AfTA 2015 Overall Conference Schedule

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

19:00 AfTA Executive Board Meeting - Foley Commons

Thursday, July 23, 2015

1:00 Welcome - Strub Theatre

1:30 - 2:45 Keynote 1 - Strub Theatre
“African Diaspora Drama: A View from the Middle East”
Sandra L. Richards

3:00 - 4:30 Parallel Panels 1-3 - Various Rooms

4:45 - 6:15 Parallel Panels 4-7 - Various Rooms

6:30 Welcoming Reception - Dunning Courtyard

8:00 Performances (for those who wish to attend)
*In the Continuum* (LMU) - Barnelle Theatre
*Waiting for Godi* (University of Botswana) - Foley 110

Friday, July 24, 2015

9:30 - 10:45 Keynote 2 - Strub Theatre
“Myth, Mythopoeia and Robert Serumaga’s *Majangwa* (A Promise of Rains, 1971)”
George Bwanika Seremba

11:00 - 12:30 Panels 8-11 - Various Rooms

12:45 - 2:00 Lunch - Foley Pond

2:15 - 3:45 Panels 12-15 - Various Rooms

4:00 - 5:30 Panels 16-19 - Various Rooms

5:45 - 7:15 Dinner - The Hill

7:30 Keynote 3 - Mayer Theatre
Debebe Eshtu interviewed by Elias Wondimu
followed by a screening of *Alim Adumin* (Red Leaves) Hebrew & Amharic
with English subtitles
**Saturday, July 25**

10:00 - 12:00  AfTA General Meeting - Strub Theatre

12:15 - 1:45  Lunch - Dunning Courtyard

2:00 - 3:30  Keynote 4 - Strub Theatre
“Devising Hip Hop Theatre for Community Connection”
Daniel Banks in conversation with Kathryn Ervin

3:45 - 5:15  Panels 20-23 - Various Rooms

5:30 - 6:15  Canadian novelist Patricia Keeney reads from her novel about Charles Tumwisigye who worked with Robert Serumaga and Abafumi Company

6:30  Dinner - Dunning Courtyard

8:00  Performances (for those who wish to attend)
*In the Continuum* (LMU) - Barnelle Theatre
*Waiting for Godi* (University of Botswana) - Foley 110

**Sunday, July 26**

10:00 - 11:15  Keynote 5 - Strub Theatre
“The Oriki of A Dream: The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre and Africa”
Don Rubin

11:30 - 1:00  Panels 24-26
# AfTA 2015 Detailed Conference Schedule

## Wednesday, 22 July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>AfTA Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>Foley Commons</td>
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## Thursday, 23 July 2015

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm - 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>Foley Lobby</td>
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<td>Conference packets for pre-registered participants are available at the conference registration table in the lobby of the Foley Building. For those who have not pre-registered, on-site conference registration is also available at the conference registration table in the lobby of Foley.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Conference Opening</td>
<td>Strub Theatre</td>
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<td>Bryant Keith Alexander</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dean, College of Communication and Fine Arts, LMU</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sam Kasule</td>
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<td>President, African Theatre Association</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sola Adeyemi</td>
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<td>Secretary General, African Theatre Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 - 2:45</td>
<td>Keynote 1</td>
<td>Strub Theatre</td>
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<td>“African Diaspora Drama: A View from the Middle East”</td>
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<td>Sandra L. RICHARDS (Northwestern University)</td>
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<td>Presiding: Sola ADEYEMI (University of Greenwich)</td>
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<td>3:00 - 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Panel 1: Nigerian Performance in and out of Nigeria</td>
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<td>Panel Chair:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1. Susan Olubukola BADEJI (Redeemer’s University)</td>
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“Not ‘Far from the Madding Crowd’: Aso-Ebi as a Passport for Social Integration in Yoruba Socio-Cultural Settings”

