Launch on Wednesday 5 December 2018, 4.15pm

Re-imagining African Cities: The Arts and Urban Politics

Special issue 44(3) of Social Dynamics, fall 2018
Eds. Fiona Siegenthaler and Till Förster

We are pleased to announce the publication of our special issue Re-Imagining African Cities: The Arts and Urban Politics. Eight essays by leading international scholars in African art, performance and literature explore the place of the arts in African urban politics as a subject of analysis, as a driving force of social and political change, and as an arbiter of culture. Based on research in Kinshasa, Paris, Cape Town, Lagos, Bamenda, Korhogo, Freetown, Johannesburg and Kampala, the contributions offer insights into contemporary art practices in globally connected African cities, reflecting them as social and cultural spaces, as sites and figures of social imagination, and as a subject of artistic articulation.

The special issue is an outcome of the workshop Re-Imagining African Cities: The Arts and Urban Politics hosted by the Visual Culture Research Group at the Institute for Social Anthropology, University of Basel on 11–12 March 2016. It was a cooperation between the Chair of Social Anthropology at the University of Basel, the Collaborative Research Group “Visual and Expressive Cultures” of the Africa Europe Group of Interdisciplinary Studies (AEGIS), the Institute for Critical Urbanisms, and the Centre for African Studies at the University of Basel. The workshop was generously supported by Swiss – African Research Cooperation (SARECO) and Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft (FAG).

With contributions by:
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Venue:
Ethnologisches Seminar der Universität Basel
Münsterplatz 19, 4051 Basel; Seminar room, 2nd floor