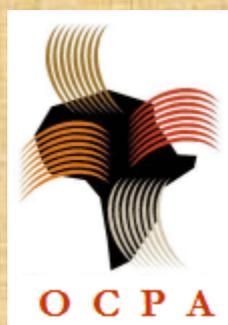


Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

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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A. News from OCPA

Relaunch of the Activities of OCPA

The OCPA Secretariat, like most of the organizations and institutions in the Southern African Region, experienced the usual slowdown of the summer holidays at the start of the new year. Nevertheless the end of the month was marked by the relaunch of activities during which, Mozambique, host country of the OCPA, experienced the events of the installation of the President of the Republic for a new term and, subsequently, the arrival of a new Minister in charge of culture, Mrs Eldevina Materula, an artist, oboe soloist and Director of the Xiquitsi School, a music school.

The activities at the start of the year include, of course

- the usual congratulations were addressed to the promoted personality as well as the offers of cooperation and technical assistance from OCPA,
- relaunching cooperation on the basis of new information for the New Year's program with some of OCPA's permanent partners such as the OIF (Organization internationale de la Francophonie), CELHTO-Union Africaine and the Foundation on the Festival on the Niger river.

The realization of the first activities of this program in this first trimester of the new year will be the subject of more detailed information in future editions.

For the activities planned for the opening of the year, mention should be made as to

- the postponement of the celebration of the first African Capital of Culture initially planned at the beginning of February in the Moroccan city of Marrakech;
- and the postponement of the OCPA Seminar on New Trends in Cultural Policy scheduled for Ségou in early February but delayed due to the holding of the Executive Council followed by the Summit of Heads of State of the African Union.

A.2 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.

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 Africa Music Market Le Kolatier 2020 (Yaoundé, 3 - 6 June 2020: Registration

Organized on the main theme “Africa, new eldorado of the music industry”, the 10th edition of Le Kolatier is meant to be a platform for meetings and exchanges between actors in the field of music industry, with the aim of providing a good opportunity for emerging African music groups and contributing to the development of the African music industry.

Representatives of musical structure, cultural institutions, professionals, artists or journalists living in Africa or elsewhere can register and get access to all activities: round tables, workshops, show cases, concerts, market space. If interested register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1138EBLnqgB67KunqjgVDmeL-rdH71_e924oaVdasFkU/viewform?edit_requested=true

For information only: lekolatier@yahoo.fr

B.2 Solidarity for the reconstruction of the THEMACULT Stage (N'Djamena, Chad)

The Director of THEMACULT requests your solidarity for the reconstruction of the stage of "THEMACULT SPACE". Created in 2003, this space includes an outdoor stage, an activity room and offices, but no activity has been carried out on this stage for six months.

Located in the city of N'Djamena, THEMACULT links 6 districts where a diversity of people and cultures meet. A space and a scene which has seen the birth of several initiatives and projects, cultural, artistic with a national and international dimension, but also social projects. Its obsolescence is a hindrance for activities in the districts benefiting from these activities.

To collect the 6281 Euros, contribution can be sent via the Leetchi collection platform (Reconstruction of the THEMACULT scene-space) (<https://www.leetchi.com/fr/c/wMJJkMB5>). If, for any reason, you cannot access this platform, contact THEMACULT on other possibilities.

Contact: Ismael Vangdar Dorsouma - Director of THEMACULT themacult@yahoo.fr and Anicet Djoubana Koublengar - President of the association Zon'Action zonaction@gmail.com

B.3 Ouagadougou: Conference of Ministers of Culture of the G5 Sahel countries on culture against violent extremism

The four-day conference of Ministers in charge of Culture of the G5 Sahel countries ended January 17, 2020 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. This conference enabled Ministers to find cultural strategies to combat violent extremism in the G5 Sahel countries. The closing ceremony under the patronage of the President of Faso, His Excellency Roch Marc Christian KABORE, was attended by the Prime Minister, His Excellency Christophe Joseph Marie DABIRE.

