41st ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the
NEW YORK AFRICAN(A) STUDIES ASSOCIATION
at The City College (CUNY) and Columbia University
1-2 April 2016

CONFERENCE SITE on FRIDAY APRIL 1st at The City College (CUNY)

8:00 AM-5:00 PM Registration at Aaron Davis Hall, The City College
8:15 AM -9:15 AM NYASA E-BOARD MEETING (Location TBA)
9:15 AM-9:30 AM Opening Remarks
Aaron Davis Hall, The City College
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM Keynote Address – Prof. Deborah Willis
Recipient of NYASA Distinguished Africanist Award
Aaron Davis Hall, The City College

10:45 AM-12:15 PM Plenary Session I

Western Africa Griot – Abdou Mboup, singer Sissiko Tapani
Northern Africa, Morocco - Innov Gnawa – Samir Langus, Amino Belyamani, Maalem Hassan Ben Jaafer
Southern Africa Banning Eyre
12:30 – 1:45 – Lunch - School of Architecture, The City College

Panel Sessions

School of Architecture (all sessions)

2:00 – 3:15 - Panel Session I

Panel A: Musical Blackness across Generational Streams
Chair: Mark Christian

Damian Scott, “Sonic Realism, Sonic Actualism and Black Electronic Music”
Aja Burrell Wood, “We Got the Jazz: Next Generation Jazz & Reviving the Scene in the Digital Era”
Louis Rosengarten, “Free Jazz and Freedom: Oppression and Breaking the Bonds”

Panel B: Art in Social Dialogue
Chair: (TBA)

Kayla Coleman, “Why Have There Been on Great Black Artists”
Nicole Goodwin, “He Who Buys your Wares, Buys Your Tongue: The Necessity for Artispreneurs”

Panel C: Music Theory, Spirituality and Technology
Chair: (TBA)

Florence V. Cornet, “Contemplations on Curaçaoan Consciousness Poetics: An Examination of Oswin “Chin” Behila’s Lyrical Ideologies and Levi Silvanie’s Ami Ta Kòrsou”
Didier M. Sylvain, “Rabòday, Acoustemology, and Alternative Spiritualities in Digital Haiti”
Austin C. Okigbo, “Ahiajioku in Chicago: Festival, Music, and Nigerian Igbo Identity Performance in a North American City”

Panel D: THE CITY COLLEGE STUDENT PANEL – LITERATURE IN THE AFRICANA WORLD
Chair: Cheryl Sterling

Sophia Monegro – “Oligarch and Peasant: Mediating National Trauma in Julia Alvarez’s How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents and Edwidge Danticat’s The Farming of Bones”
Wendyliz Martinez, “Geographies of Caribbean Bodies in Queer Time: Sirena Selena and Geographies of Home”
Marie Brewer, “The Weight of Inheritance: From Mothers to Daughters, Passing Oppressions from One Generation to the Next”
Bilha Njuguna, “Love and Malady in Wizard of the Crow’s Postcolonial Aburiria”

Panel E: Artistic and Spiritual Narratives of Africa and the Diaspora
Chair: Kathleen O’Mara

David Jamison, “Carving out a New Life: Design Motifs of the Surinam Maroons”
T.J. Desch-Obi, “La Batalla Sagrada: Sacred Martial Arts in the Venezuelan Son de Negros”
Amidu Sanni, “Yoruba Islamic Verse ‘Waka’ between Spirituality and Profanity: Issues in Expressive Performance”

3:30 – 4:45 – Panel Sessions II

School of Architecture (rooms TBA)

Panel A: The Politics in Music
Chair: Joseph McClaren

Joseph McClaren, “Rethinking the African Link: Nationalism and Ethnicity as Jazz Signifiers”
Simone A. James Alexander, “The Politics of Song: Creolization as an Art Form”
Seth Asumah, “Reggae, Afro-Beat and Socio-Political Resistance: Reimmortalizing Bob Marley and Fela Kuti”

Panel B: Music in the Contemporary Diaspora
Chair: (TBA)

Timothy McGhee, “The Harlem Sound of Music”
X’ene Taylor, “The Weeknd, Cardi B and Why We Need Stripper Narratives”
Carmelo J. Cintrón Vivas, “Usa La Razón”
Keevin Brown, “Kanye West’s Lyrics of Mobility”

