

**BIGSAS Festival of African and African-  
Diasporic Literatures:  
»ReMIX. Africa in Translation«**

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Iwalewahaus | Wölfelstr. 2  
95444 Bayreuth**

**Engl. program version**



**FREE ADMISSION**

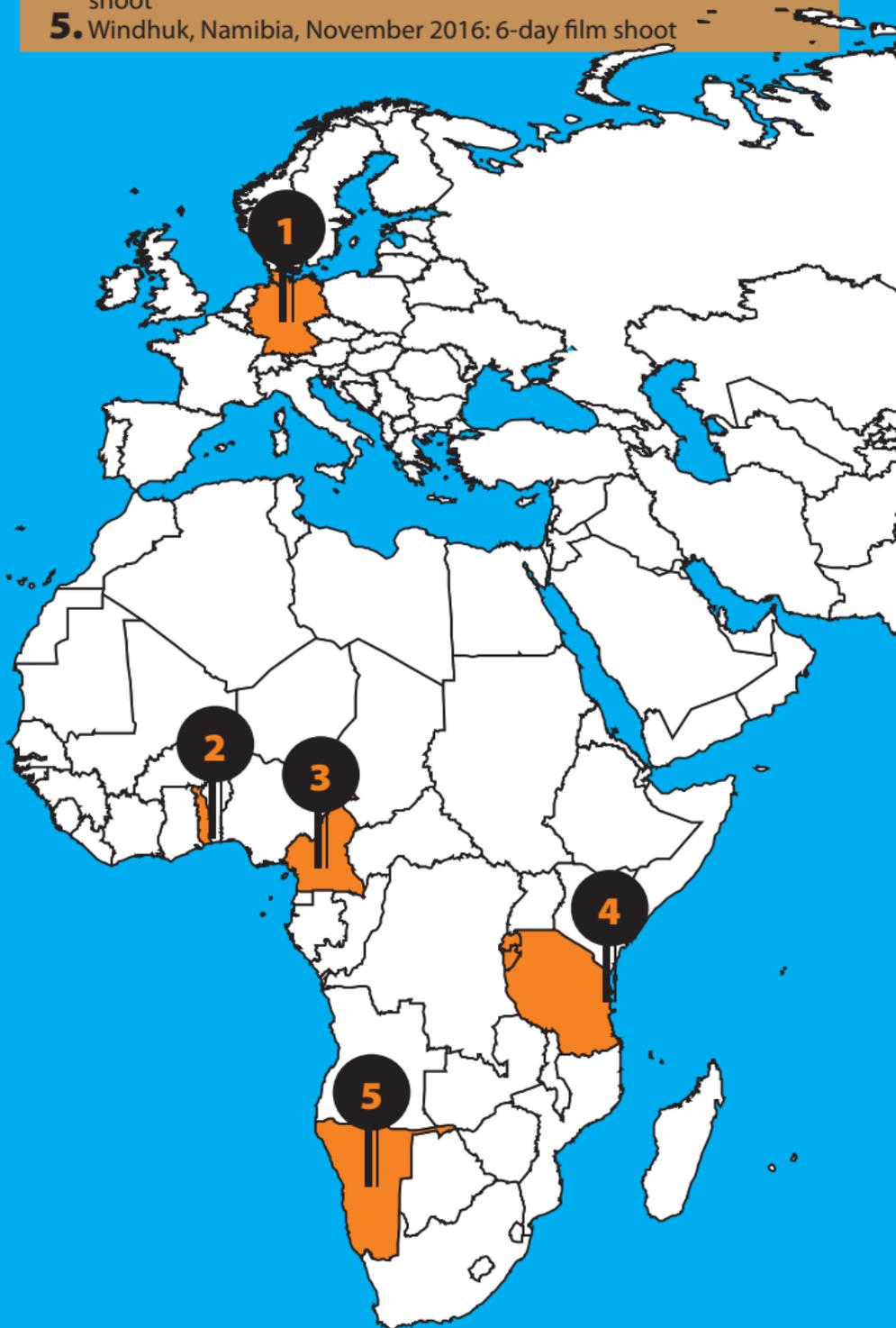
**READINGS | KEYNOTES | DISCUSSIONS  
FILM | THEATER | PERFORMANCE  
SPOKEN WORD POETRY | CONCERT**