After 72 hours of work by the Experts, important conclusions emerged from the Ouagadougou meeting to combat violent extremism and transmitted to the Ministers in charge of culture of the G5 Sahel countries for adoption. It involves the involvement of customary and traditional authorities at all levels of thinking and decision-making, the establishment of a framework for exchanges between customary and traditional authorities of G5 Sahel member countries, prevention and the fight against violent extremism by pooling endogenous mechanisms and acquired experiences.

The conference of Ministers in charge of culture from the G5 Sahel countries who have died have combined their efforts, their skills and their experiences for the effective implementation of these conclusions.

Website:

https://www.sig.gov.bf/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=204&cHash=aad8cd827d04f8c28c52701ed190b4c9

B.4 Morocco: Marrakech celebrates the inscription of Gnaoua art on the UNESCO list of intangible heritage

The city of Marrakech celebrated with great pomp, the inscription of gnaoua art on the list of intangible heritage of UNESCO, the time of an event dedicated to this facet of culture and ancestral know-how of the Kingdom. Initiated by the Yerma Gnaoua Association, the Assalam Al Masrahi Association of Marrakech, in addition to several actors from the other city, this captivating evening was enhanced by the participation of several nationally renowned maâlems.

This recognition crowns the efforts of several actors who campaigned for the inscription of Gnaoua art on the list of intangible heritage of UNESCO, noting that this inscription on the list of UNESCO heritage opens up to this artistic form the doors of universalism. Gnaoua art, it is recalled, was inscribed in December in Bogota, by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO on the representative list of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001090751.html>

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B.5 Sauti Busara Newsletter

Music Festival Sauti za Busara (Old Fort, Stone Town, Zanzibar, 13–16 February 2020)

East Africa's favourite music festival, Sauti za Busara is just around the corner. Celebrating African music, organised by Busara Promotions, Sauti za Busara takes place annually during February in Stone Town, Zanzibar, with 'more fire' and 'full mzuka'! Sauti za Busara promotes respect for cultural diversity. Forty groups are showcased, typically including around twenty from Zanzibar and Tanzania, with others from across the African Continent and diaspora. Young, local and emerging talents are showcased alongside established acts.

The festival showcases acoustic and electric music, '100% live'. Its focus is on promoting music with cultural identity. Sauti za Busara has showcased artists from 38 African countries. Training workshops for promoting networking and building skills are key elements of the festival, being especially targeted for East African musicians, managers, media professionals and technicians. In recent years the festival offered training in stage management, sound engineering, stage lighting, press and marketing skills. In partnership with other festivals in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Denmark and Norway, festival team members benefit from hands-on learning experiences by joining other production crews, where skills, knowledge and contacts are shared across borders.

Read more at www.busaramusic.org. Contac: busara@busara.or.tz



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

C.1 Algeria: Mrs. Malika Bendouda is appointed Minister of Culture

The new Algerian president Abdelmadjid Tebboune appointed on January 2, 2020 his first government composed of 39 members, led by Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad appointed on December 28, 2019. Abdelaziz Djerad, a 65-year-old academic, former secretary general of the presidency (1993-1995) and of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2001-2003).

The new team includes 11 ministers who have already been members of one of the government teams in the 20-year presidency of Abdelaziz Bouteflika, who was forced to resign on April 2 under pressure from an unprecedented protest movement ("Hirak").

In the new government **Ms. Malika Bendouda** was appointed Minister of Culture to replace Hassane Rabehi. She is the 4th woman to be appointed to this position. A teacher at the University of Algiers, Ms. Malika Bendouda is a research specialist in the work of Hannah Arendt in Algeria. She is a member of a collective research on women and life projects and of the UNESCO network of women philosophers.

This government also includes two new ministerial posts concerning culture: a state secretary responsible for the film industry and a state secretary responsible for cultural production.

