

THE CINEMATOGRAPHIC LEGEND OF AFRICAN FILMS: OUSMANE SEMBÈNE

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ABSTRACT

Ousmane Sembène's literary work, composed of a dozen novels and essays, is characterized by its critical charge and empathy for the poor. It puts a lot of emphasis on commitment and activism. Each time, Sembène portrays the relative modernity of postcolonial societies against tradition. Self-taught, the man had been a mason, sharpshooter, docker, before embarking on literary and cinematographic writing, in order to imprint his mark on the essential struggles of his time for the justice, freedom and dignity of his people. He left behind an impressive work, marked by commitment and indignation, which has influenced several generations of Senegalese and African intellectuals.

KEYWORDS: *African Cinema, Neorealism, Négritude, Relative Modernity, Postcolonialism*