

A FILM BY YABA BADOE

The Art of Ama Ata Aidoo

Press Pack

Synopsis

The Art of Ama Ata Aidoo explores the artistic contribution of one of Africa's foremost woman writers, a trailblazer for an entire generation of exciting new talent. The film charts Ama Ata Aidoo's creative journey in a life that spans 7 decades from colonial Ghana through the tumultuous era of independence to a more sober present day Africa where nurturing women's creative talent remains as hard as ever.

Over the course of a year this feature-length documentary follows Aidoo as she returns home to her ancestral village in the Central Region of Ghana and then travels to the University of California, Santa Barbara, to attend the premier of her seminal play about the slave trade, Anowa.

With contributions from Carole Boyce Davies, Nana Wilson Tagoe, Vincent Odamtten and Ayebia Clarke publishing, *The Art of Ama Ata Aidoo* gives a fascinating insight into the life of a pioneering Pan-African poet and novelist and brings Aidoo's writing to new audiences.

Fadoa Films 2014

Director/Producer Yaba Badoe

Executive Producer Amina Mama

Countries of Production Ghana/UK

Year of Production 2014

Running time 78minutes

Screening format HD quicktime.mov & DVD

Biography of Yaba Badoe

Yaba Badoe is a BBC-trained award-winning documentary filmmaker and writer with many years experience in broadcast television. She has made arts and culture based documentaries for the main terrestrial channels in the UK. In 2003 she directed a one-hour documentary about the life and work of Nobel Laureate for BBC4. Her recent film, *The Witches of Gambaga* (Fadoa Films 2010) won the 2010 Best Documentary Award at the Black International Film Festival and 2nd Prize, Documentaries at Fespaco 2011.

Biography of Amina Mama

Amina Mama is one of Africa's leading activist feminist scholars. A former Chair in Gender Studies at the University of Cape Town's African Gender Institute for 10 years, she founded the journal *Feminist Africa*, has taught courses in African cinema and co-produced *The Witches of Gambaga*. She is currently on the faculty of Women and Gender Studies at the University of California, Davis.

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