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Immediate Release

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**WALKER PRESENTS THE U.S. PREMIERE OF FLORA GOMES'  
POLITICAL-MUSICAL FILM *MY VOICE (NHA FALA)***

On Wednesday, December 3, at 8 pm, director Flora Gomes will be at the Walker Art Center to introduce the U.S. premiere of his new romantic musical film ***My Voice (Nha fala)***. Gomes, born in Cadique, Guinea-Bissau, and a recipient of many festival awards for his films, has been a key figure in African cinema for over 15 years, and was knighted by the French government with the Chevalier de L'ordre des Arts et des Lettres. *My Voice* was chosen for inclusion in the 2002 Berlin Film Festival, the only film to represent the entire continent of Africa. The film, which includes exuberant music by Cameroonian saxophonist-composer Manu Dibango and plenty of dancing, combines the beauty and spectacle of a musical with the poignant socio-political issues of West African culture. Co-sponsored by the following departments at the University of Minnesota: Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies, the Humanities Institute, the Institute for Global Studies, the Program for Creative Writing, and the Film Studies Program.

Tickets to the screening are \$7 (\$5 Walker members). Screening takes place in the Walker Auditorium. For information, call 612.375.7622.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 8 PM**

*My Voice (Nha fala)*

Introduced by director Flora Gomes

Set in the gorgeous pastel cities of the Cape Verde Islands, the film avoids the usual grim images of Africa, locating itself instead halfway between Brazilian Carnival and African politics. Fatou Ndiaye (from the French TV hit series *Fatou, The Malian*) plays Vita, a young African woman who aspires to be a singer, but is prevented from doing so by a longstanding curse which she circumvents in an especially beautiful, ingenious, and musical way; seizing the chance to speak and sing as a woman for her generation. This may be the only musical that has rousing, danceable numbers that critique identity politics and ballot-box democracy. 2002, Portugal, France, Luxembourg, color, 35mm, in Creole with English subtitles, 110 minutes.

(more)

**The Walker Art Center is located at 725 Vineland Place,  
at Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, one block off Highway I-94.  
For public information, call 612.375.7622.  
Gallery hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 10 am–5 pm;  
Thursday, 10 am–9 pm; Sunday, 11 am–5 pm; closed Monday.  
<http://www.walkerart.org>**