



WORKSHOP

**FROM OBLIVION TO MEMORY:
TRANSATLANTIC MEMORIAL ECHOES**

**DE L'OUBLI À LA MÉMOIRE : ÉCHOS
MÉMORIELS TRANSATLANTIQUES**

Programme:

Monday, 12.5.2025 (5-8pm) | Foyer Iwalewahaus

For abstracts please scan:



5-6 PM: *RELATIONAL CONCEPTS IN TRANSATLANTIC STUDIES*

- **Eberhard Rothfuss: "The 'Black Atlantic' as echo-resonant 'felt space'?"**
- **Lobadys Perez: Dance - Memory - Creativity**

(Moderation: Gilbert Ndi Shang)

6-7 PM: *AESTHETIC TRANSFERS OF FRAGMENTED MEMORIES I*

- **Hugo Canuto: Orixas – transfer of spiritual narratives to art spaces**
- **Ute Fendler: Gestures of drawing as a practice of memory and projection into the future**

(Moderation: Thierry Boudjekeu)

7-8 PM: *AESTHETIC TRANSFERS OF FRAGMENTED MEMORIES II I*

- **Kagni Alem: De Esclaves à Les Enfants du Brésil: l'écriture transatlantique chez Kangni Alem entre flux et reflux**
- **Thierry Boudjekeu: Oral Narratives and Literary Reconfigurations of the Slave Trade in Ouidah**

(Moderation: Laude Ngadi)

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

For more info please scan:



Kagni Alem



Né à Lomé en 1966, Kagni Alem est d'abord reconnu comme dramaturge, Prix Tchicaya U'Tamsi du Concours Théâtral Interafricain Radio France Internationale en 1990 pour sa pièce *Chemins de Croix*, nouvelliste et romancier, Grand Prix littéraire d'Afrique Noire en 2003 pour son roman *Cola Cola Jazz* (traduit en allemand).

Kagni Alem est professeur de littérature comparée et de pédagogie du théâtre à l'Université de Lomé, il dirige le programme de Master professionnel, mention Théâtre Éducation et travaille ces dernières années à la médiation entre littérature, arts plastiques et performance.

Thierry Boudjekeu



Thierry Boudjekeu is a research assistant with the Black Atlantic Revisited project and a Junior Fellow at the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS) at the University of Bayreuth. His doctoral project, titled ***Writing the Slave Trade Trauma in Francophone Africa: A Study of Selected Novels***, investigates the memory of the slave trade and slavery in the works of contemporary

African authors such as Léonora Miano, Kagni Alem, and Wilfried N'Sondé. His research interests include postcolonial trauma, memory, and the history of the slave trade in Francophone Sub-Saharan writings, encompassing prose, oral narratives, and music.

Hugo Canuto



Hugo Canuto is a screenwriter, illustrator and comic book author from Salvador da Bahia. Graduated in architecture, he seeks to express through his work the relationship between art, cultures and myths of Brazil, Africa and Latin America. He created the Graphic Novel series ***Tales of the Orishas***, a saga inspired by the myths and legends of Yoruba and Afro-Brazilian culture, produced by four

successful crowdfunding campaigns and with 20.000 copies sold of the comic books. The work was nominated among the finalists for the 2020 Jabuti Award in the comics category (the most important book prize in Brazil) winner of the Angelo Agostini comic books prize. In 2023, the English version was published by Abrams Books in the USA.

Ute Fendler



Ute Fendler holds the chair of Romance and Comparative Studies at the University of Bayreuth since 2006. Research Projects: ***Black Atlantic Revisited - African and South American UNESCO World Heritage Sites; Multiple Artworks - Multiple Indian Ocean***. Recent publications: U. Fendler/E. Brugioni: ***Islands, Theory and the Postcolonial Environment: Reading the Work of Khal Torabully***.

In: Portuguese Studies Vol. 37, N°2, 2021, 165-177; ***Hacia una 'tercera-estética - Ecos polirrítmicos Sur-Sur en novelas antillanas e africanas***. In: I. Phaf-Rheinberger/K. Hagimoto (eds.): *Geografías caleidoscópicas. América Latina y sus imaginarios intercontinentales*. Frankfurt: Vervuert, 2022, 30-54; ***Animating the Future: Storytelling and Super Heroes in Africa***. In: M. Bollig et al.: *African Futures*. Leiden: Brill, 2022, 237-250.

Gilbert Shang Ndi



Gilbert Shang Ndi is Heisenberg Professor of Comparative Literatures and Cultures, with focus on Africa and Latin America, at the University of Bayreuth, since March 2025. He is co-leader of the project: ***Black Atlantic Revisited: African and South American UNESCO-World Heritage Sites and "Shadowed Spaces" of Performative Memory***, Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence.

Gilbert is the author of ***Memories of Violence in Peru and the Congo*** (2022) and has co-edited ***Of Worlds and Artworks - A Relational View on Artistic Practices from Africa and the Diaspora*** (2024).

Laude Ngadi Maïssa



Laude Ngadi Maïssa is Assistant Professor at the University of Bayreuth (2024-2025). Doctor of the University of Lorraine (2018), he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (2019-2022) and winner of the Swiss Confederation Postdoctoral Excellence Fellowship at the University of Lausanne (2022-2023). His research focuses on questions relating to the literary and artistic globality of contemporary

French-language manifesto and viatic productions. He has edited a special issue of the journal *Alternative francophone* (vol.3, n°2, 2023) on French-language world anthologies, and co-edited a special issue of the journal *French Studies in Southern Africa* (51.1, 2021) dedicated to manifestos from French-speaking Africa.

Lobadys Perez



Dancer and choreographer who from the 90's integrated the Hip-Hop movement in Cartagena de India, later, in 1997, entered the "Colegio del Cuerpo", international Contemporary Dance Company directed by renowned choreographers Alvaro Restrepo and Marie France Deliuvin. In 2018 he received the degree of Bachelor in Basic Education from the University of Antioquia and has a Master's in Studies in

Development and Culture from the Technological University of Bolivar. In 2009 he founded the professional core Periphery Company, putting in dialogue his artistic background: Hip-Hop, with his training as a dancer in Contemporary Dance, in the search for a gestural own.

Eberhard Rothfuß



Eberhard Rothfuß is a Professor of Social and Population Geography at the University of Bayreuth. He received his doctorate in 2003 at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg and qualified as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Passau until 2010. During the period 2011-2013, he represented the chair of social geography and geographical development research at the University of Bonn.

His main areas of research focus regionally on Sub-Saharan Africa (Namibia & Mozambique), South America (Brazil & Colombia) and South Germany. Thematically he works on Urban Inequalities, Collective Governance, Afro-Brazilian Identity, Intercultural Hermeneutics, Critical Theory, Geographies of the Everyday-life and Spatial Qualitative Social Research.