



Centenary Tribute

Country : Senegal

Guelwaar

Guelwaar

1993 / Colour / 120 minutes / Wolof



Director : Ousmane Sembene

Producer : Jacques Perrin

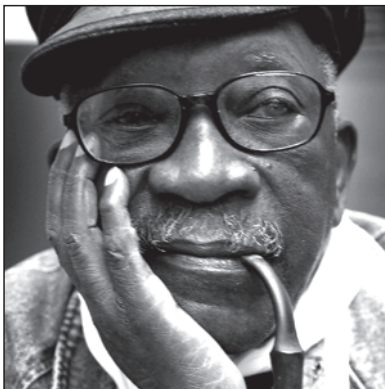
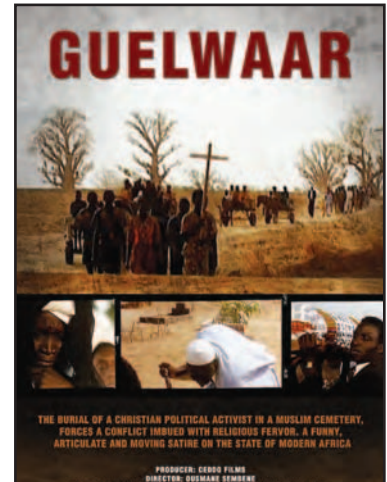
Cinematographer : Dominique Gentil

Editor : Aimee Debril

Music : Baaba Maal

Cast : Thierno Ndiaye Doss, Mame Ndoumbe Diop, Ndiawar Diop, Lamine Mane

Synopsis : "Guelwaar" is the nickname of Pierre Henri Thioune (Thierno Ndiaye), a political radical and agitator whose criticism of Senegal's reliance on foreign aid ruffles the feathers of the powers-that-be. His suspicious death is followed by a farcical mix-up when his corpse is mistaken for that of another man and accidentally interred in an Islamic cemetery. Guelwaar's family, led by Europeanized son Barthelemy (Ndiawar Diop), enlists the local police to unearth and then rebury their paterfamilias on Catholic ground, but Muslim resistance sparks a religious conflict and unleashes long held hostilities. The film is at once a tragicomic study of social atomization and a hopeful vision of Pan-African solidarity.



Director Speaks

“This film raises questions for the coming generations. It tries to demystify what is commonly called humanitarian aid.”