

BIGSAS- Festival of African & African-Diasporic Literatures: »Literatures of/and Memory: 1884 - 1904 - 1914«

Program in English

June 26th - 28th, 2014

Kunstmuseum Bayreuth | Maximilianstr. 33 | 954 44 Bayreuth
Altes Schloss Bayreuth | Maximilianstr. 6 | 95444 Bayreuth



READINGS | KEYNOTES | DISCUSSIONS FILM | THEATER | PERFORMANCE SPOKEN WORD POETRY | CONCERT

BIGSAS festival
of African
and African-diasporic
literature



Greeting by the former German Federal President Dr. Horst Köhler

Ladies and Gentlemen,
dear guests and participants of the
Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures 2014,

A few weeks ago, I returned from a trip to the East African-German economic forum in Nairobi, where entrepreneurs from Germany and the countries of the East African Community met. There was a lively discussion, ideas were exchanged and everywhere you could tell: here, everyone is getting along and the mutual interest is growing. I was delighted about that.

Nevertheless, I believe just as important – if not more important – for the future development of the African continent and the relationship between Africa and Europe is, what is happening culturally in African and between Africa and Europe: African intellectuals and artists represent the great cultural heritage of our southern neighbor-continent in ever greater numbers and in a more and more self-confident and relaxed manner. As a guest-lecturer of your University expressed some time ago, “we [Africans] are the cradle of humankind.” I welcome this process of self-discovery of Africa, yes of humankind and I am hopeful that the European partners and friends in economy, politics and society may be helpful here.

Dear festival participants, you have gathered in Bayreuth under the title “Literatures of Memories: 1884-1904-1914” to contribute something to just that. That you will be dealing with the advancement of African Literature along the historical landmarks of the German-African relationship I find especially enthralling, for if we succeed in finding a mutual understanding of the past, a new, collective vision for the future may arise from it, umoja ni nguvu, utengano ni udhaifu.

I wish all participants and visitors of the festival a good and successful event.



Yours Horst Köhler

Translated by BIGSAS Festival of African & African-Diasporic Literatures

Greeting by the Festival Directors

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the First World War (WWI). Numerous historians regard WWI as the „original catastrophe“ of the 20th Century because Europe’s political systems, social structures, economic dynamics, cultural processes and territorial realities were shattered. However, the fatal flipside of the technical modernity had created „original catastrophes“ long before WWI. Colonialism had shattered and destroyed African forms of statehood, society, economic systems, cultures and border regions. It began with the enslavement of Africans in Europe. Once slavery was abolished after intense resistance and fights, European colonialism went into its second, so called imperial phase. The beginning was marked by the so-called „Berlin Conference“ in 1884/85, and had peaked until the end of WWI. Pass laws, concentration camps, eugenics, as well as genocide were to become the future of 1884, including German colonialism. German colonialism had its violent peak in 1904, when Germany committed 20th century’s first genocide, the genocide against the Herero and the Nama. So only in Europe’s internal view did WWI start in an apparent time of peace. WWI became a global conflict because it was not only the territories of Europe that were in contestation. Whoever was to be victorious in Europe, would automatically gain power over the European colonies all around the globe. 1884 and 1904 are not simply transitional markers in German and European history as is the case with 1914. Novel aspects of commemoration ensue when these three transitional „4“s are addressed together. The 2014 BIGSAS Festival of African and African-diasporic Literatures tackles the modes of commemoration in the search for visions of remembering.

The artwork accompanying the festival this year is a board-game serving as fictitious remembrance just as much as the commemorative literatures that are visited in this year’s literature festival revolve around memories that shape the future. You are all welcome to encounter these memories for the future in readings, performances, academic lectures, panel discussions, concerts, galleries and discussions.



Susan Arndt



Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

Thursday, June 26th 2014

12:00 – 14:30 Festival Opening at Altes Schloss Bayreuth

Greetings:

Dr. Markus Zanner, Chancellor of Bayreuth University
 Horst Köhler, former German Federal President (read out)
 Nino Klingler, Federal Foreign Office
 Dr. Beate Kuhn, 3rd Mayor of the City of Bayreuth
 Dr. Ralf Brugbauer, Director of the Bayreuth University Library
 Prof. Dr. Dymitr Ibriszimow, Dean of BIGSAS

Welcome Speeches:

Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard, Festival directors
 Theodor Wonja Michael, Guest of Honor

Double-Vernissage:

Book Exhibition: *The Michael Collection at the Bayreuth University Library* (Dr. Ingo Toussaint, Bayreuth University Library)
 Photographic exhibition of Biographies *Homestory Germany* (Tahir Della, Initiative Black People in Germany - ISD-Bund e.V.)

