

□ One Film One Federation Pedagogical Guide

SWAGGER

A film by Olivier Babinet

France / 2016 / 84 mins

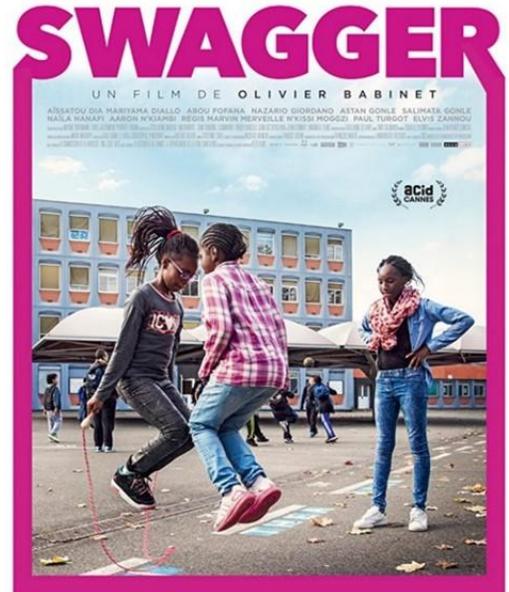
Director: Olivier Babinet

Producer: Marine Dorfmann

Music composed by: Jean Beboet Dunckel

Cinematography: Timo Salminen

Cast: Aissotou Dia, Mariyama Diallo, Abou Fofana,
Nazario Girodano, Astan Gonle, Salimata Gonle, Naila
Hanafi, Aaron N’Kiambi, Regis Marvin Merveille N’Kissi
Moggi, Paul Turgot, Elvis Zannou



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□ STORYLINE

Swagger is a poignant documentary that transports us into the lives of eleven children and adolescents with surprising and interesting personalities, growing up in the suburbs and centers of the most disadvantaged cities of France. The film shows us the world through their singular and unique perspective and gives us touching and insightful reflections on life. The film depicts a variety of encounters with a mix of genres, including musical comedy, science fiction, surrealism and fantasy. Swagger brings to life the words and dreams of these children in Aulnay and Sevran. Despite the difficulties in their lives, they have dreams and ambition and no one will take that away from them.

□ WHO IS Olivier Babinet?

- Olivier Babinet first became known in France with the series "Le Bidule," broadcast in 1999 on Canal +. He is one of the creators and writers of the series, along with Isabelle Riboha, Didier Richarth and Olivier Laneurie, as well as one of the principal directors.
- In 2008, he wrote and directed his first short film of fiction in 35mm, "More Than Johnny Walker". The film won numerous awards in festivals including the special prize of the jury in Clermont-Ferrand. His first feature film, "Robert Mitchum is Dead", co-directed with photographer Fred Kihn, was screened at the 63rd Cannes Film Festival in the Acid category. The film won the Grand Prix of the Premiers Plans Festival in Angers and was nominated best first film at the Raindance London Festival. After touring the world's festivals, it was distributed in 14 countries in Europe and then in the United States.

- In addition to his activities as a screenwriter and director, Olivier Babinet works with middle-school students from Aulnay-sous-Bois, in an area where 50% of families live below the poverty line. This collaboration resulted in these teenagers producing 8 fantastic science fiction short films and the director shooting a clip for the group Tomorrow's World, with a hundred schoolchildren from Aulnay as the protagonists. The film "Swagger" came out of these activities.
- A collector of unusual moments, characters, and rhythms, director/writer Olivier Babinet creates alternate realities that are relatable, yet electrified with the charge of surrealism and fiction.

CHARACTER ANALYSIS

- How are immigrant children and their families in France marginalized?
- After seeing this film, what do you think of poor immigrant children in France?
- What are the hopes and dreams of the main characters in Swagger?
- Pick three characters and describe them.

QUESTIONS AND AREAS OF THOUGHT

- Explore the theme of immigration and refugees.
 - Explore the theme of inclusion in society and finding your place.
 - How does the director use music in this film?
 - What is the significance of the title of the film: Swagger?
 - How does the documentary style of this film work in connecting us with the young actors?
 - What three things did you learn from this film?
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NOTES

- This is the second year of One Film One Federation. Thank you to program support provided by Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the Institut français.
- The Federation of AF Chapters in the United States would welcome suggestions for newly released films, classics or documentaries for the 2019 One Film One Federation selection.
- Please send your suggestions/notes/comments to federation@afusa.org.



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