**BIGSAS festival  
of African  
and African-diasporic  
literature**



»ReMIX. Africa in Translation«-Event Series 2016

1. Bayreuth, Germany, June 2016: BIGSAS Literature Festival 2016 & 3-day film shoot
2. Lomé, Togo, July 2016: Symposium & 4-day film shoot
3. Yaoundé, Cameroon, September 2016: Symposium & 4-day film shoot
4. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, October 2016: Symposium & 4-day film shoot
5. Windhuk, Namibia, November 2016: 6-day film shoot



## **Welcome to ReMIX. Africa in Translation!**

Literature is exactly this: Remixing and translation.

**Remixing** stands for an imagination or vision, which creates the familiar as something new so as to understand and be understood for the future in the present. **Translation** stands for an imagination, which translates ideas and poetics beyond languages, spaces and times so as to understand and be understood for the future in the present. Here, as defined by Édouard Glissant, **understanding** means recognizing that all knowledge is an illusion and every illusion an interpretation of the world.

The programme of the 6th BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures is based on these ideas. Authors, musicians, performers, translators, publishers, researchers and activists from African countries and their European diasporas are meeting in Bayreuth from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 to pose one of the most fascinating questions of everything transcultural, beyond the limitations of professions, expertise, media and genres: What holds creativity and its vision together at the core? In presentations, readings, podium discussions, performances and a spectacular Open Air DJ final concert, the art of translating art, and the art of art to remix itself will be explored.

In the process, the Bayreuth festival is remixing itself this time by building a new series with symposia on the African continent: Together with African(-diasporic) colleagues on the ground, some of whom have also made it to Bayreuth, Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard is curating the symposia and film shoots in Togo, Cameroon, Tanzania and Namibia, all former German colonies. In *ReMIX 2016 in Africa*, the translation between languages does build one aspect, however, the main focus here is dedicated to the theme of change of location, and thus change of perspective, as well as translation as thought process between past, present and future.

As always, through the Bayreuth Literature Festival's diversity of formats, students and lecturers of the University of Bayreuth as well as an interested local and international public are addressed. You are cordially invited to attend and enrich this singular event!



**Susan Arndt**



**Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard**

Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016

**12:00 – 13:30 Festival opening in Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth**

**Greetings:**

Prof. Dr. Arndt & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard, Dipl. Journ., Festival directors  
Anka Feldhusen, Head of Division for East Africa, German Foreign Office  
Brigitte Merk-Erbe, Mayor of Bayreuth (expected)  
Prof. Dr. Anna Köhler, Vice President of the University of Bayreuth  
Prof. Dr. Dymitr Ibriszimow, Dean of BIGSAS  
Prof. Dr. Dieter Neubert, Director of IAS  
Abdilatif Abdalla, Guest of Honor, Festival Godfather

**13:30 Reception (City of Bayreuth)**

**14:00 – 15:00 Key Keynote Lecture**

*ReMIXing Thought: Pluriversality*

Achille Mbembe (CMR/ZA)

Discussant: Peggy Piesche (GER)

Chairs: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard (GER) & Nabil Barham (PAL/GER)

**15:15 – 16:30 Reading**

*ReMIXing Language, Translating Thought*

Ondjaki (AO/BR/PT) & Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor (KEN)

Chairs: Ute Fendler (GER) & Loreen Maseno (KE/GER)

**16:30 – 18:00 Panel Discussion**

*Pluriversality. Language. Thought.*

Achille Mbembe (CMR/ZA), Ondjaki (BR/PT), Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor (KEN), Nabil Barham (PAL/GER)

Chairs: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard (GER) & Peggy Piesche (GER)

**18:00 – 19:00 Performative Vernissage**

*Invisible Borders: The Trans-African Photography Project*

Emmanuel Iduma (NGR)