In her inaugural her speech, Malika Bendouda highlighted her desire to "review the general conception of culture and reconcile the citizen with his culture and his identity". The minister also announced an upcoming "debate on the country's cultural policy", considering Culture as "a vital sector (...) today in crisis".

For his part, Mr. Hassan Rabehi praised "the dedication" of the ministry's executives and its structures which "ensured the continuity of the sector and accomplished their missions despite the difficult conditions".

Source: <https://www.vinyculture.com/malika-bendouda-designee-ministre-de-la-culture/> as well as <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001040184.html>

At the same time, Abdallah Bouguendoura was appointed Director General of the National Office of Culture and Information (ONCI) to replace Mourad Ouadahi. Before this appointment, Abdallah Bouguendoura held the post of director of Culture of the province and that of director of the organization of the dissemination of the cultural product at the Ministry of Culture, among others. Since its creation in 1998, the Office has managed numerous cultural structures: theaters and cinemas, open-air theaters and the artists' village, and ensures the programming of various cultural activities.

C.2 Tunisia: Actor Fethi Hadaoui, appointed Minister of Culture

The new government of Prime Minister Habib Jemli is made up of independent personalities whose candidacy is yet to be submitted soon for a confidence vote in Parliament. This government is made up of 28 ministers, including 4 women, and 14 secretaries of state.

In this team, the post of Minister of Culture would be attributed to Fethi Hadaoui, renowned actor, born in Tunis in 1961. Fethi Hadaoui began his acting career as an amateur, then enrolled at the Higher Institute of Dramatic Arts in Tunis, where he graduated in 1986.

Towards the end of the 1970s, he began a professional career with the Théâtre Triangulaire troupe under the direction of Habib Chebil, before joining the Nouveau Théâtre collective in 1985. Later, he turned to cinema and starred in several Tunisian and international films. He is also a television star thanks to his participation in several soap operas and series both Tunisian and Syrian. He also chaired the International Hammamet Festival from October 7, 2011 to March 31, 2014.

Source: <https://news.gnet.tn/composition-du-gouvernement-de-habib-jemli-selon-un-document-fuite/> and https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fethi_Haddaoui

C.3 The African Cultural Fund (ACF) finances projects with money from African artists

RFI, by Sabine Cessou - Launched in 2017, this fund) finances artistic projects with the money of African artists themselves. No less than 2.9 million euros have been raised in two years. A promising start, for an initiative that gives itself the means of its cultural sovereignty.

A Malian cultural actor, Mamou Daffé, director of the Kôré Cultural Center in Ségou and of the Festival sur le Niger, is behind the launch of the African Culture Fund, headquartered in Bamako. He is the discreet president, because he is not there for his personal glory, but a completely different ambition. The credo of his institution in Ségou sums up the state of mind of the African Culture Fund (ACF), which has chosen a name in English: "Evolving from a folkloric perception of culture towards cultural industries".

The idea did not only germinate in 2017 during a large exhibition in the Seychelles and discussions between Mamou Daffé with the renowned artists who were there. The objective: that the big help to finance the development and the professionalization of the "small", talents without big means.

Two years later, the result speaks for itself. After a first call for projects in 2018 which attracted 519 applications and raised \$ 1.7 million, the second, launched between August and October 2019, registered 771 applications from 52 countries, including 42 from Africa - the others being worn by members of the diaspora. Of this total, 57% were deposited by people, and the rest by organizations.

On December 4, 2019, no less than 40 projects were selected, half in the visual arts and the other half in the performing arts, for an amount of 1.2 million euros (out of an expected total of 2, 6 million on 2019/20). A sum more than respectable - impressive in the world of culture in Africa.

Read more at <http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20200104-fonds-africain-culture-argent-africain-projets-ambitieux>

C.4 Ethiopia: The Renaissance dam built on the Blue Nile and its cultural dimension

By Vincent Dublange - Addis Ababa is continuing to press for the Blue Nile Dam to produce its first kilowatt hours by the end of 2020. And to find a compromise with its neighbours.

