CALL ME KUCHU

A FILM BY
KATHERINE FAIRFAX WRIGHT & MALIKA ZOUHALLI-WORRAL

PRESS CONTACT
David Magdael | David Magdael & Associates
+1 (213) 624-7827 | dmagdael@tcdm-associates.com

PRESS KIT - APRIL 2012
WWW.CALLMEKUCHU.COM
In Uganda, a new bill threatens to make homosexuality punishable by death. David Kato - Uganda’s first openly gay man - and his fellow activists work against the clock to defeat the legislation while combatting vicious persecution in their daily lives. But no one is prepared for the brutal murder that shakes their movement to its core and sends shockwaves around the world.

**SYNOPSIS:**

In an unmarked office at the end of a dirt track, veteran activist David Kato labors to repeal Uganda’s homophobic laws and liberate his fellow lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender men and women, or “kuchus.” But David’s formidable task just became much more difficult. A new “Anti-Homosexuality Bill” proposes death for HIV-positive gay men, and prison for anyone who fails to turn in a known homosexual. Inspired by American evangelicals who have christened Uganda ground zero in their war on the “homosexual agenda,” the bill awaits debate in Uganda’s Parliament. Meanwhile, local newspapers have begun outing kuchus with vicious fervor under headlines such as: “HOMO TERROR! We Name and Shame Top Gays in the City.”

David, Uganda’s first openly gay man, is one of the few who dare to publicly protest state-sanctioned homophobia. Working with an idiosyncratic clan of fellow activists, David fights Uganda’s government and tabloids in the courts, on television, and at the United Nations. Because, he insists, “if we keep on hiding, they will say we’re not here.”

But one year into filming CALL ME KUCHU and just three weeks after a landmark legal victory, on January 26, 2011, the unthinkable happens: David is brutally murdered in his home. His death sends shockwaves around the world, and leaves Kampala’s kuchus traumatized and seeking answers for a way forward.

With unprecedented access, CALL ME KUCHU depicts the last year in the life of a courageous, quick-witted and steadfast man whose wisdom and achievements were not fully recognized until after his death. While heartbreaking, the documentary traces a narrative that takes the viewer beyond the chronicle of victimization depicted in international news media: it tells the nuanced story of David and Kampala’s kuchus as they work to change their fate, and that of other kuchus across Africa.

A story told in his words, David Kato’s final testimony lives on in this film, while his work is continued by the fellow activists he left behind.

**PRESS CONTACTS**

David Magdael
David Magdael & Associates
+1 (213) 624-7827
dmagdael@tcdm-associates.com

Malika Zouhali-Worrall
+1 (347) 264-6148 | callmekuchu@gmail.com
DIRECTORS’ STATEMENT

During our first days in Kampala, Member of Parliament David Bahati told us: “There is no longer a debate in Uganda as to whether homosexuality is right or not – it is not.” We were tempted to believe him. State-sanctioned homophobia was gaining momentum across the African continent, with a recent volley of attempts to pass homophobic laws and arrest LGBT people in countries from Senegal to Burundi.

But during that first week in Uganda we also met David Kato. Initially, he played something of a fixer, our main liaison with the LGBT, or “kuchu” community. We soon realized, however, that the man known as the “grandfather of the kuchus” was one of the most outspoken and inspired activists in East Africa. The more time we spent documenting his work, the more evident it became that, contrary to the M.P.’s claim, David and his fellow activists were, in fact, generating a public debate in Uganda that was shaking the foundations of the country’s discriminatory status quo and drawing international attention. Uganda, it seemed, had become a frontier in the global battle for LGBT rights.

Over the course of two years, we documented the daily lives and courageous work of David and his fellow kuchus. We were there when David appeared on television to call for an end to LGBT persecution, we were there when David won his case against gay-bashing tabloid Rolling Stone, and we were there during David’s rare moments of respite, when he’d kick back, open a beer and tend to his small farm.

So David’s brutal murder in January 2011 came as a terrible shock to us both. Nonetheless, we felt compelled to continue filming in order to document the impact of his death on the tight-knit community, as well as the courageous efforts of Kampala’s kuchus to continue his astounding work.

In telling this crucial story, we explore the paradox of democracy in a country where a judiciary recognizes the civil rights of individual kuchus, yet the popular vote and daily violence threaten to eradicate those rights altogether. We also examine the nature and consequences of profound religious faith, as expressed both by American and Ugandan evangelical leaders, as well as the LGBT community and its allies.

But perhaps most consequential to us both is that this portrait depicts the David Kato we knew, and David Kato as he saw himself - before he was a mythologized activist, or just as he was becoming one.

