

PARTICIPANTS

Bayreuth Academy
of Advanced
African Studies

BA



Working Group B 'Multiple Futures through Time' (Winter 2013-14)

Workshop

"Changing Futures through Time"

16-17 January 2014

Akosua Adomako Ampofo

Professor Akosua Adomako Ampofo is the Director of the Institute of African Studies. She joined the University of Ghana (UG) in 1989 as a Research Fellow in the Institute of African Studies, was promoted to Senior Research Fellow in 1996, Associate Professor in 2003, and Professor in 2010. Professor Adomako Ampofo was the First Head of the Centre for Gender Studies and Advocacy, CEGENSA (August 2005-Deember 2009).

Her teaching, research and advocacy have addressed issues of African Knowledge systems; Higher education; Reproductive Health; Identity Politics; Gender-based Violence; Women's work; Masculinities; and Gender Representations in Popular Culture (music and religion). She was a member of the *Pathways of Women's Empowerment consortium*, WE-RPC; (<http://www.pathwaysofempowerment.org/>). Selected recent publications include:

- "Changing Representations of Women in Ghanaian Popular music: Marrying research and advocacy" *Current Sociology* (60): 258-279 (with Awo Asiedu, 2012);
- *African Feminist Politics of Knowledge - Tensions, Challenges and Possibilities* (Uppsala: Nordic Africa Institute, 2010, Eds. with Signe Arnfred);
- *Knowledge Transmission in Ghana: Research Review Supplement 19*. Legon, Institute of African Studies (Eds. with Mary Esther Kropp Dakub, 2009);
- "Phallic Competence: Fatherhood and the Making of Men in Ghana" (2009, with Michael P.K. Okyerefo and Michael Perverah in *Culture, Societies and Masculinities*

Adomako Ampofo's work with Asiedu on women in popular music in Ghana, from which they have published several papers, culminated in a song competition that eventually produced three (empowering) songs about women including a music video (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRP_hzEmQv8). The project examines and interrogates the constructions of women in popular music.

Wangui Wa Goro

Wangui wa Goro is a researcher, translator, writer and a human rights campaigner. She has been involved in rights for race, gender equality and democracy for over twenty years. She is also a pioneer in translation of African literature and was on the International Advisory Committee for the Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora based at the University of Florida. She is currently an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Human Rights and Social Justice at London Metropolitan University, the President of Translation Caucus of the ALA and also the President of ALTRAS (African Literary Translators and Subtitlers Association).

Alondra Nelson

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Alondra Nelson is professor of sociology and director of the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Columbia University. An interdisciplinary social scientist, she writes about the intersections of science, technology, medicine and inequality. These themes are taken up in her most recent book, *Body and Soul:*

The Black Panther Party and the Fight Against Medical Discrimination, winner of four professional prizes, including the Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Book Award from the Race, Class and Gender section of the American Sociological Association.

She is also an editor of *Genetics and the Unsettled Past: The Collision of DNA, Race, and History*, *Technicolor: Race, Technology, and Everyday Life*, and "Afrofuturism," a special issue of *Social Text*.

Her next book, *The Social Life of DNA: Race and Reconciliation after the Genome*, is forthcoming from Beacon Press. Drawing on interviews and fieldwork, this book traces how claims about heritage and ancestry are marshaled together with genetic analysis in a range of social ventures, including kin-keeping, reparations politics, citizenship projects, and public commemoration.

Alondra's essays, reviews and commentary have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Boston Globe*, *Science*, *Scientific American*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Dissent* and the *Guardian*, among others venues. Her publications also include articles on race and digital culture; "scientism" in black power politics; the use of racial categories in medicine; and the social implications of direct-to-consumer genetic testing, genetic genealogy and social media.

Rachel Spronk

Rachel Spronk is trained as an anthropologist and doing interdisciplinary research on culture, gender and sexuality. Her research focusses primarily on the intersection of three scholarly fields - anthropology, gender and sexuality studies, and African studies. She has undertaken ethnographic research on the love and sexual relationships of cosmopolitan-oriented young professionals in Nairobi, Kenya, since 1997. In her current research she focusses on shifts in the practices and imagination of intimacy and how these relate to the notion of modern personhood, from an intergenerational perspective, for which she studies family histories in Ghana since 2011. She has been awarded with a NWO VENI grant for the research project "Transformations in intimacy. Sexuality and modern personhood among middle-class Ghanaians from 1940 to the present".

Emma Hunter

Emma Hunter has been a Lecturer in History and Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, since 2008. Her current book project is called *Languages of Freedom: making*

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Tanzanian political society in an international age. Recent publications include "Our Common Humanity": print, power and the colonial press in interwar Tanganyika and French Cameroun', *Journal of Global History* (2012) and 'Dutiful subjects, patriotic citizens and the concept of 'good citizenship' in twentieth-century Tanzania', *The Historical Journal* (2013). She is also working on a new project, funded by the British Academy, called 'Concepts of Democracy in mid-twentieth-century Africa'.