Reception of the City of Bayreuth

Focus 1884 ART MUSEUM BAYREUTH

14:30 – 15:30 Keynote: Remembering 1884-1904-1914

Prof. Dr. David Simo

Chair: Ute Fendler

15:30 – 17:15 Reading: Pot Smokin' Despots Toni Mochama (KEN)

Followed by panel discussion 1884: Patrice Nganang (CMR/USA),
 Frank Schulze-Engler (GER), David Simo (CMR), Theodor Wonja
 Michael (GER), Maaza Mengiste (ETH/USA) & Toni Mochama (KEN)

Chairs: Susan Arndt & Philipp Khabo Köpsell

**17:15 – 18:00 Vernissage: "L'Allemagne avant la Guerre et
 l'Allemagne après la Guerre"**

Installation by Georges Adéagbo (BEN)

Greeting: Sarah Bergh-Bieling of *Decolonize München*

Chair: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

Focus 1884 cont. ALTES SCHLOSS BAYREUTH

17:00 - 18:00 BIGSister Talk with Wangui wa Goro

Chairs: Katharina Fink & Irina Turner

18:00 – 20:00

Reading: Jessica Köster *Tagebuch des Samson Dido*

Reading: Theodor Wonja Michael *Deutsch Sein und schwarz dazu*

Chairs: Linda Besigiroha & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

21:00 Spoken Word Performance: Maroula Blades (USA/ GER),
 Temye Tesfu (GER), RonAmber Deloney (USA) & Music: Jörg Heinrich
 (GER) & Kae Sun (GHA/CAN)

Chairs: Nikitta Adjirakor, Oladapo Ajayi, Stephanie Landgraf &
 Tanimomo Oluseun

Friday, June 27th 2014

Focus 1914 at the ART MUSEUM BAYREUTH

10:00 – 11:00 Film Sneak Preview: *The World's War, Part I*

Director: David Olusoga

11:00 - 12:00 Keynote: *The World's War - Race, Empire and the Great War*
David Olusoga (GB/NGR)

Chair: Peggy Piesche

12:00 – 13:30 Panel Discussion 1914: David Olusoga (GB/NGR),
Peggy Piesche (GER), Wangüi wa Goro (KEN/GB) &
Samuel Ndogo (KEN/ GER)

Chairs: Shola Adenekan & Charles Teke

Focus 1914 cont. at the ALTES SCHLOSS BAYREUTH

14:30 – 16:30 Reading and Discussion (in French, German and English): Alain Patrice Nganang (CMR/USA) *Mont Plaisant & La Saison des prunes*, Maaza Mengiste (ETH/USA) *The Shadow King* & Malek Alloula (ALG/FRA) *Le Harem Colonial*

Chairs: Aminata Mbaye, Christine Matzke & Anouar Messada

16:45 - 18:30 Lecture: *Literary Historicity: Textualising Cameroon's Resistance to German Colonialism in Azanwi Nchami's Footprints of Destiny* Charles Teke (CMR/ GER)

& **Reading:** *Gray Lions* Toni Mochama (KEN)

Followed by a Panel Discussion: Alain Patrice Nganang (CMR/USA), Maaza Mengiste (ETH/USA), Priscilla Manjoh (CMR/ GER) & Charles Teke (CMR/ GER)

Chairs: Gilbert Ndi Shang & Samuel Ndogo

18:45 - 20:00 Scenic Reading: *From the Memoirs and Letters of African(-Diasporic) Colonial Soldiers during WWI*

Read by Wangüi wa Goro, Michael Ojake, Njamy Sitson & Sénouvo Agbota Zinsou

Director & Chair: Katharina Fink

21:00 Book Presentation & Party: *Afrofictional In(ter)ventions. Revisiting the BIGSAS Festival of African(-Diasporic) Literatures 2011-2013*

Chairs: Mariam Popal & Julia Dittmann

Saturday, June 28th 2014

Focus 1914 cont. at the ALTES SCHLOSS BAYREUTH

10:00 – 11:00 Keynote: *African History and Memory after German Colonialism*

Everlyn Nicodemus (TAN/GB)

Chair: Samuel Ndogo

11:00 – 12:30 Scenic Reading 1904:

African Voices of resistance against German colonialism

Read by Wangüi wa Goro, Michael Ojake & Njamy Sitson

Director & Chair: Renzo Baas

12:45 – 14:00 Panel discussion 1904: Renzo Baas (NAM/ GER), Jean Pierre Félix Eyoom (GER/CMR) & Everlyn Nicodemus (TAN/GB)

Chairs: Tom Odhiambo & Yonas Endrias

14:00 – 14:45 Children's-Reading-Workshop:

Das Wort das Bauchschmerzen macht Nancy Della (GER)

Venue: Bayreuther Lernfest, Hofgarten-Passage

Chair: Katharina Fink

Outlook at the Altes Schloss Bayreuth

(Germany's) Future in a Globalized World

14:45 – 15:45 Keynote: *The Future of Memory is Now*

Yonas Endrias (GER /ERI)