Chairs: Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard (GER) & Nele Schlötzer (GER)

**19:00 - 20:00 Dinner**

**20:00 Spoken Word Performance & Music**

*ReMIXING Words & Sounds*

Linda Gabriel (ZW), Adi Keissar (IL), Nina Kibuanda (DRC/FR),

Music: DJ Jay Scarlett (GB/DE)

Chairs: Nikitta Adjirakor (GH/GER), Oladapo Ayayi (NGR/GER), Nabil Barham (PAL/GER), Katharina Fink (GER)

Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016

**Iwalewahaus, Bayreuth**

**10:00 – 11:30 Keynote Lectures in Dialogue**

Shankar Raman (US) *Remixing Shakespeare*

Paul Miller (US) *ReMIXing in Music and Multimedia*

Chair: Susan Arndt (GER)

**11:30 - 13:00 Panel Discussion**

*Remixing Sources, Generating Futures*

Paul Miller (US), Rinaldo Walcott (BB/CA),

Susan Arndt (GER) & Shankar Raman (US)

Chair: Florian Kläger (GER)

**13:00 - 14:00 Lunch**

**14:00 – 16:00 Reading and Discussion**

*Literature and ReMIXing*

Karim Miské (FR) & Taiye Selasi (GB/GER)

Chairs: Aminata Mbaye (SN/GER) & Musa Okwonga (GB/UG)

**16:15 – 17:15 Book Launch**

***Archive (re)mix. Vues d’Afrique.*** Maëline Le Lay, Dominique Malaquais and Nadine Siegert (Eds.)

***Born on a Tuesday*** by Elnathan John

Chairs: Anna-Maria Gentili (GER) & Alice Mingqing Yuan (CN/GER)

***Decolonise München.*** Eva Bahl, Sarah Bergh, Tahir Della, Zara S. Pfeiffer, Martin W. Rühlemann (Eds.)

***Spiegelblicke.*** Published by Initiative Schwarze Menschen in Deutschland (ISD)

**17:30 – 19:00 Film & Discussion *ReMIXing Film***

Short retrospective of and with Branwen Okpako (NGR/GER)

Chairs & discussion: Philipp Khabo Köpsell (GER) & Elnathan John (NGR)

**19:00 Dinner**

**19:30 Conversation:**

*ReMIXing History: ReMIX. Africa in Translation goes Togo*

Wazi Apoh (GH), Nadine Golly (TG/GER) & Nicolas Premier (FR)

Chair: Philippa Ebéné (CMR/GER) & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard (GER)

**20:30 Dance Performance**

*Remixing Knowledge: Sous le Toit de mes Ancêtres*

with Tschekpo Dan Agbetou (BJ/GER)

Chair: Ute Fendler (GER)

Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Iwalewahaus, Bayreuth**

**10:00 Matinee: Scenic reading** *Literatures on/in Translation*

Oladapo Ajayi (NGR/GER), Nikitta Adjirakor (GH/GER),  
Samira Paraschiv (RO/GER), Gilbert Ndi Shang (CMR/GER)

**Stadtparkett Maximilianstrasse**

**11:00** Children's story workshop  
with Marianne Ballé Moudoumbou (CMR/GER)  
Chair: Katharina Fink (GER)

**Iwalewahaus, Bayreuth**

**11:00 – 12:30 Keynote Lectures**

*The Power of Translation as Interpretation*  
Wangui wa Goro (KE/GB)  
Discussant: Gilbert Ndi Shang (CM/GER)  
Chair: Abdilatif Abdalla (KE/GER)

**12:30 – 13:30 Lunch**

**13:30 – 15:30 Reading & Discussion**

*Africa in Translation: Africa's Routes around the World. Intersecting Histories*  
Leila Aboulela (SD/GB), Amma Darko (GH), Mohammed K. Ghassani  
(TZ/GER), Elnathan John (NGR),  
Chairs: Maroua El Naggare (MA/GER), Xin Li (CN/GER),  
Ives Loukson (CM/GER) & Samira Parachiv (RO/GER)

