

PRODUCED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF TELEFILM CANADA, CBC FILMS AND ONTARIO CREATES
NEW REAL FILMS PRESENTS



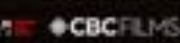
A FILM BY CHARLES UWAGBAI

KIPKEMBOI

THAMELA
WUMELANA

ELIS
ABANG

DAVID CURRITT, VANESSA ANTONIO, KEVIN RANCHARD, AREL MUTLU AND CHICH BEE
casting MILLIE TOM production designer JOEL RICHARDSON COSTUMES SOPHIE OPRISANU original music AMN BHATIA
director of photography RUDOLF SLAHACEK EDITOR J. MUNCE
executive producers APPRE MATERE, LEONARD FARLINGER, AZEEM VIRJEE,
PAMELA AND RICHARD EARLE, MATHEW BERR AND AMANA MAMOR
screenplay JOEL RICHARDSON producer JENNIFER JONAD director CHARLES UWAGBAI



K I P K E M B O I



INTERNATIONAL SALES AGENT

Avi Federgreen - President
Indiecan Entertainment International
info@indiecanent.com
P: 1-416-898-3456
<https://www.indiecanent.com>

For more information
Info@newrealfilms.com
647 839 6646

Synopsis



Kipkemboi, a math genius from childhood, must pass up a MIT scholarship and provide for his family when his father dies. As he struggles with his dreams slipping away, Kipkemboi's girlfriend, Chepchirchir, gives him a used book from the local market that changes his life; *Quants: How Mathematicians took over Wall Street*. Inspired, he develops an algorithm to play the stock market. Drawing from his life on the farm, watching the wind, water and weather affect the birds and livestock, Kip has an insight into predicting patterns in the stock market. Trading from a cobbled-together computer, powered by a car battery and broadcasting from a mud hut, his algorithm turns out to be an astronomical success generating millions of dollars.

Massive profits falling into an unknown village, Metipso, Kenya, attracts the attention of unsavoury international financiers, local police and the elders of his own village. When they all collide at Kipkemboi's mud hut, the resulting clash forces Kipkemboi and Chipchirchir to run for their lives. Surviving by their wits alone, they are chased across the African countryside.

With his life in jeopardy and jail almost a certainty, one question remains, how could a farm boy bring down the global financial system and how far is the international world order willing to go to silence his story?

Director - Charles Uwagbai



Charles Uwagbai is an award-winning, passionate, and creative film director based in Ontario, Canada, with a strong focus on the world of cinema. With over a decade of experience, Charles has dedicated his career to producing and directing captivating film projects across various platforms, including Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Canal Plus (Iroko TV, Rokstudios), and more. His diverse filmography includes titles such as; "The Ghost and the Tout", "Esohe", "Charlie Charlie", "The Blood of Enogie" and many others.



"I was immediately attracted to the script because it connected with me on a personal level – reinforcing something I believe which is our minds can be our greatest tool for escape, and the betterment of our lives. I felt the story was unique and yet, there's something very universal about our main character's journey. I find too often we see projects set in Africa that reflect the worst of society. This feels like an opportunity to open our eyes and look at things in a different way."



"I see the film as an allegory about a new Africa. Almost 60% of Africa's population is under 25, making Africa the world's youngest continent. In many ways, Africa is the future. I see the story as the conflict between the old and the new. With recent the events of Game Stop and "Reddit Raiding", we are seeing a fundamental shift in how the everyday person can impact the financial markets that are usually controlled by the very few. In our story, Kipkemboi is in conflict with the old guard in his own village. Benjamin, Metipso's Elder, reflects the reluctance to change and the threat that new thinking represents. The conflict of old versus new is pushed further and more dramatically by Kipkemboi's algorithm being discovered by the traditional financial establishment represented by Colin Bentley's character."

"TODAY, THE NEGATIVE CAN OVERWHELM US. I FOUND IN THIS STORY AN OPTIMISM, A HOPE FOR THE FUTURE, AN ANTICIPATION OF A CHANGE THAT CAN HAPPEN IN THE WORLD, WHICH STARTS IN AFRICA- THE YOUNGEST POPULATION IN THE WORLD."

Performers



Thamela Mpumlwana - Kipkemboi

In the very short time Thamela Mpumlwana has been acting, he has already secured significant roles in a variety of television series. He appeared as Tyson, series regular, on *In The Dark* (CBS/CW) as well as the role of Sly in *21 Thunder* (CBC). Other select credits include: Owen in *Departure* (Global), Liam in *Ransom* (CBS), Young T’Kuvma in *Star Trek: Discovery* (CT), Dave in *DHX’s Creeped Out*, Artie in *Murdoch Mysteries* (CBC), and Samuel in *Saving Hope* (CTV). In 2014 Thamela appeared in the Lifetime movie *The Gabby Douglas Story* which was nominated for an NAACP Award. And in 2013, Thamela received a nomination at the St. Tropez International Film Festival for Best Actor in *The Warrior* and *The Savior*, a feature film directed by Salvatore Sorrentino. Thamela has appeared in the role of Trey in the NBC series *Transplant* and in the recurring role of Richie in *Pretty Hard Cases* (CBC). He can also be seen in the feature film *Akilla’s Escape*, directed by Charles Officer, which premiered at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival. Thamela is also a talented animation actor and can be heard in 2 seasons of *Peg and Cat* (PBS, role of Ramone), *The Magic Hockey Skates* (CBC, role of Bernie), and *Arthur* (PBS, role of Sheick).



