

## Document Citation

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## FILM DESCRIPTION

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Film Title:

### All the Invisible Children

**Programme:** SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS  
**Director:** Mehdi Charef, Emir Kusturica, Spike Lee, Kátia Lund, Jordan and Sir Ridley Scott, Stefano Veneruso, John Woo  
**Country:** Italy  
**Year:** 2005  
**Language:** French, Serbian, English, Portuguese, Italian, Mandarin  
**Time:** 116 minutes  
**Film Types:** Colour/35mm  
**Rating:** 18A



#### SCREENING TIMES:

Thursday, September 15 9:00 PM PARAMOUNT 3

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Saturday, September 17 12:00 PM VISA SCREENING ROOM (ELGIN)

[Buy tickets now](#)**Production Company:** MK Film Productions S.r.l./RAI Cinema**Producer:** Maria Grazia Cucinotta, Chiara Tilesi, Stefano Veneruso**Screenplay:** Mehdi Charef, Stribor Kusturica, Spike, Cinque and Joie Lee, Kátia Lund, Jordan Scott, Diego De Silva, Stefano Veneruso, Li Quiang**Cinematography:** Philippe Brelot, Cliff Charles, Toca Seabra, Vittorio Storaro, Gu Chang Wey, Jim Whitaker, Nianping Zeng**Editor:** Barry Alexander Brown, Robert A. Ferretti, Dayn Williams**Production Designer:** Ben Scott, Kim Yip**Sound:** Christophe Brajdic, Jonathan Gargui Dit Marco, Ken Ishii, Steve Maslow, Aleksandar Perisic**Music:** Terence Blanchard, Ramin Djawadi, Hai Lin**Principal Cast:** Francisco Anawake, Maria Grazia Cucinotta, Vera Fernandez, Wenli Jiang, Wu Jiang

This film is a very special initiative. Three years ago, the project's producers sought to create a cinematic project that would raise awareness about the plight of children around the world. Both UNICEF and the World Food Programme, the leading United Nations organizations devoted to children, lent their support and will receive the net profits from the film. The producers then approached a number of filmmakers – amongst them some of the best-known names in international cinema – who leapt at the opportunity to direct a short segment and contributed their efforts for free.

In *All the Invisible Children*, Brazil, Italy, England, Serbia, Burkina Faso, China and the United States provide the backdrops for deeply moving portraits of children who face terrible adversity – deprivation, disease, violence – on a daily basis. The struggles of street children to survive is a theme common to the episodes by Katia Lund, Stefano Veneruso and Emir Kusturica; we find these unfortunates collecting cardboard and scrap metal in the streets of São Paulo or stealing to get by in Naples and the Serbian countryside. Mehdi Charef focuses on the brutal armed conflicts that have torn Africa apart, and we witness shocking images of child warriors who wield machine guns with practised ease. Woo's section deals with two girls from different classes whose paths cross when one's discarded doll becomes the most treasured possession of the other. Spike Lee's film is a searing examination of an HIV-positive Brooklyn teenager who is the daughter of two junkies, while Jordan and Sir Ridley Scott join forces to explore the ravaged life of a shell-shocked photojournalist who escapes back into his childhood to salvage his humanity.

Each of the segments that comprise this affecting omnibus work is a labour of love, told with all the compassion these remarkable filmmakers can bring to these all-too-common situations.

- Piers Handling

**Mehdi Charef** was born in Algeria and has been an acclaimed writer and filmmaker since the early eighties. **Emir Kusturica** was born in Sarajevo and his films have twice earned the Palme d'Or at the Festival de Cannes. **Spike Lee** is one of the most acclaimed American independent filmmakers of



recent decades. **Katia Lund** was born in São Paulo and made *City of God* (co-director, 02). **Jordan Scott** was born in London and has directed commercials, public service announcements and music videos. **Sir Ridley Scott** has directed such influential films as *Alien* (79), *Blade Runner* (82) and *Thelma and Louise* (91). **Stefano Veneruso** was born in Italy and has directed short films and written screenplays. **John Woo** was born in Guangzhou, China, and has directed dozens of successful films in Hong Kong and the United States.

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