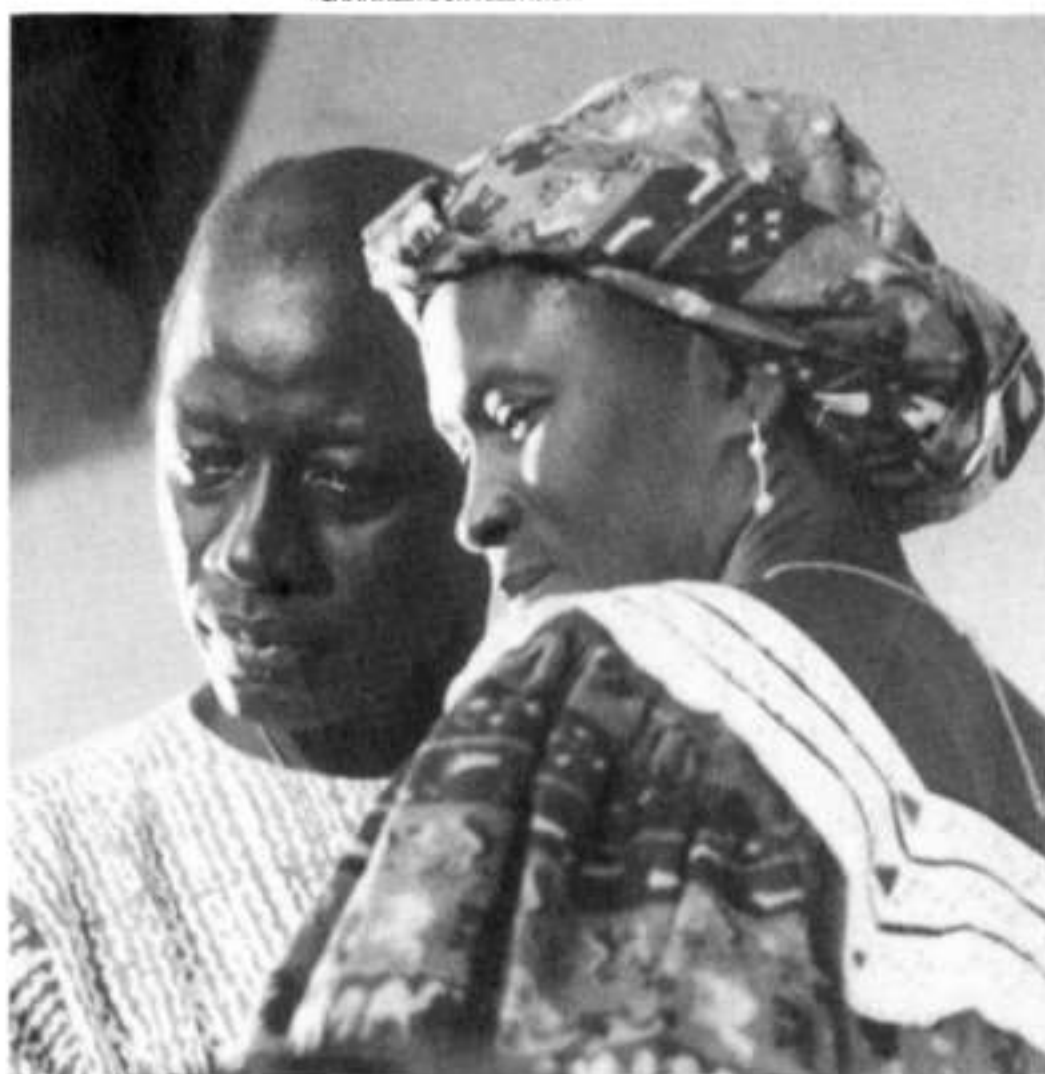


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**21 Sat 11.00 NFT1**

## **GUELWAAR**

**Senegal 1992**

Dir: Sembène Ousmane

Leading Players: Omar Seck, Ndiawar Diop

Mame Ndoumbè Diop

Rt: 115 mins

It is the morning of Guelwaar's funeral and all his family and friends are gathering. But matters are delayed when it is discovered that his body has disappeared from the morgue. Since Guelwaar, who was an active spokesman for an Africa independent of foreign aid and free from internal corruption, died a violent death, hypotheses abound - but then it is discovered that the corpse's disappearance was no more than a bureaucratic mistake and this man of the Catholic faith has just been buried in a Muslim cemetery. From this imaginative plot device Sembène has carved a biting critique of African politics, democracy, dependence and religious adherence. He is as critical of contemporary Africa as of the West and in one moving scene unambiguously poses the contradiction between the public and the private in the lives of male activists. *Sheila Whitaker*

LONDON FF 1992