2. Tracie Chima UTOH-EZEAJUGHU (Nnamdi Azikiwe University) and Alex ASIGBO (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)
“Before the Middle Passage: Slavery and Its African Antecedents in Nigerian Plays”

3. ‘Tosin Kooshima TUME (Federal University Oye-Ekiti)
“Performing Peace and Democracy in Nigeria: Bakare's Outing in Langbodo”

4. Awuawuer Tijime JUSTIN (Obafemi Awolowo University)
“Ivom Dance Carnival and the Tiv People of Central Nigeria”

3:00-4:30 p.m. Panel 2: Traditional Culture and the Drama

Panel Chair:

1. Ismaila Rasheed ADEDOYIN (University of Lagos)
“Tradition in Transition: From Festival to Carnival”

2. Eunice U. IBEKWE (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)
“Singing the Child to Sleep: Children’s Folksongs and Cultural Identity”

3. Gladys Ijeoma AKUNNA (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)
“The Death Dance and Grief Management in an Africa Community and the Diaspora: A Comparative Analysis”

4. Bekezela DUBE
“African Ritual Theatre as True and Original Act of Performing Africa”

3:00-4:30 p.m. Panel 3: The Transnational Reception, Consumption, Aesthetics and Politics of African Theatre and Performance

Panel Chair: Praise ZENENGA (University of Arizona)

1. Torsten SANNAR (Independent Scholar)
“Playing Sun City: The Politics of Entertainment at a South African Megaresort”

2. Christina MCMAHON (University of California, Santa Barbara)
“RUINED in Reading: Community Theatre, Activism, and Africa out of Context”

3. David DONKOR (Texas A & M University)
“Dance of the Savior King: Statecraft, Stagecraft and the Grand Durbar of Ghanaian Independence”

4. Praise ZENENGA (University of Arizona)
“Deferred Dreams: Structure and the Agency of Youths in Black Drama”
Panel 4: Cross-Diasporan Representations

Panel Chair:

1. Ameh Dennis AKOH (Osun State University)
   “Is the Blackman still a Victim? A Post-Obama Reading of Leroi Jones’ *Dutchman* and Bode Sowande’s *Tornadoes Full of Dreams*”

2. Michael PEARCE (University of Exeter)
   “Routes to Roots: Black British Representations of Africa via Black America”

3. Amy JEPHTA (University of Cape Town)
   “Across the Divide: Representations of Africa in Contemporary American Playwriting”

4. Joseph MCLAREN (Hofstra University)
   “Return to the Motherland: Afropolitan Implications in Ade Solanke’s *Pandora’s Box*”

Panel 5: Intertextual and Cultural Criticism

Panel Chair:

1. Sam KASULE (University of Derby)
   “Exploring diaspora migrant spaces through African and Classical in theatre”

2. Richard HAMBA (Teens Uganda)
   “Inclusive African Culture”

3. ’Leke OGUNFEYIMI (Samuel Adegboyega University)
   “How Africa is Performed – Identifying Leadership Deficit, Apologies of Pain and Existential-Temper in Selected African Plays”

4. Nathan KIBERU
   “Culture and Society”

Panel 6: Technology, Media and African Society

Panel Chair:

1. Sola BALOGUN (Federal University)
   “Community Radio and Mobile Phone as Transmitters of Cultural Expressions across Borders”

2. Nsikan Bassey ASUQUO (Federal University)
“Reviving and Globalizing the Positive African Cultural Values via Media Technology: a Panacea for Curbing Moral Profligacy”

3. Teryila Shadrach UKUMA (Benue State University)
“Indigenous Films and Cultural Promotion: Bennywood as an Emerging Platform”

4. Emmy Unuja IDEGU (Ahmadu Bello University)
“Between Cultural Promotion and Cultural Pollution in a New World Order: Whither Nigerian Home Movies?”