Panel C: Gender and the Role of the Creative Artist
Chair: Remi Alapo

Bridgette Kariuki, “The Nature of Women: Does Being a Woman Change Artistic
Output?
Kiana Miller, “Black Feminist Art Poster Presentation and Spoken Word Performance”
Patience Agwu Uzoma, “The Relationship Between Music and Gender in a Globalised World”
Remi Alapo, “Generation X: The Role of Culture on the Leadership Styles of Women in Leadership Positions”
Edilza Sotero, “Black Women’s Voices in Brazilian Art (1940-1950)”

Panel D: Politics, Music and the Arts
Chair: (TBA)
Yayra Sumah, “Postcolonial Fabrics in Contemporary African Art”

Panel E: Music as a Force of Political Expressivity
Chair: (TBA)
Thomas Uthup, “The Seven Functions of Music in Africa and the Diaspora”
Dionne M. Bennett, “Beyoncé and Barack in Formation: How Do Freedom, Gender & Black media Matter in the Final Year of the Obama Administration?”
Segun Shabaka, “The International African Arts Festival as a Premier Musical and Artistic Expression of Cultural Nationalism and Pan-Africanism”

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm                  Plenary Session II – Performances
Performances by Bobby Sanabria, Afro-Latin Music
Kevin Tucker, Jazz Singer

CONFERENCE SITE on SATURDAY APRIL 2nd at Columbia University

LOCATION: KNOX HALL, 606 WEST 122ND STREET

8:00 am – 2:00 pm – Registration
8:30 am – 9:30 am – NYASA Business Meeting

Panel Sessions
Columbia University
All Panel Sessions will be Held in Knox Hall, 606 West 122nd Street

9:30 am – 10:45 am – Panel Sessions III

Panel A: Music as a Social Force in The Africana World
Chair: TBA

Farid Leonardo Suarez, “Salsa Santeria and the Ifa-Orisha Worldview”
Hawthorne Smith, “Healing Arts and the Arts of Healing”
Latifa Bounou, “Gnawa and Their Spiritual Music”

Panel B: Africa’s Future: Development and Sustaintainability
Chair: TBA

Alice Jones-Nelson, “Redesigning the Family? National Planning for Housing in Postcolonial Ghana”

Panel C: Women, Music, Power and Gender Equality in the Africana World
Chair: S. N. Nyeck

Shamila Namulindwa, “Marginalization of Women’s Humor in Everyday Life: Gender, Culture and Humor in Africa”
S. N. Nyeck, (Out)bidding Women: Public Procurement Reform Diffusion and Gender Equality in Africa”

Panel D: Rethinking Africana Economic Development
Chair: Seifudein Adem

Seifudein Adem, “Towards a New Paradigm of Economic Modernization”
Darryl C. Thomas, Global Africa, Black Nationalism, Jazz Improvisation and Critical Political Economy Approaches, Africana Studies”

Panel E: Performance, Politics and Development
Chair: (TBA)

Ayala Levin, “Popular Art and the Semiotics of Citizenship: Julian Beinart’s Documentation of the Western Native Township, Johannesburg”
Milton Wabyona, “Kabaari (The Arena): Cultural Performing Arts as a medium of Peace Building and Social Harmony (Uganda)

Panel F: Music, Language and Literature
Chair: (TBA)

Janee A Moses, “Amina Baraka Sings the Blues”
Cheryl Toman, “Wassoulou Music and Women Writers From Mali”
Adesola Belo, “How Traditional African Music has Influenced Hip Hop Today”
Kimo RedeR, “Language is a Fruit the Skin of Which is Called Chatter: Nathaniel Mackey’s Diasporic Tales of Diet-as-Dialect and Dialect-as-Drum”

Panel G: Art in Social Dialogue II
Chair: (TBA)

Nina Perpetua Waapela, “From Cloth Types to Cloth Meaning and Symbolism among the Tiv, Idoma, Igede and Etulo of Central Nigeria”
Odongkara Barnabas, “Olubugo (Bark Cloth) Sculptor/Visual Artists”
Nakayiza Agnes Kalule, “Music and the Arts in Application: Case studies – Rwanda and Uganda”
Tibirusya Rolands Roldan, “Interactive Event Painting and Exhibition”

Panel H: Intersections Between Music and Education
Chair: (TBA)

