rau (*1977 in Bern) studied sociology, German and Romance languages and literature in Paris, Berlin and Zurich under Pierre Bourdieu and Tzvetan Todorov, among others. Since 2002, he has put out over 50 plays, films, books and actions. His productions have appeared at all of the major international festivals, including the Berlin Theatertreffen, the Festival d'Avignon, the Venice Biennale Teatro, the Wiener Festwochen and the Brussels Kunstenfestival, and have toured more than 30 countries worldwide.

Rau has received many honours, most recently the Peter-Weiss-Prize 2017, the 3sat-Prize 2017, the 2017 Saarbrücken Poetry Lecture-ship for Drama and, in 2016, the prestigious World Theatre Day ITI Prize, of which he is the youngest winner, following such artists as Frank Castorf, Pina Bausch, George Tabori, Heiner Goebbels and Christoph Marthaler. In 2016, "Five Easy Pieces" became the first non-Belgian production to be selected for the Belgian Theatre Critics' Special Jury Award, and was also invited to the Berlin Theater-treffen 2017. Milo Rau will assume the directorship of the NTGent beginning in the 2018/19 season.

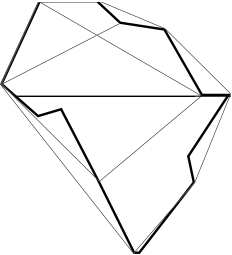


FILMOGRAPHY

- Das Kongo Tribunal /The Congo Tribunal (Performance 2015, Film 2017), Cinema Documentary, Germany Switzerland, 2017, 100'
- Five Easy Pieces (Performance, Film, 2016)
- Die Zürcher Prozesse /The Zurich Trials (Performance, TV Film, Book, 2013)
- Die Moskauer Prozesse /The Moscow Trials (Performance, Feature Film, Book, 2013), Cinema Documentary, Germany 2014, 86'
- Hate Radio (Performance, TV Film, Book, Radio Play, 2011/14)
- City of Change (Performance, TV Film, 2010/11)
- Die letzten Tage der Ceausescus /The Last Days of the Ceausescus (Performance, Feature Film, Book, 2009/10), 72 min.



PERSPECTIVES



The search for truth and justice in the East Congo and globally, is so far director Milo Rau's most „megalomaniacal work“ (arte). It is certainly also his biggest project to date. The first on-location research began in 2013, leading up to the tribunals in Bukavu and Berlin in 2015, and now continues as film and as a transmedial narrative.

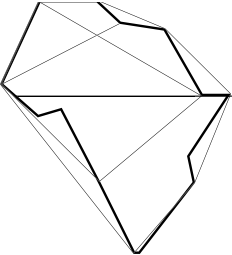
The **web format** extends the content of the tribunal into digital space. The overwhelming and difficult to grasp facts are experienced more personally and interactively and their larger, global context made visible. The digital audience plays with „unseen elements“ of the investigated cases in a technically innovative **documentary game**, the result of a unique creative collaboration between the Congolese illustrator Kayene and the German game developers of Monokel.

Linked to the documentary game, a comprehensive **online archive** brings together threads of information, hearings and analyses which make the entire project accessible worldwide. Release: Autom 2017.

A **book** and **symposia** will accompany the theatrical release (November 2017). Two years after the hearings, the results of the project are to be presented in venues in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ruanda (July 2017) and Germany and Switzerland (November 2017). They will be discussed with core members of the tribunal and other directly affected parties. During the performances in Europe, a mobile **virtual-reality installation** will interweave extracts from the digital first-person narration of the web format with real documentary footage.

A photograph of two women crouching in a refugee camp. The woman on the left is older, wearing a patterned headscarf, a blue and white jacket with orange stripes, and a blue patterned skirt. She has a distressed expression. The woman on the right is younger, wearing a yellow t-shirt and dark pants, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. In the background, there are white tents and a chain-link fence. A white wireframe map of the African continent is superimposed over the center of the image, with the text 'PRESS MENTIONS' written across it in large, bold, white capital letters.

