

## **Document Citation**

Title 'All access' and '100% Arabica'

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Source ArtMattan Productions

Date 2001 May 07

Type flyer

Language English

Pagination

No. of Pages 1

Subjects

Film Subjects All access: Front row. Backstage. Live!, Atkins, Martyn, 2001

From: ArtMattan@aol.com

Date: Mon, 7 May 2001 14:47:25 EDT

Subject: ARTMATTAN PRODUCTIONS NEWSLETTER ++ Monday, May 7, 2001

To: undisclosed-recipients:;

ARTMATTAN PRODUCTIONS NEWSLETTER ++ Monday, May 7, 2001

## + + "ALL ACCESS" and "100% ARABICA"

>>> "All Access" -- currently playing in IMAX theaters -- is one of those movies about music that at the end leaves you asking for more. The multicultural groove in the film is very refreshing as you can see without

leaving your seat The Roots, Carlos Santana, Sting and Cheb Mami, just to mention some of the artists.

Cheb Mami and Sting open the concert with "Desert Rose" and then we are treated to a back stage conversation with the artists. Both talk about the

international reach of ra $\sqrt{0}$  music today and how it originated in Algeria.

 $Ra\sqrt{\emptyset}$  music has roots in Bedouin music. Modern  $ra\sqrt{\emptyset}$  was mostly cultivated by

women. Characterized by risqu $\sqrt{0}$  lyrics, this music became popular and later on

began to fusion with other musical influences such as reggae, hip-hop, rock

n,Äô roll, etc.

"100% Arabica", a film directed by Mahmoud Zemmouri, gives the spectator a

little more of ra $\sqrt{\emptyset}$  music than "All Access." Cheb Mami and the King of Rai,

Khaled, play the leading roles in this film about Africans, music and political corruption in the outskirts of Paris.

Time Out described "100% Arabica" as "consistently entertaining" and Stephen

Holden of The New York Times said "100% Arabica" doesn, Äôt take itself too

seriously  $[\ddot{A}]$ . But as they say, the beat goes on, and no matter what is happening in the movie, as soon as it burst into song it feels good."

So, to listen to some good  $\text{ra} \sqrt{\emptyset}$  music, one can go see "All Access" or even

better, one can order "100% Arabica" at www.kirikou.net or visit Rashid Sales

in Brooklyn at 155 Court Street to purchase the video and the film soundtrack.

## SUPPORT BLACK INDEPENDENT CINEMA

Mark your calendar: the AFRICAN DIASPORA FILM FESTIVAL (ADFF) will be held

this year in New York from November 23 to December 9.