“For the role of Kipkemboi, I was really trying to push my capabilities and my performance to the verge of what they could be for the sake of my impact on screen. So, in preparation, I found that I did spend a lot of time anticipating the challenge of the Kenyan accent - in my dialect training, Director Charles worked to smooth out my natural South African accent. But nothing could compare to being there in front of the camera when they call action.”

“This has been some of the hardest work that I've done for a role and that's what intrigued me throughout this production! I've had to apply myself at such a high capacity, it was so

ambitious from day 1. I thought for the first couple weeks of shooting we'd be living in tents in the fields of Kenya. So, I was ready to really sacrifice for this role!

“CHARLES IS REALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT THE END OUTCOME FOR THE PROJECT. WHEN YOU HAVE A COMPELLING VISION FOR WHAT YOU WANT IT'S EASY FOR ME TO PERFORM FOR YOU.”

“I deeply felt the Kenyan crew was very courteous and it's hard to find! Not many crews in my experience go to war for each other, and put it all on the line for the good of the project. They're willing

to be there till 4 o'clock in the morning if need be. Every position cares to the same effect as our director Charles and is as invested in the project as the leads and the heads of department. So this now pushes my level of care and investment in the film trying to keep up with their commitment."



"Producer, Jennifer Jonas and writer, Joel Richardson have had this project for 7 years. Making their vision into reality as they imagine it, that can be fun and truly daunting. It's easy to visualize on your own but having to create that interpretation with an entire crew, while on a shot clock, that's filmmaking."

Elsie Abang - Chepchirchir



The role of Chepchirchir is Elsie Abang's first lead performance in a feature film. Her remarkable ease in front of the camera is likely due to her intelligence and that she has been working as a signed model for over 4 years. Over the course of her career she has been featured as the face of various marketing campaigns Volkswagen, Shoppers Drug Mart Beauty Event, Reitmans and Indigo.

In February 2023, she was featured in her first nationwide beauty campaign as part of Shoppers Drug Mart's Beauty Plus Event. The campaign was visible in stores all over Canada and showcased in Dundas Square.

Elsie had her first on-screen debut in the 2022 film, Seeking Solace, directed by Charles Uwagbai. She currently lives in Vancouver, BC and is pursuing her Juris Doctor degree at the Peter A. Allard School of Law.

David Cubitt - Colin



David Cubitt is a British-born Canadian actor. While studying political science at UBC by day and attending acting classes at night, he won a role in the Kennedy/Marshall film, "Alive" (starring Ethan Hawke), which kickstarted his career as an actor. Soon after, he landed a lead role in the hit Canadian TV drama, "Traders," for which he won a Gemini Award for Best Actor in a leading role in a TV series. During his hiatus from "Traders," David shot Jennifer Jonas and Leonard Farlinger's film, "The Perfect Son," for which he was nominated for a Genie Award for Best Actor in a Feature Film.

After three seasons of "Traders," David signed a development deal with CBS and headed south for the next chapter. Highlights include two projects with film director Michael Mann, a series in London, England, called "American Embassy," a series in Chicago titled "Turks," and a seven-year run on the hit show "Medium" starring Patricia. David now lives in Vancouver and is currently working on "Allegiance," "Billy The Kid," and "Virgin River."

Joel Richardson Writer/ Production Designer

Joel Richardson's extensive body of art includes large-scale installations, performances, video projections, portraits, and mural painting, with shows in New York, Miami, Moscow, and Toronto. His recent work as an Art- Director/Production Designer includes the TV series Reign (nominated for a CSA) and Steven Soderbergh's The Girlfriend Experience. His art direction on the Chet Baker biography feature, Born To Be Blue starring Ethan Hawke, won him a Director's Guild of Canada award. His first feature screenplay, Kipkemboi – based in part on his co-founding of Metipso TV – goes to camera in 2023 in Kenya, greenlit by Telefilm Canada, Ontario Creates and CBC Films. Kipkemboi is a story that is born of his twenty years of experience in Kenya and his deep roots in the Metipso community.



"The making of Kipkemboi started when I was 16. I traveled to the world junior cross country running championships in Sudbury. I ran into this cool group of guys warming up in their kenyan track suits, this is where I met my lifelong friend Matthew Birir. At the end of the cross country meet Matthew invites me to come to Kenya to visit him, and one year later on a whim I take him up on his offer with just a letter and a map. I was so young and naïve, and such a dreamer at the time, this was an offer I just couldn't refuse!"

“Metipso, the film’s main location, is very rich in my mind. Almost everyone has a farm and owns some land. There are people near the coast in Kenya, places like the Bondeni Slum and in the streets of Nairobi, that are even more impoverished by comparison. Here, [in Metipso] people have the forest to gather medicines, land to till, and everyone here has a feeling of being family.”