Chair: Mariam Popal

15:45 – 17:00 Panel Discussion: Yonas Endrias (GER/ERI), Philipp Khabo Köpsell (GER), Eric Anchimbe (GER/CMR), Jessica Köster (GER), Priscilla Manjoh (CMR/GER) & Rémi Tchokothe (GER)

Chairs: Akiiki Babyesiza & Mariam Popal

17.00 - 18:15 Reading: *Snare* Priscilla Manjoh (CMR/GER), *Nairobi - A Night Guide through the City-in-the-Sun*

Toni Mochama (KEN) & Tom Odhiambo (KEN)

Chairs: Eric Anchimbe & Clarissa Vierke

18:15 - 19:30 Book presentation: *Arriving in the Future & New Night Babies*

Maxim Argilagos, RonAmber Delony, Asoka Esuruoso &

Philipp Khabo Köpsell

Chair: Renzo Baas

19:30 - 20:00 The Poet's Corner – A poetic résumé:

Chirikure Chirikure (ZIM)

Chair: Weeraya Donsomsakulkij

20:30 Open Air Concert at EHRENHOF ALTES SCHLOSS

Introductory Act: Njamy Sitson (CMR/GER)

Main Act: Hans Lüdemann & Aly Keita feat. Dobet Gnahoré

Chair: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

Festival Guests

Malek Alloula is Algerian and was born at Oran. Since 1968 he lives in Paris. He studied at Sorbonne University, Paris. In 1972 he started working as an editor for the publishing house Christian Bourgeois until 2010. Malek Alloula has written several books, including novels, poetry and essays. In 1981, he published *The Colonial Harem*, a collection of postcards displaying the exoticised image of Algerian women during French colonization.



Maroula Blades is an Afro-British poet/writer living in Berlin. The winner of the Erbacce Prize 2012, her first poetry collection *Blood Orange* is now published by Erbacce-press. Her poetry/music programme has been presented on several stages in Germany. Maroula's poetry/music singles and EP-album "Word Pulse" are released by Havavision Record, 2013 (UK) is available from I-Tunes and Amazon.



Chirikure Chirikure was born in 1962 in Gtu Zimbabwe. He is one of Zimbabwe's most famous poets and performers. In 1980, immediately after Zimbabwe won its independence from the British colonialism, and Shona gaining the status of official language, he started to write and perform poetry in Shona. Chirikure interlinks in his work poetry, music and theatre, thus marrying diverse oral literatures with written literatures. His most prominent works comprise *Hakurarwi/We Shall Not Sleep* (2004).



Nancy Della is a Berlin-based teacher, activist and author of the children's book *Das Wort, das Bauchschmerzen macht* (Engl. *The Word that hurts*), which will be published by Editon Assemblage in 2014. In the context of our festival, she will present her work in a reading workshop for kids.



RonAmber Deloney is a native of Dallas, Texas. Her activist work is positioned at the intersection of education and performance poetry. Her stage act is a conversation about street corners, statements on pop culture, social constructs and the ways in which rappers rub up against the romantic. Her current projects include continued writing and performances with The New Night Babies and an African Diaspora Literature course at the University of Bayreuth.
www.newnightbabies.com; www.dreamvariationpmc.com





Yonas Endrias is a political scientist. His current foci are colonialism, racism and culture of commemoration. Presently, he is coordinator of the project African Quarter in Berlin-Wedding as a space of history learning and commemoration.



Asoka Esuruoso got her BA in Film at the Maryland Institute College of Art and studied International Law and Human Rights at Columbia University in New York. She is a published author and co-editor of the recently published anthology of Black German creative writing, poetry, and history, *Arriving in the Future. Stories of Home and Exile*. She is also co-founder of the Black German empowerment project Arriving In The Future, which curates performances, exhibitions, and events across Berlin.



Jean-Pierre Félix Eyoum, Munich-based and senior teacher at a special need school was born in Douala/Cameroon. He is a married father of two he and a founding member of DEPO Deutschland Postkolonial erinnern und versöhnen e.V. (www.deutschland-postkolonial.de). Since 1996, He has been researching the life of his great uncle Rudolf Douala Manga Bell, king of the Duala in Cameroon and leader of the resistance against the German colonial power that had him executed in 1914.



Wangüi wa Goro is a public intellectual, translation studies scholar, writer, translator, editor. Over the years, she has been involved in teaching, advocacy, research, public policy and promotion of arts and culture in Africa, USA and Europe. Being a translator of award winning authors, including Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o and Veronique Tadjo, she is involved in promoting African language literatures, translation and translation studies.



JoKaa is a Berlin based vocalist, singer-song writer, live-looper and guitarist. He combines Afro-Cuban rhythms with the German singer-songwriter-art in an extraordinary authentic mix. His surprising soundscapes on the loop-station and the rhythmic guitar-accompaniment flavor his compositions and deep texts.

