

# Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

The Observatory has been launched with the support of African Union, the Ford Foundation and UNESCO with a view to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and enhance their integration in human development strategies through advocacy, information, research, capacity building, networking, co-ordination and co-operation at the regional and international levels.

January 14, 2003

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## Visit the OCPA web site

<http://www.imo.hr/ocpa/>

Are you planning meetings, research activities, publications of interest for the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa?

Have you heard about such activities implemented or foreseen by others?

Do you have information about innovative projects in cultural policy and cultural development in Africa?

Do you know interesting links or e-mail addresses to be included in the web site or the listserv?

Please send information and documents for inclusion in the OCPA web site!

**Thank you for your co-operation**

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Should you wish not to receive our information, please send an email and we will delete your address from our mailing list.

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## **A. VIIème Biennale de l'Art Bantu contemporain**

Le Jury de la VIIème Biennale de l'Art Bantu Contemporain, organisée dans le cadre du 50ème anniversaire de l'Ecole de Peinture de Poto-Poto, s'est réuni à Brazzaville les 23 et 25 novembre 2002.

Après un échange enrichissant de points de vue sur les critères esthétiques à utiliser et une restructuration de la grille des prix, le Jury a délibéré en fonction des objectifs de promotion des principales expressions plastiques de la sous-région, des nouveaux essais techniques, de nouvelles représentations thématiques, du contexte célébratif de la VIIème Biennale et du thème général de l'exposition « Pour l'Union Africaine ».

Le Jury a aussi tenu compte de la nécessité d'encourager les talents féminins et les artistes jeunes. Après délibérations, le Jury a décidé d'établir le palmarès de la VIIème Biennale. Les principaux prix ont été attribués comme suit :

- Le Premier Grand Prix de Peinture « Président de la République du Congo » d'une valeur de deux millions francs (2.000.000) CFA, à ILOKI (Junior), peintre de la deuxième génération de l'Ecole de Peinture de Poto-Poto, pour sa toile « Bras soudés ».
- le Grand Prix de Sculpture « Président de la République du Congo » d'une valeur de deux millions francs (2.000.000 CFA), à Joao Domingos MABUACA « MAYEMBE » de l'Angola, pour sa sculpture sur bois intitulé « Sonho de liberdade ».

La liste détaillée de tous les prix attribués peut être obtenue auprès de M. Simao SOUINDOULA, CICIBA  
[souindoula@voila.fr](mailto:souindoula@voila.fr).

## **B. Panapresse**

site d'information extrêmement riche sur les articles publiés dans la presse, entre autres, sur les cultures africaines (sélection)

<http://www.panapress.com/RubIndexlat.asp?code=fr006>

### Démarrage officiel à Paris de l'Année de l'Algérie en France

**Paris, France (PANA)** - "Djazair, une Année de l'Algérie en France" a été lancée officiellement mardi soir au stade omnisports de Paris-Bercy, en présence de plusieurs personnalités algériennes et françaises, a constaté sur place la PANA. **01/01/2003** [texte intégral...](#)

### Colloque international sur la créolité, à La Réunion

**Saint-Denis, La Réunion (PANA)** - Un colloque international sur la créolité s'ouvrira mercredi à Saint Gilles, dans l'ouest de La Réunion, et rassemblera des personnalités culturelles, intellectuelles et politiques de la sous-région de l'océan Indien et des pays créolophones du monde entier. **17/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### Jenny Robson lauréate du Prix UNESCO de littérature pour enfants

**Paris, France (PANA)** - La Sud-Africaine Jenny Robson a été déclarée co-lauréate du Prix 2003 de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture (UNESCO) de "Littérature pour enfants et adolescents au service de la tolérance", a-t-on appris mardi à Paris auprès de l'institution onusienne. **17/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Conférence culturelle à Bruxelles](#)

