

## Visual Arts & Transformations in Africa (Online, 12–13 Jun 26)

Online, Jun 12–13, 2026

Runette Kruger, Durban University of Technology

VISUAL ARTS AND TRANSFORMATIONS IN AFRICA – International conference (online).

Association Africaine d'Histoire de l'Art  
With Special Patronage of CIHA

09:00 (UTC+1) Cameroon Time  
<https://meet.google.com/twj-ogah-rco>

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### DAY 1 – 12 JUNE

09h00: Welcome and Introductory Speech – AAHA (Association Africaine d'Histoire de l'Art)  
Prof. Paul-Henri S. ASSAKO ASSAKO – Head of the Visual Arts and Art History Department, University of Yaoundé 1 & Director of Libre Académie des Beaux-Arts, Douala, Cameroon

09h10-09h35: Inaugural Lecture  
Prof. Paul-Henri S. ASSAKO ASSAKO – Head of the Visual Arts and Art History Department, University of Yaoundé 1 & Director of Libre Académie des Beaux-Arts, Douala, Cameroon /  
Prof. Runette KRUGER – Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa

09h40: Online group photo

Short Break

Session 1: Critical Reflections Across the Visual Arts  
Moderator: Prof. Runette KRUGER – Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa

10h00: Visual Arts and the History of Ideas – El Hadji Malick NDIAYE, Professor, Director of the Théodore Monod Museum of African Art, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal

10h15: Art Criticism and Critical Reflection on Contemporary Creativity in Benin – David GNON-HOUÉVI, Lecturer and researcher at the National Institute of Arts, Archaeology, and Culture (IN-MAAC) at the University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

10h30: Curatorial Devices and Agency in the Dakarovian Art Ecosystem – Delphine BUYSSSE, Exhibition curator, artistic advisor and researcher, Senegal

10h45: Illuminating Performance: Lighting, Theatre Photography, and Social Aesthetics in Contemporary South Africa – Mduduzi Martin NKOSI, Photographer and visual storyteller, South Africa

Discussion

Short Break

Session 2: Women in Art and Society

Moderator: Prof. El Hadji Malick NDIAYE – Director of the Théodore Monod Museum of African Art, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal

11h15: Women’s Artistic Practices and Sociocultural Norms in Cameroon – Paul-Henri S. ASSAKO ASSAKO, Associate Professor, Head of the Visual Arts and Art History Department, University of Yaoundé 1 & Director of Libre Académie des Beaux-Arts, Douala, Cameroon / Juste Constant ONANA AMOUGUI Doctoral candidate in History of Art, Université de Yaoundé 1

11h30: Vernacular Gardens, Decolonial Futures: Ecofeminism and Afrodiasporic Collaboration in Mónica de Miranda’s Recent Projects – Dr Maria Luisa COELHO, Lecturer, University of Oxford, UK

11h45: The Contribution of Women Entrepreneurs to the Valuation of Cameroonian Cultural Heritage – Dr Luc Bertrand ONDOBO, Lecturer and Team Leader, Inter-State University Congo-Cameroon, Cameroon

Discussion

Lunch

Session 3: Conflict, Transformation and the Arts

Moderator: Prof. Dr Romuald TCHIBOZO – Director of the National Institute of Crafts, Archaeology and Culture (INMAAC), University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

12h50: The Plastic Arts at CELPAC of Tougan: Context, Thematic Study and Contribution to the Fight Against Terrorism in Burkina Faso – Julien BANCE, PhD Candidate in Art History Norbert ZONGO University / Dr Edwige ZAGRE/KABORE, Deputy Director of the LACOSHS Doctoral School, Norbert ZONGO University, Burkina Faso

13h05: Postcolonial Identity and Social Transformations in Contemporary Cameroon – Julia WUGGENIG, Art historian and translator, Germany

13h20: Heritage and Aesthetic Transformations in Moroccan Painting Through an Iconological Reading of the Equestrian Motif in Hassan El Glaoui – Abdellatif NOUAYTI, Lecturer, University of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Morocco

Discussion

Short Break

Session 4: The Role of Sculpture and Ceramics in Social Mediation

Moderator: Prof. Dr Romuald TCHIBOZO – Director of the National Institute of Crafts, Archaeology and Culture (INMAAC), University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin

13h45: Monumental Bronze Sculpture During the Thomas Sankara Revolution in Burkina Faso

(1983-1987) – Adama TOURE, Doctoral candidate in Art History and Cultural Heritage at Norbert ZONGO University / Dr Edwige ZAGRE/KABORE Deputy Director of the LACOSHS Doctoral School, Norbert ZONGO University / Léonce TIRA, Doctoral candidate in Art History and Cultural Heritage at Norbert ZONGO University, Burkina Faso

14h00: The Beauty of the Robber in African Art: The Case of Kuu' Mu'tngu in Conflict Management among the Bamum of Western Cameroon – Prof Idrissou NJOYA, Head of the Department of Decorative Arts, Foumban Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dschang, Cameroon

