



# LET THEM LIVE

**ANDREW BILINDABAGABO**  
*Director*

**MICHAEL SCHMUCKER**  
*Producer*

A DOCUMENTARY FEATURE  
ABOUT THE PERSONAL IMPACT  
OF GENOCIDE OVER DECADES.





## PROJECT OVERVIEW

*Let Them Live* is a feature length documentary following the stories of three women who were orphaned after the Rwandan genocide, as they rebuild their lives over the course of a decade. The first third of the production was completed over 8 years ago, with the intention of following up with the subjects in a decade – that time has come. 2019 also marks 25 years since the genocide, and is an opportune time to film as Rwanda will be commemorating the anniversary. Director Andrew Bilindabagabo is also a genocide survivor, and is well connected to high level figures that will raise the profile of the film. The film is currently in development to complete production.

## LOGLINE

Over the course of a decade, three women attempt to rebuild their lives after surviving the Rwandan genocide.

## PROJECT DETAILS

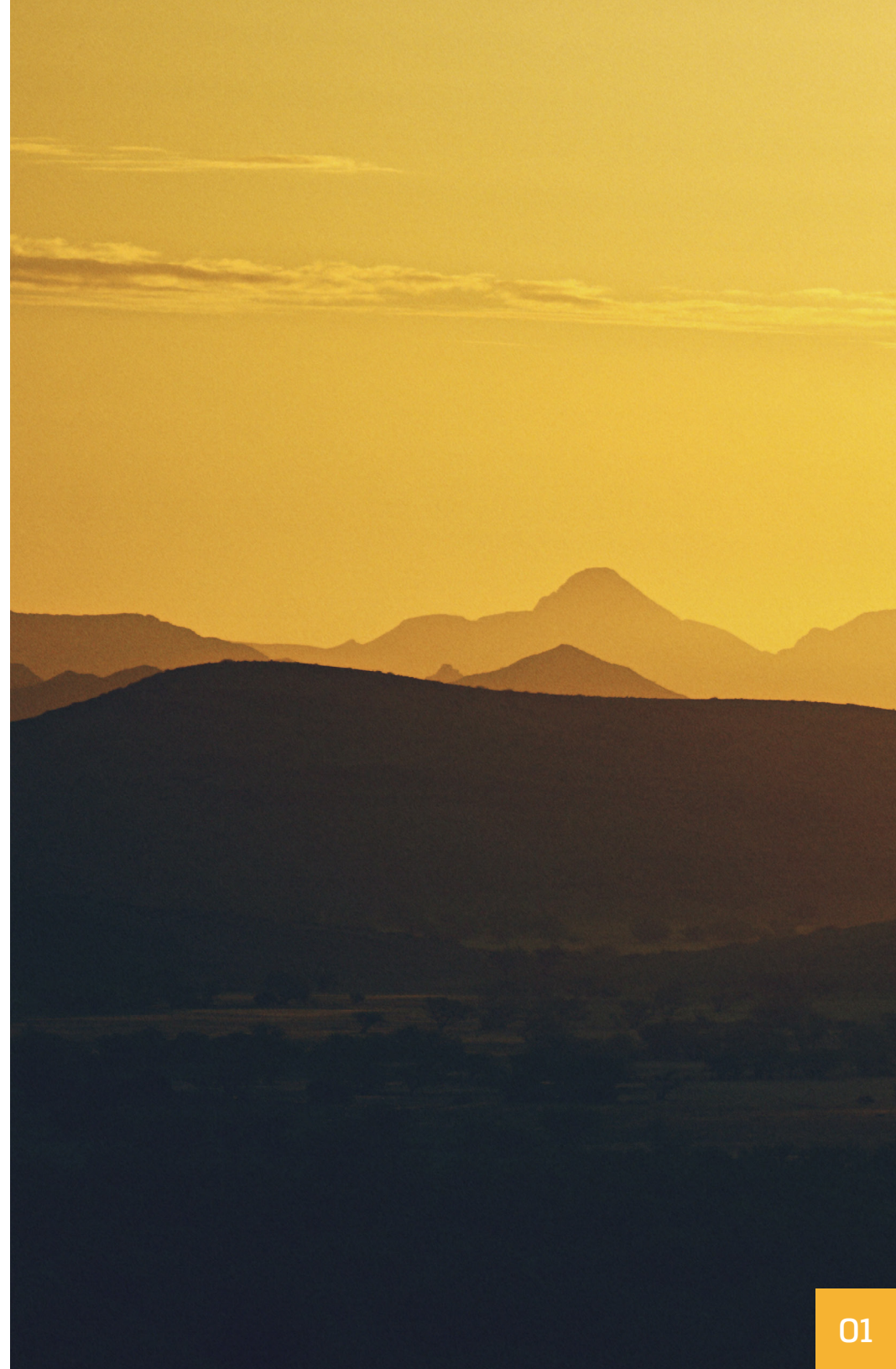
**Genre:** Documentary

**Status:** 1/3 Filmed, In Development To Complete Production

**Production Budget:** \$300,000–\$600,000

**Target Duration:** 90min

**Production by:** LampHouse Films



In a mere 100 days in 1994, 800,000 Rwandan Tutsi were brutally slaughtered. Hutu gangs would hunt, rape, and kill their victims, while the Hutu-controlled government led massive propaganda campaigns encouraging civilians to kill their Tutsi neighbors. Most used machetes, as bullets were scarce. The scale of the massacre was unprecedented in such a short time period – with the highest sustained death rate per day, the Rwandan genocide was the fastest in human history.

