

Mr Gaston Jean-Marie Kaboré

DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES *honoris causa*

Citation

Born in 1951 in Bobo Dioulasso (Upper Volta, now Burkina Faso), Mr Gaston Kaboré is one of Africa's most important film directors, educators, and institution builders. Mr Kaboré holds a BA and a DEA (currently known as Master of Advanced Studies) in history from Sorbonne University in Paris. Having come to see cinema as a powerful tool for fostering cultural understanding and awareness, Mr Kaboré entered the prestigious College of Cinematography (Ecole Supérieure d'Etudes Cinématographiques) in Paris in 1974, obtaining a diploma in "mise en scène: cinéma" two years later. This work with film became the beginning of a life-long project to explore, retrieve, clarify and share African culture through moving images. Mr Kaboré's films have won awards at such prestigious festivals as The Panafrican Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou, The Carthage Film Festival and The Locarno Film Festival, and he himself has served on juries at such A-list festivals as The Cannes International Film Festival, The Venice Film Festival, The Locarno Film Festival, International Film Festival Rotterdam, and The Berlin International Film Festival.

Mr Kaboré's many contributions to film art, culture, and education have been acknowledged on several continents. For example, in 2011 the French Ministry of Culture made him an Officer of the National Order of the Legion of Honour at a ceremony in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. In 2012, Mr Kaboré was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Concordia University in Montreal.

In the mid-'70s, following the completion of his studies in Paris, Mr Kaboré returned to Burkina Faso, where he took on crucial positions and responsibilities. From 1977 to 1981 he served as technical adviser in charge of all matters relating to film, within the framework of the Ministry of Information and Culture. From 1977 to 1988 he assumed the directorship of Burkina Faso's National Cinematographic Centre, while teaching at the African Institute of Cinema of the University of Ouagadougou (from 1977 to 1986). During this same period Mr Kaboré played a crucial role in the development of film policy, as a member of the Expert Committee charged with setting up the Interafrican Cinematographic Distribution Consortium and the Interafrican Film Production Centre. He was a key figure in the development of the Panafrican Cinema and Television Film Festival in Ouagadougou, Africa's most important cultural festival and a unique event for cinephiles, filmmakers, film distributors, and film producers from all around the world. Mr Kaboré presided over the Panafrican Federation of Filmmakers from 1985 to 1997, and in 1991 he established the first bilingual quarterly magazine dedicated to African cinema (*Ecrans d'Afrique/African Screens*), overseeing its work throughout the '90s.

Mr Kaboré has worked tirelessly to educate the next generation of African filmmakers. With the support of his wife, pharmacist and businesswoman Edith Ouédraogo, he established a truly visionary alternative film school in Ouagadougou in 2003. A vital site for film training, the film school IMAGINE also mounts exhibitions devoted to African visual arts, performances by African dancers and musicians, and academic conferences focusing on film and human rights, on Africa's contributions to world culture, and on film education, among many other topics.

As a filmmaker, Mr Kaboré has contributed award-winning films to our international cultural heritage, as well as a powerful vision of film's place within society, as a vehicle for cultural memory and cross-cultural understanding. His vision is one that contrasts starkly with that of industries promoting a conception of film as a mere commercial product and means of entertainment. Mr

Kaboré's first films were documentaries, including, for example, works exploring the use of new energy sources in rural environments and dealing with issues of deforestation. His first feature was *Wend Kuuni* (1982), widely regarded as a classic of African cinema. Mr Kaboré is committed to exploring the continuities between oral storytelling and cinematic storytelling, and this is reflected in all of his films, including *Wend Kuuni*. Mr Kaboré's second feature, *Zan Boko* (1988), focuses on social issues related to corruption and the expropriation of land, as well as the ever-present tensions between modernity and tradition in an African context. Another feature film of his, *Buud Yam* (1997), builds on the story and characters from *Wend Kuuni*. In the years between these feature films, Mr Kaboré devoted his energies to documentary films, portraying society and asking probing questions about crucial social, political, and cultural changes. He contributed, for example, to the BBC's *Developing Stories* series about environmental issues in the developing world, and to *South Magazine*, a series produced by Channel 4 in the UK.

Mr Chairman, for his outstanding contributions to film culture, policy development, institution building, education, and cultural and intercultural understanding, may I now present Mr Gaston Kaboré to you for conferment of the degree of Doctor of Humanities *honoris causa*.

