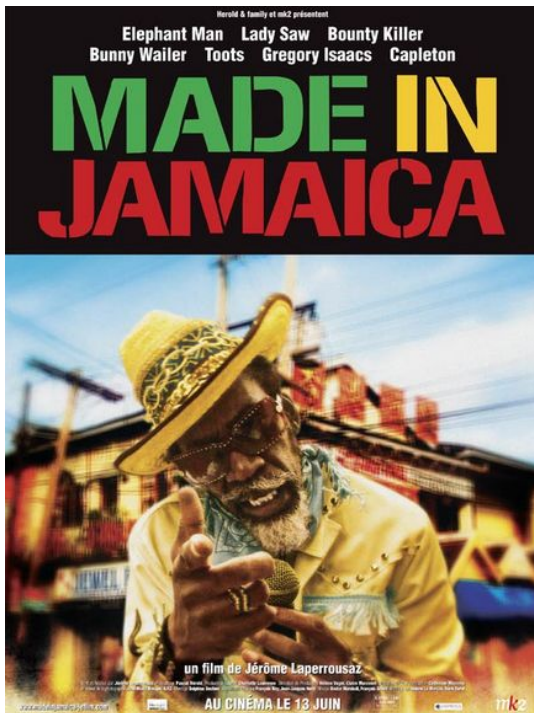


A movie-documentary about reggae in Jamaica outlines the music's political and social roots



The film looks at the history of reggae and its most popular modern form, dancehall. It is told entirely through the words of some of the genre's most prominent artists. And that list of artists is more than impressive, from Bunny Wailer for the traditional reggae point of view to modern dancehall acts Bounty Killer and Elephant Man.

There are also specially-staged live performances and evocative footage of life in the ghettos and dancehalls of West Kingston.

The murder of a dancehall legend gets this fascinating documentary about the evolution of Jamaican music under way, and the violence that underlies the island's vibrant culture – from slavery to gun crime – is never far from the thoughts of the artists brought in to give their tuppence worth.

A portrait that unveils the leaders of the reggae music movement while showing how reggae has become a worldwide phenomenon. The chronicle includes showcase performances by the top Reggae and Dance Hall artists in the business.

Historically, Reggae music sprang into life in the '70s. It was the first time that a third world country had made its voice heard on such a large scale. Instantly recognizable, the reggae sound is a celebration of life itself.

Now a new generation of reggae artists has emerged and its fathers are still in Jamaica. But along with the Jamaican music, there has often been trouble in the dance. At the dancehalls, respect is threatened, tempers flare and then gunshots.

That was the sadly familiar story of Bogle, the now-legendary figure who invented the dance bearing his name. His funeral was a ghetto-spectacular affair, attracting three generations of reggae and dancehall superstars.

Casting

Alaine
Brick and Lace
Capleton
Joseph Current
Lowell 'Sly' Dunbar
Elephant Man
Beresford Hammond
Gregory Isaacs
Vybz Kartel
Bounty Killer
Alaine Laughton
Dr. Marshall
Lady Saw
Robbie Shakespeare

Tanya Stephens
Third World
Toots
Bunny Wailer

Video Preview

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