Philipp Khabo Koepsell is a Berlin-based poet and spoken word performer of German and South African descent. He is a member of the spoken word/hip hop formation *New Night Babies* and works as dramatic advisor at Berlin's theatre Ballhaus Naunynstraße. He is editor of the anthology *Afroshop* (2014) as well as coeditor (with Asoka Esuruoso) of *Arriving in the Future. Stories of Home and Exile* (2014).



Jessica Köster is a 20 year old High-School student from Hamburg of Ghanaian origin. She received the Bertini Prize for her fictional work *Samson Didos Tagebuch (Samson Dido's Diary)* in 2014. The diary tells the story of the Cameroonian prince Samson Dido - who actually existed - on his travels with his family to Germany in 1886 to take part in Hagenbeck's 'exotic human zoo'.



Priscillia Manjoh is from Cameroon and lives in Berlin. She is presently a PhD Student of African Literatures and Cultures at the Humboldt University Berlin. Manjoh is the Co-Representative/Speaker of the Foreign Students of the Humboldt University on Racism and Discrimination on and out of Campus. She is a writer, an actress and a Film Producer.



Maaza Mengiste was born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She is the award-winning author of the novel *Beneath the Lion's Gaze* (2010), which was selected by *The Guardian* as one of the 10 best contemporary African books. Among other places, her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Granta*, BBC Radio, TAR, and *Lettre International*. Her next novel, *The Shadow King*, is set in Fascist Italy and Ethiopia in the early days of WWII.



Theodor Wonja Michael was born in 1925 to a Black Cameroonian father and a white German mother in Berlin. Early orphanage urged him to earn his living with Völkerschauen, at the circus and in colonial film production. The racist 'Nürnberger race laws' hindered him to get any higher education or professional training. Most recently, he has published a biography titled *Deutsch sein und schwarz dazu* (engl. *To be German and Black at that*), writing about his life in general and being Black in National Socialism in particular. Michael presented his private library comprising hundreds of books to the library of Bayreuth University.





Tony Mochama is a writer and journalist who lives and works in Nairobi. As a journalist for the newspaper *The Standard* - writing under the pseudonym Smitta Smitten - Mochama is one of the most widely read columnists in Kenya. With his infamous anarchic use of a mixture of different languages, he has for years been documenting and commenting on contemporary urban culture and city life in Nairobi. He is very much interested in the history of Kenya which has also inspired his writings.



Alain Patrice Nganang (Cameroon/USA) was born in Yaoundé/Cameroon, doing his PhD in Frankfurt/M. Working and teaching since 2000 in the US, he is a professor for literary and cultural theory at the SUNY, Stony Brook. He is a renowned writer of poetry, prose, political essays and academic writing. His novel *Temps de Chien* (1999) won numerous awards, amongst others the Prix Marguerite Yourcenar. Most recently *Mont Plaisant* (2011) opened a trilogy on German colonialism in Cameroon that also includes *La Saison des prunes* (2013).



Everlyn Nicodemus is a Tanzanian born artist and writer. She holds a PhD from Middlesex University, London. Nicodemus has exhibited and published internationally since 1980. She is the co-editor of the textbook *Modern Art in Africa, Asia and Latin America. An Introduction to Global Modernisms* (2012), Wiley-Blackwell. She is currently based in Edinburgh, UK.



Tom Odhiambo is a Nairobi-based literary scholar and journalist. After studying literature at Moi University in Eldoret (Kenya), he was later awarded a PhD at the University of Witwatersrand. Currently, he holds a position of Senior Lecturer at the Department of Literature, University of Nairobi. He is one of the most reputed art and literary critics in present-day Kenya who regularly voices his comments not only in academic circles but also via various Kenyan mass media.



David Olusoga is a British Nigerian historian, film maker and BBC producer, and an expert on the themes of slavery, colonialism and racism. He is the co-author of the much-praised *The Kaiser's Holocaust* (2010) and will present a BBC Two series, *The World's War*, this summer. During the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2014 he will sneak preview part I of the series.

Frank Schulze-Engler is professor of New Anglophone Literatures and Cultures at Goethe University Frankfurt. He has published widely on African, Asian and indigenous literatures, postcolonial theory, transculturality in a world of globalized modernity and the teaching of the New Literatures in English. He is currently joint project leader of “Africa’s Asian Options” (AFRASO), a major collaborative research project on African-Asian interactions at Goethe University funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.



David Simo was born in 1951 in Cameroon. He studied German studies, comparative literary studies and political science in Abidjan (Cote d’Ivoire), Saarbrücken and Metz and did his second PhD in 1990 in Hannover. He works as a Professor at the Faculty of Arts, Letters and Social Sciences at the University of Yaoundé 1 and is head of the Centre for Scientific Cooperation between Africa and Germany (DAW). He is the Reimar Lüst Award Winner of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation and the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.



