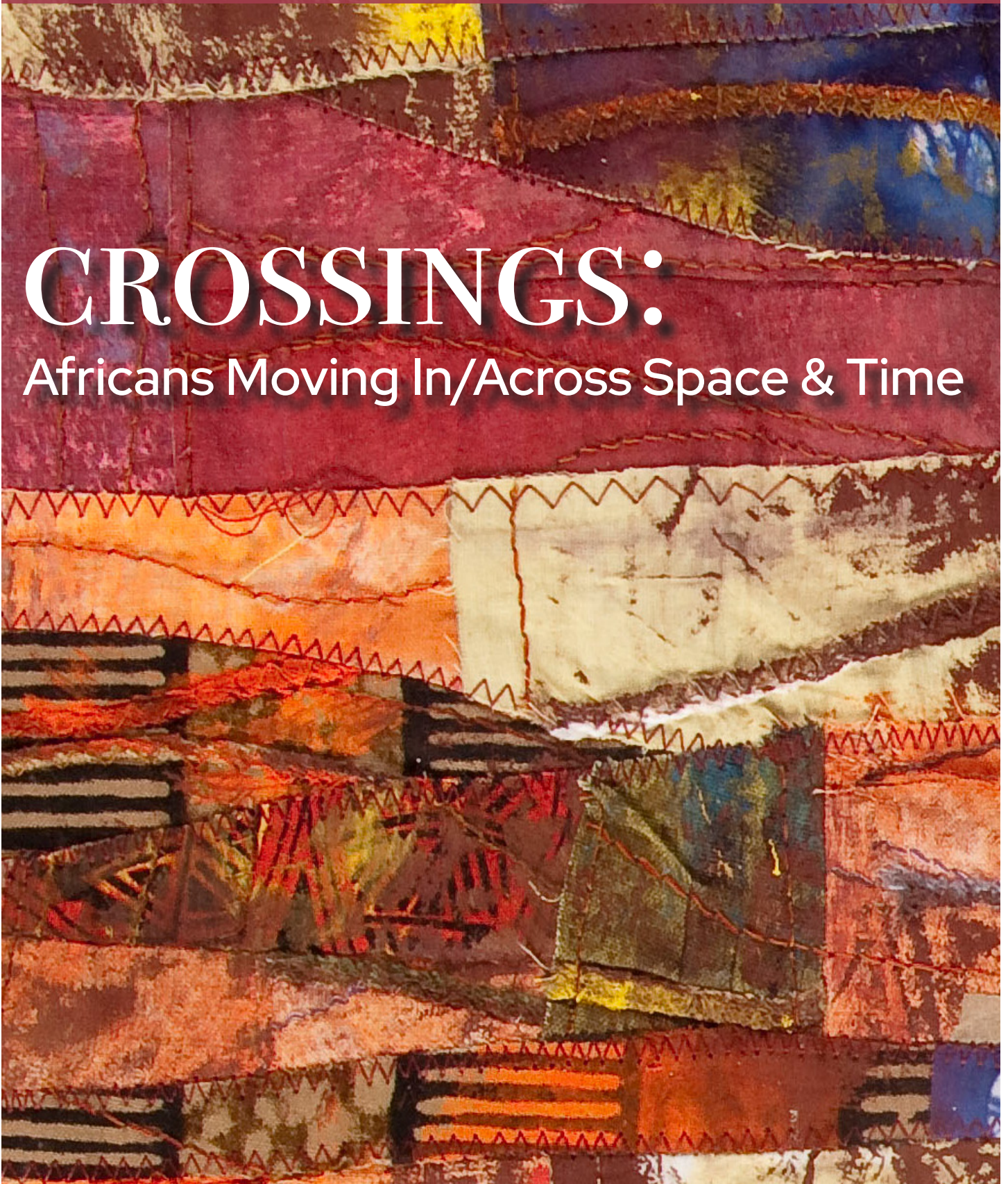




The 48th Annual Meeting of the African Literature Association  
May 24-27, 2023: Knoxville, Tennessee

# CROSSINGS:

Africans Moving In/Across Space & Time





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## **ALA Headquarters**

**Director:** James McCorkle, Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

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## **Acknowledgements**

### **2023 ALA Conference Organizing Committee:**

Simon Lewis, College of Charleston.

Mohamed Kamara, Washington and Lee University.

Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

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### **Host/Convener**

Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ

**UT Organizing Committee:** Hayley Wilson, Melinda Backer, Mathew Brauer, Emily Harrison, Bill Hardwig, and Martin Griffin.

**UT English Department.** Misty Anderson, the Department Head; invaluable staff support from Judith Welch Canter, the English Department Business Manager; Leanne Hinkle, and Molly Johnson.

## **The ALA gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of the following Sponsors at The University of Tennessee:**

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# 2023 Keynote Speakers



Simon Gikandi

Simon Gikandi is the Class of 1943 University Professor of English and Chair of the English Department at Princeton University, where he is also affiliated with the Departments of Comparative Literature and African American Studies and the Program in African Studies. He is the author of many books and articles, including *Writing in Limbo: Modernism and Caribbean Literature*; *Maps of Englishness: Writing Identity in the Culture of Colonialism*; and *Ngugi wa Thiong'o*, a Choice Outstanding Academic Publication for 2004. He is the coauthor of *The Columbia Guide to East African Literature in English since 1945*, the editor of the *Routledge Encyclopedia of African Literature*, and the coeditor of *The Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literature*. His book *Slavery and the Culture of Taste* was winner of the MLA's James Russell Lowell Award; winner of the Melville J. Herskovits Award, given by the African Studies Association for the most important scholarly work in African studies; and a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. He is the editor of *The Novel in Africa and the Caribbean since 1950*, volume 11 of the *Oxford History of the Novel in English*.



## Isabella Alexander-Nathani

Dr. Isabella Alexander-Nathani is an award-winning writer, filmmaker, educator, and human rights activist. Trained as a cultural anthropologist, her work is motivated by the belief that storytelling can humanize complex political issues and bring positive social change. Her latest book *Burning at Europe's Borders* (Oxford University Press) and documentary film *The Burning* (Small World Films) uncover the human sides of our global refugee crisis. She is a Lecturer at UCLA, where she offers courses on Human Rights and Storytelling in the School of Law and the School of Theater, Film & Television, and she was selected as this year's Alumni-in-Residence for her alma mater, The University of Chicago. In addition, she serves as Founder and Executive Director of Small World Films, a non-profit production studio that combines grounded social science research and storytelling to lift the voices of marginalized populations to the global stage and fight for international policy change.

## **ALA 2023 Conference Program**

### **Summary Schedule of Events**

*NB: All conference panels will take place on the campus of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

#### **Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> (Student Union).**

12:00-4:30 pm: Registration (Student Union, second level)

1:00-2:30 pm: Concurrent Panels A (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 270, 360)

2:45-4:15 pm: Concurrent Panels B (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 360)

2:45-4:15: PATCALA Caucus Business Meeting (SU 270)

4:30-6:30 p.m. Opening Reception (Pilot Ballroom 272 BC).

