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## AMAKA'S KIN: The Women Of Nollywood

A Documentary by Tope Oshin

Runtime/Duration: 31 mins

Country/Year of Production: Nigeria/2016

Language: English

Writer/Director/Producer: Tope Oshin

Co-Producer: Sarah Inya Lawal

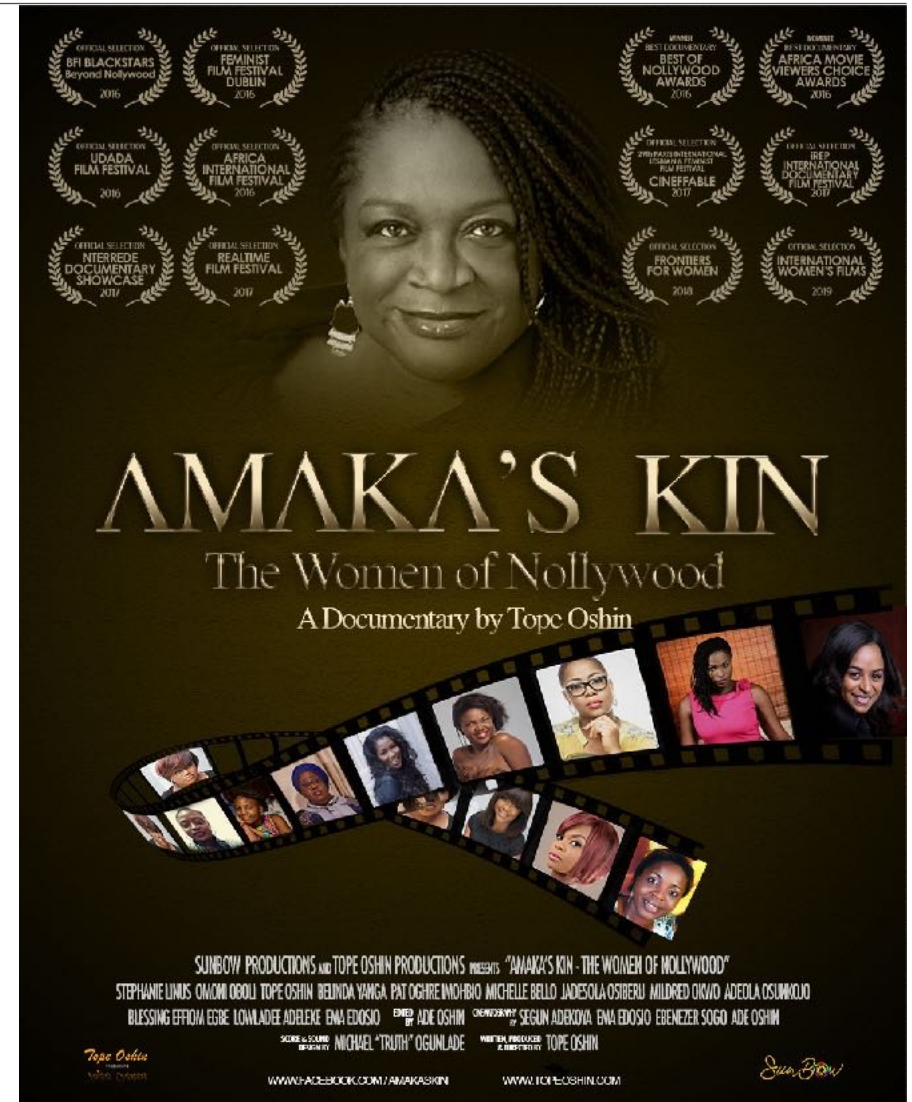
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Website: [www.topeoshin.info](http://www.topeoshin.info)

Official Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/AmakasKin](http://www.facebook.com/AmakasKin)

Official IMDB Page: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5622406>

Official Trailer: <https://youtu.be/PHUwWWXsFO4>



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## Official Selections/Screenings/Awards

BFI, BLACKSTARS, Beyond Nollywood - Official Selection - Nov 19 2016, SOUTHBANK, UK (World Premiere)

Feminist Film Festival Dublin - Official Screening Selection - Nov 20 2016, DUBLIN, IRELAND (Irish Premiere)

AFRIFF (Africa Int'l Film Festival) - Official Selection - Nov 13 - 20 2016, LAGOS, NIGERIA (African Premiere)

UDADA Film Festival - Official Selection - November 2016, NAIROBI, KENYA

BEST DOCUMENTARY Winner - Best Of Nollywood Awards 2016

BEST DOCUMENTARY Nomination - AMVCA (Africa Movies Viewers Choice Awards) March 4 2016

