



Sand Path

A film from AÏDA BALLMANN

A road movie through cultures

Sand Path is short documentary / road movie that unites the European and the African culture, proposing from an individual point of view a universal concept: If human and cultural values, as a global good, were above political interests, would there still be wars? What would happen if emigration was a free right?

Título: Sand Path / Camino de tierra

Languages: English, German, Spanish, Wólof and French

Genre: Road movie documentary dealing a social issue

Format: Television

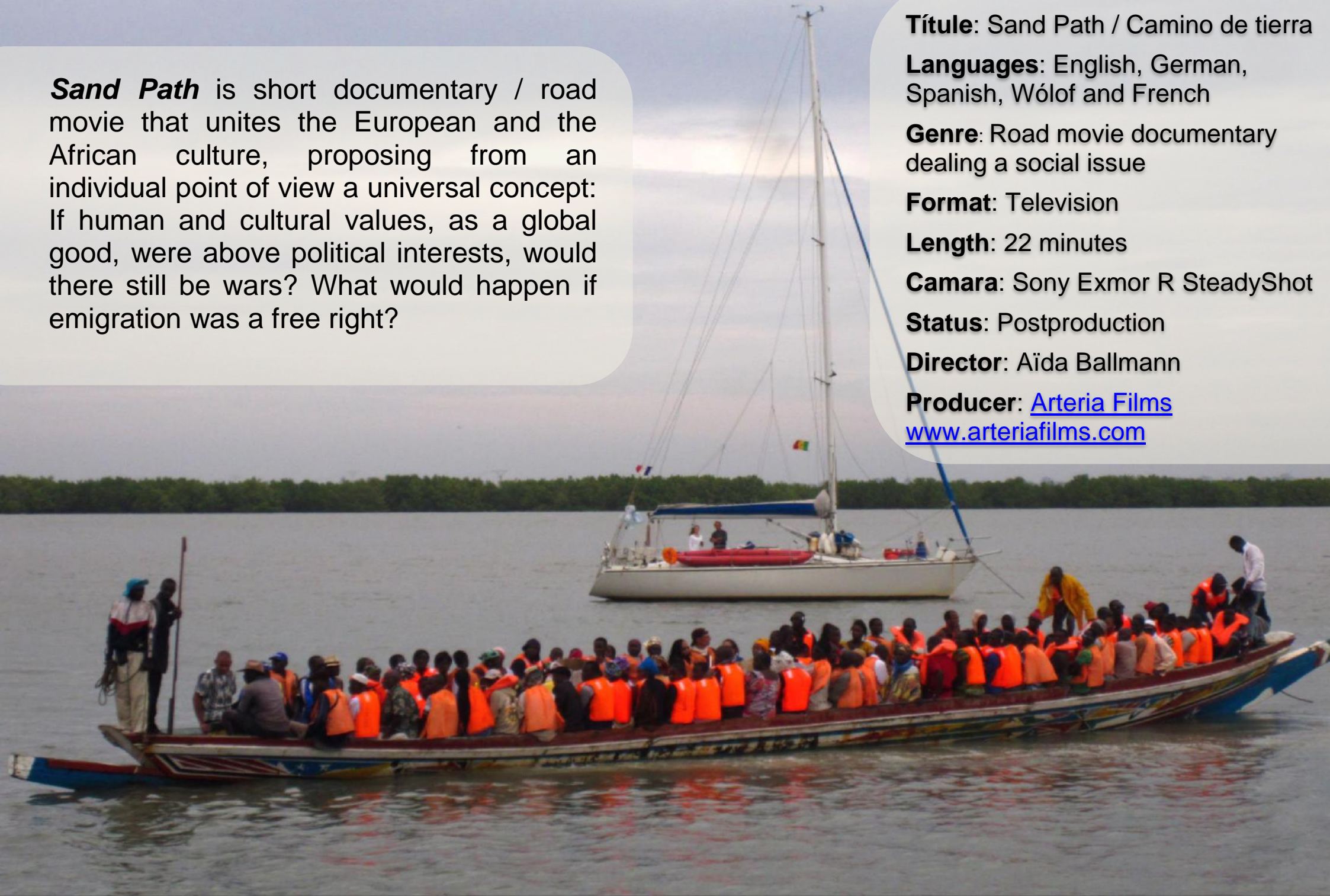
Length: 22 minutes

Camara: Sony Exmor R SteadyShot

Status: Postproduction

Director: Aïda Ballmann

Producer: [Arteria Films](http://www.arteriafilms.com)
www.arteriafilms.com



SYNOPSIS

In the history of humanity, emigration has always been a reality. This has involved, to a greater or lesser extent, learning to tolerate diversity among different cultures.

There are two ways of assimilating this difference: One is, as the custom dictates, looking more at the differences than at what unites, hereby generating fear, hatred and mistrust. The other is accepting that we are more equal than different and that we can enrich ourselves by appreciating unknown values, unifying them with the own.