#### **Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. (Student Union)**

8:30-9:30 am: Executive Committee Meeting (Crowne Plaza)

8:30 am-4:30 pm: Registration (Second level)

(Beverage stations at 10:15 am and 4:15 pm)

9:00 am-10:30 am: Concurrent Panels C (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362ABC).

10-11:00 am: WOCALA Business Meeting (SU 362A)

10:45 am-12:15 pm: Concurrent Panels D (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362ABC)

12:15-1:00 pm: Lunch Break

12:15-1:00 pm: FRACALA Caucus meeting (SU 360)

1:00-2:30 pm: Concurrent panels E (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362ABC)

2:45-4:15 pm: Concurrent Panels F (Rooms 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362ABC)

4:30-6:00 pm: Keynote Lecture 1: Simon Gikandi, Princeton University (Pilot Ballroom BC).

**Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> (Student Union)**

8:30-4:30 pm: Registration ([Second level](#))

([Beverage stations at 10:15 am and 4:15 pm](#))

9:00-10:30 am: Concurrent Panels G ([Rooms 192, 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362A](#))

10:45-12:15 pm: Concurrent Panels H ([Rooms 192, 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362A](#))

12:15-1:00 pm: Lunch Break

12:15 pm: WOCALA Luncheon (Pilot Ballroom A)

1:00-2:30 pm: Concurrent Panels I ([Rooms 192, 260, 262ABC, 360, 362A, 383F](#))

1:00-2:45 pm: Film screening: Burning, a documentary by Isabella alexander-Nathani ([SU 270](#))

2:45-4:15 pm: Concurrent Panels J ([Rooms 192, 260, 262ABC, 270, 360, 362A](#))

2:25-4:15 pm: African Literature Today Editorial Board Meeting ([SU 383F](#))

3:00-4:15: TRACALA Business Meeting ([SU 270](#))

4:30-6:00 pm: Keynote Lecture 2: Isabella Alexander-Nathani, UCLA ([Pilot Ballroom BC](#)).

**Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> (Strong Hall)**

8:30-12:15 pm: Registration

([Beverage stations at 10:15 am](#))

9:00-10:30 am: Concurrent Panels K ([Strong Hall 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 126, B1](#))

10:45-12:15 pm: Concurrent Panels L ([Strong Hall 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 126, B1](#))

12:15-2:00 pm: Lunch Break

2:00-4:00 pm: Annual Business Meeting ([Strong Hall 101](#))

7:00-9:00 pm: Banquet/Awards/New President's Speech (Crowne Plaza).

9:00-Midnight: Dance (Crowne Plaza).

## Full Program

**Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Concurrent Sessions A: 1:00-2:30 pm**

**A1. Of Roots and Wings: Tradition and Self-Actualization: Cultural Retention and Roots Across the Diaspora (SU 262A)**

Chair: Kamahra Ewing (University of Kentucky)

Oluseun Tanimomo (Ghent University): "Love is fine for singing about": Individualization, Interpersonal Risk and the Normal Chaos of Love in Ama Ata Aidoo's *Changes: A Love Story* and Chimamanda Adichie's *Americanah*

Olivier Tchouaffe (Southwestern University): On Domestic Politics, Jouissance and Organizing in a Neoliberal World

Chinyere Chinedu Ezekwesili (Los Angeles SouthWest College): Ideology and Self-realization in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*

Justine Waluvengo (Vanderbilt University): Border Crossing: Black Women's Subjectivity and the Limitations to Emancipation in Chimamanda Adichie's *Americanah*

Gilbert Tarka Fai (Bamenda) Constructing New Spaces in Cross-Cultural Borders: The Immigrant Experience in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*

**A2. Motherland: African Feminisms and Postcoloniality (SU 262B)**

Chair: Amanda Smith (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Peace Sorocho Longdet (University of Jos): African Women's Fiction and the Foregrounding of Migratory Crises in Postcolonial Societies

Ben Yussif (Ohio University): Listen to the Voice of the Subaltern: Redefining Women's Identity in African Literature

Gloria Ajami Makokha (Kenyatta University): Homing and Un-Homing: A Gendered Experience of African Women in the Diaspora in *Americanah*; *Behold the Dreamers*; *Beyond the Horizon* and *On Black Sisters Street*



Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY-Geneseo): Becoming, Writing Home: Culturally Determined Freedom in the Writings of Nigerian Diaspora Women

Amanda Smith (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign): Black Beauty and the Afropean Identity: An Analysis of Corporeal Aesthetics in Miano's *Blues pour Élise*

### **A3. Spirits, Embodiment, and Agency (SU 260)**

Chair: Aika Swai (University of Cape Town)

Sue E. Houchins (Bates College): Movement of the Spirits: Transmigration of Souls in Robert Jones, Jr.'s Novel *The Prophets*

Londiwe Gamedze (UC Berkeley): The Souls of Migrants: Spiritual Migration in Bessie Head's *Maru* and *A Question of Power*

Aika Swai (University of Cape Town): Atlantic Glocality and the Mattering of Spirits

Asmaa Alshehri (University of Bisha): Women's Political Mobility and Social Immobility in *The Woman King*

### **A4. African Writers' Lives: Forms/Politics (SU 262C)**

Chair: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Farah Bakaari (Cornell University); Beerluula, or the Many Political and Poetic Crossings of Somali Poets

Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*); African Writers' Lives and Planetary Futures

Subha Xavier (Emory University): Véronique Tadjó, African Griotte

Lily Saint (Wesleyan University): African Coetzee

### **A5. Belonging and Othering (SU 270)**

Chair: Roseline Adewuyi (Purdue University)

Roseline Adewuyi (Purdue University): The Ecology of Transnational Space and Identity Discontinuities: An Evaluation of African Immigrants in America

UcheChukwu Agbo (Southern Methodist University): The Violence of African Diasporization

Kari Miller (New York University): Pursuits of Happiness in the African Diaspora: The Paradox of the American Dream in Dinaw Mengestu's *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*

Ifeoma Nwosu-Okoli (Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu): Migration and Exploitation in Text and Context

### **Concurrent Sessions B: 2:45-4:15 pm**

#### **B1. Mobility, Magical Realism and Speculative Fiction (SU 262A)**

Chair: Karen Bouwer (University of San Francisco)

Karen Bouwer (University of San Francisco): Spurning the Surface: Descending Lines of Flight

Jason Price (University of North Alabama): Fleeing War and Kianda's Wrath: Indigenous Cosmopolitics and the Multitude in Pepetela's *The Return of the Water Spirit*

Joelle Vitiello (Macalester College): *Neptune Frost*: A Tale of Mobility Across Time and Space

Yuan-Chih (Sreddy) Yen (Northwestern University): Errant Human(itarian)ism and Mphuthumi Ntabeni's *The Wanderers*