14h15: Pottery, Society and Culture in Far Northern Cameroon in the Twentieth Century – Dr Cyrille ZEH, Lecturer, University of Maroua, Cameroon

Discussion

DAY 2 – 13 JUNE

09h00: Welcome Speech

Session 5: Decolonial Re-Worlding and Visual Culture in Africa

Moderator: Dr Edwige ZAGRE/KABORE – Deputy Director of the LACOSHS Doctoral School, Norbert ZONGO University, Burkina Faso

09h05: Selfdetermination: A Cameroon by us, for us, with our resources – Alice C. PENDA, Visual artist, Cameroon

09h20: Media Archaeology, Cultural Hybridity and Visual Memory: A Critical Analysis of the Work of Mounir Fatmi – Younes SAOUDI, Doctoral candidate Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Morocco

09h35: The Potential History of the Échos-monde in the Work of the Medu Art Ensemble – Prof Runette KRUGER, Associate Professor, Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Discussion

Short Break

Session 6: Troubling the Visual and Material Archive of Africa – Futural Revisioning

Moderator: Prof. El Hadji Malick NDIAYE – Director of the Théodore Monod Museum of African Art, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal

10h00: Contemporary African Photographers at the Challenge of Memory and the Future – Dr Ibrahima MOHAMADOU, Researcher, Cameroon

10h15: Performing the Archive: African Art Practices Between Rewriting History and Inventing the Future – Marie SELLIER, Doctoral candidate, Sorbonne University, France

10h30: Carrying Sovereignty: Royal Textiles, Visual Memory and Political Transformations in the Kingdom of Bamum (1850–present) – Dr Syprien Christian ZOGO, Historian of material culture, Cameroon

Discussion

## Short Break

### Session 7: Copyright, Art and Design in the Digital Age

Moderator: Prof. Runette KRUGER – Research Associate, University of Pretoria, South Africa

11h00: Digital Archiving of African Visual Arts: Heritage Preservation and Copyright Protection – Georges WAAWE, Documentation and archival engineer, doctoral candidate in Heritage Sciences, University of Ngaoundéré, Cameroon

11h15: Burkina Faso Copyright Office (BBDA) and Artistic Promotion: Overview of Declared Works of Visual Art from 1985 to 2021 – Boukary DABAL, Lecturer and researcher, Yembila Abdoulaye TOGUYENI University, Burkina Faso

11h30: Digital Painting vs Tradition: Reconciling Technical Innovation with Artistic Production – Dr Zeekeyi Denison YIBOWEI, Lecturer Niger Delta University, Nigeria

Discussion

Lunch

### Session 8: Identity in the Visual Arts

Moderator: Prof. Paul-Henri S. ASSAKO ASSAKO – Head of the Visual Arts and Art History Department, University of Yaoundé 1 & Director of Libre Académie des Beaux-Arts, Douala, Cameroon

12h30: Between Authenticity and Hybridity: Contemporary African Visual Arts as Spaces of Identity Remaking – Chama ELAZOUZI, Doctoral candidate in Linguistics, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Morocco

12h45: Body Representation and Identity Construction: Comparing Sub-Saharan and Maghreb Painting – Chaimae NEJJARI, Doctoral candidate in Linguistics, Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Morocco

13h00: Identity and Aesthetic Hybridity in Fulani Body Art – Bouquet Elvine JOLEFACK EDINGUE, Art historian and lecturer, University of Yaoundé 1, Cameroon

Discussion

Short Break

### Session 9: The Arts and Social Transformation

Moderator: Dr Edwige ZAGRE/KABORE – Deputy Director of the LACOSHS Doctoral School, Norbert ZONGO University, Burkina Faso

13h25: Techno-Architecture and Urban Mutations in Cameroon: The case of Yaoundé and Douala – Prof Vendelin ABOUNA ABOUNA, Associate Professor, Nkongsamba Institute of Fine Arts, University of Douala, Cameroon

13h40: Design, the Engine of Dynamism of Artistic Forms of Expression and the Transformation of a Contemporary African Society – Dr René Junior ABOMO NDONGO, Lecturer in Visual Arts, Institute of Fine Arts and Innovation, University of Garoua, Cameroon

13h55: Aesthetic Rationality and Social Transformation: The Aesthetic Equation as a Lever for Reconfiguration of Educational Imaginary in the Cameroonian context – François Achille OWONO FOUA, Doctoral candidate, University of Yaoundé 1, Cameroon

14h10: The Image as a Source of Inspiration in the Pictorial Representation of Plastic Art Painting in Cameroon – Simon-Pierre NENBA, Doctoral candidate in History of Civilizations and Archaeology, University of Ngaoundéré, Cameroon

Discussion, Feedback and Closing

14h35-14h45: Presentation of Discussions

14h45-14h55: Feedback / Overall Discussion by Conference Attendees

14h55-15h15: Closing Speeches

Closing Speech CIHA (Comité International d'Histoire de l'Art)

Closing Speech AAHA (Association Africaine d'Histoire de l'Art)

Reference:

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