English citation written and delivered by Professor Mette Hjort

加斯頓·吉恩 瑪麗·卡波里先生

榮譽人文學博士

贊辭

加斯頓·卡波里先生於 1951 年出生於博博迪烏拉索 (上伏塔，現稱布基納法索)，是非洲最重要的電影導演、教育家及機構建設者之一。卡波里先生擁有巴黎索邦大學的歷史學士學位和高等研究文憑 (現稱高等研究碩士)。有見電影是促進文化理解和培育覺知的強力工具，卡波里先生於 1974 年進入享負盛名、位於巴黎的電影藝術高等學院，兩年後取得電影演出文憑。這成為他日後通過移動圖像以發掘、恢復、闡明及分享非洲文化這一終身事業的開端。卡波里先生的影片曾於瓦加杜古泛非電影及電視節、迦太基電影節及洛迦諾電影節等著名電影節奪得獎項，而他本人亦曾在康城國際電影節、威尼斯電影節、洛迦諾電影節、鹿特丹國際電影節及柏林國際電影節等一線電影節擔任評審。

卡波里先生對電影藝術、文化、教育等範疇的多種貢獻，於世界各國均獲肯定。例如在 2011 年，法國文化部在一個於布基納法索的瓦加杜古的儀式上，向他頒授法國國家榮譽軍團軍官勳位。2012 年，卡波里先生獲蒙特利爾的協和大學授予榮譽法學博士學位。

1970 年代中期在巴黎完成學業後，卡波里先生返回布基納法索，擔任不同崗位的重要職務。1977 至 1981 年，他在信息和文化部的架構內擔任技術顧問，負責一切與電影有關的事宜。而從 1977 到 1988 年，他在布基納法索全國電影藝術中心擔任總監，並於 1977 至 1986 年間在瓦加杜古大學非洲電影學院任教。同期，卡波里先生作為負責設立非洲國家電影分銷聯盟及非洲國家電影製作中心的專家委員會成員，在電影政策的發展上起了至關重要的作用。他是發展瓦加杜古泛非電影及電視電影節的關鍵人物；此電影節除了是非洲最重要的文化節日外，更是一個專為電影愛好者、電影工作者、電影發行商及來自世界各地的電影製片人而設的獨特活動。卡波里先生於 1985 至 1997 年間擔任泛非電影工作者聯會主席，並在 1991 年創辦了第一本關於非洲電影的雙語季刊《非洲銀幕》。整個 1990 年代期間，他一直監督刊務。

卡波里先生孜孜不倦地教育下一代的非洲製片人。他得到身兼藥劑師及商人的妻子伊迪絲·韋德拉奧果的支持，於 2003 年在瓦加杜古建立了真正具有遠見的獨立電影學校。這所名為 IMAGINE 的學校是電影培訓的重要場地，同時提供場所予非洲視覺藝術展覽、非洲舞者和樂手的表演，又舉辦不同的學術會議，集中討論電影和人權、非洲對世界文化的貢獻以及電影教育等議題。

作為一個導演，卡波里先生許多得獎的影片豐富了我們的國際文化遺產，展示了電影在社會中的位置及其作為文化記憶和跨文化理解媒介的宏大願景。他的願景與電影工業以電影僅為商業產品和娛樂方式的概念形成鮮明的對比。卡波里先生的首批影片是紀錄片，包括探索在農村環境中使用新能源及處理毀林問題等的作品。他的首部專題影片是《無聲的野地兒童》(1982)，是一部被廣泛視為經典的非洲電影。他致力於探索口述故事和電影故事之間的連續性，這種探索體現於他的所有電影中——包括《無聲的野地兒童》及第二部專題影片《贊博科》(1988) 裡。後者探討與腐敗和土地徵用有關的社會問題以及在非洲環境中現代與傳統之間的恆常緊張關係。在《無聲的野地兒童》的故事和人物基礎上，他創作了另一套專題影片《天賜良兄》(1997)。在以上影片問世的日子之間，卡波里先生把精力傾注於紀錄片上，描繪社會狀況並提出問題以探討社會、政

治和文化變遷。例如他對由英國廣播公司製作、有關發展中國家環境問題的《發展中故事》系列以及由英國第四頻道製作的《南方雜誌》系列，均作出了貢獻。

主席先生，為表揚加斯頓·卡波里先生在電影文化、政策發展、機構建設、教育、文化及跨文化理解方面的傑出貢獻，本人謹恭請閣下頒授榮譽人文學博士學位予加斯頓·卡波里先生。

英文贊詞由樂美德教授撰寫及宣讀