**Bruxelles, Belgique (PANA)** - Le gouvernement fédéral belge et celui de la Communauté française de Belgique organisent les 17 et 18 décembre à Bruxelles une conférence à laquelle ont été conviés les ministres de la Culture de 9 pays africains, annonce un communiqué officiel publié lundi dans la capitale belge. **16/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Premier festival culturel des ACP à Haïti en 2004](#)

**Dakar, Sénégal (PANA)** - Le premier festival culturel des pays membres des ACP (Afrique, Caraïbes, Pacifique) sera organisé à Haïti durant l'été 2004, a annoncé ce jeudi à Bruxelles le secrétariat des ACP. **12/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Une nouvelle société des droits d'auteur au Cameroun](#)

**Yaoundé, Cameroun (PANA)** - Le Cameroun s'est doté d'une nouvelle structure de droits d'auteur, la Société civile de littérature et des arts dramatiques (SOCILADRA), qui a élu M. Hubert Mono Ndzana à sa tête à l'issue de son premier conseil d'administration. **09/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [La France appuie la réhabilitation du patrimoine royal du Bénin](#)

**Cotonou, Bénin (PANA)** - La France a débloqué quelque 26 millions de FCFA pour la réhabilitation du palais du roi Glèlè, avant-dernier souverain (1858-1889) du Dahomey, aujourd'hui Bénin, avant l'invasion coloniale française, a-t-on appris dimanche de sources proches de la dynastie royale. **08/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Vers la création d'un fonds du cinéma en Guinée-Bissau](#)

**Bissau, Guinée-Bissau (PANA)** - Le président de l'Institut national bissau-guinéen de cinéma, M. Ciro Lacerda, a annoncé vendredi la création prochaine en Guinée-Bissau d'un fonds d'appui et de promotion du cinéma, d'un montant de 600 millions de francs CFA (914.369 dollars US). **06/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Salon international du livre de Casablanca du 9 au 15 décembre](#)

**Rabat, Maroc (PANA)** - La 9ème édition du Salon international de l'édition et du livre de Casablanca se tiendra du 9 au 15 décembre, a-t-on appris mercredi de source bien informée. **04/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Akando remporte le 1er prix du Festival de Télé pour l'enfance](#)

**Cotonou, Bénin (PANA)** - Le cinéaste et réalisateur béninois Séverin Akando a remporté le "Cerceau d'or", premier prix de la deuxième édition du Festival international de cinéma et de télévision pour l'enfance (FICECO) qui vient de s'achever à Cotonou, a appris ce mardi la PANA. **03/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [La Réunion et Madagascar à l'honneur au Festival Africolor](#)

**Paris, France (PANA)** - La Réunion et Madagascar étaient samedi à l'honneur de la deuxième journée du festival Africolor qui se déroule depuis le 29 novembre dernier dans 12 villes de la Seine-Saint-Denis, en région parisienne. **02/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Congo : 1er Salon de l'Artisanat et de la mode en Afrique centrale](#)

**Brazzaville, Congo (PANA)** - Le 1er Salon spécial sur l'artisanat et de la mode (SAMA 2002) en Afrique centrale s'est ouverte dimanche au stade Alphonse Massamba-Débat de Brazzaville pour faire la promotion des métiers de la mode, de l'esthétique et de l'artisanat. **02/12/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Ouidah abrite en janvier un festival international de films](#)

**Cotonou, Bénin (PANA)** - La ville de Ouidah, ancien comptoir d'esclaves situé à environ 40 km de Cotonou, abritera du 8 au 19 janvier prochain la première édition d'un festival international de films, a-t-on appris vendredi à Cotonou auprès des organisateurs.  
**29/11/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Les Etats de l'espace Ciciba conviés au mécénat d'art](#)

**Brazzaville, Congo (PANA)** - Les participants à la réunion de l'Association Bantu des Artistes Plasticiens (ABAP) ont demandé, mercredi à Brazzaville, aux Etats membres du Centre international des civilisations bantu (CICIBA), d'accorder des subventions aux artistes pour les aider à améliorer leurs conditions de vie et de travail, a-t-on appris jeudi, de source proche du ministère congolais de la Culture et des Arts. **28/11/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [Appel à perpétuer la mémoire culturelle bantue](#)