**16:00 – 18:00 Panel Discussion**

*African Literature: Translation. Knowledge and Literature*  
Willi Bischof (Publisher, édition assemblage)  
Thomas Brückner (LITPROM)  
Mohammed K. Ghassani (Poet and Journalist)  
Wangui wa Goro (Translator and translation researcher)  
Gilbert Ndi Shang (UBT)  
Clarissa Vierke (University of Bayreuth)  
Chairs: Abdilatif Abdalla (University of Leipzig) & Peggy Piesche (UBT)

**18:15 – 18:45 The Poet's Corner** *ReMIXing the BIGSAS LitFest 2016*

**Griotage:** Musa Okongwa (UG)  
Chairs: Albert Legrand Kamga (CM/GER) & Yasser Qous (PAL)

**19:00 – 20:00 Dinner**

**20:00 Open Air Concert:**

**Opening Acts:**

*ReMIXing Wagner* with Lara-Sophie Milagro & Philipp Khabo Köpsell  
*Sounds Supreme* with DJ Jay Scarlett

**Main Act:** Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky ft. special guest Mr. Reed  
Chairs: Susan Arndt & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

## Festival guests

**Abdilatif Abdalla** is best known for his poetry volume *Sauti ya Dhiki* (Voice of Agony, published in 1973), written in prison in Kenya between 1969-1972. He had been imprisoned for authoring the critical political pamphlet »Kenya: Twendapi?« (Kenya: where are we going? 1968), condemning the dictatorial features of Jomo Kenyatta's KANU rule. Abdalla has also been involved in a multitude of translation and editing projects, between postcolonial novels (Ayi Kwei Armah), Qur'an translations, historic Swahili poetry, and critical academic works, next to being a driving-force in the shaping of a democratic opposition to the Moi-regime from exile in London (with Ngugi et al.) through the 1980s and 1990s.



**Leila Aboulela** is an Egyptian-Sudanese writer. She has published four novels and a collection of short stories, as well as a series of radio plays. Aboulela was the winner of the first *Caine Prize for African Writing*. She lives and works in Aberdeen, Scotland. [www.leila-aboulela.com](http://www.leila-aboulela.com)



**Tchekpo Dan Agbetou** is a choreographer and dancer from Benin. He studied African dance in Benin, then went on to study *Modern and Jazz Dance* in the US at the *Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre* in New York. He later started his own performance group, the *Tschekpo Dance Company*. In the mid-1990s, he settled in Bielefeld where he founded *DansArt Tanznetworks*, a center for dance and creativity. Tchekpo Dan Agbetou serves as artistic personality of the » Bielefeld Dance Festival«, the Biennale for contemporary African dance, »Passages«, and the Biennale »Artists in Fusion«. [www.dansart.de](http://www.dansart.de)



**Willi Bischof** is a German publisher. He is co-founder of »Unrast Publishers« as well as the »édition assemblage Publishing House« in Münster. He belongs to the publishing pioneers of Afro-German literature and postcolonial studies in Germany. At »édition assemblage«, one finds several book series on African and diasporic literatures. [www.edition-assemblage.de](http://www.edition-assemblage.de)



**Thomas Brückner** is a German translator with a focus on African Literature. He studied African Cultural and Literary Studies and has translated, among others, works by Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Helon Habila and Meja Mwangi into German. He lives in Leipzig.





**Amma Darko** is a Ghanaian writer and sociologist. In 1981, she was granted political asylum in Germany where she lived until her return to Ghana in 1987. Amma Darko's first novel, *Der verkaufte Traum / Beyond the Horizon*, takes place in Germany and was also published in German. In Ghana, in addition to the novel, *Not Without Flowers* (dt: *Das Lächeln der Nemisis*), the novel *Faceless* (dt: *Die Gesichtlosen*) was published, as well as further titles under Heinemann, London, in the »African Writers Series«. In 2008, Amma Darko received the most important literary award of her native country when she won the *Ghana Book Award*. [www.ammadarko.de](http://www.ammadarko.de)



**Linda Gabriel** was born in Zimbabwe and is one of the most interesting young poetry performers in southern Africa. Commuting between Johannesburg, South Africa, and Harare, Zimbabwe, she has taken part in all the big literary events in the region and also done numerous performances in Europe. Linda Gabriel currently offers Creative Writing Workshops in schools in Berlin.



