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Africa



LIVING THE INVISIBLES/ Vivre les Invisibles

52 minutes, 2003. Filmmaker: Dirk Dumont, Anthropologist: Philip Hermans

When they emigrated to Europe in the 60's and 70's, Moroccans brought with them their culture and their "diseases". In Europe, most North African families will include someone who is undergoing this kind of disorder, with diverse manifestations (asthma, paralysis, epilepsy, "crises", sterility etc.) which, if left untreated, may be extremely serious and destructive, causing suffering and delinquent behaviour. In the film we follow two Moroccan women who are looking to solve their problems caused by invisibles. They are visiting healers in Europe and Morocco



ADHIAMBO– Born in the Evening

66 minutes, 2001. Filmmakers and Anthropologists: Ruth Prince, Wenzel Geissler, Ruth Tuchtenhagen

This film is a personal account of a woman's life, motherhood, children and the maintenance of bodily health in rural western Kenya. Set among the Luo it follows NyaSeme, a married mother and grandmother in her late 30s, during the last month of her pregnancy and through the first weeks of her newborn daughter's life



WERE NI! HE IS A MADMAN

30 minutes, 1963. Filmmakers: Frank Speed & Raymond Prince

This ethnopsychiatric film shows the management of psychiatric disorders by the Yoruba of Nigeria. There are two basic types of institutions that deal with psychiatric disorders. First there are treatment centres managed by herbalists and diviners with specialist knowledge of traditional psychiatric therapy. Second there are cult groups that provide a setting for the expression of otherwise socially unacceptable behaviour through 'possession' and masquerade dances

Asia



KUSUM

69 minutes, 2000. Filmmakers: Jouko Aaltonen, Antti Pakaslahti

Kusum lives and attends school in Delhi. Kusum's family is poor, but their life isn't too bad, until she falls ill. She isolates herself, has raving fits and refuses to eat properly. Her family takes her to see a doctor, but no physical illness can be found. It's evil spirits, say the neighbours. In an attempt to save her, Kusum and family members journey to Hapur, where a well-known spiritual healer lives.



INDO PINO

84 minutes, 2002. Filmmakers/ Anthropologists: Martine Journet, Gérard Nougazol, Gabriel Chabamier

The small ethnic group Wana Wewaju live in Indonesia in the eastern part of Sulawesi (Celebes Island) among the dense equatorial rainforest of the Tokkala Mountains. The film is the result of 15 years of research on the traditional healing practices of the Wana shamans.

FOUR FILMS ON A HEALER IN CENTRAL BALI (103 minutes total)

Filmmakers/Antropologists: Timothy Asch, Linda Connor and Patsy Asch. A study guide, *Jero Tapakan: Balinese Healer*, written by the three filmmakers, complements these films.



***A Balinese Trance Séance* (46 minutes)**

Jero Tapakan is 'entered' by deities and spirits who converse with her clients. Unbeknown to her, they wish to contact the spirit of their dead son to learn the cause of his death and his wishes for his cremation ceremony.



***Jero on Jero: A Balinese Trance Séance Observed* (16 minutes):**

For the first time Jero sees herself on film as she watches *A Balinese Trance Séance*. Her spontaneous comments provide insights into her feelings while possessed, her understanding of her practices and her humility in the presence of the supernatural world.



The Medium is the Masseuse: a Balinese Massage (31 minutes)

Jero uses massage and traditional medicines to treat Ida Bagus, who suffers from sterility and seizures. Through her treatment and her words, Jero reveals her conceptions of the human body, the nature of illness, the contrast between Western and traditional Balinese medicine, and the relationship between human beings and the cosmos.



Jero Tapakan: Stories from the life of a Balinese Healer (26 minutes)

Jero tells the story of her family's extreme poverty that culminated in her desire to leave her family and travel as a peddler. She describes mystical experiences that led her to recognise her own 'blessed madness' and to return home. Jero's account is unique but themes of poverty, mysticism, madness and humility are common elements in the autobiographical accounts of many Balinese healers.



TIGERS APPRENTICE

57 minutes, 1998, English & Vietnamese w/subtitles. Filmmaker: M. Trinh Nguyen

This film follows M. Trinh Nguyen's journey to Vietnam, her homeland. She observes and documents her great-uncle's folk medicine practices treating many patients and making his medicines for tumours, leprosy and infections. She also seeks out people cured by her great-uncle, talks to local doctors and herbalists, battle Vietnamese government censors fearful her footage might make them seem backward to the Western world, and ultimately realises that through her investigation she has unwittingly apprentice.

Europe



A HOSPICE IN AMSTERDAM

62 minutes, 2005. Filmmaker / Anthropologist: Steef Meyknecht

This film explores the social dynamics of a hospice in central Amsterdam where Steef Meyknecht volunteered for three years.

South America



DOCTORS OF TWO WORLDS

55 minutes, 1989. Filmmaker: Natasha Solomons

In the Bolivian highlands, an English doctor is setting up a network of health care for remote mountain villages. While teaching the inhabitants the essentials of Western medicine the doctor tries to learn the methods of the local curandero's healing practices.



UNCLE POISON

60 minutes, 1998. Filmmaker / Anthropologist: Ricardo Leizaola

Filmed in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, *Uncle Poison* is an intimate portrait of a traditional faith healer, set against the backdrop of his community's Easter celebrations. Every day he receives people at his house looking for cures to their illnesses. Through the personal testimony of the healer, this film looks at the healer's role as mediator between the social, natural and spiritual worlds.

For more information
contact:
film@therai.org.uk

The Royal Anthropological Institute
50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5Bt
United Kingdom
<http://www.therai.org.uk>