2012 FESTIVAL RUN

BERLIN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
Berlin, Germany - February 2012
WORLD PREMIERE

WINNER: Teddy Award for Best Documentary
WINNER: Cinema Fairbindet Prize
SECOND PLACE: Audience Award
HONORABLE MENTION: Siegessäule Readers’ Choice Award

UPCOMING SCREENINGS:

HOT DOCS FILM FESTIVAL
Toronto, Canada
N. AMERICAN PREMIERE
May 2012

SHEFFIELD DOC:FEST
Sheffield, UK
UK PREMIERE - June 2012

LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL
Los Angeles, USA
US PREMIERE - June 2012

FRAMELINE FILM FESTIVAL
San Francisco, USA
CENTERPIECE FILM - June 2012

SILVERDOCS
Silver Spring, USA - June 2012

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH FILM FESTIVAL
Lincoln Center, NYC, USA
CLOSING NIGHT FILM - June 2012

Please see www.callmekuchu.com for the latest festival announcements.

PRESS CONTACTS

David Magdael
David Magdael & Associates
+1 (213) 624-7827 | dmagdael@tdcm-associates.com

Malika Zouhali-Worrall
+1 (347) 264-6148 | callmekuchu@gmail.com

www.callmekuchu.com
FILM SUBJECTS:

**DAVID**
In public, David is passionate, relentless, fiercely intelligent. In private, at home on his small farm, a charismatic yet vulnerable individual emerges: a man with a sharp sense of humor and a deep-seated fear of sleeping alone at night. In those rare moments away from the daily toil of his activism, David daydreams about one day building a gay village on his land, where Kampala’s kuchus can live and work in solidarity.

**NAOME**
A warm-hearted and motherly activist who has experienced more than her fair share of persecution, Naome is David’s closest friend and an equally gutsy advocate in Uganda’s fledgling LGBT rights movement.

**BISHOP SENYONJO**
Bishop Senyonjo has been expelled from the Anglican Church of Uganda for his theological defense of Uganda’s LGBT community. Nonetheless, armed with a PhD in human sexuality and a thorough understanding of Biblical scripture, this purple-robed sage doggedly continues his work to establish a kuchu counseling center and safe house.

**STOSH**
After enduring a “corrective” rape at a young age, Stosh spent years living lonely, confused, suicidal. But the female-to-male transman found solace in Kampala’s tight-knit LGBT community.

**LONGJONES**
An LGBT counselor, Longjones has always shied away from the limelight of his sexual orientation. But in the wake of David’s death, Longjones feels compelled to sustain the veteran activist’s crusade for human rights, and steps forward to become one of the public faces of kuchu activism in Uganda.
ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS:

KATHERINE FAIRFAX WRIGHT [DIRECTOR, DP, EDITOR]

Katherine Fairfax Wright graduated from Columbia University with a double major in Film Studies and Anthropology. She produced GABI ON THE ROOF IN JULY, which premiered at Cinequest 2010, and won Best Narrative Feature and Best Actress at the Brooklyn Film Festival. Weaned on a school of vérité filmmakers, Wright has worked closely with Bent-Jorgen Perlmutter, Nelson Walker III, and Fellipe Barbosa. She associate-produced Perlmutter and Walker’s award-winning documentary LUMO, which aired on P.O.V. and won the 2007 Student Academy Award, as well as Perlmutter’s LES VULNERABLES, the closing short at the New York Film Festival 2007. Wright has worked in a producing role on several other films and she is an award-winning photographer. She is a Chaz & Roger Ebert Directing Fellow, and an alumnus of the Film Independent Documentary Lab and the Garrett Scott Documentary Development Grant at Full Frame Documentary Film Festival.

MALIKA ZOUHALI-WORRALL [DIRECTOR, PRODUCER]

Malika Zouhali-Worrall’s work as a print and video journalist has been published in The Financial Times and at CNN.com. She has reported for CNN.com from India, Uganda, China and the U.S. on politics, technology and LGBT rights. Zouhali-Worrall is a graduate of Cambridge University and holds an MA in International Affairs from the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po). She is also a Chaz & Roger Ebert Directing Fellow, and an alumnus of the Film Independent Documentary Lab and the Garrett Scott Documentary Development Grant at Full Frame Documentary Film Festival.