Amatoritsero Ede (Mount Allison University): Magical Realism – An Afropolitan Re-evaluation

#### **B2. Narrative Forms and Functions in African Literature (SU 260)**

Chair: Alexander Fyfe (University of Georgia)

Emmanuel Omoghene Ogwu (ITCJ, Abidjan): Teju Cole and the Poetics of the Essay

George Joseph (Hobart & William Smith Colleges): Ekphrases of War: Situating Rashidah Ismaili's Unpublished Poetry Collection "In Shallah" between Classical Painting and Contemporary Video Art

Alexander Fyfe (University of Georgia):(Un)knowing the Self through Narrative: Mongo Beti's *Mission Terminée*

Craig Smith (Northwestern Polytechnic): Arrested Developments: Prison and the Contemporary African Bildungsroman

### **B3. Transcultural Encounters in Music and Cinema (SU 262B)**

Chair: Simon Lewis (College of Charleston)

Alexis Finet (Vanderbilt University): Kolinga's *Kongo* as a Transnationalist Discourse

Bernth Lindfors (University of Texas, Austin): First Impressions of Blind Tom, The Musical Savant, 1857-1866

Edgar Taylor (Makerere University): Jim Reeves, Jimmy Katumba and the Invisibility of Country Music in African Studies

Simon Lewis (College of Charleston): On America Street: Idrissou Mora-Kpai's Accidental Elegy for African-American Charleston

### **B4. Intra-African Migration and Kinship Structures: Reframing Afropolitanism (SU 262C)**

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Cristovão Nwachukwu (University of Florida): (Un)rooted Spaces of Belonging: Migrant Kinship Structures In Nadifa Mohamed's *Black Mamba Boy*

Rebecca Fasselt (University of Pretoria): From "Rainbow Family" to Afropolitan "Relatedness": Re-imagining Kinship in South African-based Intra-African Migration and Diasporic Writing

Kayode Odumboni (The Ohio State University): Contests of Belonging: *Black Panther* as a Parable on African Kinship

Renée Schattemann (Georgia State University): Movement in the Works of Sindiwe Magona

### **B5. PATCALA Caucus Business Meeting (SU 270)**

**Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

**Concurrent Sessions C: 9:00-10:30 a.m.**

**C1. FVMCALA Roundtable African Horror Cinema: History, Trends, and Innovations (SU 262A)**

Chair: Tama Hamilton-Wray (Michigan State University):  
Maureen Ngozi Eke (Central Michigan University):  
Olaocha Nwadiuto Nwabara: (SUNY-Geneseo)  
Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University);  
Tama Hamilton-Wray (Michigan State University)

**C2. Roundtable: Feminisms – Centers, Boundaries, and Intersections (In memory of Professor Mary Ebun Modupe Kolawole, 1949 - 2021) (SU 262B)**

Chair: Chinyere Okafor:(Wichita State University)  
Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)  
Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka: (University of Kansas)  
Ada Azodo (Indiana University Northwest)  
Akachi Ezeigbo (Alex Ekwueme Federal University)  
Naomi Nkealah (Witwatersrand University)  
Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

**C3. FRACALA Panel**

**Mobilité, migration et transnationalisme : une projection postcoloniale au-delà des frontières (SU 262C)**

Chair: Patoimbasba Nikiema (University of Miami)

Leopold Mvuezolo (University of Pittsburgh): L'immigration face aux enjeux identitaires et juridiques dans Mur méditerranée de Louis-Philippe Dalembert

Patricia Seuchie (Christopher Newport University): A travers le sable et l'eau sans papiers : choix ou contrainte ? Migration transatlantique écrite par les romanciers postcoloniaux d'Afrique subsaharienne.

Moussa Seck (Georgia College): Sur les traces de l'étranger: la reconstitution de la communauté postcoloniale

Patoimbasba Nikiema (University of Miami): Anagnorisis de la présence autre dans Atlantique de Mati Diop: une dialectique du discours sur l'immigration

#### **C4. African Writers' Lives: Doing History (SU 362 B)**

Chair: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Khwezi Mkhize (University of the Witwatersrand): Peter Abrahams in Exile

Duncan Yoon (NYU-Gallatin): Global Sembène

#### **C5. Mobility versus Migration: Movement of African Texts and Bodies across Languages and Geographical Space (SU 362C)**

Chair: Apala Bhowmick (Emory University)

Clare Ní Cheallaigh (University College Dublin); Fágúnwà and the World: Contextualizing the Assumption of Textual Mobility in the Work of D.O. Fágúnwà

Fred E. Lafortune (Boston University): The symbolic representation of Haiti in Ousmane Sembène's *La Noire de...* and Aberrahmane Sissako's *Timbuktu*

Apala Bhowmick (Emory University): Freud in a Red Fez: Reading Desire and Imagining Migration in Manele Labidi's *Un Divan À Tunis*

Anita Rosenblithe (Raritan Valley Community College): From Body Dumps to Embodiment: Expendable Lives in *The Secret History of Las Vegas*

Kontein Trinya (Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Nigeria): Censorship and the Migration of the Soul: Perspectives on the Furtive Poetry of Dennis Brutus

#### **C6: Migration and Belonging in Francophone Film and Literature (SU 260)**

Chair: Edgard Sankara (University of Delaware)

Edgard Sankara, University of Delaware: Cinéma de la marge au Burkina Faso: entre marginalité et succès

Guillaume Coly, Wake Forest University: Alain Gomis's *Félicité*: A Transnational Iteration of the *abiku*

Joachim Adams, Florida State University: L'aventure ambiguë et le sens de l'appartenance : comment trouver sa place dans un monde irréconciliable



Rokhaya Aballa Dieng, University of South Carolina: Senegalese Migration in *La Pirogue* and *Mbëkë mi*: A Supernatural Focus

**WOCALA Business Meeting: 10-11:00 am (SU 362A)**

**Concurrent Sessions D: 10:45-12:15 pm**

**D1. To Stay or to Return: Identity and Belonging at Home and Abroad (SU 262A)**

Chair: Janice Spleth (West Virginia University)

Janice Spleth (West Virginia University): The Returning Veteran as Agent of Cultural Change in Leila Slimani's *In the Country of Others*

Gideon Brobbey (University of Ottawa: Going to Come: Ideology, Return Migration and National Development in J. E. Casely Hayford's *Ethiopia Unbound* and Kobina Sekyi's *The Blinkards*

Ikechukwu Otuu Egbuta (University of Nigeria, Nsukka): Root Identity, Migration, and Maturation as Postcolonial Authenticity Crises in Abdulrazak Gurnah's *The Last Gift* And Chris Abani's *GraceLand*.