**Brazzaville, Congo (PANA)** - Le président du jury de la VII<sup>e</sup> Biennale de l'Art Bantu Contemporain au Congo, l'équato-guinéen Leondro Mbomio, a invité mardi à Brazzaville les plasticiens des 11 pays membres du Centre international des civilisations bantues (CICIBA), à perpétuer la mémoire culturelle de l'Afrique à travers l'art bantu, a annoncé ce mercredi la radio publique congolaise. **27/11/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [1er prix de la Triennale d'Art Contemporain de l'océan Indien](#)

**Saint Denis, La Réunion (PANA)** - Le photographe réunionnais Thierry Fontaine a reçu le premier prix de la Triennale d'Art Contemporain qui s'est tenue à Maurice pour la première fois, la semaine dernière, a appris mardi la PANA, de source bien informée auprès du Centre Culturel français de Port Louis, principale partenaire de la manifestation culturelle.  
**27/11/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

### [La "Route de l'esclave" bientôt patrimoine de l'UNESCO](#)

**Cotonou, Bénin (PANA)** - L'itinéraire béninois de "La route de l'esclave" (projet qui vise à remonter le chemin parcouru par les esclaves, de leurs villages jusqu'à leur arrivée chez leurs maîtres) sera déclaré dans les tous prochains jours patrimoine mondial de l'UNESCO, a révélé ce week-end à Cotonou le Pr Olabiya Yaï, ambassadeur du Bénin à l'UNESCO.  
**25/11/2002** [texte intégral...](#)

## **C. QUELQUES JOURNEES INTERNATIONALES OBSERVEES PAR LE SYSTEME DES NATIONS UNIES (intéressant les cultures africaines)**

[http://www.dakar.unesco.org/journees\\_un/journees\\_fr.shtml](http://www.dakar.unesco.org/journees_un/journees_fr.shtml)

- 21 février - Journée internationale de la langue maternelle (UNESCO)
- 21 mars - Journée mondiale de la poésie (UNESCO)
- 23 Avril - Journée mondiale du livre et du droit d'auteur (UNESCO)
- 3 Mai - Journée mondiale de liberté de la presse (UNESCO)
- 25 mai - Journée de l'Afrique
- 9 août - Journée internationale des populations autochtones

- 23 août - Journée internationale du souvenir de la traite négrière et de son abolition (UNESCO)
- 8 September - Journée internationale de l'alphabétisation (UNESCO)
- 21 novembre - Journée mondiale de la télévision
- 2 décembre - Journée internationale pour l'abolition de l'esclavage
- 10 décembre - Journée des droits de l'homme

## **D. Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida) with Africa in the field of culture Africa**

<http://www.sida.org/Sida/jsp/Crosslink.jsp?d=160>

The overall goal of Swedish development cooperation is to raise the standard of living of poor people in the world. The Swedish Parliament has adopted the following six specific objectives to achieve this overall goal:

- Economic growth
- Economic and political independence
- Economic and social equality
- Democratic development in society
- The long-term sustainable use of natural resources and protection of the environment
- Equality between men and women

### **Development co-operation in the field of culture**

In the wide sense of the term culture embraces the whole complex of spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features that characterise a society or social group and that include modes of life, religious beliefs and ethics.

Culture can be said to be another word for human development. It is a question of how we perceive and understand our history and the age we are living in today, and how we use this perception and understanding to organise our lives and live together. We take part in the shaping of our culture and, at the same time, we ourselves are shaped by it. This description of culture and, at the same time, we ourselves are shaped by it. This description of culture is in line with the principles contained in the report *Our creative Diversity* (1995) from the World Commission for Culture and Development, and with the action plan which was adopted by the Stockholm conference *The Power of Culture* (1998).

