

### SAMMY BALOJI *Mémoire* [Memory]

The soundtrack features voice recordings of politicians in French (subtitled on screen), intermittent rattlesnake hisses followed by loud car crashes as Faustin Linyekula begins to dance, and guitar music after the dancer calls "Vive l'indépendance!" [subtitled on screen].

### THEO ESHETU *Brave New World I*

The soundtrack is a score by Arvo Pärt of sacred music.

### MOATAZ NASR *The Water*

The soundtrack consists of splashing when the boot treads in the water.

### BERNI SEARLE *About to Forget*

The soundtrack begins with dripping water as the red silhouettes float into place, shifting to the sound of wind as the images dissolve.

### BERNI SEARLE *A Matter of Time*

The soundtrack is predominantly quiet featuring a loud squeaking or shrieking noise each time the artist slides backward.

### YINKA SHONIBARE MBE *Un Ballo in Maschera* [A Masked Ball]

The soundtrack begins with a beating heart as the film opens. Once the king enters, there is no music, only the breathing and shuffling feet of the performers, becoming louder when they dance.

### SUE WILLIAMSON *There's Something I Must Tell You*

The soundtrack consists of the following conversations:

#### Amina and Luiza Cachalia

**Luiza:** I suppose everyone thinks their grandmother is unique. Uhm, grandmothers are nurturers. Often when I'm washing my hair I think about the things I'd like to talk to her about . . . kind of hair things and talking about my blonde hair. I still want to talk about that, kind of have my last say . . . Uhm, which is kind of funny. Even if she was still living I probably wouldn't have got to say my last say.

**Amina:** She came up and she rung the bell and I opened the door and for a split second I didn't know who she is, when she said, "Mama!" I realized who Luiza was and she was all blonde. Now, I've got no problem with blondes but I didn't like her being blonde.

**Luiza:** You did tell me you have a problem with blondes.

**Amina:** Well, no. What problem could I have with blondes?

**Luiza:** What did you say? You said . . .

**Amina:** I . . .

**Luiza:** You said blondes are a certain kind of woman.

**Amina:** It didn't suit her. Not one bit!

**Luiza:** You thought I didn't look right, because I mean, that's a type of prejudice, it's a type of "racism" if you like.

**Amina:** Being blonde is no prejudice as far as I am concerned and that is definitely so, but you being blonde was just not on for me.

**Luiza:** That's what you say now.

[transition]

**Luiza:** That's, you know, the whole thing about her writing her book—she definitely had the last say. For my grandmother the struggle and the history was always a, it was, a reflection of pride, if you like. The only thing that I've ever wanted her to admit was how painful it was.

[transition]

**Luiza:** Look at you during apartheid, Daddy had to go and live in exile. You and Dada was under house arrest. There were policemen in the house. That was a disruptive family environment.

**Amina:** Ja, that was unavoidable for us. It happened because of apartheid.

**Luiza:** Apartheid is personal! It's not like, "Oh, apartheid . . ."

**Amina:** But nonetheless, we've overcome those difficulties too. It had its toll.

[transition]

**Luiza:** And it was painful, but she would always talk about it in a very . . . uhm . . . graceful and restrained way.

**Amina:** I remember when I wanted to go into exile and leave South Africa and that I didn't want to go. And I was determined to put an end to this way of life and finally Dada said to me, "Why don't you speak to people that you really regard as important in your life?" And I stopped in my tracks. I gave up exile.

[transition]

**Luiza:** You know, it's this reservedness, and it almost . . . I felt suffocated by it. And I think for young people in South Africa, we're very angry and we exhibit that anger. But, that generation . . .

[transition]

**Luiza:** Sometimes I get angry, like, talking . . . hearing . . . sometimes when Mama and Nelson get together, sometimes when they talk about apartheid it sounds like they're building it up, you know, building it up like it, kind of like . . . I suppose to make yourself feel better you have to . . .

[transition]

**Amina:** The past had a very great meaning in my life.

**Luiza:** I know! I want you guys to say, argh . . . it was . . . arrgggh.

[transition]

**Luiza:** I'm not afraid to scream or to cry, but I understand that I have that freedom whereas my grandmother . . .

[transition]

**Amina:** I never cried over apartheid, no, I was fighting apartheid all my life. I didn't want to cry. It wasn't going to beat me, I was going to beat it in the long run.

[transition]

**Luiza:** I think in many ways we don't understand it. I think we admire it, but I think there's a lot of frustration between two generations and two different situations. There's pacifism and activism, you know. It's not a job. Although I'd like to be like my grandmother, how can I be like my grandmother?

