

Afropolitan ArtTalks
Season 2
16.06.2018
16.00>23.30
@BOZAR, Studio Hall

16:00 > 17:45 Beyond boundaries : New art films by musicians (discussion in French). Session moderated by Pascale Obolo.

Gioia Kayaga & Soraya Milla – *Vitiligo*

Gioia Kayaga. Joy was just 22, when in 2013 she won the *Paroles Urbaines* prize in the SLAM category (Wallonia-Brussels Federation). A Belgian artist of Italian and Burundian descent, her texts speak of identity and travel; as a committed artist, she shares her rebellion, her struggles and her dreams. Joy created her first complete performance – ‘Tram 25’ – under the artistic direction of Pitcho Womba Konga, combining slam, music, dance and visual animation, and telling the story of how she discovered Brussels and its multiple realities. Now a full-time slammer, a member of the ‘Slameke’ Belgian collective, Joy performs across the world (Canada, Madagascar, Germany, Switzerland, Guinea...), while also working on her next project (due to appear in early 2019).

French with Beninese-Cameroonian roots, **Soraya Milla** grew up between France and Côte d’Ivoire. With this intertwined cultural background, she studied performing arts at Université Paris X, followed by a film production course at the IAD, then a Master’s in production at the INA in Paris. In 2015, she produced her first short film *Exotique*, a tale about the issue of hair for a young African-descendant woman. In 2017, while in New Orleans on a trip to the United States, she filmed the documentary *Au pays des Merveilles* which recounts the journey of discovery of three Afropean women visiting their Afro-American cousins. In 2018, a number of encounters spurred the artist to explore new narrative and cross-disciplinary forms which led to the film-poem *Vitiligo*, her latest creation in collaboration with the Belgian-Burundian slam artist and poet Gioia Kayaga.

Baloji – *Peau de Chagrin / Bleu de Nuit*

Poet, composer, actor and designer, **Baloji** is a master of many disciplines. After being a member of the iconic Belgian rap group Starflam, Baloji launched his solo career with two albums that garnered worldwide critical acclaim. After more than 200 concerts around the world, he is back with a new EP which blends African, traditional and Afro-American music (soul, funk, jazz).

18:00 > 19:30 In conversation with South African Artists (discussion in English).

Kendell Geers & Osei Bonsu - *AniMystikAKtivist* publication.

South African-born, Belgian artist **Kendell Geers** changed his date of birth to May 1968 in order to give birth to himself as a work of art. Describing himself as an 'AniMystikAKtivist', Geers uses his experiences as a white African like a skeleton key to unlock our understanding of history, culture and identity. Spiritually charged, politically poignant and socially engaged, the work of Kendell Geers cannot be categorised as either European or African, but is rather a prolonged metaphysical dialogue between cultures, archetypal signs and sacred symbols.

Osei Bonsu is a British-Ghanaian curator and writer based in London. His activities encompass exhibition programming, publishing and cultural strategy in the field of visual arts. He has developed projects focused on transnational histories of art, collaborating with museums, galleries and private collections in Europe, Asia and Africa. Through his research, Bonsu focuses on questions of progress and the conception of modernity against the backdrop of social, cultural, and economical transformation in the 20th and 21st centuries. In 2017, he curated the 10th edition of *Satellites*, a multi-site exhibition at Jeu de Paume (Paris) and CAPC: Centre for Contemporary Art (Bordeaux).

Moya Michael & Tracey Rose - *Coloured Swans* project.

Moya Michael was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, where she trained in ballet under the direction of Dianne Sparks. She went on to study to obtain a national diploma in Contemporary and African dance at the Tswane University in Pretoria between 1994 and 1997. Today she is based in Brussels and continues to evolve as a producer of live performances. She has danced with the likes of Akram Khan, Gregory Maqoma, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker (Rosas), Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Damien Jalet (Eastman), Faustin Linyekula, David Hernandez, and Mårten Spångberg. As a skilled performer, she is interested in navigating all forms of expression and identity with the use of mixed mediums.

