



Resources sheet

Resources

Film: Atlantics Director: Mati Diop



<u>Mati Diop:</u> "I wanted to show the complexity of this African youth through different characters and different personalities and avoid stereotypes or clichés. Africa carries a lot of clichés and stereotypes. One of my mission in this film was to break all these clichés that I could not stand anymore, myself."



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<u>Trivia / Fun Facts:</u>

- Inspired by a 'magnetic' trip to Senegal that director Mati Diop took in 2008 to connect with her Senegalese heritage.
- It took Mati Diop just seven weeks to shoot Atlantics, but it is a film she says she has been making all her life. "Migration is part of who I am," the 37-year-old explains.
- Started as a short film called Atlantiques (2009), in which a young man recounted his journey across the ocean.
- Atlantics, as a feature-length film, tells the other side of the story: that of the women left behind by these boys who have suddenly disappeared in an attempt to cross the ocean.
- Diop explained that she was not interested in charting the men's journey, partly because she did not want to produce a spectacle or what she called "the attraction of destruction." She instead wanted to create a character who's defined by waiting yet not passive, all while avoiding "the cliché of the strong African woman who is strong because she's African." For that, Diop looked to Penelope, Odysseus's wife, the archetypal waiting woman.
- The film won the second biggest prize at Cannes, the Grand Prix, where Diop was the first black female filmmaker to compete in the main competition in the festival's history.
- The film is populated by first-time and non-professional actors from the neighbourhoods of Dakar where it was filmed.
- Selected as Senegal's entry for International Film Feature at the Academy Awards.
- Netflix acquired the film during its run at the Cannes Film Festival.



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Video material:

Atlantics' Director Mati Diop in the Corner Booth	<u>Netflix</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52eAbCWz1B U
Atlantics director Mati Diop on creating a complex portrait of Senegalese youth	<u>q on cbc</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsDaypeupHY
ATLANTIQUE - Red Carpet - Cannes 2019 - EV	Festival de Cannes (Officiel)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XhVGXDZc68 A
Le Grand Prix du Jury est attribué à Atlantique - Cannes 2019	<u>CANAL+</u> <u>Cinéma</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Qwf2SkjmAc
ATLANTICS Director Q&A TIFF 2019	<u>TIFF Talks</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Azsq_Gh0jis
ATLANTIQUE - Photocall - Cannes 2019 - EV	<u>Festival de</u> <u>Cannes</u> <u>(Officiel)</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7N5TA0300N Q
Mati Diop director of ATLANTICS in conversation with Reclaim the Frame	<u>Birds' Eye</u> <u>View</u>	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCQZ8bZiK6o



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Interviews:

'Atlantics': Mati Diop Explains How Her Acclaimed Debut Confronts African Identity	<u>IndieWire</u>	https://www.indiewire.com/2019/11/atlantics- mati-diop-interview-1202186776/
'Atlantics' Is A Haunting Refugee Story — Of The Women Left Behind In Senegal	All Things <u>Considered</u> <u>(NPR)</u>	https://www.npr.org/2019/11/23/780847003/atlant ics-is-a-haunting-refugee-story-of-the-women- left-behind-in-senegal
Mati Diop on her story of ghosts and lost love in 'Atlantics,' Senegal's Oscar entry	<u>Los Angeles</u> Times	https://www.latimes.com/entertainment- arts/movies/story/2019-11-20/mati-diop- atlantics-cannes-academy-award-entry- netflix#:~:text=Mati%20Diop's%20fiction%20featur e%20debut,main%20competition%20at%20the%20f estival
Interview: Mati Diop	Film Comment	https://www.filmcomment.com/blog/cannes- interview-mati-diop/
Award-Winning 'Atlantics' Director Mati Diop Says Cinema Has As Moral Duty To Create Visibility	<u>Vogue</u>	https://www.vogue.co.uk/arts-and- lifestyle/article/mati-diop-interview
#268 - Mati Diop on Atlantics and her Filmmaking Process	Film at Lincoln Center Podcast	https://www.filmlinc.org/daily/mati-diop-on- atlantics-and-her-filmmaking-process/
The First Black Woman to Compete at Cannes Finds Her Voice in Africa	<u>The New York</u> Times	https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/20/arts/canne s-film-festival-black-director.html



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<u>Reviews:</u>

Atlantics review: a mysterious fable of class, migration and heartbreak	BFI	https://www2.bfi.org.uk/news-opinion/sight- sound-magazine/reviews- recommendations/atlantics-mati-diop-dakar- senegal-class-migration-heartbreak
'Atlantics': Cannes Review	<u>Screen Daily</u>	https://www.screendaily.com/reviews/atlantics- cannes-review/5139501.article
'Atlantics' ('Atlantiques'): Film Review Cannes 2019	<u>The Hollywood</u> <u>Reporter</u>	https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/atla ntics-review-1211196
Film Review: 'Atlantics'	<u>Variety</u>	https://variety.com/2019/film/reviews/atlantics- review-1203217085/
Atlantics review – poetic Dakar love story	<u>The Guardian</u>	https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/dec/01/at lantics-review-mati-diop-dakar-love-story- senegal
African oppression meets supernatural mystery	The Guardian	https://www.theguardian.com/film/2019/may/16/a tlantique-review-cannes-mati-diop-senegal- mystery