13 years old. Family murdered. A home burnt to ashes. No possessions. Nowhere to go. No future. How do you move on? How do you build a life? How do you survive? This was a reality for thousands in post-genocide Rwanda.

***Let Them Live* is about what happens next.**

The film follows the stories of 3 women orphaned by the genocide, now grown and attempting to move on with their lives. Production began 15 years post-genocide in 2009 – now, the cameras will follow up with the survivors a decade later.

*Let Them Live* is a deeply human story that doesn't hold back in observing both the successes and failures of post-genocide life. With a story spanning 25 years, it's a candid and studied look into the effects of genocide over time, even exploring its multigenerational impact.

The film will also feature high profile experts and officials, to give insight into the history of the genocide itself, as well as the larger effects of what survivors are currently experiencing.

The production already has attachments from several key figures, including the Rwandan Minister of Local Government Anastase Shyaka, and world-renowned African musician Jean Paul Samputu, who will write original music for the film. The production will also seek to cast name talent as the film's narrator, to help raise its profile with western audiences.

Director Andrew Bilindabagabo is himself a survivor of the genocide, and has a deeply personal and nuanced understanding of the subject. Andrew is also an accomplished documentarian, and is extremely well connected to the highest levels of Rwandan government and society, including full access to extensive archival footage. Andrew will bring a fresh perspective rarely seen in english-speaking content covering the genocide.

*Let Them Live* aims to be an authoritative, high-profile, and definitive depiction of the personal ramifications of genocide over generations. It's a film that is harrowing, deeply moving, and vitally important.



## ANDREW BILINDABAGABO

*Director*

Born and raised in Rwanda, Andrew is himself a survivor of the Rwandan genocide. In 2010 he immigrated to the United States, and graduated from The Templeton Honors College at Eastern University with a BA in Communication Studies and a Media Concentration – he’s also fluent in 5 languages. Andrew has worked as a documentary filmmaker in the Philadelphia area with the likes of Neighborhood Film Company, LampHouse Films, and on staff at Franklin & Marshall College. Andrew is passionate about creating films with purpose, and he is perfectly positioned to direct *Let Them Live*. He holds an extensive, nuanced, and deeply personal understanding of the Rwandan genocide, and as a filmmaker he is keenly aware of the needs of Western audiences. Andrew is extremely well connected to the highest levels of Rwandan government and society, and has full access to extensive archival footage. Andrew brings a fresh perspective rarely seen in english-speaking content covering the Rwandan genocide.



## MICHAEL SCHMUCKER

*Producer*

Michael has been producing commercial documentary & narrative films since 2009. With a background as a cinematographer, Michael understands the technical process of filmmaking from start to finish, and knows how to get the most production value out of any budget, up onto the screen. With a wide range of filmmaking expertise – from lighting & cinematography, to the technical aspects of post production, to budgeting and accounting, Michael has produced hundreds of commercial films for LampHouse Films. Michael originated and produced LampHouse’s 2016 short film *Carry Me Home*, and in 2018 he successfully budgeted and secured the 25% Pennsylvania Film Tax Credit for a \$600,000 action feature.

## LAMPHOUSE FILMS

*Production Company*

LampHouse Films develops and produces narrative films and documentaries, both commercially and for the entertainment industry. Since 2014, LampHouse has produced hundreds of documentary-style commercial films. LampHouse is known for its emphasis on tight, focused storytelling, and a commitment to the highest production values. Based in Pennsylvania, with its generous 25% Film Tax Credit, LampHouse Films is well connected to world-class film personnel, crews, and staff. Learn more at [LampHouseFilms.com](http://LampHouseFilms.com).



## BUDGET

*Let Them Live* has a total production budget between \$300k-\$600k, not including attached cast as narrator. This will allow for the remaining 2/3 of production, through post-production and delivery.

## FUNDING

Funding for the film will come from a mixture of sources. The production entity has a fiscal sponsor, allowing *Let Them Live* to access grants and accept tax-deductible donations as a U.S. non-profit organization. The production is open to equity investment, and any money provided from presales depending on any attached name cast. If necessary, the production can finally turn to crowdfunding as a strategy to reach the target fundraising goal.

## TIMELINE

An initial round of fundraising will commence to allow for finishing production by early 2020, with the story edit to be delivered later that year. At this point, the production will continue fundraising, and will attempt to attach name cast as narrator. Should this happen, the film will also pursue presales as a means to fund the remainder of post production. The production will consider a festival run as part of its overall strategy.

## AUDIENCE

*Let Them Live* is intended primarily for English-speaking Western audiences. Because of the gruesome nature of the subject matter, the film will be aimed at adult audiences.

## ATTACHMENTS

Because the film aspires to be as high-profile as possible, it's essential that the film features authoritative experts and officials to contribute to the story. The production is extremely well connected in Rwanda and already has commitments from several key figures, including the Rwandan Minister of Local Government Anastase Shyaka – the Rwandan equivalent of the U.S. Attorney General. World-renowned African musician Jean Paul Samputu, has agreed to participate with the production, and to write original music for the film. The first round of filming already features interviews with the Rwandan President, and several other high level officials.

## CAST STRATEGY

The best way to raise the profile of the film with Western audiences is to attach recognizable cast as narrator. Our ideal narrator would be an African native, or a celebrity known for supporting charitable causes in Africa. Top candidates would include Oscar-winning Kenyan native Lupita Nyong'o, and two-time Oscar nominee Djimon Hounsou.



## CONTACT

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