H. Oby Okolocha (University of Benin, Benin City): Diasporic and Reverse Returns in Buchi Emecheta's *Kehinde* and *The New Tribe*

'Gbenga Adeoba (Washington University in St. Louis): "Farewell ma Kumasi, farewell ma Lagostown": Peter Akinlabi's Dialectic of Return

**D2. Narratives of Kinship, Identity, and Loss (SU 262B)**

Chair: Beth Willey (University of Louisville)

Cecilia Addei (University of Mines and Technology, Tarkwa, Ghana: Diasporic Citizenship: Slavery, Identity and Kinship in Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing*

Beth Willey (University of Louisville): Pleasure and Pain: Desire, Gender, and Cruelty in Ama Ata Aidoo's Works

Marina Vlahaki (University of California, San Diego): The Theft of the Soul: The Limits of Embodiment and Transnational Mobility in Ama Darko's *Beyond the Horizon*

J. Roger Kurtz (Drexel University): Migration and Misdiagnosis in Grace Ogot's *The Promised Land*

Aaron Agorsor (Arizona State University): Hospitality as a Tool for Oppression in Octavia Butler's *Wild Seed*

### **D3. Transnationalism, Identity, and Discourses of Disillusionment (SU 262C)**

Chair: Aliko Songolo (Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Omar Dieng (Case Western Reserve University): Blackness/Africanness, Cultural Nationalism, and Belonging in Post-1980s Afro-European Literature

Patrícia Martinho Ferreira (University of Massachusetts-Amherst): Unveiling the African Presence in Portugal through Joaquim Arena's Palimpsestic and Reparative Writing

Heather Brady (Grand View University): White Feminist Discourse in Recent American Women's Travel Writing to Kenya

Ojel Anidi (Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu): The Slave Trade and Forced Migrations among the Igbo: A Study of Olaudah Equiano's Autobiography and An Igbo Folklore

Oluwafunmilayo Akinpelu (The University of Alabama): Examining the Intricacies of Truncated Futurity(ies) Experienced by Nigerian Young Migrants and Critiquing the Depiction of Outward Mobility in Africanfuturism

### **D4. Graduate Caucus Roundtable (GSCALA) roundtable (SU 362A)**

**The Academic Job Market: Anxieties, Trends, and Strategies.**

Chair: Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California-Davis)

Adélékè Adéèkó (Ohio State University)

Phyllis Taoua (University of Arizona)

Stephanie Santana (UCLA)

Utifon Inyang (University of California-Riverside)

### **D5. In Praise of Death: Poetry and Ritual Narratives in African Cinema and Popular Arts. (SU 362B)**

Chair: Olusegun Soetan (Pennsylvania State University):

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin—Madison): Death Bi Yi Proud: Scenes of Abjection in Filmic Representations of Postcolonial African Urbanity

Kolawole Olaiya (Anderson University): Son, When Will Our Drake Hatch?: Shame, Stigma, and the Social Construction of Infertility in Nollywood Movies

Rejoice Abutsa (Cornell University): Circumstantial Discontinuities in neo-Nollywood: Biyi Bandele's *Elesin Oba*, *The King's Horseman*.

Muftiat Oyindamola Adeyi (University of Mississippi): Total Cinema: Simulating the Stage-on-screen in Biyi Bandele's *Elesin Oba*

#### **D6: Transculturalism and Cosmopolitanism in the Francophone World (SU 362C)**

Chair: Mouhamedoul Niang (Colby College)

Kenneth Harrow (retired from Michigan State University): History as “Context” vs the Past as Memory Traces in Sarr’s *La plus secrète mémoire des hommes*

Nnenna Onyima (University of Virginia): Un/Conscious Encounters: Embodiment and Enspiriment in Contemporary African Settings

Ousmane Lecoq Diop (University of Kansas): Multidirectional Cultural Navigation and Translations: The Question of Languages between “Sénégalité” and Cosmopolitanism in Contemporary Senegal

Mouhamedoul Niang (Colby College): Religious Marriage, Race and Intra-continental Migration: Tahar Ben Jelloun’s Representation of the Senegalese-Moroccan Couple

Unionmwan Edebiri (University of Benin): Identity Crisis in Contemporary Francophone African Migrant Fiction: A Critique of Selected Novels of Fatou Diome and Alain Mabanckou.

#### **D7. Roundtable: Mĩcere Gĩthae Mũgo @80: Celebrating Excellence in Renaissance Pan African Thought and Literary Practice across the World, and the Power of Feminist Utu-centric Consciousness and Practice (SU 270)**

Chair: Wangui wa Goro (SOAS)

Maureen Ngozi Eke (Central Michigan University)

Virginia Phiri (WOCALA)

Rose Sackeyfio (Winston Salem State University)

Keiko Kusonose (Kyoto Seika University)

Carole Boyce Davies (Cornell University)

Tsisti Ella Jaji (Duke University)

**FRACALA Caucus Business Meeting: 12:15-1:00 pm (SU 360)**

**Concurrent Panels E: 1:00-2:30 pm**

**E1. Lusophone Caucus Guest Speaker, Poet and Performer Raquel Lima (Portugal/Angola/São Tomé): “ERASURE: Performance, Orature, and Identity” (SU 270)**

**E2. Foundational African Writers Book Launch Panel (SU 262A)**

Chair: Khwezi Mkhize

Khwezi Mkhize (Wits University): Es’kia Mphahlele and the Question of the Aesthetic

Christopher E.W. Ouma (University of Cape Town): Es’kia Mphahlele, Chemchemi and Pan-African Literary Publics

Stéphane Robolin (Rutgers University): Mphahlele’s Writing in the Whirlwind

Makhosazana Xaba (University of Johannesburg): ‘She Certainly Couldn’t Be Conventional If She Tried’: Noni Jabavu, the Editor of The New Strand Magazine in London

**E3. Doing Things with the Road in Niyi Osundare’s Poetry (SU 262B)**

Chair: Olabode Ibironke (Rutgers University)

Mathew Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison):

Adetayo Alabi (University of Mississippi): Osundare, *Oriki* Praise Tradition, and the Journey Motif in *If Only the Road Could Talk*

Kolawole Olaiya: “The World Is Like a Mask Dancing”: Writing Back as a Pedagogical Tool for Teaching Niyi Osundare’s Poems in the American South

Discussant: Tosin Gbogi (Marquette University)

Niyi Osundare: Respondent (The University of New Orleans)

#### **E4. Seminar: African Writers' Lives: Queer and Gendered Selves (SU 262C)**

Seminar Leader: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs): Writing Muslim Lives: Leila Aboulela

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University): Akwaeke Emezi: Writing Themselves

Shola Adenekan (Ghent University): Mapping the Experience of Migration Through the Digital Lives of Queer African Writers

Ainehi Edoro (University of Wisconsin-Madison): Tutuola's Story

#### **E5. Roundtable: Trends in the New African Diasporic Literature (SU 362A)**

Chair: Lokangaka Losambe (University of Vermont)  
Simon Lewis (College of Charleston)  
Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)  
Martha Ndakalako (Gustavus Adolphus College)  
Enajite Ojaruega (Delta State University)  
Christine Grogan (University of Delaware)  
Tanure Ojaide (University of North Carolina, Charlotte)