[transition]

**Amina:** The history belongs to the young people of today. The future belongs to them. And, it must just be bright and beautiful.

**Luiza:** I have no, nothing to say about that. [laughs] I agree.

**Amina:** What do you wish for in life today? What kind of a life do you envisage for yourself?

**Luiza:** I don't know. I'm just beginning. I can't say. You know, health, wealth, success . . . uhm, love, happiness.

**Amina:** It's all we wished for all the years—is a better life for ourselves than, places where we could go to together with everybody else we choose to. It's gonna take generations for us, for this country, to be absolutely free of the inhibitions that we've had and the difficulties that we've been through. I will never see that.

#### Caroline Motsoaledi and Busisiwe Khatibe

**Caroline:** My name is Caroline Motsoaledi. I'm eighty-five years old.

**Busisiwe:** She's my beloved grandmother. My name is Busisiwe Khatibe and I'm twenty years old. I'm a student now. I'm in my second year. I'm studying a BBA marketing degree and hopefully I'm going to get far with it. The main reason what's driving me is to make my grandparents proud. After everything that my grandfather has done . . . and my grandmother, and the sacrifices. That's my main drive that makes me want to pass and be successful—to make them feel that they didn't do everything in vain.

**Caroline:** My husband was arrested and I was, I lived with the children at home. So I was, well, used to visit my husband at the island once a year, sometimes twice a year.

**Busisiwe:** My grandfather fought for freedom during apartheid and my gran was left to look after my mom and all her brothers. She was the only daughter [laughs] amongst, I think six, seven brothers. And my mother told me about the Treason Trial, that my grandfather, Elias Motsoaledi, was part of the Treason Trial and what the Treason Trial was about and that he was also in the same block, jail cell block as Nelson Mandela. And that for me was pretty awesome—to know that my grandfather was there with Nelson Mandela for the very same reason.

**Caroline:** I was arrested because I knew, they said I knew everything about what my husband was doing. They took me to jail and left my children alone at home with my mother. I was used to stay ninety days plus ninety days in jail, in detention. I was locked alone in a cell. I was not allowed visitors. Not even a single visitor.

**Busisiwe:** I was even taken to Robben Island as a small child to explain to me about the history of the family, to show me where he was.

**Caroline:** I knew that I was fighting for the, all the people of South Africa to be free.

**Busisiwe:** What I think the meaning of being free is not being restricted, is having the ability to be who you are and to be where you want to be and just be yourself without having any fear of someone judging you or that you just, well, be free . . . as a bird as they say.

**Caroline:** For this test I was at the hospital a week ago. I used to ask these young people "What are you going to do? What do you think about what they have done for you?"

**Busisiwe:** I think my friends do know the background, but it's just not taken as seriously. It's not like everyday discussion. It's not the thing of we'll be sitting or just chilling as friends and then someone just randomly bring out, "Hey guys, let's talk about apartheid."

**Caroline:** The young people didn't understand what we are fighting for.

**Busisiwe:** We know, we understand because my group of friends is . . . we say we're just mixed. The white kids act like black kids and the black kids act like white kids and we understand that, if it wasn't for the people who made us all integrated and free, who wouldn't be that way. Some of us, people can't even tell just by listening to our voice what race we are. That's how deeply integrated we are.

**Caroline:** They just take it, everything for granted. They just want their football club. The only thing they think about—the football club.

**Busisiwe:** I agree with my gran one hundred percent. That is very true. I mean, I was guilty of that when I went to private primary school. You're just some rich kid and at my school there were some kids that couldn't afford labeled clothes. Uhm, I would never forget this day. I feel so guilty about it. Some kid came to school and he had, so we all knew that Adidas had three stripes and he had six. And we laughed at that kid and we were like "Why do you have six stripes and Adidas has got three," and it's . . . I'm still in primary school and it wasn't for my parents who sat me down and they were like, "This is not right. You shouldn't do this, because not everyone is the same, not everyone can afford Dolce & Gabbana. We're all different, but we're all humans. We are . . . blood is the same color. It's red. We have a heart in the same place," and since that day I changed.

**Caroline:** I've been very proud to have a daughter like this. She was looking after herself and is really enjoying what is going to happen in her future life.

**Busisiwe:** Those people can go through apartheid. Then, what can I handle? Before, I used to feel angry about it. In a creepy way I say it's a, not a good thing, but it's a good thing that happened because it made the country stronger. It made some people realize that they have more strength than they actually have and that you are capable of doing more than you really think you are and you can actually handle more situations and difficult circumstances and you have more ability than what you really think that you have.