“I LOVE METIPSO AND I FELT THAT METIPSO HAS IMPORTANT THINGS TO SHARE WITH THE WORLD. THE IDEA WAS THAT THIS GENIUS WHO IS INSPIRED BY HIS HOME TOWN - IMMERSSED IN THE BIRDS THE CATTLE, THE NATURE - FORMS EQUATIONS BETTER THAN FINANCE GUYS WHO ARE ONLY SURROUNDED BY COMPUTERS.”



Rudolf Blahachek - Director of Photography

Rudy has worked as a Director of Photography on Features, TV Series, Music/Dance videos and Documentaries. Credits include the critically acclaimed television series Slings and Arrows for Rhombus Media; prime time dramas Regenesi and The Listener for Shaftesbury Films, and the award-winning feature length NFB documentaries The Herd and Cyberman directed by Peter Lynch

Rudy received a Gemini nomination for his cinematography on Death and The Maiden produced by Rhombus Media; and served as the DOP on the feature SCORE: the Musical which opened the Toronto Film Festival in 2010.



He has collaborated with many of the foremost directors in Canada and all the major Canadian and American networks and production companies including CBC, CBS,CTV, ABC, NBC, Universal, Global, Disney, Rhombus, Shaftesbury, E1 and Working Title out of England.

Production Companies

New Real Films

New Real Films is currently in post-production on two feature films, *Kipkemboi* by Charles Uwagbai and *Seeds* by Letterkenny star Kaniehtiio Horn. New Real president Jennifer Jonas was winner of the Toronto International Film Festival's Canadian producer of the year award. New Real produced *Kicking Blood* by Blaine Thurier starring Luke Bilyk, that premiered at TIFF 2021. New Real's feature, *Born To Be Blue*, starring Ethan Hawke, Carmen Ejogo and Callum Keith Rennie, by Robert Budreau premiered at TIFF and *South* by Southwest, was theatrically released by IFC and Universal and nominated for five 2018 Canadian Screen Awards.



New Real's other credits include *Gerontophilia* by Bruce LaBruce, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival and Toronto Film Festival and won the Grand Prix at Montreal's Festival du Nouveau Cinema. New Real produced *Trigger* directed by Bruce McDonald starring Tracy Wright and Molly Parker selected as one of Toronto

International Film Festival's Top Ten and I'm Yours directed by Leonard Farlinger starring Karine Vanasse which premiered at TIFF 2011. In 2009, New Real produced Director's Guild of Canada's Best Director winner, Leslie, My Name is Evil, also a TIFF premiere. In 2008, New Real produced Otto; or Up with Dead People which premiered at Sundance and Berlinale. In 2007, New Real produced All Hat starring Luke Kirby and Rachael Leigh Cook which premiered at TIFF and Monkey Warfare which won a Special Jury Prize at TIFF and was selected Top Ten.

ZAMARADI PRODUCTIONS

Kenyan service production company Zamaradi Productions Limited, incorporated in Kenya 2013 and headquartered in Nairobi, is a media enterprise that creates, produces and distributes quality Africa film content to global audiences via multi- platforms.

Appie Matere is the Executive Producer/CEO of Zamaradi Productions, a media enterprise that produces African entertainment content to global audiences. Having worked her way to the top over a 13 years period, she is affiliated with numerous successful TV shows, documentaries and commercials. These include 'Killer Necklace' an MNET/ New Directions film- that won Best short film and best Director Awards (Kalasha, 2009) and 'Headlines in History' -a feature Documentary that won Best Feature documentary (Kalasha 2010). She is also the reigning Best Female producer for the inaugural Women in Film Awards 2020. She was the Executive Producer on hallmark TV productions that have left an indelible mark across Africa, including "KONA" –260 episodes Telenovela – and Africa Magic Original Films (AMOF), which was staggering project that produced 71(seventy one) 60- minute TV movies in 8 months for MNET's Africa Magic Entertainment TV channel.



Appie has overseen an exceptional output of over 140 hours of independently produced entertainment content, coupled with several commissioned productions – including a currently leading adaption of an Emmy nominated series entitled ‘Kina’ (the source). This content has predominantly entertained Pan-African audiences on MNET, Showmax, StarTimes and Zuku Pay-TV platforms. In July 2019 she oversaw the production and launch of a feature Film entitled “Dream Child” - the first in a line of films themed Athari (Impact), which won Best East Africa Film at the Uganda Film Festival (2021) and Clean Content film at KISAA Awards (2020). In 2022 she produced two feature films “Kipkemboi” and “Kazdo” currently in post – production.



Filmmakers

Director: Charles Uwagbai

Writer/Production Designer: Joel Richardson

Producer: Jennifer Jonas

Executive Producers: Appie Matere and Leonard Farlinger

Director of Photography: Rudolf Blahachek

Editor: JL Munce

Composer: Amin Bhatia

Main Cast

Thamela Mpumlwana

Elsie Abang

David Cubitt

Vinessa Antione

Kevin Hanchard

Abel Mutua

Chichi Seii

Idrissa Sanogo Bamba