

A FILM BY IDRISOU MORA KPAI

INDOCHINA

TRACES OF A MOTHER



OFFICIAL SELECTION
16TH BUSAN INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
(SOUTH KOREA, 2011)



A FILM BY IDRISOU MORA KPAI WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY IDRISOU MORA KPAI PRODUCERS JEANETTE JOULI & IDRISOU MORA KPAI
CO-PRODUCER AROUNA S. MORA KPAI PHOTOGRAPHY JACQUES BESSE SOUND LARDIA TCHIOMBIANO & THUY HOANG THU MUSIC WASIS DIOP
EDITING RODOLPHE MOLLA & AGNES CONTENSOU • MKJ FILMS - NOBLE FILMS CO-PRODUCTION
WITH THE HELP OF FONDS SUD CINEMA (MINISTÈRE DE LA CULTURE ET DE LA COMMUNICATION - CNC - MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET EUROPÉENNES) - FONDS
FRANCOPHONE DE PRODUCTION AUDIOVISUELLE DU SUD (AGENCE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE ET CIRTEF) - SCAM, GRÂCE À LA COPIE PRIVÉE AUDIOVISUELLE



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Between 1946 and 1954, over 60000 African soldiers were enlisted to fight the Viet Minh. Pitted against one another by circumstances, these two colonised peoples came into contact and a number of African soldiers took Vietnamese women as wives. Out of these unions, numerous mixed-race children were born. At the end of the war, the colonial army ordered that all the black children be repatriated to Africa, officially to protect them from the Viet Minh. While some children left with their mothers and fathers, others were simply taken away by their fathers, leaving their mothers behind. Abandoned in orphanages, those that had neither mother nor father were put up for mass adoption by African officers, as was the case with Christophe.

Christophe long avoided facing the scars and identity complexes left by this abrupt separation from his mother and homeland. By encouraging him to undertake a journey into his own past, the film opens a little-known chapter of the Indochina war.



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