### **New approach to culture, the media and development**

In 1981 the Swedish Government decided to start a pilot programme of cultural support to developing countries. The view of culture exclusively as a means for development has been extended since then. Today culture is regarded as a goal in itself.

Sweden was one of the first countries to give culture a special position in governmental development co-operation. Sweden has supported the World Decade of Cultural Development through the UN and the World Commission for Culture and Development, and hosted the world conference The Power of Culture in Stockholm in 1998. This conference urged UN member states to adopt the following five goals for their culture policies:

- to make cultural policy one of the key components of development strategy
- to promote creativity and participation in cultural life
- to reinforce policy and practice to safeguard and enhance the cultural heritage and to promote cultural industries
- to promote cultural and linguistic diversity in and for the information society
- to make more human and financial resources available for cultural development

In the 1990s Swedish media support has also developed and expanded. Its main focus has been on protecting freedom of speech by supporting the reform of legislation, contributing to research, making freedom of action possible for journalists and the media, and supporting networks between journalists, nationally and regionally. Supporting the media in their critical examination and for their educational potential is seen today as an important part of Swedish development co-operation for the promotion of democracy and human rights.

### **Culture in the regional and national development co-operation strategies**

In many cases the Swedish aid strategies make explicit reference to culture as a possible or priority field of co-operation as for example in the case of West Africa, Botswana, Mozambique

In the case of **South Africa**, in the chapter concerning culture and media the country strategy stress that „Culture was an important weapon in the struggle against oppression during the Apartheid period. Many black South Africans, however, lack the formal knowledge necessary to be able to manage museums, theatres etc. in a democratic society. Cooperation between Swedish and South African cultural institutions therefore forms an important part of support to the culture sector.

Swedish support includes:

- Cooperation between Gothenburg College of Music and South African music institutions and between Stockholm City Theatre and a stage school connected to The Market Theatre in Johannesburg.
- South African organisations which train children in art, drama and dance.
- District Six Museum which documents and dramatises the compulsory relocations which took place during the Apartheid period.
- Robben Island Museum for further training of museum.”

In the framework of the co-operation with **Tanzania** Sweden is supporting the co-operation between culture and the media, among others through the community theatre focusing on children and young people, which has given 10 000 children the chance to pass on their messages to a much wider audience thanks to festivals and the mass media. Support for

regional networks is increasing cultural exchange and trade cooperation across national borders. A certain amount of support has also been given to culture and the media on a regional level.

### **The Council for Development Research**

Each year, Sida via its Developing Country Research Council publishes notice of support for Swedish developing country research. The aim is to establish and maintain a knowledge base of relevance to aid and development issues, plus capacity for developing country research in Sweden.

Individual researchers or groups of researchers working at universities and colleges or other research institutions in Sweden may apply for a grant. Swedish citizens working at the Scandinavian Institute for Asian Studies (Nordiska Asieninstitutet, NIAS) in Copenhagen may also apply.

Contributions are awarded only to applicants (project managers) who hold doctorates. Researchers with supervisory skills (professors, senior lecturers or similar) may apply for grants for doctoral candidates.

Most of the funding is allocated by means of open application for research of relevance to developing countries. We also welcome applications within invitation fields of particular significance to the funding in question.

Sida's Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing countries, SAREC, is responsible for dealing with these matters. Our task is to support the development of developing countries.

Applications for funding are permitted only for projects relating to areas in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Applications will be handled within one of the following five scientific reference groups, consisting of Swedish and Nordic researchers:

- Humanities, education and culture
- Health research
- Natural resources and the environment
- Natural sciences, technology and industrialisation
- Development issues and social sciences

<http://www.sida.org/Sida/jsp/Crosslink.jsp?d=737>

### **F. Nordic Africa Institute**

<http://www.nai.uu.se/indexeng.html>

The Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala was founded in 1962. It is financed jointly by the Nordic countries. It is a Swedish authority where the overall responsibility for its management and work rests with the Director and a Programme and Research Council consisting of

representatives from both the governments and the research communities of the five Nordic countries. According to its statutes, the Nordic Africa Institute "...is charged, within the Nordic countries, with:

- furthering and carrying out scientific research on Africa;
- furthering co-operation and contacts between Nordic and African researchers;
- serving as a documentation centre for research and studies on Africa;
- informing about research on Africa and current African issues."

