



FELICITE

Spring
Season
2018

Release: 2017

Cert (UK): 12A,F

Country: Senegal

Language: Lingala with English Subtitles

Runtime: 2 hour 9 mins

Director: Alain Gomis

Writer: Alain Gomis and Olivier Loustau

Cinematographer: Céline Bozon

Cast: Véro Tshanda Beya Mputu, Gaetan Claudia, Papi Mpaka



'Félicité is a proud, free-willed woman working as a singer in a bar in Kinshasa. Her life is thrown into turmoil when her 14-year-old son has a motorcycle accident. To save him, she sets out on a breakneck race through the streets of Kinshasa - a world of music and dreams - where she'll cross paths with Tabu...' - Imdb.

"Félicité" opens on the hustle and bustle of a small Congolese bar as the talkative, inebriated patrons wait for the evening's performance. Gomis and his DP Céline Bozon capture the dark, freewheeling atmosphere with intimacy and tact. Bits of conversation trickle in and out of the soundtrack. Tender close-ups of patrons briefly dominate the frame. A loud drunk makes his presence known. Meanwhile, the Kasai Allstars perform a lively song that scores the evening's events. In this scene, Gomis never overtly highlights a central figure or even indicates a particular narrative. He simply marines in the mood, trusting his audience to follow the tenor of the environment' - Vikram Murthi, RogerEbert.com.

Director Alain Gomis has directed four films and won acclaim in his native France and the USA; this film won the Silver Bear at Berlin Film Festival. This is the first role for the lead actress, Véro Tshanda Beya Mputu, who is a real singer. She appears in most of the film and gets great reviews from critics everywhere.