Special Screening Selection - Nterredde Documentary Showcase, Uganda, June 2017

Special Screening Selection - RealTime Film Festival, Nigeria, June 2017

Educational Screening, DocWithNiyi Workshops , Lagos, Nigeria, June 2017

IREP Documentary Film Festival - Official Selection, Lagos, Nigeria 2017

29th Paris International Lesbian & Feminists Film Festival, CINEFFABLE - Official Selection, Paris, France 2017

Frontiers For Women - Special Screening Selection, Lagos, Nigeria 2018

International Women's Films - Official Screening Selection, Los Angeles, California 2019

## Logline

Dedicated to the memory of Nigeria's biggest female director and TV/Film mogul, Amaka Igwe (1963 - 2014), Amaka's Kin chronicles the journey and challenges of the very few female directors in the male dominated Nigerian motion picture industry, otherwise known as Nollywood.

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## About The Film

Dedicated to the memory of Nigeria's biggest female director and TV/Film mogul, Amaka Igwe (1963 - 2014), Amaka's Kin chronicles the journey and challenges of the very few female directors in the male dominated Nigerian motion picture industry, otherwise known as Nollywood.

In a terrain otherwise seen as 'for men', several female filmmakers, including myself, have been looked at strangely at our declaration of intent to be a director. 'Are you sure?' 'Why?' 'Is your acting career not successful?' Or plain ridiculous laughter at the idea. Said without words, the Nigerian woman is not supposed to be a leader--a leader of men, a thinker, a creator. You should not be allowed to yell at anyone, let alone action or cut. You are an anomaly, either fiercely celebrated or ridiculed, especially in a country where the Senate just denied the passing of the gender equality bill into law, adhering fast to the philosophy that women are simply not equal humans as men.

This documentary examines the careers of the very few female directors practicing in the very male dominated Nigerian film industry, widely known as Nollywood; their journey and pain, their joys and the challenges and hurdles they had to jump to become directors of film. This documentary also tries to answer the question, why are we so few? And why are we seen as anomalies? Referencing and dedicated to the life and art of Nigeria's most prominent female director, the late Amaka Igwe, (1954-2014), who inspired and encouraged many female directors like myself and others to explore the terrain and conquer the norm, this documentary carries the voice and thoughts of prominent and practicing female directors in Nigeria--and also examines how we as the contemporary filmmakers are encouraging the next generation of filmmakers and the future while overcoming the odds.

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## ABOUT THE CAST



**Mildred Okwo** is the director of the multiple award winning movie *The Meeting*. Mildred is a trained lawyer, who after practising for a while outside the shores of Nigeria, precisely in America, decided to pursue her filmmaking dream, and then returned to Nigeria to join Nollywood. Her first film was *30 Days*. She has recently concluded the shoot of her 3rd feature, *Surulere*. Mildred like Amaka, is a film activist.



**Michelle Bello** whose journey is quite different from most started out her own journey in film school in America and then decided to come back home to Nigeria to practise. Her most recent film, *Flower Girl*, has won her several awards in Nigeria and abroad. On coming back home to practise, she totally ignored whatever barriers there might have been and launched right into making her own films. Her filmography includes: *Sheltered*, *Small Boy*, and award winning *Flower Girl*.

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**Stephanie Linus** is a Nigerian actress, film director and model. She has directed two films, the most recent "Dry", is an award winning film about Vesico Vaginal Fistula According to her, "The movie "DRY" journeys into the heart-wrenching details of a culture not too many films dare to explore. The issue might seem controversial, but if it will set one girl free and open the minds of the people, and also instruct different bodies and individuals to take action, then the movie would have served its purpose".



**Omoni Oboli** is a Nigerian actress, scriptwriter, director and producer. She is a trained digital filmmaker at the New York Film Academy. She is a gifted Writer, with several intriguing screenplays to her credit. She has also shown, with her movies, 'Being Mrs Elliott', 'The First Lady', 'Wives on Strike', and most recently 'Okafor's Law' her talent behind the camera as the Director.

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**Blessing Effiom Egbe** is a model turned actor, turned producer, turned Director. The fierce business woman is the name behind the hugely successful drama series "Lekki Wives". Blessing has produced quite a number of films, and her directorial credits are "Lekki Wives", feature "Iquo's Journal" and her new series "This Thing Called Marriage".