PRESS CONTACTS

David Magdael
David Magdael & Associates
+1 (213) 624-7827 | dmagdael@tdm-associates.com

Malika Zouhali-Worrall
+1 (347) 264-6148 | callmekuchu@gmail.com

www.callmekuchu.com
CALL ME KUCHU
A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY
KATHERINE FAIRFAX WRIGHT & MALIKA ZOUHALI-WORRALL
www.callmekuchu.com

PRODUCTION CREDITS:

DIRECTORS
Katherine Fairfax Wright
Malika Zouhali-Worrall

PRODUCER
Malika Zouhali-Worrall

EDITOR
Katherine Fairfax Wright

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Katherine Fairfax Wright

COMPOSER
Jon Mandabach

CONSULTING EDITORS
Yana Gorskaya
Greg O'Toole

SOUND RECORDING
Katherine Fairfax Wright
Malika Zouhali-Worrall

ADDITIONAL SECOND CAMERA
Samuel Benjamin H. Allen-Falconi

ADDITIONAL CAMERA
Henrik Christofferson
Patrick M. Guex
Emanuel Haglund
Raphael Khisa
Brooks Lockwood
Katja Lenart
Allie Mutaka
Brian Nkoyoyo
Jan Kristoffer Rooslien Persson
Patrick Verstraete

ADDITIONAL EDITORS
Mariana Blanco
Mikaela Shwer

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Marshall Perryman

STILL PHOTOGRAPHY
Katherine Fairfax Wright

FIXER AND TRANSLATOR
Moses Bert Mabonga

COLORIST
Brian Hutchings

ON-LINE EDITOR
Matt Radecki

HD SERVICES
Different By Design & HD Cinema

RE-RECORDING MIXER
Joe Dzuban

SOUND EDITOR
Justin Dzuban

MUSIC ENGINEER
Nick Feil

CLEARANCE COUNSEL
Donaldson & Califf

PUBLICITY
David Magdael & Associates

FIRST POST-PRODUCTION & OUTREACH ASSISTANT
Sarah Tabet

SECOND POST-PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS
Nadia Awad
Kellianne Jones
Melissa Passarelli

ADDITIONAL TRANSCRIPTION
Caroline Canton
Lori Fried
Stefani Saintonge

POSTER DESIGN
Alicia Haberman
Sarahana Shrestha

SPECIAL THANKS
Lisa Kleiner Chanoff
Bonni Cohen
Brian Frye
Laura Gabbert
Leah Giblin
Yana Gorskaya
Andy Greenberg
Jennifer Kushner
Adella Ladjevardi
Penny Lane
Caroline Libresco
Rosalind Lichter
Sean McManus
Julia Meltzer
Laura Nix
Ian Olds
Thom Powers
Rachael Rakes
Christina Weisner
Josh Welsh
Dr. Richard F. Wright

THE FILMMAKERS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK
Dechen Albero
Peter Brown
Nick Cain
Dimitri de Gruben
Ewan Chung
Luke & Jo Cresswell
Heather Courtney
Leslie Fields-Cruz
Sam Greenberg
Jenia Gorton
Kenza & Alex Hagon
Johanna Hamilton
Krissey Harris
William Haugse
Michaela Hayes
Brent Hoff
Simeon Hutner
Scott Insley
Chunwoo Kae
Diana & Derek Lidow
Hudson Lines
Steve McNicholas
Paula Simas Magalhaes
Louise Mirren
Maisha Film Lab
Dipika Nath
Jennifer Nedbalsky
Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt
Malcolm Pullinger
PJ Raval
Jean-Michel Richaud
Tatyana Richaud
Maia Rossini
The Refugee Law Project
Loretta Sacco
Adam Segal
Joanna Senez
Joe Speicher
Jessica Stern
Morgan Stiff
Pierre Strauss
Jesse Szymanski

PRODUCTION CREDITS:

Peter Brown
Nick Cain
Dimitri de Gruben
Ewan Chung
Luke & Jo Cresswell
Heather Courtney
Leslie Fields-Cruz
Sam Greenberg
Jenia Gorton
Kenza & Alex Hagon
Johanna Hamilton
Krissey Harris
William Haugse
Michaela Hayes
Brent Hoff
Simeon Hutner
Scott Insley
Chunwoo Kae
Diana & Derek Lidow
Hudson Lines
Steve McNicholas
Paula Simas Magalhaes
Louise Mirren
Maisha Film Lab
Dipika Nath
Jennifer Nedbalsky
Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt
Malcolm Pullinger
PJ Raval
Jean-Michel Richaud
Tatyana Richaud
Maia Rossini
The Refugee Law Project
Loretta Sacco
Adam Segal
Joanna Senez
Joe Speicher
Jessica Stern
Morgan Stiff
Pierre Strauss
Jesse Szymanski
PRODUCTION CREDITS [continued]:

