

Many words for modern

Makala

2007, Dir: Jordan Hollander, 60 mins

It is an architectural film based in Dar es salaam Tanzania featuring some of the key Architects who played a vital role in introducing modern Architecture in Tanzania.

The main character in the film is Mr Anthony Almeida whose works include the Goan club, Kibasila Secondary School and the national Library complex. It also features the works of Mr Beda J Amuli, the first Tanzanian Architecture whose outstanding works include The Ushirika buiding and the Kariakoo market.

The film starts with the Television show where by the presenter together with a few Swahili Language specialists searching for the Swahili word for modern and to realize that there is no direct Swahili Translation hence the film develops as it goes through the various elements associated with modern, this is how the film gets its title.

One of the aim of the film is to document the works of these outstanding Architects even though we cant honestly say it speaks for the whole country as it only focuses on Dar es salaam and still many features are left out. And its not easy who was the intended audience as the film and all of its interviews are done in English where as the large population of Tanzanians themselves speak Swahili an it doesn't even provide subtitles for them.

The film also represents the life of Tanzanians through the film according to his perspective as he himself comments "Architecture is not only about buildings but it is about people and life."

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