



Centenary Tribute

Country : Senegal

La Noire de

Black Girl

1966 / Black & White / 59 minutes / French



Director : Ousmane Sembene

Producer : Andre Zwoboda

Cinematographer : Christian Lacoste

Editor : Andre Gaudier

Music : Senegalese popular tune

Cast : Mbissine Therese Diop, Anne Marie Jelinek, Robert Fontaine, Momar Nar Sene

Synopsis : A young Senegalese woman who moves to France to work for a wealthy white couple finds that life in their small apartment becomes a figurative and literal prison. The film turns into a complex, layered critique on the lingering colonialist mindset of a supposedly postcolonial world. Featuring a moving central performance by Mbissine Thérèse Diop, *Black Girl* is a harrowing human drama as well as a radical political statement--and one of the essential films of the 1960s.



Director's Biography : Ousmane Sembene made several films in French, but always wanted to take his mother tongue as the language used in his films. In 1968, through the film *Mandabi* he achieved his dream of producing a film in his native Wolof language. Later Wolof language films include *Xala* (1975), based on his own novel, *Ceddo* (1977), *Camp de Thiaroye* (1987), and *Guelwaar* (1992).