Tracey Rose, born in 1974 in Durban, South Africa, is a seminal figure in post-apartheid contemporary art who works in video, art, and performance. She is a graduate of the University of Witwatersrand and received her MFA from Goldsmiths College, University of London. Rose has had solo presentations worldwide, and has featured in major international events such as the Venice Biennale (2001), São Paulo Biennial (2016), and documenta 14 (2017). "Tracey Rose: Waiting for God," the artist's mid-career retrospective, was held at the Johannesburg Art Gallery in 2011. She lives and works in Durban, South Africa

20:30 > 22:30 Panel de discussion: Are women stretching the boundaries of the world of contemporary African art? Impacts on practices, exhibitions, institutions (discussion in French). Moderator: Sorana Munsya

Christine Eyene is an art historian, critic and curator. She is a Research Fellow in Contemporary Art at the University of Central Lancashire where she works on Making Histories Visible, an interdisciplinary visual arts research project based at UCLan's Centre for Contemporary Art, led by Professor Lubaina Himid MBE, winner of the Turner Prize 2017. She is a doctoral student at Birkbeck, University of London and is writing a thesis on South African photographer George Hallett. She also manages the Cameroonian photography platform Yaounde Photo Network. Eyene is curator of the Summer of Photography 2018 at BOZAR and artistic director of the 4th International Biennial of Casablanca 2018

Touria El Glaoui was listed amongst the 100 most powerful women in Africa by *Forbes*; amongst the 50 most powerful women in Africa by *Jeune Afrique* in 2015; and the 100 most influential Africans in business by *NewAfrican* in 2013. She is the founding Director of leading international art fair I-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, which was created in 2013 and takes place in London, New York and Marrakech every year. Born and raised in Morocco, El Glaoui completed her education in New York before beginning a career in the banking industry as a wealth management consultant. Parallel to her career, Touria has organised and co-curated exhibitions of her father's work, Moroccan artist Hassan El Glaoui, in London and Morocco.

Janine Gaëlle Dieudji is the Exhibitions Director of MACAAL. A native of France and Cameroon, Janine moved to Florence in 2011 and has gained diverse experience in the arts and culture over the years. She was studio manager for artist Clet Abraham for three years, PR manager for French film festival France Odeon, and she is vice-president of the association BHMF (Black History Month Florence). A cultural activist, she has co-curated shows such as "Black Value" in collaboration with the American Academy in Rome, Barthélémy Toguo's solo show in Florence "Il Viaggio Immaginario", and has also contributed to online magazine *Griot* as editor-at-large. She is a graduate of Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas, Paris, and Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Lyon.

Alya Sebti is the Director of the ifa Gallery Berlin, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen. She is guest curator of the Dakar Biennale 2018 presenting the exhibition 'Invisible', and was the Artistic Director for the Marrakech Biennale V (2014). Her recent curated exhibitions include a solo show with Pascale Marthine Tayou (ifa Gallery Berlin 2017), a solo show with Hicham Berrada (Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, 2015); "Carrefour / Treffpunkt" (ifa Gallery Stuttgart, Berlin, 2015); "Casablanca, black energy" (Mons, European Capital of Culture 2015); "Now eat my script" with Mounira Al Solh (KW, Berlin, 2015); and "Equilibres / Augleich" with Hicham Berrada and Felix Kiessling (Wentrup Gallery, Berlin, 2014). She co-curated "In the Carpet" (2016 ifa Gallery Stuttgart, 2017 ifa Gallery Berlin) with Mouna Mekouar and Salma Lahlou. From 2012 to 2014, she was co-editor of the book "Pas de Deux" following the residency programme she curated at Villa Romana (Florence, 2014), and she has written and lectured on art and the public sphere: in 2016 she taught the curatorial class "On Curating, translating the polyphony of Voices" at the Salzburg International Academy.

Feminist film-maker and curator, **Pascale Obolo** is passionate about the visual arts and produces and directs "film objects", as she refuses to be classified under any film genre. Her work examines memories, identity, exile and invisibility. Her film *Calypso Rose, the Lioness of the Jungle* won the 2013 Silver Yennenga award in the documentary category at FESPACO. Pascale Obolo is also the editor-in-chief of the

journal *Afrikadaa*, and founded *Afrikadaa Lab*, a contemporary art magazine and intellectual and artistic laboratory that aims to promote creation in Paris and in the diaspora and African territories. She also manages the African Art Book Fair (AABF), an independent publishing fair focusing on editorial practices and supporting qualitative and unique publishing practices.

Moderator: Sorana Munsya

Assistant to the Artistic Director of the 5th Lubumbashi Biennale for contemporary art (2017), entitled 'Eblouissements', **Sorana Munsya** is on the editing team of the contemporary art journal *Afrikadaa* and is also a member of the eponymous collective with which she organised the African Art Book Fair and the exhibition *Make It Yourself* at the Dakar Biennale (2018). Congolese-born, Brussels-based Sorana Munsya trained in psychology, focusing particularly on the issue of adult learning through art, and especially the theatrical arts. She also has a Master's in development cooperation, during which she studied the issue of informal trade in the city of Kinshasa.