

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

The Observatory is a Pan African international NGO created in 2002 with the support of African Union, the Ford Foundation, and UNESCO. Its aim is to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and to 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.



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OCPA News aims to promote interactive information exchange within Africa and between Africa and the other regions. Please send us information for dissemination about new initiatives, meetings, research projects and publications of interest for cultural policies for development in Africa. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Contact: OCPA Secretariat, Avenida Patrice Lumumba No. 850, Primeiro Andar,
Caixa Postal 1207, Maputo, Mozambique**

Tel.: + 258 21306138 / Fax: +258 21320304 / E-mail: secretariat@ocpanet.org

Executive Director: Lupwishi Mbuyamba, director@ocpanet.org

Editor of OCPA News: Máté Kovács, mate.kovacs@ocpanet.org

OCPA WEB SITE - www.ocpanet.org

OCPA FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/pages/OCPA-Observatory-of-Cultural-Policies-in-Africa/100962769953248?v=info

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Previous issues of OCPA News at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/newsletter/index-en.html>

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Le Mont des Arts, Kinshasa



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H. Highlight

H.1 Tribute to Damien Pwono

The OCPA informs you with sadness that Dr. Damien PWONO, founding member and member of the Scientific and Technical Council of the OCPA was torn from our affection yesterday March 07, 2023 following illness.

OCPA expresses its deep regrets following the death of Damien Pwono and shares the tribute published by UNESCO:

As an artist, ethnomusicologist, scholar and a philanthropist, Damien Pwono pioneered numerous cultural and socio-economic initiatives around the world, leaving his mark in the culture sector along the way. His legacies include ground-breaking projects such as International Jazz Day, African Film Festival, the Royal Opera House Muscat, the World Culture Forum, Bellagio Publishing Network for African book development, and the Aspen Cultural Diplomacy Forum.

In observation of the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997), Pwono, then still a student, initiated a training workshop on culture and development for the African Ministries of Culture. In preparation for the Stockholm Conference on Cultural Policies for Development (1998), he led the Pan-African Consultation which resulted in a massive participation of African experts and governments in the global Conference.

Born in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Damien obtained his doctorate degree at the University of Pittsburgh before working on diverse programs at the Rockefeller Foundation and the Ford Foundations in the United States and Kenya. He joined the International Council of Music in Paris in 1997 and was appointed its Secretary General in 2003.

The prolific career of Damien Pwono closely aligned with UNESCO’s mandate in culture. From designing cultural policies, organizing cultural management trainings, calling for enhanced global market access for African artists, to addressing major challenges such as culture and security, he worked hand in hand with UNESCO colleagues around the globe, who enjoyed his friendship and professionalism. He was one of the co-founders of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), a close institutional partner of UNESCO.

A life-long mentor and teacher, Damien was passionate about supporting young talents. In the past few years, he dedicated his time to the transmission of his extensive knowledge and experiences to emerging cultural professionals. Pwono taught music and cultural management at the National Institute of Arts in Kinshasa, DRC, before becoming its Director General in 2022. He worked tirelessly to protect and promote diverse cultural expressions of the African continent, with the 2021 inscription of the Congolese Rumba as UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage serving as one of his final legacies. The upcoming inauguration of the Cultural and Artistic Center for Central Africa will surely receive outpouring tributes, as he served as the designer and coordinator to this emblematic project for his sub-region.

Read the article at <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-pays-tribute-damien-pwono>

Damien Pwono and OCPA

At the secretariat as in the entire network and beyond with various partners, the disappearance of Damien Pwono, representative of one of the three original founders of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, was deeply felt. The global coverage of his networks of influence, his creative spirit as well as his permanent availability had made him a leading partner that his many acquaintances and the crowd of beneficiaries of his generosity will mourn for a long time to come.

The OCPA meanwhile loses a leading expert, a genius designer and an enlightened visionary.