Although 86% of its waters come from the highlands of Ethiopia, it is the dry plains of Egypt that are the "gift of the Nile" celebrated in antiquity by the Greek historian Herodotus. The Abbay River, the main tributary of the world's largest river, has long been the painful paradox of a modern Ethiopia marked by droughts and famines.

Everything changed in February 2011 when, before Parliament, the Prime Minister announced the construction of the Ethiopian Renaissance dam, which will be Africa's largest hydroelectric power plant.

From then on, "music, popular culture, have completely evolved. There is now a glorification of the dam ", says Wondwosen Michago, an Ethiopian academic who works from Lund, in Sweden, on this" collective emotion "which accompanies the hydraulic works used as tools of national construction".

https://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/876645/economie/ethiopie-enfin-la-renaissance-avec-son-barrage-geant/?utm_source=newsletter-ja-actu-non-abonnes&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter-ja-actu-non-abonnes-03-01-20

C.5 Burundi's updated cultural policy

Bujumbura: The Ministry of Culture and Sports is developing its activities in the spirit of the updated cultural policy of Burundi validated in January 2019.

The document of this policy was the culmination of a long work process initiated since 2014. In various workshops held to see the feasibility of the policy, the insistence on the essential role of the cultural dimension in the development of the country and the contribution of reducing unemployment among young people has always taken the lead.

This document has been proposed as a roadmap for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations (SDGs) and the National Development Plan (PND). In the document are the major challenges aiming to revitalize the cultural sector. Thus, the Ministry will spare no effort to raise the voice of artists further so that they can get out of the rut and manage to make a living from their profession and boost the development of their country.

As the culture sector suffers from a lack of funding to meet the needs, the weakness or even the absence of infrastructure, training on the subject does not exist, the non-operationalization of the Burundian Rights Office of authors (OBDA). The proposed cultural policy aims to provide adequate responses to these problems.

The Ministry is headed by Mrs. Pelate Niyonkuru, born in 1980. She has a degree in economics from the University of Ngozi. After having exercised various functions in the economic sector, she was appointed Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism in 2015, then following a government reshuffle, she occupied the post of Minister of culture and sports since 2019.

Website: <https://www.burundi.gov.bi/spip.php?article548>.

C.6 Angola: News from the Ministry of Culture

1) **Maria da Piedade de Jesus, Minister of Culture since June 2019**) develops cooperation with the United States for the realization of priority cultural projects including

- training and cooperation in the field of museology
- exchange of experiences between the National Museum of Slavery and American congeneric institutions (the National Museum of African-Americans and the Museum of Slavery of South Carolina)
- preservation of cultural heritage, within the framework of the Cultural Preservation Program Fund.
- preservation of historic sites such as the slave market in Benguelala.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001140201.html>

2) In the opening of the National Culture Day, on January 8, the Minister also recalled that she attached great importance to the perpetuation of major events in national culture, including the National Festival of Culture (Fenacult), the Luanda Biennial (September 2019), the inscription, in 2017, of Mbanza Kongo on the list of cultural heritage of humanity, the International Festival of Culture of Kongo (Festikongo), the cultural industry fair, the National Culture Day.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001090219.html>

3) The President of the Republic, João Pedro da Cunha Lourenço, appointed João Pedro da Cunha Lourenço on Friday as Secretary of State for Creative Industries of the Ministry of Culture, to replace João Domingos Silva Constantino.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201912280041.html> and <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001060223.html>

C.7 Mozambique: Eldevina Materula Appointed as Minister of Culture and Tourism

On the 17th of January 2020, the President of the Republic of Mozambique, Filipe Jacinto Nyusi appointed Eldevina Materula as Minister of Culture and Tourism through the Presidential Order.