4:45-6:15 p.m.  Panel 7: Research in African Dance

Panel Chair:

1. Emem OLUTOKE (University of Abuja)
“Nigerian Dance and Cultural Diplomacy: Issues and Challenges”

2. Sheron WRAY (University of California, Irvine)
“Improvisation: Serial Knowledge Production”

3. Chris NWARU (University of Northampton)
“From Ikpirikpe-Ogu to Nkwa-Ike: Adapting Igbo traditional dance for a contemporary audience”

4. Ikike UFFORD (University of Calabar)
“Evaluating the Elastic Nature of KOKOMA Dance Form”

6:30 p.m.  Welcoming Reception & Display Opening

Sponsored by the Office of the Dean of the College of Communication and Fine Arts, Bryant Keith Alexander, Dean.
All conference participants are invited to join us for a reception in the Dunning Courtyard in Burns Fine Arts Building. Food and beverage will be served.

In the Laband Art Gallery, adjoining the courtyard, there will be a display from the University of Lagos, courtesy of Vice Chancellor Professor R.A. Bello: Sights and Sounds from Unilag-AfriCaribbean Carnival from 2005 to 2015: An Exhibition of Audio-Visuales, Web and Still Images of Performances

8:00 p.m.  Theatre Performances (for those who wish to attend)

In the Continuum (LMU)  Barnelle Theatre
Two productions will be presented nightly at the conference. Attendance is free for all conference attendees and seating is first come, first served.

**Friday, 24 July 2015**

9:30-10:45 p.m. **Keynote 2**
Strub Theatre
“Myth, Mythopoeia and Robert Serumaga’s Majangwa (A Promise of Rains, 1971)”
George Bwanika SEREMBA (Brown University)

Presiding: Kene Igweonu (Canterbury Christ Church University)

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Panel 8: Practical Aspects of Nigerian Theatre**
Panel Chair:

1. Alphonsus Shireku ORISAREMI (University of Ibadan)
“The Cultural Revolution of Theatre Technology in Nigeria”

2. Olatunji SOTIMIRIN (University of Lagos)
“African Worldview as Relayed in the Gestures of Nigerian Actors”

3. Abiola Olubunni FASORANTI (Kwara State University)
“The Nigerian Theatre Director and the Quest for Africanity”

4. Dennis TEGHTEGH (Benue State University)
“African Performance, Maintaining Theatrical Status-Quo or Breaking New Grounds in Nigeria?”

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Panel 9: Gender and Orientation in Diasporan Drama**
Panel Chair:

1. Akpos ADESI (Niger Delta University)
“A Re-Examination of Baraka’s Diatribe and the Concept of Black Macho in Madheart”

2. Christine Odi (Niger Delta University)
“Drama and Social Protest in Nigeria: A Gendered Appraisal of Development Issues in Select Playtexts”

3. Bryce Lease (Royal Holloway, University of London)
“From RuPaul to the Cape Flats: Drag and Glocal Queer Politics”
4. Mojisola Adebayo (Goldsmiths and Queen Mary University of London)
“Performing African Heroes from America to Antarctica – Theatre Artist, Activist and Academic Mojisola Adebayo performs and discusses her work at the intersection of black, queer, diasporic experience”

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Panel 10: Community and National Identity in African Drama

Panel Chair:

1. Julia Goldstein (Baruch College, CUNY Graduate Center)
“‘Exchange is Oxygen’: East African Transnationalism and the Sundance Institute at the Kampala International Theatre Festival”

2. Ajumeze HENRY Obi
“The Niger Delta Creeks as space for the performance of geophysicality and theatricality”

3. Sabata SESIU (University of Cape Town)
“Zabalaza Drama Festival - A Celebration of Township Joy, Sorrow, Tears and Pain”

4. Tam Gordon AZORBO (Niger Delta University)
“Curbing Restiveness Using the Arts: Example of the Arts Council, Bayelsa State of Nigeria”

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Panel 11: Performing Diasporan Drama

Panel Chair:

1. Izuu NWANKWO (Anambra State University)
“Home, Exile and the In-Betweeness of (Not) Belonging: A Comparative Reading of the Character of Esiaba Irobi’s Theatre and Poetry”