Frederic Tcheng
The Turshen Family
Katelyn Ott
Danielle Vacarr
Nadya Wasylko
Joe Wilson
Richard C. Wright
Julie Youngblood
Tadej Znidarcic
Steve Worrall
Christine Wright-Ott
Naima Zouhali-Worrall

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS KICKSTARTER DONORS
Dechen Albero
Tim Allen
Jimmy A. Anderson
Kalomira Apostolidis
Jordan Backman
Chris Baio
Neelu Bhuman
Cynthia Black
Judy Boncaro
Ellen Brodsky
Steve Burwell
Laura Jane Bry
Douglas Cole
Nancy Crane
Lisa Booth & Cricket Boyett
Justin A. Chortie
Joshua Coale
Darren Ewert
Chad Fahs
Jesse Farrell
Maria João Fonseca
Gary Greenberg
Tenny Greenberg
Jim Goldblum
Charles & Diane Hill
J. J. Hillard
Mark Himmelsbach
Nancy Johnson
Anne-Marie Kadima
Flora Kampogo
Gary Lapon
Hudson Lines
Wayne Ma
Nuria García Martínez
Meghann Matwichuk
Allyson McDuffie
Richard McKewen
Claude Meyer
Sharon Momenian-Schneider
Tom Mustill
Andrew Nicholson
Russell Norris
Charlotte D’Ooge
The Ott Family
Greg Palmer
Mallory Perryman
Paul Ritter
Sharon Salzberg
Adam Schneider
Katie Shuh
Andrea Sievers
Sarah Tabet
Joseph Tirella
Benjamin Turshen
Doug & Rochelle Turshen
Julia Turshen
Bradford Wade
Rebecca Walker
Kate Walton
Hui-chang Wang

ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE COURTESY OF
Ntare Guma Mbaho Mwine
The Refugee Law Project
Justin Dralaze
Tom Walsh

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
Avaaz.org
BBC World Service
The Daily Monitor
Dobroide
El Comerico
France 24
MSNBC / NBC Universal
NTV Uganda
NTV Kenya
The Observer
Public Radio International
Red Pepper
Reuters
Rolling Stone
Uganda Broadcasting Corporation
Voice of America
Wavah Broadcasting Service
WGBH Boston

IN ASSOCIATION WITH CHICKEN & EGG PICTURES:
Julie Parker Benello
Wendy Ettinger
Judith Helfand
Natalie Difford

MADE WITH THE SUPPORT OF

The Peter S. Reed Foundation
The Chaz & Roger Ebert Directing Fellowship
The Lucius & Eva Eastman Fund
The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation
The Garrett Scott Documentary Development Grant
United Support of Artists for Africa
CALL ME KUCHU IN THE NEW YORK TIMES

They Will Say We Are Not Here

These are fragments of David Kato, glimpses of a Ugandan activist and friend who – one year ago today – was brutally murdered. These moments offer a perspective on the inner world that David shared with us, a world teeming with passion and relentless determination, good humor and vivid daydreams.

During our first days in Kampala, a member of Parliament told us, “there is no longer a debate in Uganda as to whether homosexuality is right or not – it is not.” From what we knew of the pending Anti-Homosexuality Bill – which proposed death for H.I.V.-positive gay men and prison for anyone who failed to turn in a known homosexual – we were tempted to believe him.

But David showed us a different reality. Initially, he played something of a fixer, our main liaison with the kuchus” was one of the most outspoken and inspired activists in East Africa. The more time we spent documenting his work, the more evident it became that, contrary to the M.P.’s claim, David and his fellow activists were, in fact, generating real debate in Uganda.

Kampala’s kuchas had begun to dismantle the country’s discriminatory status quo, and were working tirelessly to change their fate and that of others across Africa.

Today, as we revisit our memories of David, we remember his fortitude and remarkable legal achievements, boldly guided by his vision of establishing a Ugandan gay village. But perhaps most of all we recall these words, spoken with more logic than defiance: “If we keep on hiding, they will say we are not here.”

