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INDARKESTHOLLYWOOD'

"In Darkest Hollywood" is a two-hour documentary chronicling the cinema's social and cultural impact on black South Africa. and portraying its ambivalent role in the struggle against apartheid over a period of half a century. Three years in the making. the documentary is a collage of feature films. woven together with commentary by filmmakers, recording the rise and fall of apartheid through the cinema lens.

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Part 2 of 'In Darkest Hollywood' explores white filmmakers conflicting versions of apartheid: the story of director Antony Thomas' conversion from propaganda filmmaker for the South African regime to maker of anti-apartheid films is contrasted with a critical

profile of Jamie Uys and his controversial film 'THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY', which is then measured against the real story of the exploitation and misrepresentation of the film's star. N'gao the Bushman. Set against the backdrop of near civil war in the South Africa of the 1980s. part two moves to a critique of Hollywood anti-apartheid films like 'CFIY, FREEDOM' and 'DFIY. WHITE SEASON', which depicted white heroes fighting apartheid while an African cast performed in the background. 'In Darkest Hollywood' concludes with an account of the making of "MAPAN SULA". co-directed by a black and a white South African, the first feature film in which a black hero finally emerges. Because of its enormous powers of persuasion. cinema became a weapon in the apartheid struggle. The irony is that on both sides. the struggle was often fought without

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Africa is being negotiated, the writer Lewis Nkosi concludes: 'The struggle for political and cultural autonomy will be in vain if the black majority continues to be represented only by well-meaning whites. What we need is to recover our own voice. and we need to create our own images of who we are and what we want to become.'

Written. Filmed. Edited. and Produced by DANIEL RIESENFELD & PETER DAVIS

Associate Producer: HARVEY MACKINNON

Project Consultant: PROFESSOR MAZISI KUNENE DR. PATRICK O'MEARA

University of California. Los Angeles Indiana University

PROFESSOR LEWIS NKOSI PROFESSOR JOHN VAN ZYL-

University of the Witwatersrand

Jim Comes to Joburg

Director: Donald Swanson

Producer: Erica Ruthetlotd

Cast: Dolly W

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film resource unit

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Jim Comes to Joburg

Director: Donald Swanson

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