

Africa Day 2017

Celebrating Resilience, Creativity & Innovation in Africa

Saturday, April 15, 2017

Co-organizers: Funmi Arewa and Victoria Bernal

Location: The Cove@UCI, 5141 California Ave., Irvine, CA 92617

9:30 – 10:00 **Registration, Continental Breakfast & Coffee**

10:00 – 11:30 **PANEL 1: EXPRESSION, CENSORSHIP & CREATIVITY**

Chair: **Funmi Arewa**, Director, Center for African Business, Law & Entrepreneurship and Professor, UCI School of Law

David Kaye, Director, International Justice Clinic and Clinical Professor, UCI School of Law, "Issues of Censorship and Expression"

Victoria Bernal, Professor, Dept. of Anthropology, UCI School of Social Sciences, "Laughing Through Tears: Humor and Dictatorship in Eritrea"

Tina Beyene, UC Presidential Fellow, Dept. of History, UCI School of Humanities, "Imperial Erotics and Nationalist Entrapment: Rwandan Feminist Narratives of Mass Rape"

Bryan Reynolds, Chancellor's Professor, Dept. of Drama, UCI School of the Arts, "Oil, Art, and Resistance in Nigeria and Kenya"

Funmi Arewa, Director, Center for African Business, Law & Entrepreneurship and Professor, UCI School of Law, "Nollywood, Social Media, and Freedom of Expression"

Lukas Ligeti, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Music, UCI School of the Arts, "Naturally Digital: Working with Technology in Experimental Music Collaborations in Africa"

11:30 – 12:00 **Dance Performance - West African Dance Group**

12:00 – 1:00 **Nigerian Buffet Lunch from Veronica's African Kitchen**

Lunch Film Showing

Exchanging Language - from the Orange to the Gold Coast (2013, 50', US)

A documentary of 17 UCI students that went to explore the roots of jazz dance in sub-Saharan Africa. With their dance professor, Sheron Wray and other UCI faculty the students were immersed in multiple registers of Ghanaian drumming and dance, embodying a language that was not altogether new. Their investigations led to a performance with the Ghana Dance Ensemble and virtuosic collaborations between tap dance, flamenco and drumming. Contemporary Ghanaian culture was explored alongside the deep and sallow historic relics of the transatlantic slave trade in the Gold Coast.



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1:00 – 2:30

PANEL 2: COLONIAL & POSTCOLONIAL ENCOUNTERS

Chair: **Victoria Bernal**, Professor, Dept. of Anthropology, UCI School of Social Sciences

Pat Seed, Professor, Dept. of History, UCI School of Humanities, "Mapping West Africa's Coastline"

Frank B. Wilderson III, Director, UCI School of Humanities Culture and Theory Ph.D. Program and Professor, Dept. of Drama and African American Studies, UCI School of Arts and School of Humanities, "Incognegro: Five Years of Exile and Apartheid"

Tekle Woldemikael, Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Chapman University College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, "Living on the Razor's Edge: The Cultural Divide in Eritrea"

Crystal Murphy, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Chapman University College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, "Locating the Local: Space for Grounded Feedback on Humanitarian Interventions in South Sudan"

Cecelia Lynch, Professor, Dept. of Political Science, UCI School of Social Sciences, "Problematizing 'Resilience' among Religious Humanitarians in Cameroon"

Erin Mosely, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, Chapman University College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, "Democratizing Rwandan History: Archival Innovation after War and Genocide"

Sheron Wray, Associate Professor, Dept. of Dance, UCI School of the Arts, "Entering an Ewe Community with my Anglophone Ear"

2:30– 5:00

FILM, DANCING & SNACKS

Film

Peter Bloom, Associate Professor, Film and Media Studies, UCSB, talk and film showing of *La Belle at the Movies* (2015, 67', UK/Belgium/DRC), Lingala/French with English subtitles *La Belle at The Movies* reveals the disappearance over the past decade of cinema-going culture in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Filmmaker Cecilia Zoppelletto intimately shares the nostalgia for the visual excitement that cinema provided, through interviews with cinema audiences, filmmakers and cinema owners all living in Kinshasa, a city of 10 million deprived of a single working cinema. *La Belle at the Movies* takes us on a journey around the city streets and the old, neglected cinemas of the Congo, a reality that can also be found closer to home.

Food

Snacks from **Merhaba Ethiopian and Eritrean Cuisine**, Anaheim, CA
South African biscuits and rooibos tea

Music and Dancing



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