2. Mabel I.E. EVWIERHOMA (University of Abuja)
“Performing Identities in Caribbean Drama: The Typicality of The Banjo Man, Masquerade and The Tramping Man Probed”

3. Christophe Patrick-Jude OTEH (Jos Repertory Theatre)
“History as Performance in Aime Cesaire’s The Tragedy of King Christophe”

4. Joshua Williams (University of California, Berkeley)
“All this Dying, All These Dead: Staging Genocide in the African Diaspora”

12:45 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch
Foley Pond
Panel 12: Women and Diasporan Drama

Panel Chair:

1. Kehinde Abimbola ADENIYI (Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education) & Akinuli OLUMIDE Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education
   “The changing images and roles of women in African Theatre and performance: From Zulu Sofola’s *Wedlock of the Gods* to Femi Osofisan’s *Morountodun*”

2. Rasheedah LIMAN (Ahmadu Bello University)
   “Identity Question and the Dilemma of the African Diaspora: The Stage Performance of Tess Onwueme’s *Tell it to Women* in the Drama Village of Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Nigeria”

3. Osita C. EZENWANEBE (University of Lagos)

4. John YESEIBO
   “Black Feminism and the Resistance of Racial Stereotyping in Shange's *For Colored Girls... and Trouble in Mind* by Alice Childress”

Panel 13: Theorizing Africa

Panel Chair:

1. Kene IGWEONU (Canterbury Christ Church University)
   “Performing Africa: Africa, Africanity and the Aesthetic Principle”

2. Alex ASIGBO (Nnamdi Azikiwe University) & Ngozi UDENGWU (University of Nigeria, Nsukka)
   “Towards an Afro-centric Criticism of African Theatre”

3. Sola ADEYEMI (University of Greenwich)
   “Mapping the Land: Colonial and Postcolonial Geographies in African Drama”

4. A. Bernard ADIRACKKOR (University of Ghana, Legon)
   “Telling the African Story: His-Story Lies between Our-Story and Their-Story”

Panel 14: African Diaspora in the Cinema

Panel Chair:

1. Friday NWAFOR (University of Port Harcourt)
“African Diaspora and Religious Cult Worship: A Filmic Reading of Ola Balogun’s *African Gods in Brazil*”

2. **Innocent Ebere UWAH (University of Port Harcourt)**  
   “Nollywood and African Diaspora experiences: Dissecting black Africa’s ‘belonging’ in Western multicultural society”

3. **Mary OKOCHA (Osun State University)**  
   “Appropriation of Nigerian Movies and its implication for African Cinema and Culture”

4. **Kunle ABOGUNLOKO (Redeemer’s University)**  
   “Africa and Africa in Diaspora: One World Two Faces in Filmic Cultural Reaffirmation”

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Panel 15: African Space and Design in Diasporan Performance</th>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Panel Chair:</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Toyin OGUNDEJI (Obafemi Awolowo University)</strong></td>
<td>“Touching with the Roots: The Diasporic Use of African Fabrics in Performance”</td>
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<td>3. <strong>Aderemi Michael ADEOYA (Federal University)</strong></td>
<td>“Theatre Design, Performance and Religion: Redefining the African Diasporan Space”</td>
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<td>4. <strong>Tracie-Chima UTOH-EZEAJUGH (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)</strong></td>
<td>“Writing a People’s History on the Skin: African Body Designs and Socio-Cultural Significance”</td>
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4:00 - 5:30 p.m. **Panel 16: Nollywood and Hollywood**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Panel Chair:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Nkemakonam ANIUKWU (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)</strong></td>
<td>“Interrogating the True Identity of Africans: Selected Nollywood and Hollywood Films as Paradigms”</td>
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<td>2. <strong>Abiodun Adewale OLAYIWOLA (Obafemi Awolowo University)</strong></td>
<td>“Contemporary Western Films and the Endangerment of Black Consciousness”</td>
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<td>3. <strong>Baron KELLY (University of Louisville)</strong></td>
<td>“The Frustration to Capture Blackness: Bring it, All You F--king Animals”</td>
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4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  Panel 17: Dancing the Diaspora

