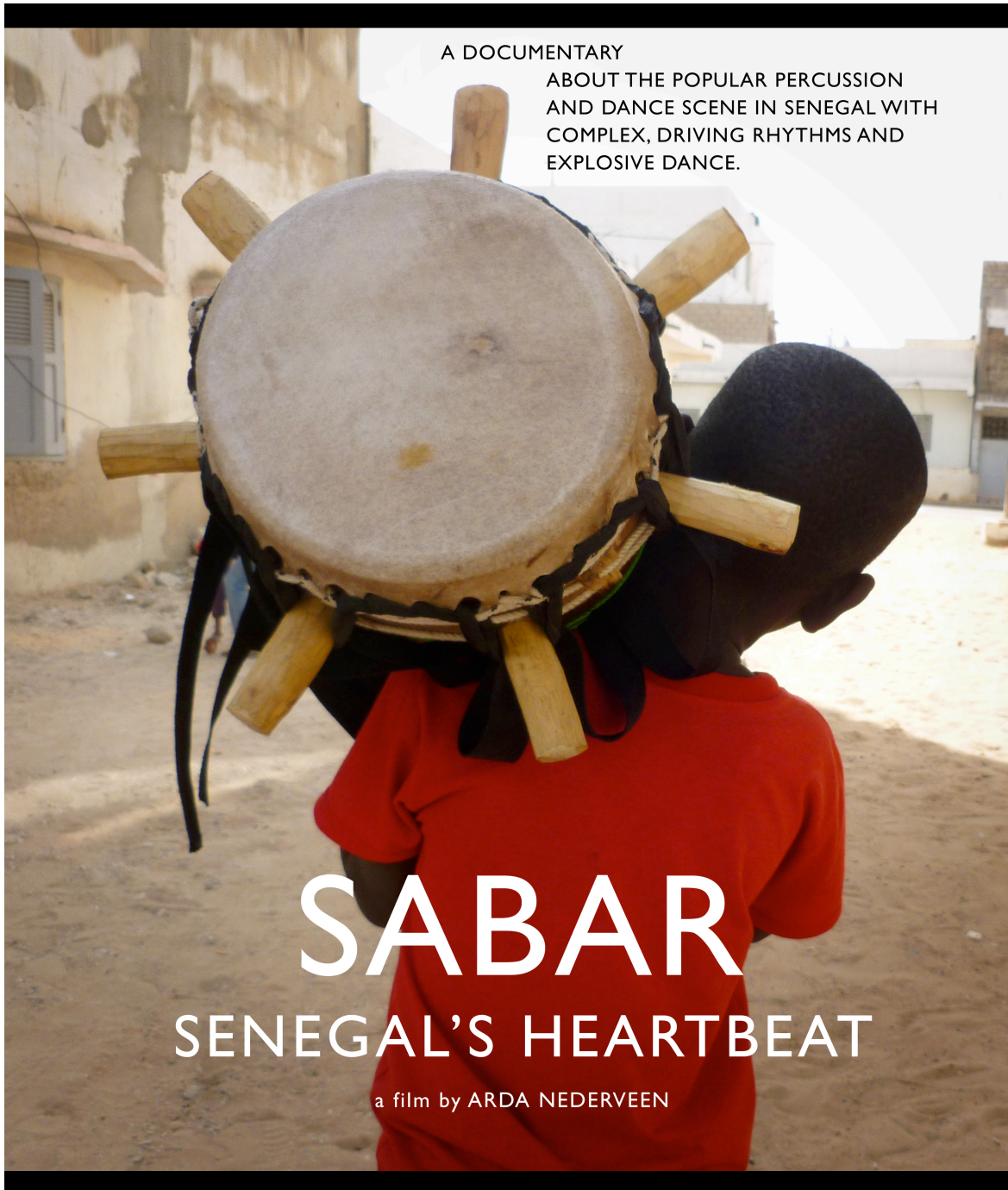




**ARDA NEDERVEEN** Productions



A DOCUMENTARY

ABOUT THE POPULAR PERCUSSION  
AND DANCE SCENE IN SENEGAL WITH  
COMPLEX, DRIVING RHYTHMS AND  
EXPLOSIVE DANCE.

# SABAR

## SENEGAL'S HEARTBEAT

a film by ARDA NEDERVEEN

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# SABAR

## Senegal's heartbeat

A documentary about the popular percussion and dance scene in Senegal, with its huge complex, driving rhythms and explosive dance.

[61 minutes]

In the labyrinth of hot, dusty streets of Dakar, Senegal, the percussionist Maguette Gueye - 31 years old - cannot help but play on his Sabar, as an artist who cannot live without his brushes. It is his passion.

Maguette is no ordinary Senegalese, but a Wolof Griot (bard), whose destiny is to live as a Sabar player. He is one of the many drummers in Dakar who make a meagre living from their art and have to maintain a position in the ever-growing group of artists. Will his two sons follow this way of life?

The maker gives an intimate impression through the daily life of Maguette with a focus on handing down the Sabar traditions to the next generations, specifically from father to son.

Even though Maguette lives in constant uncertainty, defined by a chronic lack of money, while simultaneously working extremely hard, he does not choose another job. He says "I am a Griot and I cannot be but who I am: a 'téggkat' (percussionist).

In Sabar modernity and tradition go hand in hand. The Sabar rhythms which are played for the dancing youth come from old traditions, but it is the youth of Dakar that keep the rhythms alive in the streets and in the nightclubs.

Maguette embodies the co-existence of tradition and modernity in modern Senegal. Dressed in the newest fashion of the West, with low-waist jeans and color-coordinated accessories, he wanders through the streets of Dakar with his Sabar drum on the shoulder, on his way to a Sabar party to whip people with the rhythms of the drum thereby creating the best party of the night.

Sabar is virtually unknown in the West. For Western ears it is often too hard, too complex, too fast, and according to some percussion enthusiasts even aggressive.

Being part of this unknown, intimate Sabar life with its cinematographic images and impressing rhythms is what makes this film so special.

### [Trailer](#)





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## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Title	SABAR - Senegal's heartbeat
Genre	documentary
Year	2014
Duration	61 minutes
Format	PAL HD PRORES 1920x1080 Blu Ray
Languages	Wolof, Français
Subtitles	English
Dubbing	Wolof
Other versions	French, Dutch
Producer	Interakt   Singel 360   1016 AG Amsterdam   The Netherlands E: <a href="mailto:interakt@interakt.nl">interakt@interakt.nl</a> Arda Nederveen Productions   The Netherlands
Director   camera	Arda Nederveen
Research	Sophie Schouwenaar
Sound	Mbaye Ndoye Bamba Niang
Edit	Arda Nederveen René Gast Allard Detiger Olga Busch
Soundmix	KlevR Sounddesign Alan van Ramshorst Lennart Kleinen
Colorcorrection	Laurent Fluttert Paul van den Bos
Titles   design	René Gast
Translation Wolof	Maguette Gueye Ndeye Fatou Badjane Ndiaya Badjane Mbaye Ndoye Sophie Schouwenaar Oumar Mbengue Atakosso
Translation English	Sally Dyer
Translation French	Sabine de Tonnac de Villeneuve Marième Lala Sarr
Dubbing	Mola Sylla Maguette Gueye Pape Malick Diop