#### Ilse Fischer and Thandi Lewin

**Ilse:** I'm Ilse Fischer. I'm about to turn seventy.

**Thandi:** I'm Thandi Lewin. I'm about to turn forty.

**Ilse:** Yes, I'm Bram Fischer's daughter and I think that his importance in the struggle was that he was an Afrikaner who was prepared to throw in his lot with the struggle, with you know, working for freedom for all people. Uhm, and I think his importance was that he showed that it was not just a black struggle. You know, Mandela said at one stage that Bram was very influential in that he showed Mandela that actually there were white people who were prepared to be part of the struggle.

**Thandi:** I'm the daughter of a, uhm, a struggle veteran also. My father's name is Hugh Lewin and he was very active in the '50s and '60s and he spent some considerable time in jail. My father was involved in a small organization called the African Resistance Movement. I was actually born after he came out of jail so, you know, my experience of the struggle is minimal. We lived out of the country. We've always had a strong connection with the Fischer family. My grandmother and Ilse's mother were close friends. They were bridesmaids at each other's wedding and so the family has always been connected. My dad was in jail with Bram so he's always been a kind of mythical figure in my life even though I never met him. I'm of the generation who hasn't had to struggle but my whole family story is part of it.

**Ilse:** Those '50s when I was a school girl were very exciting years and, you know, whereas some people say that they were . . . it was really tough . . . I mean Walter Sisulu was part of my childhood. Moses Kotane was part of my childhood. One knew that one was part of something much bigger. And really, one felt quite secure. One realized that things were bad in the country but one, one felt very much part of something even as a child. And then of course the '60s, things were awful. My mother was detained in 1960. Bram was not detained. I was sixteen at the time. I was allowed to visit her. I had to run the household. I had to take off time from school to go and visit her in Pretoria. And on my seventeenth birthday I visited her and she pushed violets through the prison grille for me that she'd picked in the prison yard.

**Thandi:** When it came to the Fischers, I mean, I think it says a lot about who they were—the love of the family and it's always fascinated me this, you know, how they managed to keep some semblance of family life while, you know, being so politically involved and the kinds of stresses and tensions they must have faced. I, I mean, I experienced none of that.

**Ilse:** We didn't feel neglected at all because they explained to us why they were getting involved politically, uhm, and it was a very warm and loving family environment. In fact many, many people used to come from all over to be part of the family. But their political involvement was, I think, just an extension of that love and we understood that.

**Thandi:** Well, I mean, in a sense I was totally protected from, you know, their activism and from the life that my parent had led before we were born.

**Ilse:** Bram was defending the Rivonia trialists and he knew he was going to be arrested as soon as the trial finished. Molly died in a car accident the day after the trial and Bram was driving so it was very devastating. A few months later he was charged, uhm, under the Suppression of Communists Act of being a member of the communist party. Uhm, a couple of months later in January '65 went underground. But on a motorbike you could shake off a tail and go and visit him. So, uhm, those were dramatic times. And Pat, Thandi's mother, and I helped him go underground and she, Pat, was living with us at the time and we, uhm, started drinking brandy, but you better not put that on!

**Thandi:** Started?

**Ilse:** Yes, that's when we started.

**Thandi:** And I've been part of, you know, the last almost twenty years of a post-apartheid society and I think it's changed a lot. You know I absolutely think that the things that my parents and their contemporaries had to endure were absolutely worth the South Africa we have today. I am married to a woman. We married legally. We have the legal rights that actually very few people in the entire world have. There's only about five or six countries in the entire world where you can live, uhm you know, legally as a married gay couple with . . . both of us are the parents. On the birth certificate we're both mentioned as the parents. I mean, that's a remarkable thing for, especially for a country where social attitudes are not there yet.

**Ilse:** Yes, I think it has been worth it. I think that the fact that Johannesburg particularly is a transformed society. I mean, one engages with people of all races in a much more equal way than one ever did. I mean it delights me that I haven't been called "madam" for ten years probably. Bram always said that the real work would start once change really came and he was right—that it's much more difficult to build a new society than it is to break down an old one. Yes, I'm disappointed at the greed, at the inequality particularly. I'm sad that we don't have more of a socialist society here. Uhm, we'll work towards it hopefully. Hopefully the young people will work towards it. So from that point of view I'm optimistic but then I've lived with optimists all my life. You know, that is one's hope that the kids will grow up less separated than we were.