PRESS MENTIONS



„One of the most ambitious pieces of political theatre ever staged.“

THE GUARDIAN

„Where politics fail, only art can help.“

DIE ZEIT

„The most insane art project of our time“

RADIO FRANCE INTERNATIONALE – RFI

„A public space for a change of awareness.“

NZZ

„A new system of values is required - the CongoTribunal is a first step in this direction.“

SWR 2

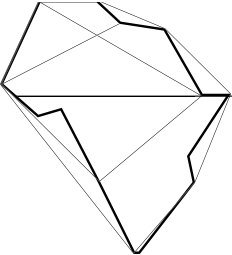
„No other theatre director has been so determinedly concerned with such abysmal chapters in world history as Milo Rau from Switzerland.“

SRF Swiss Television

CREDITS

**LE TRIBUNAL SUR
LE CONGO**
DAS KONGO TRIBUNAL
THE CONGO



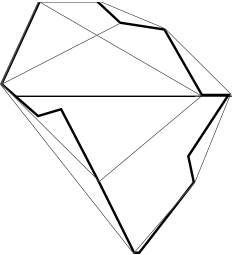


WITH

INVESTIGATOR-IN-CHARGE Sylvestre Bisimwa / **CHAIRMAN OF THE TRIBUNAL** Jean-Louis Gilissen / **JURY BUKAVU** Vénantie Bisimwa Nabintu / Colette Braeckman / Gilbert Kalinda / Prince Kihangi / Séverin Mugangu / Jean Ziegler / **JURY BERLIN** Colette Braeckman / Saran Kaba Jones / Wolfgang Kaleck / Saskia Sassen / Marc-Antoine Vumilia Muhindo / Harald Welzer and many more.

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY Milo Rau / **DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY** Thomas Schneider / **DRAMATURGY AND EDITING** Katja Dringenberg / **RESEARCH AND CASTING** Eva-Maria Bertschy / **SOUND** Marco Teufen, Jens Baudisch / **MUSIC** Marcel Vaid / **SOUND DESIGN & MIXING** Guido Keller / **CREATIVE PRODUCER** Sebastian Lemke / **PRODUCERS** Arne Birkenstock, Olivier Zobrist

A PRODUCTION OF Fruitmarket und Langfilm / **IN COPRODUCTION WITH** IIPM - International Institute of Political Murder / SRF Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen - SRG SSR / ZDF in collaboration with ARTE / **FILM SUPPORTED BY** Film- und Medienstiftung NRW / Bundesamt für Kultur (BAK), Schweiz / BKM - Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien / Kanton St.Gallen Kulturförderung - Swisslos/ Zürcher Filmstiftung / DFFF - Deutscher Filmförderfonds / Migros-Kulturprozent / Volkart Stiftung



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Color

Min. 100

Sound 5.1

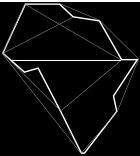
fps 25

Aspect Ratio 1:1.77

Languages French, English, German, Swahili, Lingala etc.

Available subtitles English, German, French

Versions German/French: all inserts in German and French / German and/or French subtitles
English: all inserts in English / English or English/German or English/French subtitles



REALFICTION

VINCA FILM



LANG
FILM



SRF

SRG SSR



arte

Film und Medien
Stiftung NRW



Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung
für Kultur und Medien

Kanton St.Gallen
Kulturförderung



SWISSLOS



ZÜRCHER
FILMSTIFTUNG

DEUTSCHER
FILMFÖRDERFONDS

MIGROS
kulturprozent

VOLKART
STIFTUNG



HAUPT
STADT
KULTUR
FONDS



Gefördert
durch die



Z

hdk

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste
Zurich University of the Arts



brussels airlines

KULTURSTIFTUNG
DES
BUNDES