#### **E6. Roundtable: Author/Critic Roundtable: *Zeb Silhouette* by Chinyere Okafor (Sub-Saharan Books, 2021) (SU362B)**

Chair: Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)  
Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)  
Lekan Balogun (University of Cologne )  
Abosede Afolayan (University of Lagos)  
Chinyere Okafor (Wichita State University)  
Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)

#### **E7. Seminar: Problematizing Feminist/Decolonial Translation Practice (SU 260)**

Seminar Leader: Wangui wa Goro SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies)

Sarah M. Quesada (Duke University): Translating the Black Internationalist Nostalgia of 'el 68' in María Luisa Puga and Sami Tchak



May Kosba (Princeton University): “The arms of a lover”: Translating Liminality in Noor Naga’s *If an Egyptian Cannot Speak English*

Wangui wa Goro (SOAS and King’s College, London): Bringing It All Back Home: Translation of Abdulrazak Gurnah’s *Paradise* and Lupita Nyong’o’s *Sulwe* into Kiswahili

Meg Arenberg (Rutgers University): Publics/Politics/Poetics: Translating Mohammed Ghassani in the United States

Jess Oliveira (Federal University of Bahia and TU-Berlin): Intersectionality Through Sites, and Praxis: Epistemologies of Translation Mobilities, Locations, and Subjects.

## **Concurrent Sessions F: 2:45-4:15**

### **F1.Teaching Panel: Encounters With African Literature Across Borders**

**“Teaching, Exploring and Promoting African Literature: Classroom, Community, and National Experiences” (SU 262B)**

Chair: Ernest Emenyonu

Anthonia C. Kalu (University of California-Riverside): Teaching African Literatures: Linking Liberal Arts and the Digital Humanities

Adélékè Adéèkò (Ohio State University): Native Informant Anxiety

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna): Teaching a Research Seminar on African/Diaspora Literature in the Classroom

Blessing Diala-Ogamba (Coppin State University): Exploring African Literature in a Digital Format

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY Geneseo) and Alessandra Otero (SUNY Geneseo): Transforming Classroom Learning into Contributions to Library Research Guides for Black/Africana Studies Courses

### **F2. Crisscrossing Space and Time: Representing the Diversity of Movements in Sierra Leonean Literature (SU 262A)**

Chair: Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University)

Ernest Cole (Hope College): “Behold the Dreamers!”: Mbolu Mbue’s *Dreamers*, Pede Hollist’s *Returnees*, and the Reconfiguration of the American Dream

Oumar Cherif Diop (Kennesaw State University): Space, Trauma, and Identity in Delia Jarrett-Macauley’s *Moses, Citizen and Me*

Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University): A Season of Migration to Freedom: The Case of Namina Fornah’s *The Gilded Ones* and Yema Lucilda Hunter’s *Road to Freedom*

Saidu Bangura (Universidade de Cabo Verde): Returnees or (Re)Settlers?: A Sociohistorical and Sociolinguistic Reading of Yema Lucilda Hunter’s *Road to Freedom*

**F3. Roundtable on Matthew H Brown's Indirect Subjects. Nollywood's Local Address (SU 362A)**

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Matthew H Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California-Davis)

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Olusegun Soetan (Pennsylvania State University)

**F4. PATCALA Panel: Migration and Liminality (SU 262C)**

Chair: Joy Wrolson (Independent Scholar): *She and He: Audience Reception and Performance Aspects of Looking and Finding Home*

Modupe Olaogun (York University): Stymied Migration: Liminality and the Gothic Worlds of DeWet’s *Crossing* and Oriahi’s *Taxi Driver: Oko Ashewo*

Peter Ntephe (Independent Scholar): Ingesting Liminality in African Literature – from Real Food to a Pot of Soup

Emeka Nwadiora (Temple University): *In Their Own Words. Hopes, Faith, Success and Impediments: Narratives of African Refugees, Asylees, Immigrants, Migrants and Non-immigrants in the United States*

**F5. Space, Place, and Identity across the Black Francophone Atlantic (SU 260)**

Chair: Felisa Vergara Reynolds (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign)

Felisa Vergara Reynolds (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign): Aminata Sow Fall's *Douceurs du Bercaïl*; Or, Moving through White Spaces while Black

El Hadji Moustapha Diop (Macalester College): Citing/Siting the Postcolonial City: Djibril Diop Mambety's Road Movie Trilogy

Marion Tricoire (Grinnell College): Writing Douala and Elsewhere: Mapping Regional Mobilities in Max Lobe's *Loin de Douala* and Hemley Boum's *Les jours viennent et passent*

Michael Montesano (Princeton University): Ambiguous Globalisms: Hybridity, Intertextuality, and the Enduring Lessons *L'aventure ambiguë*

**F6 WOCALA ROUNDTABLE: Text to Screen: Adapting Texts for Film (SU 362B)**

Chair: Irene Agunloye (University of Jos)

M.J Simms (M.J. Simms-Maddox, Inc.)

Virginia Phiri (Zimbabwe Women's Writers)

Marie Umeh (CUNY)

Tosin Tume (Federal University, Oye- Ekiti)

Obiageli Okolocha (University of Benin)

**F7 LusoHispanophone Caucus of the ALA panel: Narrative, Spatial, and Digital, Border Crossers: Afro-Hispanic Cosmopolitans, Migrants, Refugees and Don Quixotes (SU 362C)**

Chair: Dorothy Odattey-Wellington (University of Guelph)

Melissa E. Schindler (University of North Georgia): Don Quixote in Afro-diasporic Writing

Dorothy Odattey-Wellington (University of Guelph): Boundary-Crossing as Resistance: Monfis and Representations of Saharawi Women by Lehdia Mohamed Dafa

Dosinda G, Alvite (Denison University): Questioning Cosmopolitanism in Avila Laurel's *Dientes blancos, piel negra*

Anna Tybinko (Vanderbilt University): Re-envisioning the Spanish City: African Migrant Narratives through a Geospatial Lens

**Keynote Lecture: 4:30-6:00 pm. (SU Pilot Ballroom BC)**

**“The Lettered City and the Making of African Literature”**

**Professor Simon Gikandi,**

**Class of 1943 University Professor of English, Princeton University**

**Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Concurrent Sessions G: 9:00-10:30 am.**

**G1. North Africa Caucus Panel Representations of Indigeneity in Colonial and Postcolonial North Africa (SU 262A)**

Chair: Matthew Brauer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Katia Bellal (University of Virginia): The Saga of the Amrouche Family's Identity: History, Culture, Language(s) and Politics in Service of Identity Construction and the Preservation of Kabyle Heritage

Fazia Aïtel (Claremont McKenna): Representing and Processing Trauma: The Act of Writing for Amazigh Women Writers

Matthew Brauer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Literature, Property, and Tamazgha Orality as Movement: Dihya/Kahina in Maghrebi Francophone Literature

Chenise Calhoun (Tulane University): The (In)Significance of Indigeneity: Jewish and Black populations of Southern Algeria

Anouar El Younssi (Oxford College of Emory University): Tamazight in the Moroccan Public Space: The Resurrection of the Region's Amazigh Roots?