**Mohammed K. Ghassani** is a Tanzanian poet and journalist. He is currently living in Bonn, where he works as a journalist for the »Deutsche Welle« News Network. With his Swahili poems *N'na Kwetu* he won the first prize in 2015 for poetry under the newly formed *Mabati Cornell Kiswahili Prize for African Literature*.



**Wangui wa Goro** is a public intellectual, translation studies scholar, writer, translator, editor. Involved in public policy promotion of arts and culture in Africa, USA and Europe over several years, teaching, advocacy and research. Current research interests: information knowledge management, translation, traducture and localisation. Translator of award winning authors, including Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Veronique Tadjo. Involved in promoting African language literatures, translation and translation studies.



**Emmanuel Iduma** is a Nigerian writer and art critic. He is the author of the 2012 novel *Farad* and co-editor of *Gambit: Newer African Writing*. Since 2011, Iduma has worked with Invisible Borders, a trans-African organization based in Nigeria. He played a major curatorial role in the group's installation *A Trans-African Worldspace* at the 2015 Venice Biennale. He is currently the Director of Publications for Invisible Borders and a participant of *Borders Within: The Trans-Nigerian Road Trip 2016*. [www.mriduma.com](http://www.mriduma.com)

**Elnathan John** is a novelist and satirist, based in Abuja, Nigeria. His fiction was shortlisted twice for the Caine Prize for African Writing in 2013 and 2015. His recent novel, *Born on a Tuesday*, a coming of age novel about Islam, politics and culture in a turbulent time in northern Nigeria is published by »Cassava Republic Press« in the UK and Nigeria, in the US by »Grove/Atlantic« and by »Editions Galaade« in France. His other interests include sexuality in northern Nigeria and pastoralism in West and Central Africa. [www.elnathanjohn.blogspot.com](http://www.elnathanjohn.blogspot.com)



**Adi Keissar** is an Israeli journalist, scriptwriter and poet. In 2013, she started the network »Ars Poetica«, a platform for Mizrahi writers. Her first book *Black on Black* was published in 2014 and won »The Bernstein Literary award«. She is the editor of two anthologies of »Ars Poetica«. Her Second book *Loud Music* is coming out this summer. She lives in Tel Aviv.



**Nina Kibuanda** was born in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo and moved to Paris at the age of 12. In the course of his training as an actor, he discovered his talent for slam poetry. Today, one can no longer imagine the French slam poetry scene without him. Kibuanda describes himself as a »slam-comedian« and performs both solo and with his band, the »Bouche de Crocodile«. He lives in Nantes. [www.facebook.com/nina.kibuanda](http://www.facebook.com/nina.kibuanda)



**Achille Mbembe** is widely regarded as one of the most important public intellectuals writing about contemporary African and global phenomena in the world today. Mbembe's influential *On the Postcolony* was published in English in 2001, followed by *On Private Indirect Government* (State of the Literature), 2002, *Sortir de la grande nuit – Essai sur l'Afrique décolonisée* in 2010, and *Critique de la raison nègre* in 2013 for which he was awarded the 36th Geschwister-Scholl-Award in 2015. Professor Mbembe is Research Professor in History and Politics at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand, in Johannesburg, South Africa.



**Paul D. Miller** aka DJ Spooky that Subliminal Kid is a trip-hop artist from New York, a DJ, composer, producer and multimedia artist. The versatile performer also has a great interest in literature, art, philosophy and the sciences and as a result, incorporates such diverse influences in his ReMix-compositions. His latest projects are *Sound Unbound*, *Rebirth of a Nation*, and *Rhythm Science*. As an author, he regularly writes for magazines and newspapers and has published two books so far, *The Imaginary App* and *The Book of Ice*. [www.djspooky.com](http://www.djspooky.com)