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Working meeting with the UNESCO Representative in Mozambique, Mr. Paul Gomis

Before going to Dr. Pwono's funeral, the Executive Director had a particularly rewarding working meeting on March 11 with the UNESCO Representative in Mozambique, Mr. Paul Gomis. After reciprocal information on current programs and activities, those of the UNESCO Office and some of OCPA's initiatives in Africa, the two interlocutors exchanged documents relating to emergencies for which they decided by mutual agreement.

A.3 Session of the Board of Directors of CERAV (Regional Center for Living Arts in Africa)

On March 3, the first session of the Board of Directors of CERAV (regional center for living arts in Africa) was held in Ouagadougou in the atmosphere of FESPACO. OCPA, which is a member of this Board, took part. , in line with the interventions of the Executive Director relating in particular to the need to broaden the coverage of the representation of African Member States and by preserving the achievements of a Center which has already found its way and is known and in taking care to reinforce the international character of its status. As it was the last session that the OCPA representative was, like the International Theater Institute, a spokesperson for civil society, the government of Burkina Faso honored him with a diploma of recognition for the work done.

A.4 News from the RICADIA Network

The OCPA secretariat, which coordinates the network of cultural institutions in Africa and the Diaspora, had, during the month of March, ongoing contacts with, in addition to CERAV:

- the SILANG, the International Fair of Languages and Cultures, Abidjan, on the last edition of the Fair held in October 2022,
- the CICIBA, International Center of Bantu Civilizations, in Libreville which is preparing the celebration of its 40th anniversary and
- the ITI, International Theater Institute and with its national centers in Burkina Faso and Chad which celebrate the International Theater Day (March 27),

A.5 OCPA Publications

In relation with its research activities OCPA has produced some **25 books and publications** such as a strategy document (2004) and a research programme (2007 and 2010) on the cultural indicators of human development in Africa, a book on “African Musics – New Stakes and New

Challenges” (with UNESCO, 2005), the Observatory’s 1st and 2nd Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action (2006 and 2011), the Compendium of basic reference texts for cultural policies in Africa (E/F/S, 2006 and 2009), the Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of National Cultural Policies in Africa (2008 and 2009). The Proceedings of the International Symposium on Policies, Strategies and Experiences in Financing Culture in Africa was published in 2010, the Manual for Training Specialist of Cultural Policy and Management in Africa and the book on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty reduction in Africa were produced in 2013. More recently, in 2019, OCPA published with the support of UNESCO a book entitled Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue: An African Experience as well as the book prepared and published with the support of Africalia on ”Anticipating Cultural Policies in Africa by 2030”

Most of the Reports of some 25 meetings and training sessions organized by OCPA are published at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/meetings/index-en.html>

Some 25 articles published in books and reviews of the OCPA Partners (Culturelink, AFRICOM, Interarts - Barcelona, África e Mediterraneo, Wale keru, Arts Management, Itau Cultural – Sao Paulo, Brazil, University of Pécs – Hungary, University of Gerona – Spain, Catalonia, Institute for African Culture and International Understanding - IACIU, Abeokuta, Nigeria, African Institute of the United Nations for Economic Development and Planning - IDEP, Dakar, etc

For previous news and OCPA activities click on
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>

B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 The World's First Islamic Art Biennale Shines a Light on Muslim African Artists

The Biennale is underway in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia until 23 April. It features numerous African artists. It aims also to demonstrate that Islamic practice is rooted in collective rituals and experiences of community and belonging as well as to help to understand the profound cultural and artistic heritages around us; and in promoting understanding between communities.

In highlighting the diversity of Islamic ways of being, participating African artists contribute to the many notions of what Islam is and can be.

Web site: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202303100047.html>

B.2 Burkina Faso: The African Cinema and Audiovisual Market (MICA, Ouagadougou)

The African International Cinema and Audiovisual Market (MICA) resumed its activities on February 26, 2023, under the patronage of the Minister of Industrial Development, Trade, Handicrafts and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Serge Gnaniodem Poda for whom it is a framework for the promotion of African cinema and exchanges between producers, distributors, project leaders who bring innovations.