Eldevina Materula, also known as Kika Materula (Artistic name), started her studies at the age of 7 at the National School of Music in Maputo, Mozambique. In 1995, she started her musical studies in Portugal. she's currently the Artistic Director of Xiquitsi Group, a project that started in 2013 and includes two nuances: the Classical Music Season and the Formation of Orchestras

and Choirs in Mozambique. This is a social project that is dedicated to the collective teaching of music to children and the young.

At the head of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Eldevina Materula replaces Silva Armando Dunduro.



D. News, institutions, resources and events in other regions

D.1 Cities as works in progress: cultural policies at the heart of metropolitan development - by Pierre_Miglioretti

The issue of this research is to analyze to what extent the cultural action is integrated to the metropolization process, in the sense of a reinforcement of the weight of Metropolis as a political stakeholder of globalization. Thus, we will discuss the way culture takes part in the metropolitan strategies in a globalized context, having for consequence to weight on the different imperatives of public action (visibility for public policy, cohesion of urban territories, transparency of public policy, integration to the international exchange system of metropolises...).

Therefore, essentially through the set-up of project, we can evoke the integration of the metropolitan cultural action in a system of constraint due to globalization; system, which partially induces the principles of cultural action and what could be expected of it. This is mainly translated by a process of cultural action, by a progressive integration of cultural policy into the metropolitan strategies, completing the process of instrumentalization initiated in the 1980's in favor of economic and social development. The study analyses mainly the experience of Barcelona, Bordeaux, Strasbourg and Stuttgart.

Web site: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/pierre-miglioretti?originalSubdomain=fr>

D.2 10th seminar of the UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Network on "Culture, Tourism, Development"

On a global scale, tourism is a major factor contributing to climate change. Carbon emissions from tourism, including air travel, are expected to double in the next 25 years.

Climate change poses a risk to the integrity and preservation of World Heritage properties, endangering what makes them attractive to tourists.

The managers of World Heritage sites are setting up new measures to both mitigate and adapt to these phenomena. These include projects to assess risk, minimize the impacts of climate change by increasing site resilience, and launching initiatives to adapt to changing conditions. What are the conservation, management, communication and interpretation tools that are being developed and tested? What lessons are we learning?

The seminar "Climate Change, World Heritage and Tourism" aims to discuss these questions holistically and at global, regional and local levels.

Web site: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1515>

D.3 UNESCO: Consultation on the updating of the “Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage properties”

The World Heritage Centre has launched an Online Consultation with key World Heritage stakeholders on the updating of the “Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage properties”. The consultation, which is taking place until the end of January 2020, will gather feedback and comments from key World Heritage stakeholders of the World Heritage Convention on this crucial matter.

This inclusive online consultation invites States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention*, World Heritage Committee Members, UNESCO Category 2 Institutes and Centres specializing in World Heritage, Site managers, and civil society organizations with activities in the fields covered by the *World Heritage Convention*, etc. to provide feedback and comments by completing the online survey.

The results of the consultation will represent a major contribution towards the updating of the Policy Document. The draft updated Policy Document will be presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 44th session (Fuzhou, China, 29 June – 9 July 2020).

Web site: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2074/?le&>

D.4 The 8th Saint Petersburg International Cultural Forum from 14 to 17 November 2019

The 8th edition of the International Cultural Forum was held in Saint Petersburg with China as guest of honor on the theme "Cultural codes in a globalizing world". The number of participants from 92 countries exceeded 35,000 and the number of events more than 350.

The forum has become an important event to give impetus to the development of culture in the world. "China is the guest of honor at this year's forum, and I am sure it will help deepen mutual understanding and traditional friendship between the Chinese and Russian peoples," said the Chinese vice minister. Culture and Tourism, Zhang Xu at the opening ceremony. Chinese artists from the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra, the National Theater Company of China, and the Beijing Dance Academy performed on stage during the forum.