Katherine Fairfax Wright and Malika Zouhali-Worrall are the directors of “Call Me Kuchu,” a documentary film about David Kato, which will have its premiere at the Berlin Film Festival on Feb. 11, 2012.
PRAISE FOR THE FILM:

“An urgent story, intelligently and poignantly rendered, honoring the life and courageous example of an everyday hero while exposing shocking human rights violations. Its message resonates globally and issues a call to action.”
- The Teddy Jury, Berlin International Film Festival 2012

“The team that created Call Me Kuchu connects the dots of the issues perfectly, enabling the audience to see how personal struggles are inextricably linked to global struggles.”
- IndieWire / The Mic Movement

“A riveting documentary looking into the struggles and activism of Uganda’s embattled gay community.”
- Voice of America

“With empathy and a sense for nuances, the film documents the Ugandan gay activist David Kato and others. [...] What emerges clearly is that Uganda’s LGBT movement is not exclusively the victim of a repressive system, but highly active in its struggle for equal rights.”
- Siegessäule

“There is no way this film can fail to grasp the hearts of audiences who have been living in a liberated society long enough to forget what it feels like to be fighting hard for the very basics.”
- The Upcoming

[Please see www.callmekuchu.com for the latest press coverage and reviews]
TIMELINE OF EVENTS:

- **December 22, 2008** - The High Court of Uganda rules in favor of LGBT activist Victor Mukasa and a co-plaintiff in their suit against Uganda’s Attorney General. The judge rules that a police raid on Mukasa’s home violated his right to privacy.

- **March 2009** - Three American evangelicals, including Scott Lively, lead a workshop in Uganda that details the “evil institution” of the “gay movement.” The event is attended by Ugandan politicians.

- **October 14, 2009** - The Anti-Homosexuality Bill is introduced in Uganda’s Parliament by Member of Parliament David Bahati. The legislation proposes the death penalty for HIV-positive gay men and prison for anyone who fails to turn in a homosexual.

- **May 2, 2010** - American evangelical Lou Engle holds a prayer rally in Kampala during which he praises the Ugandan government for its righteousness in fighting the homosexual agenda.

- **October 2, 2010** - Photographs of David, Bishop Senyonjo and Naome appear in Ugandan tabloid *Rolling Stone* as part of a front-page story that lists Uganda’s 100 “Top Homos” under the headline “Hang Them.”

- **November 2, 2010** - After David and two other plaintiffs file a lawsuit against *Rolling Stone*, Uganda’s High Court issues a temporary injunction ordering the newspaper to stop identifying people it claims are homosexual.

- **November 18, 2010** - David and Longjones meet with other human rights activists at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to compile a document on LGBT persecution for the upcoming human rights review of Uganda at the United Nations.

- **January 3, 2011** - Uganda’s High Court rules that *Rolling Stone* threatened the “fundamental rights and freedoms” of David and others, and violated their constitutional right to privacy. *Rolling Stone* is ordered to pay David and
TIMELINE OF EVENTS [continued]:

the other plaintiffs 1.5 million Ugandan shillings ($600) each.

• **January 26, 2011** - For reasons that remain unknown, David is attacked at his home and bludgeoned with a hammer. He dies on the way to the hospital. **David’s murder** is condemned by US President Barack Obama, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the European Union and the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams.

• **May 2011** - The Ugandan Parliamentary session closes without a vote on the Anti-Homosexuality Bill.

• **August 10, 2011** - Uganda’s LGBT activist community launches the “**Hate No More**” campaign to combat state-sanctioned homophobia in the country.

• **October 2011** - Uganda’s Parliament votes to reopen debate on the Anti-Homosexuality Bill.

• **October 2011** - During the **United Nations Human Rights Council’s review of Uganda** in Geneva, the document of human rights violations compiled by David, Longjones and other kuchus months earlier informs the recommendations of numerous countries that call on Uganda to end LGBT persecution.

• **November 10, 2011** - Sidney Nsubuga Enoch is found guilty of David’s murder, and sentenced to 30 years in prison.

• **January 29, 2012** - In a ceremony in London, Jamaican LGBT activist Maurice Tomlinson receives the **David Kato Vision & Voice Award**, sponsored by sexuality and gender rights organizations including the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

• **March 14, 2012** - Ugandan LGBT rights group Sexual Minorities Uganda and the US-based Center for Constitutional Rights file a **lawsuit in a US federal court** against American evangelical Scott Lively. The suit alleges that Lively’s involvement in anti-gay efforts in Uganda constitute persecution.
ROLLING STONE, THE UGANDAN TABLOID THAT FEATURES PROMINENTLY IN THE FILM:

100 PICTURES OF UGANDA'S TOP HOMOS LEAK

*We Shall Recruit 1,000,000 Innocent Kids By 2012 - Homos*
*Parents Now Face Heart-breaks As Homos Raid Schools*

UPDF Prepares For Sudan War

**Blue Magic Inc**
THE MAGIC IN QUALITY

Tel. 0701 454213 / 0773 420749 / 0774 524741 / 0701 475955

PRINTING. BRANDING. T-SHIRTS. MAGAZINES. GRAPHICS. AWARDS. TROPHIES. VIDEO COVERAGE