MICA is part of the professional section of FESPACO called FESPACO PRO which includes, in addition to MICA, Ateliers Yennenga, Yennenga Liboni and Yennenga Connexion. “FESPACO PRO aims to support all links in filmmaking. It is open to film producers and distributors, streaming platform operators, television broadcasters, African film festivals.

Read the article on <https://www.sidwaya.info/blog/fespaco-2023-le-marche-du-cinema-et-de-laudiovisuel-africain-ouvert/>

B.3 Africa: Protection of Cultural Heritage - Experts in conclave in Abidjan

Strengthen the capacities of cultural heritage actors in terms of tools and programs for the protection of cultural heritage; educate museum professionals on risk management in their institutions in order to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property. These are the objectives of the workshop on March 7 and 8, 2023 at the Museum of Civilizations of Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire is one of the West African countries that has a rich collection of cultural property, covering traditional art, archaeology, iconography and modern art, managed by professionals in seven public museums and in private collections.

While some of these actors demonstrate professionalism in securing and protecting heritage assets, it must be recognized that this is not always the case.

Aimed at museum professionals involved in the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural property, this meeting brings together several experts from Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and France. The workshop ends with the presentation of certificates to the participants.

Read the article on <https://www.lepatriote.ci/protection-du-patrimoine-culturel-des-experts-en-conclave-a-abidjan/>

B.4 Senegal: The 3rd African Forum for Cultural and Creative Industries next May

Singer and businessman Youssou Ndour announced on March 7 that the third African Forum for Cultural and Creative Industries (Forafricc) will be held in Dakar from May 24-26.

This meeting will take place on the theme "Cultural and creative industries, vector of jobs for youth in Africa and beyond?", Youssou Ndour indicates. He believes that the question of employment must find answers in the cultural and creative industries (CCI), "a niche which employs nearly 30 million people aged between 25 and 30 in the world". Youssou Ndour believes that digital has transformed the industry and offers many job opportunities.

Taking his own example, the Senegalese musician, who is today the CEO of the media company Groupe Futurs Médias (GFM), believes that "one can start from his passion to make it a profitable job". "Your job must be your passion," he said.

Link to article at <https://www.aps.sn/detail/4413>

B.5 Burkina Faso: 28th FESPACO – Winners and conclusions

At the 28th edition of the Pan-African Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO), Youssef Chebbi (Tunisia) won the Etalon d'or de Yennenga, with his film "Ashkal". Burkinabe director Apolline Traoré won the Silver Stallion, while Angela Wamai (Kenya) won the Bronze Stallion.

For Dora Bouchoucha, president of the jury, the process which led to the choice of the film brings together political considerations, entertainment and cinematographic creativity.

The Minister in charge of the Arts of Burkina Faso, Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo was delighted with the holding of the festival which shows to the world that Burkina Faso is a country to be visited. "It was also a way for us to show that despite all the difficulties Burkina Faso remains standing as well as African culture".

More than 10,000 accredited persons including 2,413 cinema and audiovisual professionals and 1,328 journalists made the trip to experience the festival of African cinema live. 95 directors of film festivals responded to the call of the biennial of African cinema. In addition, specialists from around fifty countries from various backgrounds were welcomed to Ouagadougou.

Congratulating the winners of this edition of FESPACO, recipients of special prizes or prizes from the official juries", Mr. Moussa Alex Sawadogo, General Delegate of FESPACO announced the holding of the 29th edition of the biennial from February 22 to March 1, 2025.

Read the article at <https://lepays.bf/28e-fespaco-lor-pour-la-tunisie-et-largent-pour-le-burkina/>



C. News about cultural policies, institutions and resources in Africa

C.1 Burkina Faso: Minister Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo at the army museum

The Minister of Communication, Culture, Arts and Tourism, Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo visited the army museum on March 2, 2023 in Ouagadougou. After visiting the museum's collections on the history of the wars of Upper Volta, now Burkina Faso, the minister said that visiting the army museum is like visiting the history of the country.

