

Visit of Filmmaker Fred Kuwornu, to show Inside Buffalo and 18 Ius Soli

Wednesday, November 12, 2014 | C 640 Wells Hall @ 7 - 10 PM

“My most recent film, 18 IUS SOLI (2012) is a grassroots Italian documentary that tells the stories of 18 young people born and raised in Italy whose parents are originally from African, Asian, and Latin American countries. They are children of immigrants; they go to school in Italy, they speak the language and dialects, they have never visited the countries that their parents are from, nor do they speak their parents' language. Yet, they are not recognized as Italian citizens. To obtain Italian citizenship, they have to go through a lengthy and complicated application process and can only do so after they've turned 18 years old - a process that doesn't always end positively for the applicant, and raises issues of social inclusion and national identity.”

- Fred Kuwornu



“Inside Buffalo (60 min) The multi-awarded documentary, defined as “a patchwork of stories that history almost forgot to tell”, has been shot both in Italy and in the USA . It recounts the story of the 92nd African-American infantry division which consisted in 15.000 soldiers who served in Italy during World War II, but that found that their contributions went unnoticed upon their return to the United States. Nicknamed “Buffalo Soldiers” after the name given by American Indians to the black members of the US Cavalry who fought Indians in the American West, they represent to the eyes of the Italian-African filmmaker Fred Kudjo Kuwornu an occasion to explore his own heritage and the history of Afro-American forces in Italy.”

- Fred Kuwornu

Fred Kuwornu is an Italian-Ghanaian filmmaker producer, and activist , born and raise in Italy, and is in the United States to present his two documentary films, 18 IUS SOLI (2012) and Inside Buffalo (2010), which examine issues of race, ethnicity, and national identity and multiculturalism in contemporary Italy. While focused on Italian society, his documentaries are informed by social and political activism in the United States, particularly the Civil Rights, and the more recent Immigrant Rights, movements. Showcasing youth activism using social and digital media, his documentaries offer students a unique view of contemporary Italian society that resonates with their experiences in the United States and Canada .

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