**Target groups.** In the Nordic countries the Institute's main target groups are the research and education communities, decision-makers and development administrators, representatives of the media and non-governmental organisations. The target groups in Africa are the research and policy making communities.

**Core activities.** The core activities of the Institute shall be research and research support, policy-related activities, dissemination of information, provision of library services and production of publications.

**Networking.** The Institute shall promote co-operation and contacts between African and Nordic researchers and other partners by facilitating their interaction and by providing support to networks for collaboration in the Nordic countries and in Africa.

### **Publications on African cultures**

#### **Culture in Africa**

An Appeal for Pluralism

**Granqvist, Raoul (Ed.)**

**1993, 204 pp, ISBN: 91-7106-330-7**

The essays in this publication range from poetry and drama to church music, architecture, and popular magazines. Common to them is the effort to make the disciplines of arts and those of social sciences meet. African cultural expressions are treated here as anchored in the experiences common to the people of Africa, while the provincial exclusiveness of Afrocentrism is shunned.

#### **Identity and Beyond: Rethinking Africanity**

**Diagne, Souleymane Bachir; Mana, Amina; Melber, Henning; Nyamjoh, Francis B**

**2001, 33 pp, ISBN: 91-7106-487-7**

This Discussion Paper presents the plenary presentations by the three main speakers during the Nordic Africa Days, with an introduction offering an overview and comment on the various approaches on Gender and Power in African Contexts, Africanity as an Open Question and Rethinking Power in Africa.

Available for [download](#).

#### **Research project: Cultural Images in and of Africa**

<http://www.nai.uu.se/forsk/progproj/proj/cult.html>

The project was initiated in 1995 in response to recommendations that the Institute include cultural change into its research priorities and profile. The main objectives are:

1. to encourage new research and studies in the Nordic countries on cultural change and issues in Africa;

2. to create a network of scholars in the Nordic countries and Africa for co-operation and contacts;
3. to contribute to a critical examination of the negative and prejudiced images of Africa in the Nordic countries;
4. to encourage an interest in contemporary African cultural expressions.

The project covers three themes.

### **Culture and identity**

#### **Image formation in Africa. European encounters**

#### **Cultural dynamics of contemporary Africa**

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### **G. Danish Center for Culture and Development**

The Center is a forum for the exchange of art and culture between Denmark and **Africa**, Asia, Caribbean, Latin America and the Middle East

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### **H. SHUTTLE 02 A Danish - South African Cultural Exchange 2001- 02**

<http://www.dccd.dk/dccd/login.nsf/menu>

Shuttle 02 follows on from a large scale cultural exchange programme initiated by The Nordic Council of Ministers, which ran for a two year period, 1998-99 and which encompassed more than 50 individual exchange projects within dance, theatre, music, literature and photography with South African counterparts. This innovative network based programme proved to be so successful that it generated a number of longer-term exchange and development programmes.

Denmark was responsible for dance and theatre and also initiated half of the music programme, in total managing more than half the total Shuttle 99 programme. Shuttle 02 is the Danish follow up to this initiative and concentrates on dance and music as two vital art forms in the South African cultural heritage and on the South African contemporary scene. In the follow up programme, some 1 major projects are now being developed.

As with Shuttle 99, the philosophy of the programme is to engage specific partners in each country to collaborate on specific exchanges. The projects are not only important for the participants themselves but also indicate new possibilities for especially the dance sector and create new opportunities which are sustainable in the long term.

The aim is not only to support dance as an art form but also to look at how to stimulate dance in education, how to contribute to the re-creation of a culture which acknowledges tradition of dance and music in the contemporary and international context, how to support independent artists as a reflection of an open and developing nation, and finally to initiate intercultural and intentional exchanges as the way forward in a global reality.