Web site: <https://www.lecourrier.vn/ouverture-du-8e-forum-culturel-international-de-saint-petersbourg/637056.html>

D.5 ACP-EU (Brussels, Belgium): Call for proposals No 2: Support for the Cultural and Creative Sectors in ACP countries

The ACP-EU Culture Programme has published on the 20th December 2019 its second call for proposals, entitled “Support for the cultural and creative sectors in ACP countries”. With a budget of 26 million euros, this call aims to promote the socio-economic development of ACP countries, by boosting the cultural and creative sector as a whole. Its priorities are increasing economic revenues from the creative sector, creating jobs linked to the cultural sector and improving accessibility, recognition and promotion of artists and their works at national, regional and international level.

Four axes are privileged to achieve its objectives:

- the creation/production of ACP goods and services, at a competitive cost and quantity,
- access to national, regional, international markets, promotion of ACP goods and services,

- image education,
- access to innovative funding mechanisms reducing the dependence on external funding.

This call adopts an approach guaranteeing the best distribution between the different ACP regions, by proposing 6 regional lots. Through an innovative system, ACP will select partner organizations at international, regional or national level who will be responsible for managing the budgets for each lot and publishing calls for projects on an annual basis to the attention of the ACP cultural and creative sector. The beneficiary organizations will have to ensure support and assistance for cultural operators, in order to guarantee the best success of their projects.

Deadline for the submission of the proposals: 20/3/2020

More at <http://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/calls-for-proposals/>



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<http://fr.allafrica.com/arts/bydate/?n=1>

<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

Sudan: Kamala Ibrahim Ishaq, Principal Prince Claus Prize Laureate 2019

Amsterdam — During the October 1964 and April 1985 revolutions, poetry was the primary inspiration for the Sudanese people. However, during the December 2018 revolution the arts, paintings, and theatre were the driving force of the revolution. Sudanese Artist Kamala Ibrahim Ishaq, received the Prince Claus Prize for Arts and Literature in December 2019. Radio Dabanga caught up with Ishaq in the lobby of the luxurious antique hotel facing the Royal Palace in the Dutch capital, Amsterdam, and she greeted us with a Sudanese dress emulating one of her paintings. 'They did not only kill the peaceful protestors; they also killed the arts that had been painted during the revolution' - Kamala Ibrahim Ishaq. "Winning the award at this time is important, not for me personally, but rather for Sudan that has experienced one of the greatest revolutions." <https://allafrica.com/stories/202001170409.html>

Nigeria: Arts & Culture Events of 2019 and Expectations in 2020

It is gratifying to note that the year has been successful for arts and culture in 2019. Reminiscing on the panoramic presentations that characterized the reviews, one readily

observes that art, culture and entertainment are intricately intertwined and inexhaustibly wide. Art appeals to all ages, cutting across every imaginable barrier through its multifaceted form and functions. The reviews focused on the intrinsic and extrinsic values that make art rivet in virtually every facet of human existence: art for its own sake, the aesthetics, socio-cultural relevance, art promotion and the artists. The stories encompassing all genres of art reveal that art can be explored to propel desirable changes in the society namely on the occasion of events like EDO 2019 NAFEST, the art exhibitions at the prolific Alexis Art Galleries, the Art X Lagos Fair and the International Arts & Crafts Expo in Abuja. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201912300246.html>

Congo-Brazzaville: Law on the legal status of artists - Neighboring countries want to learn from the Congo experience

