



LA-BAS

EDUCAZIONE CRIMINALE

a film directed by **Guido Lombardi**

Screenings at 68. Venice International Film Festival

Sept 5th Monday 11.00 - Sala Volpi

(press screening)

Sept 6th Tuesday 2.00 p.m. - Sala Darsena

(official screening | world première | Q&A with director,
cast and producers)

Sept 7th 7.30 p.m. - Sala Volpi

(screening)

PRESS AGENCY STUDIO MORABITO

Tel: (+39) 06 5730 0825 Fax: (+39) 06 5730 0155
info@mimmomorabito.it; www.mimmomorabito.it
In Venice: 041-5265205; cell: 334 6678927

PRODUCTION CONTACTS

eskimo Tel: (+39) 06 5578442 info@eskimoweb.it
figli del bronx: Tel: (+39) 081 0203639 figlidelbronx@libero.it
minerva pictures: Tel: (+39) 06 85358648 info@minervapictures.com
In Venice:; cell: 333.5813536 334.3878339

www.labas-film.it

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Là-bas

In french it's not more than a stock phrase.
It means " down there " .

But Africans also use it meaning Europe, where their friends or relatives have gone searching fortune or just because desperate .

They use " la bas " to mean anywhere else in the north or

in the south, it's not important.

It simply means far away

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a
eskimo
figli del bronx
minerva pictures group
production

with the support of
REGIONE CAMPANIA
Assessorato al Turismo e ai Beni Culturali
REGIONE CAMPANIA
Assessorato all'Istruzione, Formazione e Lavoro
in collaboration with
FILM COMMISSION REGIONE CAMPANIA
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FARE PIÙ
AUDIOIMAGE
on the DOCKS
and
RAI CINEMA

cast
Kader Alassane (Yssouf)
Moussa Mone (Moses)
Esther Elisha (Suad)
Billi Serigne Faye (Germain)
Alassane Doulougou (Idris)
Fatima Traore (Asetù)
Salvatore Ruocco (Il capo clan)

assistant director and casting **Sergio Panariello**
executive producer **Gennaro Fasolino**
art direction **Maica Rotondo**
costume **Francesca Balzano**
sound design **Davide Mastropaolo** | **Leandro Sorrentino**
music **Giordano Corapi**
editing **Annalisa Forgione** | **Beppe Leonetti**
cinematography **Francesca Amitrano**

producers
Dario Formisano
Gaetano Di Vaio
Gianluca Curti

screenplay and director **Guido Lombardi**

Italy | 2011 | 100 minutes | V.O. french/english/italian

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Castel Volturno, 30 km from Naples. A "camorra" commando breaks into a tailor's shop managed by African immigrants, wildly shooting a hundred bullets killing six black men and grievously injuring one of them.

Yssouf, a young immigrant, has decided that night to break with his uncle Moses, who first persuaded him of coming in Italy promising a future as an honest artisan and then turned him into the cynical leader of the local millionaire coke-dealing scene.

Tangled up in this story there are an African guy, Germain, who casually was in the place of the massacre; his girlfriend, Asetu, who will sing that night a Miriam Makeba's song; the prostitute Suad that Yssouf dreams of redeeming from her pimps.

Setted in the "most Africans of the European cities" (Roberto Saviano) *Là Bas* is a story blurring fiction and reality. A crime novel of a contemporary young man undertaken and lived only for the struggle of the survival.

About Castel Volturno Massacre (18.09.2008) vedi
http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strage_di_Castelvolturno

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Guido Lombardi

(Naples in 1975) is a film-maker, twice awarded with the Solinas Prize as a screenwriter. His first short fiction film, Vomero Travel, has been presented in 2010 at the Venice days (Venice International Film Festival)

Là-bas is his first film..

Kader Abdou Alassane (Yssouf) was born thirty years ago in a village in Benin. When he was very young, he moved to Italy to realize his dream of becoming a singer. In Italy he picked tomatoes, worked at a carwash. But between on-and-off jobs he really did sing. While singing he encountered **Nsangu Maulidi Kagutta** from Ghana, stage-name G Family (in the film he is Sakele, the tailor), owner of See Records, a record company specialized in African groups. At See Records Kader met Valentina, a singer with a piano bar, whose family practically adopted him. He lived with them for several years until he reunited with Sandra, his childhood fiancée now living in Paris with an infant son, Samir. And it is through music that Kader gets to know Guido Lombardi, who has worked many years as cameraman for African concert groups. Kader has practically become his personal guide in the absolutely unpredictable world of Africans in Naples.

Moussa Mone (Moses, Yssouf's uncle in the film) was born in 1972 the Ivory Coast, where he did the radio speaker, the sales agent for a records company and had a music shop. First in France, and then in Naples, he organized concerts for African groups. He now runs a bar in the historic centre of Naples, a meeting place for many Africans in the area. He is going to develop a project about "afro-tarantelle" and a tv program based on inter-cultural issues.

Esther Elisha (Suad) was born in Brescia. Her father is from Benin and her mother is Sicilian. As opposed to the other members of the cast, she is a totally professional actress. Holder of a diploma of the Paolo Grassi School of Dramatic Arts of the Teatro Piccolo in Milan, she has studied inter alia with Kuniaki Ida, Gigi Dall'Aglio, Marisa Fabbri, Laura Curino, Marco Martinelli, Maria Consagra. The latest film she interpreted is *Les gardiens de l'ordre* directed by Nicolas Boukrief (2009). In precedence, she acted in *Il prossimo tuo* by Anne Ritta Ciccone and *Last minute Marocco* by Francesco Falaschi. She also worked in Television (*Casa Coop, Una musica silenziosa, Il Commissario De Luca, Boris, Don Matteo 5*)

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“Billi” Serigne Faye (Germain) was born in Senegal and comes from a family of Griot artists. He has lived in France and Turin, but it is “easier to live without documents” in Naples. Here he meets other African musicians, starts playing percussion again and marries a girl, Emma. He can't care his family as he would like but now he has a new mission: becoming an important African actor in Italy.

Alassane Douougou (Idris) was born in Burkina Faso in 1968. He is a musician in his country; his stage-name was NAT.RE.MY (natural, rebel, mystic). He emigrates in 1999 to record an album dedicated to Thomas Sankara, the first president of Burkina Faso, and to Norbert Zongo, an African journalist murdered in his Country. He goes in Paris also because he does not earn enough to support his brothers. He also lives in Paris, but he says he regained Africa in Naples. He lives as a clandestine working as a mason, a gardener. But he is also involved in music: he has founded a traditional group and participated in various intercultural projects in schools. *Là-bas* is not his first movie: he also worked in *La squadra*, *Tintoria*, *Alle falde del Kilimangiaro*. His dream is to create a black theatre in Naples. And to come full circle, returning to Africa from Europe.

Fatima Traore has no recollection of Africa. She has always lived in Bacoli on the Phlegraean coast, as can be heard in the film where she interprets young **Asetu**. She doesn't do odd jobs. She studies and has begun working as a model.

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**Kwame Antwi Julius Francis,
Affun Yeboa Eric,
Samuel Kwako,
El Hadji Ababa,
Jeemes Alex,
Christopher Adams**

are the names of the African guys really killed in the so called massacre of San Gennaro - 18 th of September 2008.

The prosecutor's enquiries stated that none of them were involved in any criminal trafficking.

Joseph Aimbore

is the only one that survived pretending himself dead. Thanks to his evidence the executors have been arrested.

This film is dedicated to them.