The visit was an opportunity to see that there are still efforts to be made to create optimal conditions for conservation and enhancement for this museum. "This is why we have expressed our full availability to work in harmony with the Ministry of Defense so that we can improve the conditions for the conservation of the national heritage at the level of this museum."

Thanking the Minister for the interest shown in the museum, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Defense, Abdou Diallo reassured Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo, that with the support of the Ministry of Culture, they will make this museum a temple of knowledge for the general public. But beyond what is on display, the Army Museum intends to work to further enrich its gallery and to participate in National Culture Week (SNC) to bring the public closer to it.

Source: <https://www.sidwaya.info/blog/fespaco-2023-le-Minister-jean-emmanuel-ouedraogo-au-musee-de-larmee/>

C.2 Burkina Faso: Sectoral dialogue framework of the Ministry "Culture, Tourism, Sports and Leisure"

The 2023 annual review of the "culture, tourism, sports and leisure" sectoral framework for dialogue was held on March 9, 2023, in Ouagadougou. The ceremony was chaired by the Minister of Communication, Culture, Arts and Tourism, Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo. The session made it possible to examine and validate the report on the implementation of the various actions planned in the ministry's action plan.

According to the Minister, the CSD is a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of Burkina's national development policy. Its mission is to monitor, evaluate and guide the implementation of the actions of the sectoral plans of the Transition. This is an opportunity for the actors concerned to capitalize on the results and above all to draw lessons from the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the action plan in 2022 in order to achieve better performance in 2023. The Minister recalled that the context of the implementation of activities in 2022 was strongly marked by the security challenge and socio-political instability. Despite this difficult situation, the resilience of the players in the sector has made it possible to make very encouraging achievements.

Read the article <https://www.sidwaya.info/blog/cadre-sectoral-de-dialogue-du-ministere-de-la-communication/>

C.3 Gambia: UNESCO-Aschberg Programme Seeks to Elevate Female Artists

A survey was carried out by the National Centre for Arts and Culture of The Gambia with support of the UNESCO-Aschberg programme. meant to promote the status of the artiste by providing technical assistance to governmental institutions and civil society organisations.

Before the review and validation, Hassoum Ceesay, the director general of the NCAC, urged participants to take time to review the draft survey, while noting that about 500 female artistes were interviewed. After the research, it took about a month to complete and validate the report.

The survey drew from the NCAC designation of cultural and creative sectors (CCS) to cover women cultural professionals active in the subsectors of music, theatre, dance and performance, film and TV, literature, publishing, media, fine arts, photography, fashion, design, crafts, gaming, animation, and multimedia.

It reveals the robust participation of women in the CCS sectors as a whole. To monitor the progression of the situation, "this survey should be repeated at regular intervals.

Read more at <https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/unesco-aschberg-programme-seeks-to-elevate-female-artistes>

C.4 Nigeria Launches the Investment in the Creative Enterprises Program (i-DICE)

Nigeria's Vice President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, the President of the African Development Bank Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, and other partners will launch the Investment in Digital and Creative Enterprises (i-DICE) Program in Abuja on Tuesday, 14 March 2023. The launch marks the rollout of a flagship initiative that will drive vital funding for creative industries.

The launch marks the rollout of a flagship initiative that will drive vital funding for Nigeria's digital and creative industries. In addition to the leaders of government, corporations, and development finance institutions, the event will feature youth working in the digital technology and creative sectors, students, and investors.

i-DICE is a major step toward significantly upscaling entrepreneurship and innovation in digital technology and creative industries, which include film, fashion, and music.