Panel Chair:

1. Casmir E. ONYEMUCHARA (Federal University)
   “Not Lost but Rooted: Exploring Nigerian Dances and Praxis in Brazil and Cuba”

2. Victor THOMPSON (University of Uyo)
   “Africa to America: Black Choreography in Search of Global Interaction in Contemporary African Dance Genre”

3. Megan J. STEWART (California State University, Dominguez Hills)
   & Audrey EDWARDS (California State University, Dominguez Hills)

4. Ruth Stellamaris OPARA (University of Colorado)
   “Do American Students ‘Talk Too Much’ or are they Curios?: Transnational Encounter: Dancing Africa!”

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  Panel 18: Theatre in Cameroon and Angola

Panel Chair:

1. Asheri KILO (Ministry of Arts and Culture)
   & Fondzeyuf K TUME (University of Douala)
   “Mfouh: A Performance Appraisal”

2. Fondzeyuf K TUME (University of Douala)
   & Yvette Ngum (Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies)
   “Theatre Ethnicity and the Anglophone-Anglophone Dichotomy in Cameroon”

3. Agnela Barros WILPER (ISCED University)
   “From Angola to the World”

4. Damian Kuvula
   “Rethinking Socioeducation”

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.  Panel 19: Constructions of Africa and Blackness on World Stages

Panel Chair:

1. Juliana OKOH (University of Port Harcourt)
   “Reinventing African Indigenous Culture in Contemporary Nigerian and Black American Drama”
2. Connie Rapoo (University of Botswana)
   & Pabalelo TSHANE (University of Botswana)
   “ Appropriations, Parodies, and Constructs of Blackness in contemporary Black
   theatre and performance”

3. Annette Bühler-Dietrich (Université de Onagadougou)
   “Africa and America in the plays by Koffi Kwahulé”

4. Julius Heinicke (Freie University Berlin)
   “The World Theatre of Zimbabwean Diaspora Artists”

5:45 - 7:15 p.m. Dinner
The Hill
Malone Hall

7:30 p.m. Keynote 3
Debebe Eshtu interviewed by Elias Wondimu
followed by a screening of Alim Adumin (Red Leaves)
[Hebrew & Amharic with English subtitles]

Saturday, 25 July 2015

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m AfTA Annual General Meeting
Strub Theatre

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Lunch
Dunning Courtyard

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Keynote 4
“Devising Hip Hop Theatre for Community Connection”
Daniel Banks in conversation with Kathryn Ervin

3:45 - 5:15 p.m. Panel 20: Music and Drama in African Theatre
Panel Chair:

1. Somieari Ikiroma-Owiye (University of Port Harcourt)
   “Dissecting directing in masked dramaturgy: Directing Ekine Drama”

2. Jeleel Olasunkanmi OJUADE (University of Ilorin)
“A Teleological Analysis of the Transformation of ‘Wéré’ to ‘Fúji’ in Ilorin”

3. Oluwadamilare Adeyeri (Roehampton University)
“In search of Yorùbá Bátá: Systems of Cultural Production in Diaspora”

4. Agatha N. NWANYA (Nasarawa State University)
& Lantana AHMED (Nasarawa State University)
“Celebrating the Past in the Present: African Folk Musicians and Contemporary Relevance”

3:45 - 5:15 p.m. Panel 21: Cinema, Women and Morality
Panel Chair:

1. Omolola Tosan AKINWOLE (University of Ibadan)
“An Appraisal of women in Tunde Kelani’s Movies: A study of Thunderbolt”

2. Charles A. OGAZIE (Adeyemi College of Education)
“Nudity and debasement of womanhood in African films; the examples of selected Ghallywood films”