**Karim Miské** is a French documentary filmmaker and crime fiction writer. The son of a Mauritanian diplomat and a French social worker and teacher was born in Abidjan and now lives in Paris. His highly acclaimed debut thriller, *Arab Jazz* (dt: *Entfliehen kannst du nie*) is set in Paris' 19<sup>th</sup> Arrondissement and traces out the various denominational types of fundamentalism in French society. Miské received the »Grand Prix de littérature policière« for it in 2014 in France. In 2015, *N'appartenir*, his autobiographically inspired long essay on not belonging was published. [www.karimmiske.com](http://www.karimmiske.com)



**Marianne Ballé Moudoumbou** is a Franco-Cameroonian language and cultural studies expert living and working in Potsdam with a degree in interpreting for the languages of French, German, Spanish and English. She is spokesperson of the Pan-African women's organization, Pawlo, in Germany and of Venrob (the Association of Development Aid Policy NGOs of Brandenburg) and from 2011 represented an estimated one million citizens with a migrant background from Berlin and Brandenburg on the RBB broadcasting council.



**Branwen Okpako** was born in Lagos, studied politics and economics in Bristol and later direction at the Film and Television Academy of Berlin (dffb) in Germany. In 2000 she was awarded with, among others, the young talent award, »First Steps« for her thesis, the documentary film *Dreckfresser (Dirt for Dinner)*. Okpako's work as scriptwriter and director spans numerous short films, the television drama *Tal der Ahnungslosen* and the documentary *Die Geschichte der Auma Obama*, portraying the German Language and Culture Studies theorist, sociologist and filmmaker Auma Obama. Her docu-drama *Fluch der Medea (The Curse of Medea)*, about the author Christa Wolf, was screened at the 2014 Berlinale.



**Musa Okwonga** is a British-Ugandan author and journalist who studied law at Oxford and now resides in Berlin. He is also a presenter, actor, musician and a model. Okwonga is a much-loved studio guest on news platforms such as *The Independent*, or the *BBC Radio 4's Today Programme* and has, among others, also written for *The Guardian*, *The News Humanist* and the *Financial Times*. In his two books, *A Cultured Left Foot* and *Will You Manage* he thematizes his great passion, football. In 2015, his first poetry collection *Eating Roses for Dinner* was published. [www.okwonga.com](http://www.okwonga.com)

**Ondjaki** is an Angolan author of numerous novels, poetry books and children's books. His work has already been translated into several languages and awarded literary prizes, including the prestigious *Prix Littérature-Monde* 2016, the Jabuti Prize and the Saramago Prize for *Os Transparentes* (*The Transparent Ones*). He has also been voted among the top 39 African writers under the age of 40 for the *Africa39* anthology project. Ondjaki lives in Rio de Janeiro.



**Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor** is a Kenyan writer. In 2003, she was awarded the Caine Prize for African Writing for her short story »The Weight of Whispers«. *Dust* is her first novel, which was on the Folio Prize shortlist, and for which she received the »Jomo Kenyatta Prize for Literature«. Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor lives in Nairobi.



**Shankar Raman** currently teaches literary studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). His research focuses on late medieval and early modern literature and culture. His teaching at MIT includes: postcolonial Shakespeare, Renaissance poetry and drama, literary theory and postcolonial fiction. In his first book *Framing India: The Colonial Imaginary in Early Modern Culture*, he investigates the relationship between colonialism and literature in sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Europe. He is co-editor of *Knowing Shakespeare: Senses, Embodiment, Cognition*.



**Jay Scarlett** is considered to be one of the most visionary DJs and producers of electronic music in Europe. The London native, who has had his home base in Munich for several years now, is presenting his innovative *Beat Dimensions Compilations*, rarities, exclusive tracks and remixes worldwide. Jay also works as a presenter with the Bayerischer Rundfunk and has his own program, »Sounds Supreme«, on the youth channel, Puls. [www.soundcloud.com/jay-scarlett](http://www.soundcloud.com/jay-scarlett)



**Taiye Selasi** is an author, photographer and filmmaker. Born in London and raised in Boston, she holds a BA in American Studies from Yale and an MPhil in International Relations from Oxford. In 2005 she published the seminal essay »Bye-Bye, Babar (Or: What is an Afropolitan?)«, offering an alternative vision of African identity for her transnational generation. In 2011 she made her fiction debut with the short story "The Sex Lives of African Girls," selected for *Best American Short Stories* 2012. In 2013 Selasi's first novel, the *New York Times* bestseller *Ghana Must Go* (Penguin Press), was selected as one of the 10 Best Books of 2013 by *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Economist*. She lives in Berlin.