**Jadesola Osiberu** is an emerging young director who studied engineering and business, and for the love of the art ended up behind the cameras. She made a foray into the banking sector from where she utilised her creative skills helping create and launch the popular and successful multimedia platform for the bank, Ndani TV. Where she created and directed the popular web series, "Gidi Up". Jadesola has completed production for her feature film debut ISOKEN awaiting a 2017 release.

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**Pat Oghre**, is one of the earliest females to venture into directing. She enjoyed an otherwise successful career as an actress before the passion for directing took over, and like myself, she found herself in no time behind the camera mostly. Her story is interesting being that she decided to take the leap in the early days of nollywood, when it was totally unheard of for a woman to be a director, except you were Amaka Igwe, of course. Pat has gone on to direct a lot of commercial nollywood home videos and tv series.



**Adeola Osunkojo** is of the new and younger generation who has directed TV and film. Her film credits include - The Date, and One Spice at A Time. In 2016, she won The Future Awards and EbonyLife Prize for Screen Producer and The Sisterhood Awards: 2016 Film and TV Director of the Year. Adeola bagged first and second degrees in Theatre Arts (Directing Major) from the University of Lagos and is at the early stage of her PHD in Film Studies, where she is studying the concept of a New Wave in history which is considered New Nollywood.

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**Dolapo Lowladee Adeleke**, the youngest of the lot, is a Screenwriter, Producer, Director and Editor. She considers herself an Actor's Director. She was nominated under the Best Film Director category of the Nigerian Entertainment Awards (NEA 2015) for her multiple award winning short film, BRAVE. In 2016, she was nominated for the prestigious EbonyLife Sisterhood Awards Africa 'Film Director Of The Year' for her achievement with LowlaDeeTV Maiden Web Series 'This Is It'. She hopes to empower African Television and in the future, African Cinema, one project at a time.



**Belinda Yanga Agedah** who studied Film in Glasgow, is also a young aspiring writer and director who has made her debut feature film ROMANCE IS OVERATED which is actually a compendium of 3 theme aligned short films in one. She has also gone on to direct a tv series, HEAD OVER HEELS, and is currently in pre-production for her 2nd feature.

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**Ema Edosio** is also one of the newest school young directors, who has her origins in music video directing, and morphed into filmmaking and directing tv dramas. Ema has made two films, as well as directed a tv series THE GOVERNOR for EbonyLife Tv. Ema Edosio has also won the Sisterhood Awards for Best Producer of The Year.



**Tope Oshin** is a multiple award-winning filmmaker, who has directed up to 7000 hours of TV and film in Nigeria, and also produced the highly successful movies "Fifty" and "The Wedding Party 2" for EbonyLife films. Among the hats Tope wears are writer, content creator, director, producer and casting director. Tope who describes herself as a Film Artist, is devoted to changing the world, "one frame at a time". Tope has 6 feature films to her credit and some of her most popular works include: Hush , Hotel Majestic, Tinsel , Fifty (Highest grossing movie 2015), Ireti , Journey To Self , The Young Smoker, New Horizons, Love & War.

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## Press

SHADOW & ACT: New Documentary chronicles trials and triumphs in male-dominated nollywood <http://shadowandact.com/tag/amakas-kin-the-women-of-nollywood/>

CNN: 7 New Filmmakers Pushing boundaries Beyond Nollywood <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/11/18/africa/beyond-nollywood-nigerian-filmmakers/>

WOMEN & HOLLYWOOD: Amaka's Kin Celebrates women directors in Nigeria [https://blog.womenandhollywood.com/trailer-watch-amakas-kin-the-women-of-nollywood-celebrates-women-directors-in-nigeria-237043178e28#\\_qsnoo7q17](https://blog.womenandhollywood.com/trailer-watch-amakas-kin-the-women-of-nollywood-celebrates-women-directors-in-nigeria-237043178e28#_qsnoo7q17)

FILM IN DUBLIN: Women in Nollywood rise in Amaka's Kin. <http://filmindublin.ie/tag/amakas-kin/>

IRISH TIMES: Nollywood Women are taking over the world's 3rd largest film industry <http://www.irishtimes.com/culture/film/hooray-for-nollywood-how-women-are-taking-on-the-world-s-third-largest-film-industry-1.2870650>

PULSE: Amaka's Kin documentary honors Amaka Igwe <http://pulse.ng/movies/amakas-kin-tope-oshin-honours-amaka-igwe-in-new-documentary-id5507029.html>