Christiane Reichart-Burikukiye

Christiane Reichart-Burikukiye received her Master in African History from the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Since then she has published one book and several articles mainly on the cultural history of East Africa, concentrating especially on the colonial period. Currently she is working at the History Department/ University of Bayreuth and she is about to finish her PhD. thesis on youth in pre-colonial and colonial Kenya.

Among her latest publication are: (2013) *Contesting Beauty Concepts in Precolonial and Colonial Kenya: Hierarchy, Resistance and Identity*, in: Hartmut Berghoff & Thomas Kühne (ed.), *Globalizing Beauty. Consumerism and Body Aesthetics in the Twentieth Century*, New York, and (2012) *The Railway in Colonial East Africa - Colonial Iconography and African Appropriation of a New Technology*, in: Toyin Falola & Emily Brownell (eds.), *The Technical Pastoral. Landscape and Environment in Colonial and Post-colonial Africa*, New York, pp. 62 – 86.

Lotte Hughes

Lotte Hughes, a Research Fellow at the Open University, is an historian of Africa, empire and postcolonial issues, who works largely on Kenya. Before joining The Ferguson Centre in late 2005, Lotte spent seven years at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. My D.Phil. in Modern History (1998-2002) focused on Maasai-British relations in colonial Kenya, and Maasai responses to land alienation (published as a monograph, 2006). And a further three years at the college researching and writing the commissioned book *Environment and Empire*, with Prof. William Beinart, for Oxford University Press (2007). She holds a Masters in Area Studies (Africa) from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, and a BA in Sociology from the University of Sussex. Her earlier career was spent largely in journalism, both in the mainstream media and NGO world.

Lotte is a Council member of the African Studies Association of the UK (ASAUk); Book Reviews Editor of the journal *African Affairs*, top ranked in African and Area Studies; and a member of the editorial board of the *Historical Association of Kenya*. Her current interests focus upon heritage, memory, memorialisation and identity in Kenya. Until 30 September 2011 I was Principal Investigator of the AHRC-funded research project 'Managing Heritage, Building Peace: Museums, memorialization and the uses of memory in Kenya'. Lotte was

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previously awarded, with Kenyan colleague Karega-Munene, a UK-Africa Partnership Scheme Award by the British Academy, for research on heritage in Kenya (2007-10).

Luis Patraquim

Luís Carlos Patraquim is a poet, playwright and journalist from Mozambique.

Kara Keeling

Kara Keeling's current research focuses on theories of temporality, spatial politics, finance capital, and the radical imagination; cinema and black cultural politics; digital media, globalization, and difference; and Gilles Deleuze and liberation theory, with an emphasis on Afrofuturism, Africana media, queer and feminist media, and sound. Her book, *The Witch's Flight: The Cinematic, the Black Femme, and the Image of Common Sense*, explores the role of cinematic images in the construction and maintenance of hegemonic conceptions of the world and interrogates the complex relationships between cinematic visibility, minority politics, and the labor required to create and maintain alternative organizations of social life.

Keeling is author of several articles published in anthologies and journals and co-editor (with Colin MacCabe and Cornel West) of a selection of writings by the late James A Snead entitled *European Pedigrees/ African Contagions: Racist Traces and Other Writing* and (with Josh Kun) of a collection of essays about sound in American Studies entitled *Sound Clash: Listening to American Studies*. Currently, Keeling is writing her second monograph, tentatively entitled "Queer Times, Black Futures" and co-editing (with Thenmozhi Soundarajan) a collaborative multi-media archive and scholarship project focused on the work of Third World Majority, one of the first women of color media justice collectives in the United States, entitled "From Third Cinema to Media Justice: Third World Majority and the Promise of Third Cinema".

She currently serves on the editorial boards of the journals *Cultural Studies*, *Feminist Media Studies*, and *American Quarterly*, where she is a managing editor, and she is the Editor of the Moving Image Review section of the journal *Gay and Lesbian Quarterly* (GLQ).

Peter Geschiere

Peter Geschiere is Professor of African Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam and co-editor of *Ethnography* (SAGE). Since 1971 he undertook historical-anthropological field-work in various parts of Cameroon and elsewhere in West Africa. His publications include *The Modernity of Witchcraft: Politics and the Occult in Post-colonial Africa* (Univ. Of Virginia Press, 1997), *Perils of Belonging: Autochthony, Citizenship and Exclusion in Africa and Europe* (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2009), and *Witchcraft, Intimacy and Trust: Africa in Comparison* (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2013).