**G2. Roundtable: Emerging Conversations: African Writers and Recent Literary Awards (SU 383F)**

Chair: Maureen N. Eke (Central Michigan University)

Wangui wa Goro (SOAS & King's College, London): Nobel Prize for Literature: Abdulrazak Gurnah

Aliko Songolo (Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison): Prix Goncourt: Mohamed Mbougar Sarr: *La plus secrète mémoire des hommes* (*The Most Secret Memory of Men*)

Maureen N. Eke (Central Michigan University): Booker Prize: Bernardine Evaristo: *Girl, Woman, Other*

**G3. LusoHispanophone Caucus of the ALA Panel  
Africans Moving Across Spaces and Epistemologies: Identities, Approaches and Practices  
in Afro- Brazilian and Angolan Contexts (SU 262C)**

Chair: Joanna Boampong (University of Ghana)

Joanna Boampong (University of Ghana): Return Migrations to West Africa: Perspectives on the Tabom, the Afro-Brazilian Ex-Slave Community of Ghana

Ayodeji Richard Olugbuyiro (The Ohio State University): Africans, Brazilians, Afropolitans: Freedom Quest and the Transnational Ethos of Afro-Brazilian Return to Africa

Yaw Agawu-Kakraba (Pennsylvania State University): Practice and Praxis: Migration and its Discontents in The Restless Crucible

David Balosa (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) Agostinho Neto's Poetry as Global Intercultural World Literature

**G4. Roundtable: Foundational African Writers: Peter Abrahams, Noni Jabavu, Sibusiso Nyembezi & Es'kia Mphahlele: Remembrances, Reflections and Critiques (SU 360)**

Chair: Khwezi Mkhize (Wits University);

Rebecca Fasselt (University of Pretoria);

Lily Saint (Wesleyan University)

Jeanne-Marie Jackson (Johns Hopkins University)

Thobile Ndimande (Wits University)

**G5. Niyi Osundare: Poetics, Theory, and New Critical Directions (SU 270)**

Chair: Discussant: Tosin Gbogi (Marquette University)

Adélékè Adéèkó (Ohio State University): Reading Òṣùndàré Errantly, and Happily So

Nathan Suhr-Sytsma (Emory University): Niyi Osundare's Green Poetics and the Issue of Anthropocentrism



Oyeniya Okunoye (Obafemi Awolowo University): Niyi Osundare's Poetry and the Towncrier Tradition

Olabode Ibironke (Rutgers University): Discussant

Respondent: Niyi Osundare (The University of New Orleans)

**G6. Roundtable: Teaching with Creative Assessment: Creative Methods for Critical Engagement (SU 362A)**

Chair: Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London) - chair

Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London) - chair

Ainehi Edo (University of Madison-Wisconsin)

Uchechukwu Umezurike (University of Calgary)

**G7. The Past and its Discontents: Narrating Colonial and Post-Colonial Trauma (SU 260)**

Chair: Anique John (California State University-Long Beach)

Anique John (California State University-Long Beach): The Hyphenated Black-British Identity: A Dilemma & The Afro-English Solution

John Kurpiel (West Virginia University): "Is this the way the English live?": Migrant Displacement and Constructs of English Prestige within Andrea Levy's *Small Island*

Thelma Pinto (Hobart & William Smith Colleges): Zoë Wicomb's *Still Life*

Majed Alenezi (Northern Borders University, Saudi Arabia): Critique of Religious Discourse: Terrorism, Extremism in Fadia Faqir's *Willow Trees Don't Weep*

Kanika Batra (Texas Tech University): Black Consciousness Women and the Soweto "Not-Autobiography" across Space and Time

**G8. African Crossings in Online Spaces: Global Transmissions and Transmutations of African (Popular) Culture and Arts through Digital Media (SU 262B)**

Chair: Matthias Krings (Johannes Gutenberg University);

Edgard Sankara (University of Delaware): Youtube, BlaXit, the new Panafricanism and Diasporic collaboration : Wode Maya, Dynast Amir, Juliet Ryan, etc.

Robin K. Crigler (Dickinson College): Afropolitan Influence: Gender, Comedy, and Marketing in Global Africa

Nneoma Onyinye Onwuegbuchi (University of Wisconsin-Madison): “Male Barbies”: Trans-Identity, Body Politics, and Social Media in Africa

Izuu Nwankwo (Johannes Gutenberg University): African Stand-up Humour in Transcultural Sites: How Laughter Travels across Difference

Hope Krisko (Southern Illinois Edwardsville University): Decolonizing Senegalese Worldview and Identity: A Comparative Analysis of Senegalese Literature Through Time

## **Concurrent Sessions H: 10:45-12:15 pm.**

### **H1. Language, Identity, and the Poetics of Representation (SU 260)** Chair: Gérard Keubeung (McDaniel College)

Josiane Banini (Juniata College): La transformation identitaire du migrant africain dans l’œuvre romanesque d’Alain Mabanckou

Gérard Keubeung (McDaniel College): D’Aké Loba à Biyaoula: représentations de l’immigré africain en France et poétique d’une écriture

Arnaud Tcheutou (Susquehanna University): Des migrations et circulations virtuelles

### **H2. Graduate Students Caucus of the ALA (GSCALA) Roundtable Interdisciplinary Approaches to African Literary and Cultural Studies: What? Why? How? (SU 262A)**

Chair: Tosin Gbogi

Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London)

Cajetan Iheka (Yale University)

Matthew Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

### **H3. Roundtable: Beyond Bólèkájà Aesthetics: Automobility as Critical Infrastructure in Postcolonial Africa (SU 262B)**

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*);

Utifon Inyang, (University of California-Riverside)

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Discussant: Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

#### **H4. Spaces, Places, and Temporalities (SU 360)**

Chair: Peter Vakunta (Defense Language Institute-Monterey, California)

Baron Glanvill (Carnegie Mellon University): What We Know about the Kruger Park: Representations of Safari-form

Hayley Wilson (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Transplantation: Garden Spaces in Coetzee and Kincaid

Hilary Kowino (University of Minnesota-Duluth): Advancing Decolonized, Equitable, and Just Africa

Chielozona Eze (Northeastern Illinois University): Migrancy, Transculturality, and World Openness: Femi Osofisan and the Challenges of Modernity in Africa

Peter Vakunta (Defense Language Institute-Monterey, California): On Geographic and Metrolingual Migrations in Africa's Post-colonies