Charles Ngiewih Teke is Associate Professor at the University of Yaounde I – Cameroon and currently a European Union Marie-Curie (IIF) Experienced Research Fellow at the University of Munich, Germany. With the award of a DAAD grant he obtained a PhD in English Romantic Studies in 2004 from the University of Regensburg, Germany. From 2003 – 2004 he served as Advanced Research Counsellor at the Institute for English and American Studies, University of Regensburg. He teaches Cameroon Anglophone literature, theoretical criticism and Postcolonial Studies in the Institute of English Philology at the University of Munich, and is in research collaboration with such institutions as Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.



Temye Tesfu, Berlin based Slam poet and Spoken Word Performer, performing on small and big stages, in bars and at festivals. Founding member of the Spoken-Word-Ensemble *Allen arnstyzz* with which he has twice been runner up in the prestigious *Poetry Slam*. In 2013 he co-directed together with Theresa Hahl, painter Mehrdad Zaeri and sound-artist Falk Tennstedt the audio-drama »Die Tonbänder des Ignaz Euling«. He is a freelance lecturer of Creative Writing and Text performance, curator and moderator of literature events.



Cultural Extras: Thursday, June 26th 2014

Altes Schloss Bayreuth: Double Exhibition



The **Michael Collection for the University Library of Bayreuth** (*Die Sammlung Michael an der Universitätsbibliothek Bayreuth*) honors Theodor Wonja Michael's donation of hundreds of partly very valuable books to the University Library of Bayreuth. These will be displayed in vitrines at the Alte Schloss during the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2014.



Homestory Germany. Black Biographies in History and the Present (*Homestory Deutschland. Schwarze Biografien in Geschichte und Gegenwart*) can best be described as a collective self-portrait. The exhibition, initiated by the Initiative of Black People in Germany, ISD-Bund e.V. comprises of 27 visually arranged biographies of Black women and

men from three centuries in Germany.

www.homestory-deutschland.de

Exhibition period: June 26th – 28th 2014

Vernissage: Thursday, June 26th 2014, 13:00 h, Altes Schloss

Greetings: Dr. Ingo Toussaint (UBT) & Tahir Della (ISD)

Chair: Susan Arndt

Kunstmuseum Bayreuth: Installation by Georges Adéagbo:

L'Allemagne avant la Guerre et l'Allemagne après la Guerre

The installation by Beninese artist Georges Adéagbo (*1942, Cotonou), *L'Allemagne avant la Guerre et l'Allemagne après la Guerre* (Germany before the war, and Germany after the war) thematises Germany's colonial history in/and Africa and Africa's (in)visibly lingering memories and



traces in town and museum archives. Curated by Stephan Köhler, it was first shown in the *Münchener Stadtmuseum* (Museum of the City of Munich) from October 2013 to February 2014, as part of the special exhibition and event series of the same name, „Decolonize München“. Half of the installation then went to the Münchener Stadtmuseum collection, and now on loan from the artist, the other half can be seen at the Kunstmuseum Bayreuth as part of the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2014.

George Adéagbo is one of Africa's most renowned artists and became known in Europe particularly through his participation in the *Documenta 11* exhibition in Kassel (2002) led by Okwui Enwezor. Adéagbo regards himself as an archaeologist who collects finds – *trouvailles* – recontextualizes them and thereby dismantles prevalent gazes. Through his installations, he makes colonial entanglements and history tangible and creates productively dynamic references between place, history/ies and observer. Adéagbo combines diverse objects such as books, newspaper articles, album covers and other artefacts with his own drawings, paintings and writings on decolonial spaces. His artistic praxis is thereby that of a storyteller, collector, researcher and archaeologist.

Curator:	Stephan Köhler
Composition:	Hyunsung Park
Composition assistants:	Alexandra Kuhnke & Kristina Udechukwe
Place:	Art Museum (Kunstmuseum) Bayreuth
Vernissage:	Thursday, June 26 th 2014, 17:15 h
Exhibition period:	June 26 th – July 27 th 2014
Greeting:	Sarah Bergh-Bieling
Chair:	Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

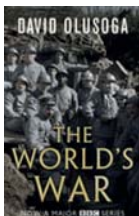
Spoken Word Performance & Music

Spoken Word composes lyrical art for the oral-aural scape. Existing in interaction, spoken word performs as intertextual palaver on a stage that is both archive and laboratory for the future. Compositions of word, intonation, mimicry and gesture meet in becoming rhetorical masterpieces rooted in Hip Hop just as much as in orature, the oral literature tradition of the African continent. Ethic and aesthetic pleasure is guaranteed just as much as transcultural processes of encounter that transgress boundaries of space and time, nation and genre, text and (hi)story. Once again, this year's Spoken Word Performance will be one of the highlights of the festival. Maroula Blades, a word-artist from Great Britain, RonAmber Deloney, author-performer from Texas, USA, as well as Temye Tesfu, born in the Bavarian Augsburg and now residing in Berlin, musically accompanied by Kae Sun and Jörg Heinrich, will perform a firework of spoken-words, living-in-music – a performance that will invite you to visit a net of performed words from all around the globe.