PULSE: Amaka's Kin Premieres at the BFI <http://pulse.ng/movies/amakas-kin-documentary-to-premiere-at-beyond-nollywood-film-festival-id5518441.html>

THE NATION: Tears as Amaka's Kin Screens at AFRIFF <http://thenationonlineng.net/tears-documentary-amaka-igwe-screens-afriff/>

AFRICAN WOMEN IN CINEMA: <http://africanwomenincinema.blogspot.com.ng/2016/07/amakas-kin-women-of-nollywood.html>

TNS: Amaka's Kin wins Best Documentary <https://tns.ng/tope-oshin-wins-best-documentary-amakas-kin-2016-bon-awards/>

ATLANTIC REPORTER: Amaka's Kin set to premiere in Feminist Film Festival Dublin <https://atlanticreporter.com/index.php/2016/11/09/amakas-kin-documentary-to-premiere-at-feminist-film-festival-dublin/>

NOLLYWOOD ACCESS: Tope Oshin's Amaka's Kin for BFI Film Festival! <http://www.nollywoodaccess.com/tope-oshins-documentary-amakas-kin-for-bfi-film-festival/>

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## Cast

MILDRED OKWO  
MICHELLE BELLO  
STEPHANIE LINUS  
OMONI OBOLI  
BLESSING EFFIOM EGBE  
JADESOLA OSIBERU  
PAT OGHRE IMOBHIO  
ADEOLA OSUNKOJO  
DOLAPO LOWLADEE ADELEKE  
BELINDA YANGA AGEDAH  
EMA EDOSIO  
TOPE OSHIN

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## Crew Credits

Writer, Director, Producer - TOPE OSHIN  
Co-Producer - SARAH INYA LAWAL  
Cinematography - SEGUN ADEKOYA, EMA EDOSIO, EBENEZER SOGO, ADE OSHIN  
Edited by - ADE OSHIN  
Score & Sound Design - MICHAEL 'TRUTH' OGUNLADE  
Stills Photography - TOJ CONCEPTS, PAMELA ADIE PHOTOGRAPHY  
Production Interns - ORENIWA YUSUF, BADEWA AJIBADE

## Director's Biography

Tope Oshin, is a multiple award-winning Nigerian Director and Producer. In March 2018, in commemoration of the Women's History Month, Tope was celebrated by OkayAfrica as one of the Okay100 Women.

Oshin has produced some of the highest box office breaking movies in Nigeria, including the 2015 romantic film *Fifty*, and *The Wedding Party 2*, and her most popular directing credits include *New Money*, *MTV Shuga* and *Journey To Self*.

In 2016, she produced and directed the documentary, *Amaka's Kin: The Women Of Nollywood*, as a memorial to prominent film-maker Amaka Igwe, who died in 2014. The documentary addresses issues facing Nigerian female directors, working in a male-dominated industry.

As a follow up to her documentary, in 2017, as part of the BBC 100 Women season, Tope celebrated the new generation of women filmmakers reinventing Nollywood, by presenting the BBC documentary *Nigeria-Shooting It Like A Woman*.

Tope, a serving jury member for the International Emmy Awards, London Feminist Film Festival, MOFILM Year Of The Women, Africa Magic Viewers Choice Awards and the Eko International Film Festival, describes herself as a film artist, dedicated to changing the world, one frame at a time.

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## Director's Filmography

**'UpNorth'** (Feature Film) December 2018 release

**'We Don't Live Here Anymore'** (Feature Film) 2018

**'New Money'** (Feature Film) 2018

**'Dear Mummy B'** (Feature Film) 2018

**'MTV Shuga Naija'** (Drama Series) 2017

**'Castle & Castle'** (Drama Series) 2017

**'InLine'** (Feature Film) 2017

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'EvoL' (Feature Film) 2017

'Ever After' (Feature Film) 2017

'GidiUp 3' (Drama Series)

'Amaka's Kin' (Documentary)

'Hush' (Drama Series)

'Ireti' (Short Film)

'Hotel Majestic' (Tele-Novella) (96 Episodes)

'Crush' (Short Film)

'Walk The Talk' (TV Talk Show)

'To Love And Covet' (Short Film)

'Love and War' (Made-For-TV Film)

'Conversations At Dinner' (Made-For-TV Film)

'Tinsel' (Soap opera) (350 Episodes, Seasons 2-5)

'New Horizons' (Short Film)

'Journey To Self' (Feature Film)

'Till Death Do Us Part' (Short Film)

'The Young Smoker' (Short Film)

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[www.topeoshin.com](http://www.topeoshin.com)

THANKS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