The program is part of the federal government of Nigeria's efforts to build back better, greener, and more inclusively, and to create sustainable jobs for its surging youth population. It will consolidate the country's position as Africa's leading start-up investment destination and youth entrepreneurship hub.

i-DICE is co-financed by the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank and Agence Française de Développement. The Nigerian Government is providing counterpart finance. A steering committee will monitor the implementation of the initiative in cooperation with a technical committee made up of business leaders, and representatives of government ministries, departments, and agencies.

Source: <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/events/nigeria-launch-investment-digital-and-creative-enterprises-program-i-dice-59699>

C.5 Nigeria: Transformation of creative industries through development bill

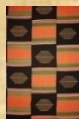
The Nigerian creative industry has captured the attention of industry stakeholders who have come together to discuss the proposed Creative Industries Development Bill (CIDB) and its potential to transform the Nigerian creative economy.

This collaborative effort between Nigeria's creative industries and the Presidency seeks to enhance the industry through a well-designed action plan centered on putting the creatives FIRST: Funding, Incentives, Research, Skills, and Training.

The stakeholder engagement series led by the CIDB team kicked off on March 4, 2023, with an engagement session at the Omenka Gallery in Lagos, including leading gallery owners attended the event. Two key takeaways from that engagement were the concepts of Perpetual Royalties for artists on their work and the insertion that all new public buildings in Nigeria (Federal State and Local) should have iconic arts embedded in their budgets leading to a legacy of public monuments across Nigeria and the growth of the art market.

The general consensus of attendees was gratitude for the efforts of the minister of information and culture in promoting the kind of collaborative environment that led to the development of this laudable bill. Further engagements have been scheduled and planned for the six geopolitical zones. This approach provides an opportunity for Nigeria to be intentional about projecting Nigerian soft power and Nigerian Storytellers.

Source: <https://guardian.ng/saturday-magazine/stakeholders-advocate-transformation-of-creative-industries-through-development-bill/>



D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

D.1 The 2nd edition of the Paris African Book Fair held with an enriched program

The Salon is organizing its 2nd edition, honoring Guinea and offering meetings with nearly 200 authors and 60 publishers from Africa, Europe, America and the Caribbean, March 17 - 19.

Its ambition is to perpetuate this meeting with the African book from the book written and published in Africa to works published outside the continent.

At the show, French-speaking literature will obviously be highlighted, however, none of the African literature will be forgotten, whether written in English, Arabic, Portuguese but also in one of the 1800 languages spoken in the fifty-four countries. from the continent.

The show will begin with a time dedicated to publishing professionals, authors, publishers, patrons, institutional partners and journalists. Three round tables will be organized to discuss sectoral topics. Part of the morning will be devoted to the "Carrefour des droits", a time for meetings and exchanges between French, European and African publishers and authors.

The guest of honor for this 2023 edition is Guinea. The Fair will also receive the visit of Mr. Alpha Soumah, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Handicrafts of Guinea, of Mrs. Aminata Kaba, Minister of Information and Communication of Guinea, of Mrs. Catherine Kathungu Furaha, Minister of Culture of the DRC and Mrs. Lydie Pongault, Minister of Culture of Congo.

For more information, visit the show's website at www.salondulivreafricaindeparis.com
Contact: salondulivreafricaindeparis@gmail.com

D.2 ITI-International Theatre Institute/World Organization for the Performing Arts: World Theatre Day (27 March) Message 2023 by Samiha AYOUB, Egyptian actress

Instability is a direct result of what our world is going through today in terms of conflicts, wars and natural disasters that have had devastating effects not only on our material world, but also on our spiritual world and our psychological peace.

The whole world has become like isolated islands, each of them sailing without guidance, not seeing anything on the horizon that guides it, and despite that, it continues to sail, hoping to reach a safe harbour that contains it after its long wanderings in the midst of a roaring sea.

Our world has never been more closely connected to each other than it is today, but at the same time it was never been more dissonant and farther from each other than it is today.

