



International Symposium

**Nollywood and Beyond.  
Transnational Dimensions of an African Video Industry**

Conveners: Matthias Krings and Onookome Okome

**University of Mainz, May 13-16, 2009**

Financial support by:

**SOCUM – Research Center Social and Cultural Studies at Mainz  
ZIS - Center of Intercultural Studies  
Department of Anthropology and African Studies, University of Mainz  
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**Preliminary Programme**

**W E D N E S D A Y , 13 May**

15:30- 17:00	Registration
<b>Opening Speeches</b>	
17:15- 18:00	Jürgen Oldenstein, Vice President of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz Walter Bisang, Head of Research Center „Social and Cultural Studies at Mainz“ (SOCUM) Thomas Bierschenk, Head of Department of Anthropology and African Studies Matthias Krings & Onookome Okome, Conveners
<b>Keynote lecture</b>	
18:00- 19:30	Frank Ukadike (New Orleans, USA) <b>Of Pirates and Hijackers: The Question of African Film Criticism</b>

Dinner

## THURSDAY, 14 May

<b>Panel I: Mediating the Challenges of Nollywood</b>	
<i>Chair: Matthias Krings, Discussant: Birgit Meyer</i>	
09:00-09:30	John C. McCall (Carbondale, USA) <b>The Invisible Movie Industry</b>
09:30-10:00	Hyginus Ekwuazi (Ibadan, Nigeria) <b>Nollywood: The superiority of theme over technique</b>
10:00-10:30	Babson Ajibade (Calabar, Nigeria) <b>Nollywood Videos: Is a Western audience possible?</b>
<i>Break</i>	
11:00-11:30	Onookome Okome (Edmonton, Canada) <b>The Language of Nollywood</b>
11:30-11:45	Birgit Meyer (Amsterdam) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
11:45-12:30	Discussion

*Lunch break 1h 30min*

<b>Panel II: The Art of Nollywood Films</b>	
<i>Chair: Heike Becker, Discussant: Biodun Jeyifo</i>	
14:00-14:30	Brian Larkin (New York) <b>The Total Art of Nigerian Films</b>
14:30-15:00	Maureen N. Eke (Mt. Pleasant, MI, USA) <b>Nollywood and the Woman Palaver: Desperate women, bad women, witches, "sirens," and saints</b>
15:00-15:30	Lindsey Simms (Minneapolis, USA) <b>Dangerous Lesbians: Same-sex desire and domestic space in Nollywood videos</b>
<i>Break</i>	
16:00-16:15	Biodun Jeyifo (Cambridge, MA, USA) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
16:15-17:15	Discussion

**F R I D A Y, 15 May**

<b>Panel II (cont.): The Art of Nollywood Films</b>	
<i>Chair: Birgit Meyer, Discussant: Till Förster</i>	
09:00-09:30	Gbemisola Adeoti (Ile-Ife, Nigeria) <b>Nollywood and the Challenge of "Border-neutering": the Mainframe Paradigms</b>
09:30-10:00	Daniel Künzler (Zurich, Switzerland) <b>The Figure of Success as Content and Consequence of the Video Film Industries in South-eastern Nigeria and Ghana</b>
10:00-10:30	Kayode O. Ogunfolabi (East Lansing, MI, USA) <b>Nigerian Video Films, Yoruba Comedy Shows, and the Dialectics of Political Engagement</b>
<i>Break</i>	
11:00-11:30	Carmen McCain (Madison, USA) <b>Video Exposé: Metafiction and social critique in Nigerian films and music video</b>
11:30-11:45	Till Förster (Basel, Switzerland) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
11:45-12:30	Discussion

*Lunch break 1h 30min*

<b>Panel III: Nollywood Diaspora Films.....</b>	
<i>Chair: John McCall, Discussant: Matthias Krings</i>	
14:00-14:30	Jonathan Haynes (Long Island, New York, USA) <b>The Nollywood Diaspora: A Nigerian video genre</b>
14:30-15:00	Paul Ugor (Edmonton, Canada) <b>Nollywood and Postcolonial Liminalities: New trans-national movements, gender and the commoditization of intimacy in Nigerian video films</b>
15:00-15:30	Claudia Hoffmann (Gainesville, USA) <b>Localizing the Transnational: The negotiation of immigrant spaces in "accented" Nollywood films</b>
<i>Break</i>	
16:00-16:15	Matthias Krings (Mainz) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
16:15-17:00	Discussion
<i>Break</i>	

<b>Roundtable: The Nollywood Debate: Government and the Development of African's Indigenous Popular Cinema</b>	
<i>Moderator: Jonathan Haynes</i>	
17:15-18:15	Afolabi Adesanya, Managing Director, Nigerian Film Corporation (Jos, Nigeria) Bond Emeruwa, President Directors Guild of Nigeria Sarah Nsigaye, Journalist, Filmmaker & Curator (Kampala, Uganda) John C. McCall, Anthropologist (Carbondale, USA)

**SATURDAY, 16 May**

<b>Panel IV: Nollywood and its audiences outside Nigeria</b>	
<i>Chair: Onookome Okome, Discussant: Brian Larkin</i>	
09:00-09:30	Heike Becker (Capetown, South Africa) <b>Nollywood in Urban Southern Africa: Nigerian video films and their audiences in Cape Town and Windhoek</b>
09:30-10:00	Matthias Krings (Mainz, Germany) <b>Karishika with Kiswahili Flavour: A Nigerian video film retold by a Tanzanian video jockey</b>
10:00-10:30	Adedayo L. Abah (Richmond, VA, USA) <b>Mediating Identity and Culture: Nigerian videos and African immigrants in the U.S.</b>
<i>Break</i>	
11:00-11.30	Kaia N. Shivers (New Jersey, USA) <b>Toward a Future Understanding of Nollywood and the African Diaspora in the United States</b>
11:30-12:00	Francoise Ugochukwu (London) <b>The Reception and Impact of Nollywood in France: a preliminary survey</b>
12:00-12:15	Brian Larkin (New York) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
12:15-13:00	Discussion

*Lunch break 1h 30min*

<b>Panel V: Travelling Aesthetics</b>	
<i>Chair: Biodun Jeyifo, Discussant: Onookome Okome</i>	
14:30-15:00	Abdalla U. Adamu (Kano, Nigeria) <b>Transgressing Transethnic Boundaries in African Cinema: The appropriation of Nollywood Christian video films by Muslim Hausa filmmakers in Northern Nigeria</b>
15:00-15:30	Katrien Pype (Birmingham, UK) <b>Religion, Migration and Media Aesthetics: Notes on the circulation and reception of Nigerian films in Kinshasa</b>
15:30-16:00	Claudia Boehme (Mainz) <b>Bloody Bricolages: Traces of Nollywood in Tanzanian horror movies</b>
<i>Break</i>	
16:30-17:00	Jyoti Mistry & Jordache Ellapen (Johannesburg, South Africa) <b>Nollywood's Transportability as Cultural Production</b>
17:00-17:15	Onookome Okome (Edmonton, Canada) <b>Discussant's comments</b>
17:15-18:00	Discussion