



written and directed by
Dorothee Wenner
("Star Biz", "Peace Mission")

director of photography
Bernd Meiners
("The Look", "Revision")

sound
Pascal Capitolin
("Kinshasa Sinfony", "Revision")

music
Philip Scheffner
("Peace Mission", "Revision")

editor
Merle Kröger
("Peace Mission")

produced by
pong
("Peace Mission", "The Halfmoon Files", "Revision")

in co-production with
Goethe Institute ZDF / ARTE wave-line

funded by
Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg



DramaConsult

documentary, 80 min., 2012

DramaConsult was developed by **Dorothee Wenner** based on a collaboration with the theatre project **Lagos Business Angels** by **Rimini Protokoll** and with **HAU Berlin**

Synopsis

Lagos, Nigeria: An experienced spare parts dealer, a charismatic real estate developer and a young shoe manufacturer meet two smart business consultants to discuss their high-flying plans. Commissioned by DramaConsult, the group plans a trip to Germany to link up with potential partners and search for new investors. In Berlin, Hamburg and Frankfurt, meetings have been arranged with architects, scrap merchants, traders, shoe designers and investment bankers. On their travels, the Nigerians experience a slice of reality, in which the traditional fear of the black continent is challenged by curiosity and a subdued pioneering spirit.

DramaConsult tracks the process of economic intervention as an adventure trip in the era of globalization.

DramaConsult has been produced and created by the team of

Peace Mission

by Dorothee Wenner

documentary, 85 min., Germany 2008

“All the filmmakers who have a say in “Peace Mission” pursue a common vision of the future: To tell African stories through Africa’s own voice. “Peace Mission” narrates the stories of this vision in an inspiring, lively and exceedingly intense manner.” (Lena Blaudez, iz3w)

Toronto International Film Festival, Pusan International Film Festival, Stockholm International Film Festival, Hongkong International Film Festival, Festival Int. De Films de Fribourg, Dubai International Film Festival, Zimbabwe International Film Festival, Windhoek International Film Festival, The London African Film Festival (etc.)

Writer & Director: Dorothee Wenner

Dorothee Wenner is a filmmaker, author and curator based in Berlin. Since 1990 she has been a member of the selection committee of the International Forum of New Cinema as well as the special delegate to India and sub-sahara Africa for the Berlin International Film Festival and Dubai International Film Festival. Since 2004 she has been a jury member of the African Film Academy, Lagos, and in 2010 was elected the jury president.

Wenner's latest films have been "Star Biz" (Pusan Int. Film Festival 2005), "Shanti Plus" (Dok Leipzig 2006) and "Peace Mission" (Toronto Int. Film Festival 2008)

Producers: Merle Kröger & Philip Scheffner

In 2001 Merle Kröger together with filmmaker Philip Scheffner founded the production house pong. Since 2007, pong works predominantly in the production of documentaries for cinema. pong released „The Halfmoon Files“ (Berlinale 2007), "Peace Mission" (Toronto International Film Festival 2008) and „Day of the Sparrow“ (Berlinale 2010), awarded at the German Documentary Award 2011. pong's latest production "Revision" had its world premiere at the Berlinale 2012.

DramaConsult

Voices from the film

Biya Olugbodi (human resources consultant):

This is probably the golden opportunity that you guys have been waiting for. And don't let it skip by. Grab it - and make the best of it, because it's gonna open the world of so many opportunities for you. Opportunities to meet new investors, and certainly to make more money. Isn't that the crux of your business?

Jude Fejokwu (investment consultant):

We have an issue of talking a lot. We just wanna talk and talk and talk - they go to sleep! (...) Provide numbers, provide some facts, and have a Nigerian success story to tell.

Dolapo Ajayi (real estate developer):

Investing in Nigeria is the best kept secret in the world. That's the truth.

Femi Oladipo (shoe manufacturer):

Much to my surprise, many Europeans are still under the impression that most Africans walk barefooted, or in slippers or self-made chapals. Well then: here in Nigeria, especially true in Lagos, this is a false and an outdated perception.

Hartmut Sieper (investor):

Germans are very risk shy persons, they are very risk averse and they don't really see and grasp the opportunities, that are definitely be in Africa. But if we want to do business together, if you want to do business with Germans, you have to address that risk factor.

Dolapo Ajayi:

You have to understand that Nigeria is a tough business terrain to work in. It offers extraordinary opportunities, but you have to be able to manage the risks to take advantage of them. And the key to that is the quality of partners you work with. If you don't have that quality, you will fail. No matter how good your conceptualizing is.

Biya Olugbodi:

The reluctance of part of the German business men, why they are reluctant in doing business with Nigerians - I will tell you, nobody who has been bitten is willing to say: yes I have been bitten. Well, it's all about - it takes two to tango! And for somebody to defraud me, I must have some element of greed also. Admitting that I was defrauded will show that I'm also a greedy person!