

A Lion's Trail

Producer: Dan Jawitz, Mark J. Kaplan, François Verster

Director: François Verster

Genre: Documentary Film

Duration: 55 minutes

Co-Producer: BBC, SABC

Synopsis:

This film tells the story of Solomon Linda, a Zulu and composer of one of Africa's most famous songs, Mbube. The original song was composed by Linda and first recorded in 1939. It has been transcribed and transformed into the song Wimoweh and then into the internationally recognized hit song, The lion sleeps tonight. Unfortunately, the original composer and his descendants received no financial reward and all international rights were owned by Americans. This film explores the moral and legal issues surrounding the song, while celebrating it as a vibrant and joyful piece of African music.

Awards:

Winner, Emmy award for most Outstanding Cultural and Artistic Programming (2005)

Portobello Film Festival-Best Documentary (2003), News and Documentary Emmy Awards-Outstanding Cultural and Artistic Programming (2005), New York African Film Festival (2005), Best Documentary, Silver Dhow Award for Best Documentary Zanzibar International Film Festival (2003), Special Selection, Parnu (2003), NTVA Stone & Stone