The bill on the legal status of Congolese artists adopted at the first reading, on December 18, 2019, in the National Assembly, arouses the support of neighboring countries. The first law of its kind in the sub-region, the parliaments of neighboring countries want this legal law which relieves the creators of works of the mind. After the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) which promised through its national deputy, Ado Ndombasi, the national assemblies of Benin and Gabon followed suit. The law offers full legal protection to artists, he says. It contains seven titles and thirty-nine articles. Among these titles are: the employment and remuneration contract; social protection and tax provisions; professional organization; placement of cultural and artistic enterprises; licenses and exercise of the activity of cultural and artistic entrepreneur on an occasional basis; children in entertainment, cinema, street trades, advertising and fashion; and criminal provisions. The law applies to authors and performers of performing arts, literature, music as well as to creators, performers and or directors of cinematographic, sound, audiovisual works, visual, graphic and plastic, or any other advanced technology, digital or other current or future, to models, technicians of cultural and artistic companies, agents of artists and models, to cultural entrepreneurs who, in view of the public representation of a work of the mind, or the organization of an art exhibition ensure the physical presence of at least one artist receiving remuneration. <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001080297.html>

Senegal: A 30 billion program for the development of crafts

The Minister of Employment, Vocational Training and Handicrafts, Dame Diop, announced Friday in Tambacounda (East), the establishment of a program of 30 billion FCFA to equip 8,000 craft workshops. "For the first time, the State of Senegal will put 30 billion CFA francs to finance an artisanal program which will consist in supporting and equipping 8,000 artisanal workshops throughout the territory," he said during the launch of the School-Company Program. Dame Diop said that the workshops equipped should train 32,000 young apprentices. The Minister of Handicrafts declares that he has instructed his services so that "apprentices in craft workshops can integrate training centers with the School-Enterprise Program". <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001170963.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

Focus on Information, Tools and Resources for Cultural Policy Design, Implementation and Evaluation

The first issue of ACORNS for 2020 is focused on knowledge-based policy making.

The Arts Council of England released findings from the final round of consultation on its draft strategy for 2020-2030, highlighting evidence gleaned from more than 2,000 people and showing how ACE has identified priorities. **The National Arts Council of Zimbabwe** plans to undertake a robust data gathering exercise that will help quantify the contribution of the sector to the country's economy and inform how the Council realises its vision for a vibrant, professional and sustainable cultural and creative industry.

In Chile the Ministry of Cultures, Arts and Heritage and the National Institute of Statistics released the *Annual Report on Cultural Statistics*, a crucial information to the design and implementation of social programmes to address persistent gaps in the culture sector. **The Canada Council for the Arts** released its Qualitative Impact Framework – commissioned to better understand the impact of its investments – and highlighted the need for effective measurement and a sound evidence base to effectively demonstrate the impact of the arts; and **the Arts Council of Norway** established a new think tank for cultural economics for develop understanding of the overall cultural economy ecosystem and inform its plans for the sector.

Site Web: www.ifacca.org

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Black Movie, International Festival of Independent Films, 21st edition (Geneva, 17 - 26 January 2020)

After an anniversary celebrated with great pomp in 2019, Black Movie continues its harvest of atypical films. This year, from January 17 to 26, 2020, the program for the 21st edition will welcome 102 films, including 53 feature films and 49 short films, and 22 guests. Productions from 43 countries will be divided into 10 thematic sections. True to its tradition, the Black Movie Festival reaffirms its specificity in the landscape of Swiss film festivals: a cutting-edge and demanding programming line made up of a majority of discoveries, and personified by a new generation of non-circuit filmmakers who opt for bold aesthetic and narrative choices. We find this year, alongside renowned personalities of international independent cinema. Focused on the youngest moviegoers, the PETIT BLACK MOVIE section will offer a selection of 39 films from 25 countries, including Brazil, Iran, China...

http://africultures.com/evenements/?no=49528&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=459

Website: <http://africultures.com/>

Contact: <http://africultures.com/contact/>

F.3 Agenda 21 Culture Circular

The SDG Global Festival of Action (Bonn, Germany, 1 - 3 April 2020)

This annual event is designed by and for the SDG Action Community to inspire action for the Sustainable Development Goals. Focused on “Transforming Local Action into Global Impact” the 2020 edition will seek to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. 2020 is also the kick start of the Decade of Action announced by the UN Secretary-General and marks the UN’s 75th anniversary. This year the Festival will raise the visibility and impact of these global initiatives, with great focus on local and innovative actions and solutions that can lead to transformative change toward the SDGs. The 2020 Festival will feature a range of session, workshop and meeting formats each positioned to further understanding and awareness, build practical skills and networks and be inspired by SDG Leaders. It also nurtures the growing SDG Action Community by making available a global platform to launch new campaigns, host network meetings of changemakers working towards the achievements of the Goals.