Lynne Stillings, “Socially Conscious Children’s Music: A New Perspective on Senegalese “Youth”
Hakim Mohandas Amani Williams, “Re-Appropriating Violent Caribbean Music as Praxis of Care”
Janis Massa, “Education, Curriculum and the Under-represented Students”
Rachel Rubin, “Teaching Hip Hop History and Practice Together in the Public Urban Classroom”

Panel I: Traditional and Popular Music and Culture in Post-Colonial Africa
Chair: (TBA)

Samuel Afriyie, “Music in Ghana Before Colonialism and Post Colonial Era”
Brempog Osei-Tutu, “Interrogating Tour Narratives in Ghana’s Castles”
James Tar Tsaaior, “Expressions of Popular Musical Culture in Postcolonial Nigeria”

11:00 am – 12:15 am - Panel Sessions IV
Chair: Kwame Akonor

Naaborle Sackeyfio, Resource Capitalism and Runaway Development: Power and Class Consequences in West Africa”

Panel B: Politics, Economics and the Power of the Arts
Chair: Karl Botchway

Karl Botchway, and Jamee Moudud, “Capacity Development in Africa: Reflections on some of the Pre-requisites”
John Karefah Marah, “View on Africa and Africans in Joseph Conrad’s Heart of Darkness and now, what will the Chinese say About Africa and Africans?”
Abdou Kane Ndaw and Momodou Bah, “The Representation of Pressing Issues in Senegambia through the Painting: Terrorism as a Case in Point”

Panel C – Music, Literature and the Arts
Chair: Jerry Persaud

Jerry Persaud, “Hit me with Music: Caribbean and African Music in the Virtual Diaspora of You Tube Culture”
Garhe Osiebe, “Paranoia as a catalyst for creativity: a tale of an African ‘Oliver Twist’
Aminah Wallace, “Pan –Africanism in the Music of the New World Enslaved”

Panel D – Diaspora Subjectivities
Chair: (TBA)

Gabrielle Alcindor, “Afro-Asian and the Effects of Globalization”
Gillian Jones, “They Don’t Care About Us’: An Examination of Cultural Citizenship and Political Activism Among Afro-Brazilian Youth in Salvador, Bahia”
Jacky Kaba, “An Analysis of Carnegie Corporation’s Great Immigrants Honorees, 2006-2015: Gender, Race, Ancestry, Educational Attainment, Previous Citizenship, Month and Year of Birth, and Net Worth”
Matteo Salvadore, “A Diaspora of Opportunities: Ethiopians in Counter – Reformation Rome, 1540-1560”

Panel E: Art, Spirituality and Migration
Chair: (TBA)

Katsina Robert Iornenge, “The Role of Religious Art in Tiv Religion and Culture”
Grace Aneiza Ali, “Un/Fixed Homeland”
Sonia Cristina Hart, “Painting the Many Faces of Eshu”

**Panel F: Music, Lyrics, and Spirituality in the African World**
Chair: Cheikh M. Ndiaye

Cheikh M. Ndiaye, “Hizbut Tarqiyya: Songs and Spirituality”
Sarwuan Daniel Shishima, “The Role of Songs, Music and Dance Among the Adzov in Tiv Religion”
Louis Ngozi Ekezie, “Influence of Tonal Inflection on Igbo Church Vocal Music of Nigeria: The Art of Africa and The Diaspora”

**Panel G: Images, Performance, Resistance, in Political Art and Culture**
Chair: (TBA)

Abdeldjalil Larbi Youcef, “Outside the Law: The Limits to Historiography”
Viola Karungi, “Theatre and Socio-Political Consciousness: Performing trauma and memory to legitimize the claim for Restorative Justice in Northern Uganda”
Serena Thomas, “The Secrets of Survive in Salloum Refugee Camp Project”

**12:30 pm – 1:45 pm Lunch**

**2:00 pm – 3:15 pm Plenary Session III**

Moderator -- Dr. James Conyers, Chair – Africana Studies, Kean University

In conversation with artists:
Randy Weston
Dr. Rashida Ismaili
Kewulay Kamara
Rene McLean

**3:30 pm – 4:45 pm Plenary Session IV - Performances**

Taoufik Ben-Amor and Banning Eyre

Closing Remarks

**Recipient of the 2016 NYASA Distinguished Africanist Award:**
Professor Deborah Willis, University Professor and Chair of the Department of Photography & Imaging at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University