#### **H5. Conversations with Authors: showcase video-casts of conversations with Wole Soyinka, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Tsitsi Jaji, Veronique Tadjo, Boubacar Diop, Yvonne Owuor (SU 270)**

**Moderators: Simon Gikandi and Ndirangu Wachanga (Princeton African Memory Lab)**

#### **H 6 PATCALA panel: Our Bodies/Ourselves: African and African Diasporan Women Speak (SU 262C)**

Chair: P. Jane Splawn (Livingstone College – retired)

P. Jane Splawn (Livingstone College – retired): Reading Performance: Ntozake Shange's "abortion cycle #1"

Joy Wrolson (Independent Scholar): Dangarembga, "She No Longer Weeps"

Omofalabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas): Selected Readings from Contemporary Plays by African Women

Rose Sackeyfio (Winston Salem State University): Postcolonial Ruptures in the Somali-Italian Diaspora in Igiaba Scego's *Adua* and Cristina Ali Farah's *Little Mother*

**Lunch Break: 12:15-1:00 pm.**

**Film screening: *Burning*, a documentary by Isabella Alexander-Nathani: 1:00-2:45 pm (SU 270)**

**Concurrent Sessions I: 1:00-2:30 pm.**

**I1. Roundtable: African Feminist Fiction in the Classroom (SU 262A)**

Chair: Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University)

Marame Gueye (East Carolina University)

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY Geneseo)

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

**I2 Panel: Contemporary Anglophone African Poetics and the Politics of Belonging (SU 262B)**

Chair: Chielona Eze

Hope Eze (University of Alberta): Stateless Within Borders: Rethinking Homeland in Olajide Salawu's *Preface for Leaving Homeland*

Iquo Diana Abasi Obot (University of Alabama): Home, Belonging, and Violence in the Poetry of Sadia Hassan and Jamila Osman

Uchechukwu Umezurike (University of Calgary): History and the Call of Water in Romeo Oriogun's *Nomad*

Ngozi Kris Ogbodo (University of Nigeria Nsukka): The Slavery of Migration of the African Woman: A Cultural Reading of Amma Darko's *Beyond the Horizon*

**I3. Interrogating Race, Identity, and Belonging in Literature and Film (SU 260)**

Chair: Joya Uraizee (Saint Louis University)

May Kosba (Princeton University): Fateful Triangles: Locating Egyptian Race-Consciousness in Bahā' Tāher's *Wāhat al-ghurūb*

Nnenna Ezech (University of Benin): Migration to the Greener Side: Utopian Escape for Nigerian Youths

Joya Uraizee (Saint Louis University): Refugee Forever: Time and Mobility in Yewande Omotoso's *Bom Boy*

Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): “Mũgo! Stop sleeping so late like a European.” Decolonizing Ethnography in Mũgo Gatheru’s *Child of Two Worlds*

Felicia Annin (University of Environment and Sustainable Development): Growth in a Time of Change: Patch Dynamics Analysis of Ngũgĩ’s *Wizard of the Crow*

#### **I4. WOCALA Roundtable: Women in Self-Publishing: New Frontiers in African Writing (SU 262C)**

Chair: M. J. Simms-Maddox (Indie Author)

Elinettie K. Chabwera (Indie Author)

Gloria Ajami Makokha (Kenyatta University, Kenya)

Virginia Phiri (WOCALA)

M. J. Simms-Maddox (Indie Author)

#### **I5. Orality, Decoloniality, and Poetic Knowledge (SU 362A)**

Chair: Tosin Gbogi (Marquette University)

Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba (University of Winnipeg): A Poetics of Laughter in Osundare’s Waiting Laughters

Omotayo Oloruntoba-Oju (Adekunle Ajasin University): Niyi Osundare, Decoloniality and the Utter-alter Tradition

Gabriel Bámbgbósé (University of California-San Diego): Niyi Osundare’s Poetic Knowledge

Olabode Ibironke (Rutgers University): Discussant

Niyi Osundare (The University of New Orleans): Respondent

#### **I6. Roundtable: Immigrants’ Voices: Narratives of Movement, Identity, and Parenting (Author/Critic Roundtable) (SU 360)**

Chair: Blessing Diala-Ogamba (Coppin State University)

Ada Uzoamaka Azodo (Indiana University, Northwest)

Akachi Adimora Ezeigbo (Alex Ekwueme Federal University)

Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas)

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)

Naana Banyiswa-Horne (Santa Fe College, Gainesville)

H. Oby Okolocha (University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria)



## **I7. Creativity and Its Institutions (SU 383F)**

Chair: Alessandra Di Maio (University of Palermo, Italy)

Alessandra Di Maio (University of Palermo, Italy): *Transition @ 60: The Black in the Mediterranean Blue*

Aaron Bartels-Swindells (Penn State University, University Park): Narrating "Native Life in South Africa": Sol Plaatje and the History of South African Realism

Mahriana Rofheart (Georgia Gwinnett College): Across Print and Digital Worlds: Transmedia Storytelling and Translation in Cameroonian and French Comics

Megan Cole Paustian (North Central College): The NGO and the Literature of the Humanitarian Atlantic

### **Concurrent Sessions J: 2:45-4:15 pm.**

#### **J1. Roundtable: Teaching African Literature in the 21st Century: The Classroom, Scholarly Work, and the Exigencies of Our Time (SU 262A)**

Chair: Shola Adenekan (Ghent University)

Kwabena Opoku-Agyemang , (University of Ghana-Legon)

Anthonia Kalu (, University of California- Riverside)

Tomi Adeaga (, University of Vienna)

Amatoritsero Ede, (Mount Allison University)

#### **J2. JALA Roundtable: "Proposing, Planning, and Participating in a Journal Special Issue" (SU 362A)**

Chair: Phyllis Taoua (University of Arizona)

Meg Arenberg (Rutgers University)

Lokangaka Losambe (University of Vermont)

Dorothy Odartey-Wellington (University of Guelph)

#### **J3. Book Panel: Lindsey Green-Simms, *Queer African Cinema* (SU 262B)**

Chair: Anne Gulick (University of South Carolina)

Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University)

Sreddy Yen (Northwestern University)

Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut)

Anne Gulick (University of South Carolina)

**J4 Globalization and the Question of the Human in Francophone Cultural Production (SU 260)**

Chair: Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond)

Rémi Armand Tchokothe (University of Vienna): Entré en tant que cousin, sorti en tant que gendarme“: The Geopoet(h)ics of the Stranger - « Intranger » in the Comoros Archipelago

Oumar Cherif Diop (Kennesaw State University): Migrations and the challenges to Humanism in Mohamed Mbougar Sarr’s Novels.