Source: <https://globalfestivalofaction.org/>

F.4 News from Ettijahat - Independent Culture

Developing Ten Studies within the Context of the Seventh Edition of the *Research Programme*

Within the context of the seventh edition of *Research: to Strengthen the Culture of Knowledge* ten researchers have worked on the development of their research papers. This comes within the programme of the intensive training that took place over 8 days. The training included fundamental axes of work which were reflected in 28 sessions that covered the research content and the execution process as: Importance of the research and its objectives, the indicators, the work plan, and an introduction of the issue. The training was conducted in Fabrika in Beirut from 10-17 November 2019. The researchers will start working on their papers from August 2020. There will be a second training phase that to elevate the researchers’ capacities. Read more on the papers and the researchers at <https://www.ettijahat.org/page/911>

F.5 Cyberkaris - the monthly electronic newsletter of the Interarts Foundation

European Report on the State of Artistic Freedom

Culture Action Europe, the network that brings together cultural organisations from different sectors across Europe launches its first **European report on the State of Artistic Freedom**. The international organisation Freemuse has previously documented an alarming scale of both violations of artistic freedom across Europe that undoubtedly undermines fundamental rights and freedoms. Now, Freemuse has prepared a report on **The State of Artistic Freedom of Expression in Europe – Towards a New Agenda**, that outlines the emerging and challenging trends in Europe in relation to freedom of artistic expression. The study was presented at the **European Parliament** on **21 January 2020** with the aim of raising the awareness of the Parliament as to the need to ensure that the right of artistic expression is safeguarded across Europe. More at <https://cultureactioneurope.org/events/the-state-of-artistic-freedom-in-europe/>

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

Contact: info@interarts.net

F.6 Ecoles des Sables

International ‘Workshop on Dancing differently the traditional dances from Africa

The Ecole des Sables, International Center for Traditional and Contemporary Dance in Africa, is both a school of theoretical and practical education, a research laboratory and a place for meeting and exchange, conferences and artistic residencies. The School was founded in 1998 by Germaine Acogny, considered as the Mother of Contemporary African Dance, and her husband Helmut Vogt. Since then, L'Ecole organizes training courses bringing together dancers and choreographers from Africa, its diaspora and all over the world. The 2020 workshop is aimed at dancers from all over the world to bring them this time into contact with the enormous wealth of traditional dances of Africa with a focus on Central Africa and to create during this workshop a link with the Contemporary Dance of Africa with the Technique of Modern African Dance by Germaine Acogny. Applications can be sent by May 15th, 2020 to stage-workshop@jantbi.org.

Read more www.ecoledessables.org

Contact: jantbi@gmail.com

F.7 Aspire X Piasa Auction - *Modern African Art*: Photographs and Lens-based media

The landmark Aspire X Piasa Auction: *Modern and Contemporary African Art* will be conducted on Friday, 14 February at OroAfrica House, 171 Buitengracht Street in Cape Town. The diverse collection offers an internationally robust range of still and moving lens-based media. Over the past two decades, the demand for lens-based media showed no sign of slowing down, with savvy collectors integrating photographs and moving-image works alongside more traditional mediums as part of a forward-thinking collecting strategy. Price growth for both photographs and film follow the larger market trends of contemporary art, which continue on a stable upward trajectory. Aspire has made meaningful advances in developing the market for photography at auction, and the carefully curated selection of photographic works and lens-based media will excite discerning collectors. Included are works by some of the best-known, established and emerging, names in film and photography from Africa, some of whom are making their South African auction debut.



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