Among the Danish partners are the School of Modern Dance, MBT-Dance Theatre, the Rhythmic Music Conservatory, Dance in Education, Tim Feldman/Wilda, New Danish Dance Theatre, Lene Østergaard Project, Roskilde Festival, Danish Union of Scenographers and Lighting Designers, the School at Frederiksundvej and a number of individual artists and experts a.o. dance researcher Karen Vedel.

The South African partners in Shuttle 02 include : Dance Umbrella Festival (Joburg), Jomba! Contemporary Dance Experience (Durban), Moving into Dance Mophatong (Joburg), Dance Factory (Joburg), Drama Dpt. Wits University, Cultural Helpdesk Arts Administration, Centre for Creative Arts (Natal University), Fantastic Flying Fish Company, South African Roadies Association, Awesome Africa Music Festival, as well as a long list of individual experts, choreographers and musicians.

For Shuttle 002 Music Website, please visit: <http://www.geocities.com/shuttle02tosa>

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## **I. SACOD – Southern African Information and Communication Network**

<http://www.sacod.org.za/projects/default.htm>

SACOD's core activity is the networking service that it provides to its members and interest groups both locally and internationally.

The SACOD information and communication network is managed through an audio visual resource centre at the regional office in Johannesburg. The resource centre is currently in development and managed by an Information Officer.

Should you wish to find out more about the this service please contact:

The SACOD Forum 2002 will take place from 21 – 25 October 2002 at Victoria Falls. This is a call for entries for completed films and videos, of any length, produced after 1st January 2000 that support that seek to communicate social messages.

The SACOD Forum is a meeting place where filmmakers, distributors, and related organisations, gather to screen and debate selected film and video productions. The objective of Forum is to enable Directors in the Southern Africa region to make more effective

programmes on social issues. The themes cover social, political and developmental issues with the intention to inform, educate, entertain and importantly, to motivate and stimulate audiences to take action in a personal or organised way. The ultimate goal is to make programmes that will be better tools for social change.

**Mrs. Patricia Lumba:** [sacodnet@icon.co.za](mailto:sacodnet@icon.co.za)

**Support Toll Free Lines:** 0800 11 5220 and 0800 11 3440

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## **J. Southern African Non-governmental Organisation Network (SANGONET).**

### **Postal Address:**

Southern African Non-Governmental Organisation Network (SANGONeT)  
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South Africa

This site aims to introduce SANGONeT and provide with an overview of all Information Communication Technology (ICT) solutions and services useful for NGOs.

[http://www.wn.apc.org/corporate/projects/projects\\_frameset.html](http://www.wn.apc.org/corporate/projects/projects_frameset.html)

## **K. ICCROM - International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property**

ICCROM is an intergovernmental organization created by UNESCO in 1956 and established in Rome in 1959. In 1998 it has 92 Member States, and various associate institutions. ICCROM's mandate is to create or improve conditions for the effective conservation of cultural heritage resources worldwide. As the only autonomous IGO dealing with all types of heritage - both movable and immovable - ICCROM takes a practical, technical approach to its task. It's mandate includes the functions of documentation, training, consultancy and cooperation, research and promotion of awareness.

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### **L. ArtsJournal Newsletter**

<http://www.artsjournal.com/subscribe/premium.shtml>

### Newsletter Changes

Starting January 1, your free newsletter service is changing. Up to now, the free version contained our descriptions of ArtsJournal stories, but no links to those stories. Now we will provide you with the story headlines plus the links to those stories so you can check them out directly. What you won't be getting in the free version is our descriptions of the stories.

### New Newsletters

We are able to offer new e-mail services. The free version of the newsletter will now be available daily, in addition to this weekly version. The free version offers every story that appears on the ArtsJournal website that day. If you'd like to start receiving ArtsJournal daily, visit <http://www.artsjournal.com/subscribe/subscribe.shtml> to sign up.

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