

Charity showing of Hoima Bicycle and Beijing Bicycle



In aid of Re-Cycle Bicycle Aid for Africa

Monday 11th October 7:30 pm

The Calthorpe Arms Grays Inn Road
London WC1X 8JR

The Hackney Bicycle Film Society Bring you two award winning films Hoima Bicycle

(30 min documentary)

The principle form of taxi transport in Hoima and many other rural towns in Uganda is the bicycle taxi, locally called a "Boda-boda". This is a traditional sit up and beg Indian made bike with a padded seat on the rear carrier. Ladies sit side-saddle, gents sit astride. Almost every street corner and outlying hamlet has a stand of Boda-bodas who carry not only people but all types of load weighing up to 200kg.

In 2008 Designer, lecturer and former cycle courier Jason Morris went to visit his mother Shirley who works as a missionary in Hoima a provincial town in Uganda, there he met the Boda-boda riders of the Hoima United Riders Association. Dismayed by the antiquated nature of the Hero Bicycles and impressed by the large loads they carry Jason was inspired to combine his experience and talents to design a bicycle more fit for purpose.

Jason's documentary beautifully captures not only his own bicycle design and process but life and conditions in of the people in Hoima.



Beijing Bicycle

(113 min Feature)

Guei a teenager who arrives in the big city looking for work; he and a handful of other youngsters are hired as bicycle messengers, with their employer giving them new bikes under the condition that they're paid ten yuan for each message they deliver, and the bicycles are theirs once they've made 58 trips. Guei discovers the job is not an easy one, as he deals with the complexity of the huge city, confusion over who gets what message, and the condescending attitude Beijing residents often display toward the new arrivals. Guei is determined to make good and is close to owning his bike when it's stolen; Guei's boss tells him the only way he can keep is job is if he can find the bicycle, which, in a city the size of Beijing, is no easy task. Against all odds, Guei finds the bicycle, but it's now in the hands of Jian, who claims he got it at a second-hand shop and isn't about to give it up. Guei steals the bike back from Jian, but now has to deal with the teenaged tough and his roughneck friends.

The Hackney Bicycle Film Society Shows Bicycle Films monthly at the Calthorpe Arms for details e-mail hackneybicyclefilmsociety@gmail.com