Performance:	Maroula Blades, RonAmber Deloney & Temye Tesfu
Music:	Kae Sun & Jörg Heinrich
Place:	Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Time:	Thursday, June 26 th 2014, 21:00 h
Chairs:	Nikitta Adjira, Oladapo Ajayi, Stephanie Landgraf & Tanimomo Oluseun

Cultural Extras: Friday, June 27th 2014



Film: *The World's War*

When the Great Powers went to war in 1914, they started not a European, but a veritable WORLD-war: More than one million PoC soldiers died on the battle fields of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, from Gallipoli to the western front. Many were mobilized from Great Britain's colonies, as Black Americans and men from the Caribbean, Africa and Asia and other regions of the world joined the armies of the west in combat and non-combat units. David Olusoga's *The World's War* extensively cites from soldiers' journals and other contemporary documents and shows the First World War from the perspective of those that were silenced by a *white* historiography.

Director: David Olusoga
Genre: Television documentary, GB, 2014, 60', OV
Place: Kunstmuseum Bayreuth
Time: Friday, June 27th 2014, 10:00 h
Chair: Peggy Piesche

Staged Reading "1914"

From the Memories of World War I Colonial Soldiers

Millions of Black and PoC soldiers and civilians were involved in World War I. They were erased from the archives of Western historiography. Based on letters, journal entries, interviews and poems, they are commemorated in this staged reading with musical accompaniment. Read by:



Wangũi wa Goro is a public intellectual, translation studies scholar, writer, translator, editor. Over the years, she has been involved in teaching, advocacy, research, public policy and promotion of arts and culture in Africa, USA and Europe. Being a translator of award winning authors, including Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o and Veronique Tadjo, she is involved in

promoting African language literatures, translation and translation studies.



Michael Ojake was born November 1961 in Lagos Nigeria. He studied theatre in Bulgaria (Acting and Puppetry) from 1983-1988 and worked briefly at the National Theatre in Lagos before coming to Berlin in 1990 where he still lives when he is not doing film or theatre work in other German cities as well as in Austria, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

Njamy Sitson is a singer, actor and music instructor from Cameroon. He has been living and working in Germany for 14 years. He teaches African music both at his own *Njamy School of African Singing* in Augsburg and at *Freies Musikzentrum* in Munich. He also leads singing workshops for Choirs and Classical Orchestras throughout Europe. For the German ARD film *Blutige Steine* (Donna Leon) he composed the score. Amongst others he performed in the film *Oktoberfest* as well as in *Mandela – the Musical*.



Sénouvo Agbota Zinsou is a Togolese playwright and theatre director, and a short story writer as well. Zinsou came to Germany in 1993 as a political refugee and is now the director of the *International Atelier Theater* of Bayreuth.



Stage direction: Katharina Fink
Place: Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Time: Friday, June 27th 2014, 18:30 h
Chair: Katharina Fink

Book Release Party

Susan Arndt & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard (Hg.) *AfroFictional In[ter]ventions. Revisting the BIGSAS Festival of African(-Diasporic) Literatures 2011-2013*. Münster: edition assemblage 2014

AfroFiction is a Black space where fictional word-art meets photography, painting, installation, music and film. This book explores AfroFictional inventions and interventions that revisit the past, scrutinize the present and envision the future. In doing so, it revisits a young festival of Bayreuth University and its Graduate School BIGSAS. This book, comprising some of the most vibrant voices of writers, musicians and artists from the African continent, its diasporas and beyond, will be launched by the editors and in the presence of writers and friends. A panel discussion will be complemented by (music) performances, DJing and dancing.



Time: Friday, June 27th 2014, 21:00
Venue: Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Chairs: Mariam Popal & Julia Dittmann

Cultural Extras: Saturday, June 28th 2014



Literature Workshop for Children with Nancy Della

This year's reading for children will take place in the context of the Bayreuth Lernfest, we host a reading workshop with author Nancy Della. The engagements will be based on Nancy Della's forthcoming book *Das Wort, das Bauchschmerzen macht* (Engl. *The word that hurts*), *Das Wort das Bauchschmerzen macht* is a captivating story that illuminates the hurtful impact of racist and discriminatory language on children and invites

all players - parents, teachers and children themselves to initiate more respectful interactions through dialogue and debate. © edition assemblage 2014

Artist: Nancy Della
Time: Saturday, June 28th 2014, 14:00 h
Venue: Hofgarten-Passage, Bayreuth
Chair: Katharina Fink



Szenic Reading „1904“ – Anicolonial Resistance

In this scenic reading, the African voices will be given a stage that fought back to colonialism in today's Tanzania, Namibia und Kamerun, paying for their resistance with their lives.