Humanity is a great living being that grows and develops, where races tend to mix and, therefore, to disappear. This brings us to a more global consciousness and unity: We live on the same space of the universe and we need peace with ourselves and with the environment to be able to continue developing.

Sand Path tells an individual story universalizing it: The German parents of the director and actress Aïda Ballmann emigrated to Senegal before she was born. However, she spent her childhood on the Canary Islands, growing up with German education in a Spanish environment and living an African lifestyle.



TREATMENT

Four chapters are shown in this documentary, filled with vivid images, accompanied by the voice-over from Aïda Ballmann and traditional African music that is mixed with European music. The chapters are:

1. Contrast (cultural difference between Europe and Africa)
2. Integration (in the African routine)
3. Encounter (with "lost" friends of Aïda's parents)
4. Return (of the Ballmann family to Gambia and Senegal).



Characters

Leading role:

- **Aïda Ballmann**, actress and director, tells the story of how she perceives the cultural contrast as a positive aspect of which the human being can benefit, choosing the positive values of different cultures and assuming them as their own.
- **Ballmann Sister's and the parents, Kitabo and Aminata**, who emigrated to Senegal and from there to the Canary Islands in search of paradise on earth.

Secondary Characters:

- **Coli Family**, friends from Kitabo and Aminata. They housed the parents of Aïda Ballmann for several years, integrating them in the clan. (Senegal)
- **Diedhou Family**, friends from Kitabo and Aminata. (Senegal)
- **Lamin Tamba**, artist and friend of Kitabo. (Senegal)
- **Manneh Family**, friends of Aïda Ballmann. (Gambia)

Aïda Ballmann

She is a Spanish-German actress and director, writer, camera, producer and director of this project. Known as an actress for her participation in series such as *El tiempo entre costuras*, *Águila Roja*, *Lo que escondían sus ojos*, etc. And featured in films such as *The Extraordinary Tale* and *La velocidad de nuestros pensamientos*. Awarded with three awards as best actress, she begins with *Sand Path* her career as director, following the need of sharing her realities and offering different points of view to the spectator.

What brought Aïda Ballmann to start this trip was, on the one side, being tired of the European routine, the anxiety of running after goals letting the present go by, and, on the other side, the curiosity of getting to know the past of her parents before she was born. The result is a documentary and reflections on humanity and migration.

More information: www.aidaballmann.com





EDITION

Genesis Lence, editor, director and photographer. Known for her work in documentaries like *Los fantasmas del deseo* from Paco Millán, *Vida is Antarctica* for DNA and CSIC, *Innovación Biomédica*, *Houston tenemos un problema* from Álvaro Toepke and the short film *Sordas* (director). www.genesislence.com



SOUND AND MUSIC

Kiko Castro, director, actor, musician and sound technician. Director of post-production and dubbing studio Arteria Films. He has worked in featured films and documentaries like *La marcha indignada*, *Cubillo*, *Historia de un crimen de estado*, *Los chicos del puerto*, *No culpes al karma de lo que te pasa gilipollas*, *Maresía*, *A garden in the city*,... www.arteriafilms.com



TIMELAPSE

Selu Vega, award-winning documentary and travel photographer, known for his book *Indianos en La Palma, isleños en Cuba*.
www.seluvega.es



MUSIC

- **Eustaquio Álvarez**, producer, arranger, musician in Ynsyde and composer of music for movies like *Síndrome de ti*, *Expediente en negro*, *The Britannic*, *Mine*,... www.eustaquioalvarez.com
- **Kiko Castro**
- **Denis Singila, Atty**: Traditional music (Senegal)



PRESS

JJ Montero, press officer with a wide experience in audiovisual projects like *La vida en llamas*, *Línea de meta*, *The extraordinary tale*, *A lonely sun story*, *321 días en Michigan*, *Los niños salvajes*,... www.jjmontero.es

COLOR CORRECTION

Pending confirmation

DISTRIBUTION

Pending confirmation

A photograph of a tropical village scene. In the foreground, a large, gnarled tree trunk with thick, spreading roots dominates the right side. The background shows a cluster of houses with corrugated metal roofs, surrounded by lush greenery, including palm trees and banana plants. The sky is overcast.

LOCATIONS

SENEGAL (Dakar, Ziguinchor, Kap Skirring, Boucotte, Djémbering, ...)

GAMBIA (Baja Kunda, Banjul, Ginac, ...)

EUROPA (El Hierro [Canary Islands, Spain] & Venice [Italy])



FINANCING PLAN

So far, production and post-production has been financed through private investment. The future profits that the documentary might generate will be invested, to a large extent, in the NGO Jerejef.

www.jerejef.org

DISTRIBUTION PLAN

Pending to be defined. The main aim are presentations at festivals, TV sales and online platforms on social issues and distribution through NGOs related to human rights.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION PLAN

Social networks and interviews with newspapers, magazines and the radio, as well as, televising reports on each news generated by the documentary through Film Publicity.

CONTACT

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