3. Olayinka AROGUNMASA (Federal College of Education)
& Mary OKOCHA (Osun State University)
“Nigerian movies as a Medium for Repositioning the Nigerian Woman”

4. Etuwe Ruth EPOCHI-OLISE (College of Education, Agbor)
“Nollywood and Socio-Cultural Dilemma: Nudity or Dressing Up?”

3:45 - 5:15 p.m. Panel 22: Performing the African-American
Panel Chair:

1. Oluchi J. IGILI (Adekunle Ajasin University)
“Performing Silence in Marriage: A Deconstructive Study of Ruth and Beneatha’s Roles in Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun”

2. Joseph Agofure IDOGHO (Federal University)
“Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun: The African-Diaspora’s Identity Search and Racial Discrimination Dialectics”

3. Francisca A. NWADIGWE (Nnamdi Azikiwe University)
“Identity and Gender in African-American Theatre: A Critique of the Drama of Robbie McCauley”

4. Amirikpa OYIGBENU (Nasarawa State University)
Panel 23: Representations and Misrepresentations in Cinema

Panel Chair:

1. Sola FOSUDO
“Identity, Creative Reality, and Representations of Popular Culture in Select Nollywood Movies”

2. Oluwagbemiga Oluwasegun WINDAPO (Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education) & Hafiz Adebimpe OYETORO (Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education)
“Nollywood and the Socio-Cultural Representation and Misrepresentation of the Yoruba”

3. Cornelius Eze ONYEKABA (University of Lagos)
“Portrayal of Gangsterism in Selected Nigerian and Jamaican Gangster Films”

Public Literary Reading

Canadian novelist Patricia Keeney reads from her novel about Charles Tumwisigye who worked with Robert Serumaga and Abafumi Company

Dinner

Theatre Performances (for those who wish to attend)

_In the Continuum_ (LMU)
Barnelle Theatre

_Waiting for Godi_ (University of Botswana)
Foley 110

Two productions will be presented nightly at the conference. Attendance is free for all conference attendees and seating is first come, first served.

Sunday, 26 July 2015

Keynote 5

“The Oriki of A Dream: _The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre and Africa_”

Don RUBIN

Presiding: Sam KASULE
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<td>1. Gowan Ama DOKI (Benue State University)</td>
<td>1. Law Ikay EZEH, Jr. (National Institute for Cultural Orientation)</td>
<td>1. Agbasiere CHIJOKE (Anambra State University)</td>
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<td>2. Gloria Chimeziem ERNEST-SAMUEL (University of the Witwatersrand)</td>
<td>2. Pabalelo G. Tshane (University of Botswana)</td>
<td>2. Olufemi OKE (University of Lagos)</td>
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<td>3. Barclays Foubiri AYAKOROMA (Nasarawa State University)</td>
<td>3. Sunday Enessi ODODO (University of Maiduguri)</td>
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<td>“Presenting History in the Representation of Historical Events: A Critical Reading of Lancelot Oduwa Imasuen’s Invasion 1897”</td>
<td>“Dialogic Strategies for Value Sustenance between Traditional Performances in Africa and the Diaspora”</td>
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<td>4. Ezekiel BOLAJI (Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education) and Kehinde Abimbola ADENIYI</td>
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<td>“Revolution, Language and the Theatre: A Swinging Pendulum between African and the Diaspora”</td>
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“Dramatic Representation of Colour-Based Conflicts in Early African Societies: Sizwe Banzi is Dead as Focus”

3. Ngozi UDENGWU (University of Nigeria, Nsukka) & Nnanna NDUBUISI (University of Nigeria, Nsukka) & Ikechukwu EOJIKWE (University of Nigeria, Nsukka) "The Historical Determinants of the Political Fortunes of Theatre in Africa”

4. Paulina Aroch Fugellie (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana) “Shylock in Dar es Salaam: Julius Nyerere’s Translation and Political Theatre”