Regie & Chair: Renzo Baas
Es lesen: Wangui wa Goro, Michael Ojake, Njamy Sitson
Ort: Kunstmuseum Bayreuth
Zeit: Saturday, June 28th 2014, 11:00 h

Book Presentation Arriving in the Future

Arriving In The Future. Stories of Home and Exile (Münster: edition assemblage 2014) is an interdisciplinary approach at positioning. As a series of performances, poetry, short stories, and academic essays on identity by Black Writers who regard Germany as their home, and those who regard it as permanent or temporary exile, it will attempt to add a new layer to the debate and construction of Black Identity within the German context. Its primary goal is empowerment.



Performance: RonAmber Delony, Asoka Esuruoso, JoKaa, Philipp Khabo Koepsell
Venue: Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Time: Saturday June 28th 2014, 18:00 h
Chair: Renzo Baas

The Poet's Corner - A Poetic Résumé

The Zimbabwean Spoken Word Artist Chirikure Chirikure will wind up the festival with poems from his repertoire and a poetic résumé. In line with the tradition of griots, he might praise the festival's highlights and scrutinize its flaws.



Artist: Chirikure Chirikure
Venue: Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Time: Saturday, June 28th 2014, 19:30 h
Chair: Weeraya Donsomsakulkij

Open Air Concert



Opening Act: Njamy Sitson is a Cameroon-based singer, actor and music instructor who has been living and working in Germany for fourteen years. As opening act of the final concert of the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2014, he will be presenting contemporary African Music with an excerpt from his Solo Program *Ostinato Africano*, while the traditional instruments Kalimba, Ngoni and Ngombi will support his multi-faceted voice. So far, he has released two CDs, *African Angel* and *Kulu*. www.njamy-sitson.com

Main Act: Hans Lüdemann & Aly Keita feat. Dobet Gnahoré



The German Jazz pianist and composer Hans Lüdemann and the Ivorian balafon player and composer Aly Keita have been working together since 1999, when they met for the first time in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Here, the idea of the *Trio Ivoire* was born, which merges their personal roots of the traditions of jazz, European and African music. Specifically, where African polyrhythms and European polyphony meet, the creative energy unfolds, culminating into a "world"-music beyond clichés. As part of the final concert of the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2014, the duo of these extraordinary musicians honor us with their performance, together with the virtuoso Ivorian singer Doberman Gnahoré, who has been invited as a special guest.



Line-up: **Hans Lüdemann**, Musical Direction, Composition, Piano, Electronics
Aly Keita, Balafon, Sanza
Dobet Gnahoré, Vocals
Location: Ehrenhof im Alten Schloss
Time: Saturday, June 28th 2014, 20:30 h
Chair: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

Academic Extras



Exercise

This seminar will discuss the literary works of Black women writers Mariama Ba, Edwidge Danticat and Ntozake Shange. During the course, we will read Ba's *So Long A Letter*, Danticat's *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and Shange's *Sassafrass, Cypress and Indigo*, examining the contributions each work makes toward exposing and addressing gender disparities in society, staging feminist forms of resistance through literature and building the body of work that is African Diaspora Women's literature. Close attention will be paid to each author's craft – techniques the authors use to establish voice and thereby establish identity. We will also discuss the history of women's visibility in literature and the impact of *race*, class and gender on Diaspora women's writing. In doing so, we will attend, discuss and analyse the BIGSAS Festival of African(-diasporic) literatures.

Chair: RonAmber Deloney

Title: Literary Studies: Resistance, Resilience and Rebellion.
Black Women Revolutions in African Diaspora Literature

Open for: BA, Lehramt, MA, BIGSAS, Bayreuth Graduate School

Category: PS 2st, Block Seminar



BIGSister Talk

With Wangüi wa Goro, conceptualized by Irina Turner and Katharina Fink in the series BIGSister Talks, hosted by the Alumni-initiative of BIGSAS. The "women-only" talk will focus on activism, art, feminism and women's rights as well as the question of solidarity.

Guest: Wangüi wa Goro

Open for: Female BIGSAS Junior Fellows, Postdocs & Senior Fellows

Date: Thursday, June 26th 2014, 17:00 – 18:00 h

Place: Altes Schloss Bayreuth

Team

Shola Adenekan, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher in African Studies, BIGSAS, Bayreuth University

Nikitta Adjirakor, MA student of Culture and Society in Africa, Bayreuth University

Eric Anchimbe, PhD, Akademischer Rat for English Linguistics, Bayreuth University, and Deputy Diversity Representative of BIGSAS

Susan Arndt, Professor of English Literature and Anglophone Studies, BIGSAS Senior Fellow and Second Spokesperson of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Oladapo Ajayi, MA, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University

Shirin Assa, MA, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University, and student assistant at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Renzo Baas, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow and associated member of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Akiiki Babyesiza, Dr., Postdoctoral Researcher in African Studies, BIGSAS, Bayreuth University

Nabil Barham, MA, PhD student at International Graduate School *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles* (IPP)