#### Brigalia and Busiswa Bam

**Brigalia:** My name is Brigalia Hlophe Bam. I will be turning eighty . . . they say when you're turning eighty you are very wise.

**Busiswa:** I'm Busiswa Bam. I'm Dr. Brigalia Bam's niece. I come from Tsholo, a very small village in the Eastern Cape.

**Brigalia:** I was born in the Eastern Cape and I lived there as a young girl. I'm now living in Pretoria and I never thought I would ever live in Pretoria when I was a young person in this country, because Pretoria was one of the cities that was known in South Africa to be very racist. It was even difficult for people to walk in the pavements.

**Busiswa:** Everyday we talk about politics, we watch politics, I studied politics. It has become a passion that I have.

**Brigalia:** One of the things you had to do is to remember that before you go out to buy even a pint of milk or a loaf of bread, or a newspaper or anything, you must carry your pass. I have never forgotten that. It was one of those things that was so binding and many people, because people are human, would forget to carry this, but you land up in prison. You are humiliated, though you don't have a sense of belonging to the same country. And today one of the greatest things is just to wake up in the morning, for me, and to feel "I'm a South African. This is where I belong."

**Busiswa:** For me it is, I get to say I was born free. When did we go to Lesotho, Auntie?

**Brigalia:** I don't remember.

**Busiswa:** I was still in primary school. I was very young.

**Brigalia:** What year was it? I won't remember the years.

**Busiswa:** It was '97.

**Brigalia:** When were you born?

**Busiswa:** 1987.

**Brigalia:** Oh my gosh.

**Busiswa:** I think I was ten years old or eleven.

**Brigalia:** No, no, you were less. I came back in 1988.

**Busiswa:** I was only one year old.

**Brigalia:** So you were one year. They are twins. So because they are twins they just looked alike, you know. They are two girl twins so I didn't know which twin is which one.

**Busiswa:** I started going to school in 1994. It was an Afrikaans school in the Eastern Cape whereby we felt like we were being . . . we always have this, had this mentality that if you are black, then your brain's also black—you're dumb. [Xhosa phrase] which means you're black, therefore you're dumb, basically. There's no light.

**Brigalia:** But the attitude of the teachers was very, very problematic.

**Busiswa:** But then I went to high school . . . uhm . . . in Cape Town and we were mixed, that's when I started realizing, "No man, I'm not stupid. I'm very smart, actually."

**Brigalia:** I couldn't come back earlier, because by then I had lost my South African citizenship. The government of South Africa decided to withdraw my passport and withdrew citizenship. I missed home. In all those years, it's amazing, I was away from home. I was away from day-to-day humiliations. I could go to the bank and stand with the Swiss people. I could do many things, but I never forgot where I came from because, coincidentally, I lived in a flat that was very near the airport. Swiss Air, at that time . . . uhm . . . they then were flying to South Africa three times a week. Midnight, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. I never forgot that. And I knew that, when they take off, because there were only two flights that would take off at midnight, they were coming to South Africa. That haunted me year after year. Actually I missed out on a whole generation that was born when many of us were in exile.

**Busiswa:** I just recently moved from Cape Town to Pretoria last year. Now, in the office, we are mostly black, so there's no racism, there's tribalism [laughs]. In Cape Town—I won't mention the name of the company that I was working for—I was the only black employee and it was mostly whites and two coloreds. The second black person who was working for us was, uhm, domestic worker. She was helping us out in the kitchen. She got a call. She was from the township. She left her child with, uhm, a helper. The helper went off drinking and she was in a hysterical state. She wanted to leave immediately, because she thought her child was in good hands. And they said, "No, you're not gonna leave." And I was wondering . . . I don't understand this people. If they called them and said "Your cat is on a tree, hurry!" they would drop everything and go get the cat. It makes me furious, in fact, because, uhm, I think that we've moved past apartheid. Our parents and grandparents fought for our freedom and we shouldn't be experiencing things like this. So, yes, it makes me very angry.

**Brigalia:** Racism acts in some very subtle forms. It also has implications on how we are equal in opportunities.

**Busiswa:** We forget, because we were not part of it and because we did not live in that generation.

**Brigalia:** I think all of us are human. Sometimes the forgetting is escaping the pain. But at times, in order to live with the present and enjoy the present, people forget.