Monika Brodnicka (Amherst College): Crossing to Perfection: The Biography of an Unlikely Initiate in *The Fortunes of Wangrin*

Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond): When Immigration Becomes an Empty Word: Mujila’s *Tram 83* and the Non-Citizen Being

**J5. Temporality, Pan-Africanism and the Political Impetus of Afrofuturism (SU 360)**  
Chair: Matthew Omelsky (University of Rochester)

Matthew Omelsky (University of Rochester): Sofia Samatar’s Otherworldly Beings: Experimental Speculative Fiction and the Production of Knowledge

Omotola Okunlola (University of Wisconsin-Madison): Reading the “Master Harmonizer”: PanAfricanist Consciousness in Nnedi Okorafor’s *Binti* Series

Ayodele Ibiyemi (Marquette University): Love Letters from the Diaspora: Yoruba Culture in Tomi Adeyemi’s *Legacy of Orisha* Trilogy

Penny Cartwright (University of Oxford): "Wearing roller skates through the history of this strange land": Motile Style in Kojo Laing's *Woman of the Aeroplanes*

Melinda Backer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Crossing the Boundaries of Place and Time: Storytelling as Women’s Work in Marlon James’s *Moon Witch, Spider King*

**J6: TRACALA Business Meeting: Readings and Discussions (3:00-4:15 pm, SU 270)**

**J7: African Literature Today Editorial Board Meeting ( SU 383F)**

**Keynote Lecture: 4:30-6:00 pm (SU Pilot Ballroom BC)**

***The Burning: The Untold Story of Africa's Refugee Crisis***

**Isabella Alexander-Nathani, UCLA**

**Saturday May 27, 2023 (Strong Hall)**

**Concurrent Sessions K: 9:00-10:30 a.m.**

**K1. GSCALA Panel: African Diasporic Mobilizations and Cultural Production (SH 103)**

Chair: Anne Gulick (University of South Carolina)

Rejoice Abutsa (Cornell University): Transnational Black Cinema(s): The Nollywood Epic, The Woman King, and the Invisibility of American Capital

Chichi Ayalogu (Carleton University): Diasporic Witnessing and the Nigerian Postcolony

Mathias Orhero (McGill University): Negotiating Home in New World African Diasporic Writing: The Niger Delta and Black Canadian Geographies in Nduka Otiono's *DisPlace* and Amatoritsero Ede's *Teardrops on the Weser*

**K2. Roundtable: Kanika Batra's Worlding Postcolonial Sexualities Publics, Counterpublics, Human Rights (SH 104)**

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut)

Janet Remington (University of York)

Kanika Batra (Texas Tech University)

**K3. The Grass Is Not Always Greener on the Other Side: Narratives of Disillusionment (SH 105)**

Chair: Bernard Ayo Oniwe (Dominican University, Ibadan)

Safiya Ismaila (University of Abuja): The African Search For Greener Pastures & Post-Migration Disillusionment: A Textual Analysis of Olusegun Adeniyi's *From Frying Pan to Fire*

Faith Ben-Daniels (Akonten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development): Migration and Mobility—Putting an Emotional Distance

Samuel Kwesi Nkansah (University of Cape Coast): Immigration: Foreign Spaces and The African Illusion

Jonathan Essuman (Akonten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development): Moving In, Fitting Not: An Autopsy of City Life in Kaine Agary's *Yellow-Yellow*

Bernard Ayo Oniwe (Dominican University, Ibadan): Breathing with Two Lungs: Doubles in Dinaw Mengestu's *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*

#### **K4. Trends in African Oral and Written Poetry and Poetics (SH 106)**

Chair: Ernest Emenyonu (University of Michigan-Flint)

Kofi Anyidoho (University of Ghana, Legon): New Frontiers for African Heroic Saga: The Sahara Testament

Mawuli Adjei (University of Ghana, Legon): Lost in Translation: Navigating the Contours of Kofi Anyidoho's Bilingual Poetry

Ojel Anidi (Institute of Management & Technology (IMT), Enugu): Igbo Evu (Praise Poetry): A Lasting Festive Tradition in Igboland, Nigeria

#### **K5. Aesthetics of Movement and Narration (SH 126)**

Chair: Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California, Davis)

Simona Bertacco (University of Louisville): Translation as the Language of Migration in M. NourbeSe Philip's *Zong!*

Rume Kpadamrophe (University of South Carolina): Nostalgia and the Narrative of Progress in Chinua Achebe's *No Longer at Ease*

Akin Adesokan (Indiana University): Four Hypotheses on Black Motions

Onyeka Dike (McGill University): Narrating the Nation: Nigerian Pidgin in the Context of World Literature

Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California, Davis): Aesthetic Autonomy and the Economics of New Seriality in West African Screen Media

### **Concurrent Sessions L: 10:45-12:15 pm.**

#### **L1: ALA-EC Sponsored Roundtable: Migration and African Literature: Theories and Approaches to Research in the Field (SH 103)**

Chair: Pauline Ada Uwakweh (North Carolina A&T State University)

Anthonia Kalu (University of California-Riverside)

Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University)

Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

Maramé Gueye (East Carolina University)

Mathias Orhero (McGill University, Montréal)

#### **L2: Tejumola Olaniyan Legacy Project Roundtable: Movements and Accents (SH 104)**

Chair: Carli Coetzee ( *Journal of African Cultural Studies* )

Carli Coetzee ( *Journal of African Cultural Studies* )

Uttofon Inyang (University of California, Riverside)

Theophilus Okunlola (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Discussant: Gabriel Bámbósé (University of California, San Diego)

#### **L3. Film Screening and Roundtable: *In the Shadow of Biafra* (SH 101)**

Louisa Uchum Egbunike (Durham University)

Nathan Richards (University of Nottingham)

#### **L4. A Round Table on Ngozi Chuma-Udeh's *Forlorn Fate* (SH 105)**

Ngozi Chuma-Udeh

Uche Amah

#### **L5. Home(lands): Shifting Space, Place, and Time across the Diaspora (SH 106)**

Chair: Maria-Gratias Sinon (Penn State University)

Modupe Olaogun (York University, Toronto): Mobility and Immobility as Crucibles of Possibility in Black Atlantic Crossings

Christopher Ouma (University of Cape Town): Reading the New Diaspora in Yewande Omotoso's Fiction

Debra S. Boyd (Independent Scholar): New Diasporas of Nomads and Sedentaries

Maria-Gratias Sinon (Penn State University): "How Do You Use Your Rage?": Exploring Black Women Migration in Nikyatu Jusu's *Nanny*

## **L6. Researching, Writing and Publishing African Literature: Challenges & Outcomes (SH 126)**

Chair: Ernest Emenyonu (University of Michigan-Flint)

Cajetan Iheka (Yale University): Shaping the African Environmental Humanities

Chiji Akoma (Villanova University): In Search of *Icheoku*: Challenges of Digital Archiving in Nigeria

Adetayo Alabi (University of Mississippi): African Languages and the Autobiographical Genre

Obi Nwakanma (University of Central Florida): African Literature: A Janus--faced Development

**12:15-2:00 pm. Lunch Break.**

**2:00-4:00 pm: Annual Business Meeting (SH 101)**

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