Linda Besighora, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow

Julia Dittmann, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow

Weeraya Donsomsakulkij, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow

Ute Fendler, Professor of Francophone Literatures and Media in Africa, Director of the Institute of African Studies, BIGSAS Senior Fellow and Co-Spokesperson of the sub-project “Revolution 3.0” at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Katharina Fink, Dr. des., BIGSAS-ALUMNA and Postdoctoral Researcher at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Mbuguah Bekisizwe Goro is an actor, writer, filmmaker and photographer based in London

Lisa Günther, MA, student of *Études Francophones*, Bayreuth University

Alexandra Kuhnke, MA, student of *Culture and Society in Africa*, University of Bayreuth, and student assistant at Iwalewahaus

Stephanie Landgraf, student of English and American Studies, Bayreuth University

Xin Li, MA, PhD student at International Graduate School *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles* (IPP)

Ying Lin, MA student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University

Natalie Linder, pupil assistant from Markgräfin Wilhelmine Gymnasium, Bayreuth

Christine Matzke, Dr. phil, Senior Lecturer at the Institute of English and American Studies, Bayreuth University

Aminata Cecile Mbaye, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow

Anouar Messaada, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University

Samuel Ndogo, Dr., ist BIGSAS ALUMNUS and Senior Lecturer at the Department of Literature, Theatre and Film Studies of Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya

Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard, Dipl. Journalist, film director and BIGSAS Junior Fellow

Abiola Oladimeji, MA, student of *Intercultural German Studies*, Bayreuth University

Tanimomo Oluseun, MA, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University

Hyunsung Park, Sculpture student at *Akademie der bildenden Künste München*

Peggy Piesche, diploma, Researcher at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Mariam Popal, Dr., Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute of English and American Studies and associated member of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Elmnaz Shahbali, MA, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University, and student assistant at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Gilbert Ndi Shang, Dr., is BIGSAS ALUMNUS and lecturer at University of Yaoundé

Nadine Siegert, Dr., BIGSAS ALUMNA, Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of Iwalewahaush, project leader at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

Rémi Tchokothe, Dr., BIGSAS ALUMNUS and Postdoctoral Researcher on African Languages and Literatures

Kristina Udechuckwu, MA, student of *Culture and Society in Africa*, Bayreuth University, and student assistant at DEVA

Clarissa Vierke, Professor of African Literatures in African Languages

Corinna Walker, MA, student of *Intercultural Anglophone Studies*, Bayreuth University, and student assistant at the Institute of English and American Studies

Email contact Team:

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By mail:

BIGSAS Festival Afrikanischer und Afrikanisch-Diasporischer Literaturen
c/o BIGSAS
Universität Bayreuth
D-95440 Bayreuth

Team

University of Bayreuth, Faculty of Language and Literature Studies,
Professorship of English Studies and Anglophone Literatures

Directorate:

Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt
Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard, Dipl.Journ.

Accounting:

Lisa Günther & Ying Lin

Production:

Shirin Assa, Linda Besigiroha, & Mariam Popal

Technical Department:

Anouar Messada, Oladapo Ajayi, Tanimomo Oluseun

Hospitality:

Oladapo Ajayi, Weeraya Donsomsakulkij, Stephanie Landgraf, Natalie Linder, Tanimomo Oluseun, Elmnaz Shahbali & Linda Corinna Walker

Curation Scenic Reading „1914“, Children's workshop & BIGSister Talk:

Katharina Fink

Curation Scenic Reading „1904“:

Renzo Baas

Translation:

Linda Besigiroha & Corinna Walker

As well as:

Shola Adenekan, Nikitta Adjirakor, Eric Anchimbe, Akiiki Babyesiza, Nabil Barham, Ute Fendler, Christine Matzke, Aminata Cecile Mbaye, Samuel Ndogo, Abiola Oladimeji, Peggy Piesche, Gilbert Ndi Shang, Nadine Siegert, Rémi Tchokothe, Clarissa Vierke

Catering:

Guerilla-Kochen, Bayreuth: www.guerilla-kochen.de

Artwork:

Logo: Adam Azarian, Paris

Layout, Graphics, Webdesign: www.movimientos.net

Photography: Julia Dittmann & Elmnaz Shahbali

Videography: Mbuguah Bekisizwe Goro

Venue:

Kunstmuseum Bayreuth
Maximilianstr. 33 | 954 44 Bayreuth

Altes Schloss Bayreuth
Maximilianstr. 6 | 95444 Bayreuth



The BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic is an event of the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) of the University of Bayreuth in cooperation with:

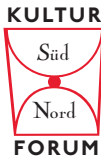


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IWALEWAIUS



 a-Bell issee	 Namibia Memorial			 Reichsbrache	 Sol-Plaatzje Plaza	 W.E.B. Du Bois-Str.		 Von-Puttkammer-Senke	 Hilarius Gilges-Blvd.																																																																																																																																																		
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