

Saint Louis Blues

Un Transport en commun

France, Senegal/2009/35mm/colour48'/French, Wolof

Direction, Screenplay : Dyana Gaye

Producer: Arnaud Dommerc, Franck Ciochetti

Cinematography: Irina Lubtchansky

Editing: Gwen Mallauran

Sound: Dimitri Haulet

Cast: Umban Gomez de Kset, Mbègne Kassé, Anne Jeanine Barboza, Bigué Ndoye, Adja Fall

At a taxi stop in the capital, Dakar, people gather and wait for the battered old Peugeot station wagon to depart; the taxi won't leave until the driver finds a seventh passenger. As they wait, one woman breaks into song, and suddenly an impromptu musical number begins, right there in the dusty parking lot. And this is not the music you might expect on a Senegalese road trip. The film reaches back to the tradition of French musicals from the fifties and sixties lifting the characters into an altogether different register from the world that surrounds them.