What we do in the world of theatre as playwrights, directors, actors, scenographers, poets, musicians, choreographers and technicians, all of us without exception, is an act of creating life that did not exist before we got on stage. What we do on stage is the act of life itself and generating it from nothingness, like a burning ember that sparkles in the darkness, lighting the darkness of the night and warming its coldness. We are the ones who give life its splendor. We are the ones who embody it. We are the ones who make it vibrant and meaningful. And we are the ones who provide the reasons to understand it. We are the ones who use the light of art to confront the darkness of ignorance and extremism.

I invite you to awaken the conscience of the entire world, to search within you for the lost essence of humanity.

Read more at <https://www.world-theatre-day.org/messageauthor.html>

D.3 IMC: The 40th General Assembly of the International Music Council

The 40th General Assembly of the IMC will be held in Rabat, Morocco on November 21-23, 2023, in the framework of Visa for Music's 10th Anniversary edition (November 22-25) thanks to the renewed partnership with Visa for Music. It offers to all an opportunity to take advantage of the most important gatherings for the music ecosystem in Africa and the Middle East.

More details will follow soon! In the meanwhile, please note these dates on your calendars and start planning your travel.

The Assembly is expected to

- Consider the financial report for the period since the previous General Assembly
- Adopt the programme and the budget for the following two years
- Admit the membership of Organisations and ratifies the membership of National Committees
- Set the annual membership fees to be paid by National Committees and Organisations;
- Consider, questions of reducing or waiving the membership fee.

Web site <https://www.imc-cim.org/about-imc-separator/structure/143-about/17-general-assembly.html>

Contact at info@imc-cim.org

D.4 Conference on Artistic Freedom and Cultural and Creative Industries (Umeå, Sweden, 16 - 17 February 2023)

The conference started off from the premise that artistic freedom is necessary for cultural and creative industries. This connection was examined from various aspects during the conference, with speakers from all over the EU.

The aim of the conference was to explore various aspects of artistic freedom and the cultural and creative industries (CCI), and the relationship between them. The two are closely related, and the first is a precondition for the second.

Artistic freedom is a cornerstone of artistic expression and enables cultural, social and economic development. By dedicating the two-day conference to artistic freedom and CCI, the Swedish Ministry of Culture would like to shed light on the conditions, challenges and possibilities for artists. The goal is to facilitate discussions on how to strengthen the conditions for a prosperous cultural and creative sector in the EU.

Source: <https://portal.ieu-monitoring.com/event/free-to-create-eu-conference-on-artistic-freedom-and-cultural-and-creative-industries>

D.5 The More Europe initiative has published its final report on its ten years of work

Kultura Nova Foundation joined the Global Cultural Relations international initiative in 2022. The initiative aimed at reinforcing the role of international cultural relations in the framework of EU foreign policy. It came out of the More Europe - external cultural relations cultural-civil initiative that was launched in 2011 and was composed of a public-private partnership of foundations, civil society networks and national cultural institutes. After more than ten years of advocacy, research and knowledge gathering, transnational debates, partnerships' building and networking, the initiative is wrapping up its work and has published **MORE EUROPE External Cultural Relations** to mark this occasion.

Download the publication at. <http://www.globalculturalrelations.org/2023/02/21/final-lap/>



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<https://allafrica.com/arts/>

<http://www.africaonline.com/site/africa/arts.jsp>

<http://www.apanews.net/news/fr/rubrique.php?id=65>

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2003/646/culture.htm>

<http://english.alarabonline.org/display.asp?code=zculturez>

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica/Selected information from AllAfrica/Informations provenenat de AllAfrica

Nigeria: 5 Women Championing Female Inclusion in Entertainment Industry

In commemoration of International Women's Day, March 8, Vanessa Obioha and Iyke Bede compile a short list to highlight the female figures, from actresses to film producers,ingers to festival organisers whose contributions in the past year continue to shape the minds of women in Nigeria and beyond, helping them inch closer to attaining equality and equity.

Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202303120006.html>

Rwanda: Leading Women on their Journey in Rwanda's Film Industry

In an industry that has been male dominant for so many years not just in Rwanda but in the whole world, women have over the years evolved in different roles and stepped up their game to get the recognition they have today. We take a look at some of Rwanda's top female actresses and get a taste of their experiences since joining the male dominated field.

- Alliance Isimbi, a big name in the film industry and in Rwanda's entertainment scene.
- Sandra Ishimwe, the movie diva celebrated in the country;
- Antoinette Uwamahoro (Superansiya), actress, a great figure of Rwanda's film industry;
- Eliane Umuhire, acting as main actor, dancer, theater instructor in various films.

Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202303090278.html>

Gambia: We Are Still Culturally Enslaved - Sidia Jatta

Sidia Jatta, Gambian politician and writer, said that Africans are still culturally enslaved.

The former Wuli West representative at the National Assembly of The Gambia made the statement during a workshop convened by the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) to discuss mechanisms for language policy development for The Gambia within the context of the Language Plan of Action for Africa (LPAA). He said: "Africa is one of the richest, if not the richest continent in the world, yet our people remain wretched of the earth. It is the continent with the greatest number of languages, yet foreign languages sway in the domain of officialdom and scholarship. "Fulfulde is an African language with African values shared by many countries. Soninke is another language, even though at a smaller level, but it is spoken in The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Mauritania and even some parts of Ivory Coast. What we called Cross-border Languages we also technically call it Languages of wider communication." These languages are all pertinent to the socio-cultural cohesion and economic development of Africa and her people. Read more at <https://allafrica.com/stories/202303090257.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA – ACORNS)

New Data Show Economic Activity of the U.S. Arts & Cultural Sector in 2021

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) released data today that demonstrate the significant contribution of the arts and cultural industries to U.S. GDP in 2021 while also capturing the continued impact of the pandemic on the sector. <https://www.bea.gov/news/2023/arts-and-cultural-production-satellite-account-us-and-states-2021>

*****The Good Work Review**

Creative Industries Policy & Evidence Centre, 23 February 2023, England

The Good Work Review is the first examination of job quality across the entire creative industries. The Review is based on 40 separate indicators, from evidence submitted by 120 organisations, and focuses on issues including fair pay, flexible working, paid overtime and employee representation. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/good-work-the-taylor-review-of-modern-working-practices>

Web site: <http://www.ifacca.org>

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Panorama of cinemas in the Maghreb and the Middle East (PCMMO, Saint Denis, France, March 10 – 21, 2023)

Since 2006, the Panorama des cinemas du Maghreb et du Moyen-Orient has endeavored to take the pulse of the countries of the Maghreb and the Middle East through their cinema, by offering to discover on the big screen the vitality of Moroccan cinematography, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran... and the diasporas around the world, during screenings accompanied by meetings with film crews and movie personalities. The filmmakers Adila Bendimerad and Damien Ounouri, loyal to the festival, will open this anniversary edition with their first fiction feature presented in preview. Like the country that hosts it, Lebanese cinema is constantly being rebuilt. The turbulent history of Lebanon – wars and regional conflicts – influences the creation. With four preview screenings, in the presence of the filmmakers and guests - one session at the IMA (Tuesday March 14) and three sessions at the L'Écran cinema, Saint-Denis (Sunday March 19), the PCMMO testifies, through this "window on Lebanon" of the vitality of the creation of the country of the cedar.

Web site: <http://www.pcmmo.org/>

F.3 Agenda21culture

The New Report on Cultural Rights and Migrations

The UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights, Ms Alexandra Xanthaki, is about to issue a new report entitled "Cultural Rights and Migration". The report will be available in several languages in this website very soon. The Special Rapporteur will be presenting her reports to UN Human Rights Council next week, on Wednesday 15 March at 11.00am, Geneva time, approximately. All who wish to follow the interactive dialogue live can do so by accessing the webcast through this link: <http://webtv.un.org/live>

Web site: <http://www.agenda21culture.net>

Contact: info@agenda21culture.net

F.4 Music World News

How big is the Nigerian music industry?

