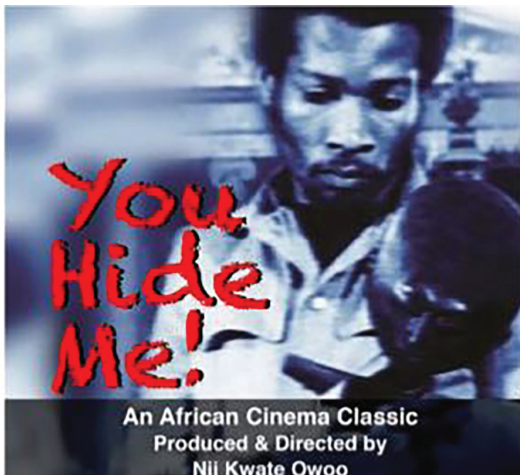


# EFIRI TETE COMMUNICATIONS

## PRESS RELEASE



Ghanaian film maker, Nii Kwate Owoo, won the Best Short Documentary Film prize at this year's Paris International Short Film Festival, held on September 20-27, for his documentary "YOU HIDE ME"

"You Hide Me", made 50 years ago, reveals for the first time hundreds of thousands of hitherto unseen rare Asante treasures of art works stolen by the British after the "Sagrenti War" and invasion of Kumasi by Sir Garnet Woseley in 1870s,

as well as other art treasures looted by the British expeditionary forces when they ransacked the City of Benin (in modern day Nigeria) in 1897. The film shows how these and other African treasures are buried deep in basements beneath museums throughout Europe and America

'In a few minutes, Nii Kwate wrapped up centuries of western cultural pillage in Africa in an eloquent call to action,' says Dr. Kwesi Owusu, CEO of Creative Storm and long-time collaborator of the producer of "You Hide Me".

Employing a clever mixture of ruse and audacity, Nii Kwate was able to outsmart the British Museum authorities and its entire security system to gain access into its secret underground vaults where these rare treasures are hidden from public view. The film was produced long before the campaign for former colonial powers to return stolen African arts became a popular call.

Nii Kwate has over 50 years of film making experience as a writer, producer and director of feature and documentary films. The highlights of his career include: as a co-producer and director with Dr, Kwesi Owusu in 1988 of 'Ouaga: African Cinema Now', a documentary of the bi-annual Ouagadougou film festival; and 'Ama', the first African feature film financed by a major British TV Network Channel Four, in 1991. 'Odupon Atutu', documenting the ceremonies of the death, burial and installation of an Asantehene; 'Women of Substance', a feature documentary on women in leadership roles, shot in six African countries, for the Africa Women's Development Fund; Nii Kwate founded in 1978 and headed the Media Research Unit of the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, until his retirement in 2004.

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