#### Vesta Smith and Tammy Leigh Lodge

**Vesta:** My name is Vesta Smith. I'm ninety years old.

**Tammy:** My name is Tammy Leigh Lodge. I'm twenty-three and Vesta Smith is my great-grandmother.

**Vesta:** My father was a clerk on this mine. You know, my mother used to call the people that she worked for "baas" and I used to hate that. I don't know why but I just did not like it. And then later on in life, when in the country people were beginning to rise up against what was called apartheid, I just sort of joined the people and became an activist.

**Tammy:** What apartheid means to me was a struggle between black people and white people but only a textbook version. By the time I was born, the whole apartheid thing had, I wouldn't say ended yet, but it was on its way to ending. So what I know about apartheid is only what I've read in textbooks. Lungi, my friend at school would call me a bushy and I'd call her darky, but there was no hatred there. It's just names that we call each other, because we have no meaning to put to it.

**Vesta:** Now, it is just accepted. It's just something that we laugh about.

**Tammy:** In terms of the freedoms and the struggle and so forth, we are the youth, like, from the late '80s onwards, really know nothing about the struggle or we were born into freedom.

**Vesta:** It was a very bitter thing to go through to be at the age of fifty-six, to be put into jail, and I am not told why I am in jail. And there I sat in jail for six months. My eldest daughter was also put into jail with me. She was expecting a baby then. And then the second time I was put into jail at the Diepkloof jail, this time it was with three of my sons. And there we sat again for six months until we were let out.

**Tammy:** I knew she was imprisoned but I never knew it was twice and well, I was hoping to hear why today, but clearly she doesn't know why, up until today, and neither do I and, to a certain extent bitterness as well, because there's no reason. So it quite bothers me.

**Vesta:** What is justice? Justice is what you should have if you want peace in your land. You must know what justice is and you must have justice. You must practice justice. There is nothing to stop them to achieve their goals. It's up to them now. There are some of them that are doing the right things but they are inclined to be more greedy.

**Tammy:** Like my great-gran has said, for us it's about getting richer, 'cause once you've got the money, the car, the house it means you're a successful person. I would not live anywhere else but South Africa.

To me South Africa has always been and will always be home.

**Vesta:** That's how I feel. And that's how I still feel now.

#### Rebecca and Nompumelelo Kotane

**Nompumelelo:** [speaking Tswana]

**Rebecca:** Oh, sorry. My voice is not clear. Rebecca Kotane. A hundred and one.

**Nompumelelo:** My name is Nompumelelo Kotane. Rebecca Kotane is my grandmother.

**Rebecca:** [speaking Tswana] Molweni Moses Kotane . . . the Communist Party . . . the ANC . . .

**Nompumelelo:** She's saying it was very sad when my grandfather left because she knew that he was doing for the nation and for the people. So as hard as it was, she accepted it.

**Rebecca:** Women's league. Twenty-thousand women . . .

**Nompumelelo:** By the time of the women's march to Pretoria my grandmother was living in Alexander, so herself and various other women from all over South Africa, upon Bloemfontein, from PE, twenty-thousand women who then took on the march and went to the Union Buildings. They requested the attention of the president. They were told that he was unavailable. So, they all returned to their respective homes and upon returning they got arrested by the police, got taken to a police station called number four.

**Nompumelelo:** [speaking Tswana] She never really thought of informing the grandchildren at their young ages but she would tell us little bits and pieces, saying that, "Hey, you know when we lived the cops used to come and knock on our doors and look for our passes," but never the full context of the Women's March, the reason for the march. As a young woman today, it inspires me. It says to me, where is my strength? Am I willing to walk that mile?

**Rebecca:** It is difficult, but there's nothing I couldn't do. More especially when Moses Kotane was house arrest. The only person who would come and see him was Bram Fischer and he only spoke to him through the window. He couldn't go inside the house.

**Nompumelelo:** It's memories like that, that always replay themselves in her mind, but she's still very happy with the sacrifices that she made, because she knew that it wasn't just for her. It was for the nation. What she loves about my life today is that we have been able to be educated. So, for her to see me growing up like this actually makes her very happy, makes her very proud. And as a young, black, African woman in the context of today, I do believe I'm free. I'm free because I've been able to think for myself. I've been able to make choices for myself. Uh, but freedom also comes at an expense so unless you are disciplined, you could misuse your freedom. So youths need to realize that freedom isn't just about running wild. True freedom is about being a disciplined human being, knowing your responsibilities, knowing your duties, being aware of your society, and playing a roll in your society.

**Rebecca:** I am happy today that I am still alive and I was through difficult.

**Nompumelelo:** But the happiest thing for her is to be alive today.