The Nigerian music industry is one of the most vibrant, exciting, and rapidly growing music scenes in the world. This blog post will explore just how big the Nigerian music industry is. It discusses the industry's history, its current state, and its future potential. It analyzes the value of the industry to the country's economy and look at the ways in which it has evolved to become the global phenomenon it is today. It also explores the impact that the industry has had on Nigerian culture and the global music scene. The Nigerian music industry is the second largest in Africa, with a thriving music scene that is becoming increasingly popular worldwide. With a vast array of genres, including afrobeat, fuji, hip-hop, and afro-fusion, the industry has grown exponentially in recent years. Nigerian artists are regularly sought out by major international labels, while the industry has also seen the emergence of a number of independent labels.

The industry generates over \$2 billion in revenue per year, making it one of the largest music industries in the world.

F.5 Sauti za Busara

Sauti za Busara 2024: Call for Artists

The Call for Artists is now open! The 21st Edition of the Sauti za Busara festival, as planned to shake the walls of Stone Town, Zanzibar will take place during 09 – 11 February 2024. Artists are invited to take to the stage and showcase their talent, culture, and passion for music!

Sauti za Busara showcases diverse music from the African Continent and diaspora.

The Call for Artists is open only until the 31st of July 2023. Applications received afterward will not be processed.

Preference is given to:

- Original music with a cultural identity that is connected to Africa.
- Women artists, or groups led by women
- Young, new, and emerging talents
- Music with messages that are positive, relevant, and useful to society
- Music that is performed '100% live'!

The Call for Artists is open only until 31st July 2023. For more information and a link to the application form, see <https://www.busaramusic.org/call-for-artists-2024>

F.6 Cyberkaris - Interarts Foundation

A(RT)ction for Climate Change (Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Spain, 2021 – 2023)

Climate change is the defining global challenge of our time. Rapid changes to the climate over the last years have already generated severe consequences for human societies and natural systems everywhere. Researchers warn that continued climate changes will potentially have irreversible consequences. Reducing the negative effects of climate change requires a substantial collective and individual effort and demands a transformation of our economy and our systems of production and consumption. Whilst the emphasis for the most part of this change depends on the scale of industry policies, changes of individual habits are of greater significance that most people can appreciate. “A(RT)ction for Climate Change”, a project co-funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme that will support young visual artists, youth workers and green practitioners by:

- Promoting green entrepreneurship and creative learning.
- Educating them to become agents of change and help in addressing the challenges of climate change.
- Training of educators and youth leaders and supporting approaches to environmental sustainability.

It will produce a Capacity Building Programme, an E-learning Platform & Network for Collaboration, an Artists for Climate Change Toolkit and an E-book for Actors of Change.

Web site: <https://www.encatc.org/en/>

Contact: interarts@interarts.net

F.7 Artsmanagement Newsletter

Arts Management Quarterly No 139 on “Knowledge exchange”

The Spring issue 2023 of our journal Arts Management Quarterly, to be published in June, will shed light on knowledge exchange between research and working practice in arts and cultural management. In recent decades, arts and cultural management has become increasingly professionalized: Many countries around the world now have special programs and trainings for arts and cultural professionals. Additionally, work in cultural organisations and arts projects is

increasingly based on evaluations and international exchange of experience. Nevertheless, their daily work practice often still is dominated by the gut feelings as well as subjective perceptions and attitudes of arts and cultural managers. This is despite the fact that arts and cultural management research has become an expert discipline in its own right, researching working practices and providing data, information and impulses for the improvement of arts and cultural management practices.

More at <https://www.artsmanagement.net/Articles/Call-for-Papers-Arts-Management-Quarterly-No-139-on-Knowledge-exchange,4534>



Please send addresses, information, and documents for the OCPA list serve, database, documentation centre and web site!

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