## Cultural Extras: Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016

### Performative Vernissage:

*Invisible Borders. The Trans-African Photography Project*



»Invisible Borders Trans-African Photographers Organisation« is an artist-led initiative founded in 2009 and registered as a not-for-profit organisation in Nigeria. The organisation works with artists and Individuals in contributing to the patching of numerous gaps and misconceptions posed by frontiers

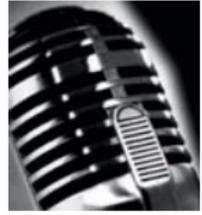
within the 54 countries of Africa through art and photography. As a reflection of their name, the flagship project is *The Invisible Borders Trans-African Road Trip Project*, where about a dozen artists (including photographers, writers, filmmakers and performance artists) collectively take road trips across Africa and beyond to explore and participate in various photographic events, festival and exhibitions while engaging on a daily basis with the environment and the people encountered. The emphasis is primarily on the collective journey of the participating artists who, during their momentary stops in capital cities, create photographic, video and textual works that often reflect their individual approach to engaging with local artists, art practitioners and the inhabitants. They also collaborate intensively with colleagues from each of the countries involved. Other projects of the organisation include *The Trans-African – a Journal of Reflection on African Art and Visual Culture*, *iVisible* – a platform open to the public to participate and share individual stories related to their African and African Diaspora Experiences and *Borders Within 2016 – A Road Trip across Nigeria*, mapping diversity across regions, states and ethnic formations in Post-Colonial Nigeria.

Invisible Borders was awarded the Prince Claus Award 2014 and in 2015 participated in the »56th Venice Biennale of Arts« with the project *A Trans-African World Space*. In the framework of the BIGSAS Literature Festival 2016 the Invisible Borders director of publications, Emmanuel Iduma, joins us from the ongoing road trip and presents selected photographic and filmic documentations.

**Artist:** Emmanuel Iduma  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016, 18:00 – 19:00 h  
**Chairs:** Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard & Nele Schlötzer

## Spoken Word & Music: *ReMIXing Words and Sounds*

Spoken Word composes lyrical art for the oral-aural scape. Existing in interaction, spoken word performs as intertextual palaver on a stage that is both archive and laboratory for the future. Compositions of word, intonation, mimicry and gesture meet in becoming rhetorical masterpieces rooted in Hip Hop just as much as in orature, the oral literature tradition of the African continent. Ethic and aesthetic pleasure is guaranteed just as much as transcultural processes of encounter that transgress boundaries of space and time, nation and genre, text and (hi)story. Linda Gabriel, the Poetry Performance Queen from Zimbabwe, Adi Keissar, die Mizrahi Poet from Israel und Nina Kibuanda, the Slam-Comedian from Kinshasa and Nantes musically accompanied by DJ Jay Scarlett, will perform a firework of spoken-words, living-in-music – a performance that will invite you to visit a net of performed words from all around the globe.



**Artists:** Linda Gabriel, Adi Keissar, Nina Kibuanda  
**Music:** Jay Scarlett  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016, 20:00 h  
**Chairs:** Nikitta Adjirakor, Oladapo Ayayi, Nabil Barham & Katharina Fink

## Cultural Extras: Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016

### **Booklaunch** *ReMIXing Publishing*

With this slot we want to celebrate the publication of books by friends and colleagues since the last edition of our BIGSAS LitFest and give them the opportunity to present their works and engage with the audience:

**Archive (re)mix. Vues d'Afrique.** Maëline Le Lay, Dominique Malaquais and Nadine Siegert (Eds.)

**Spiegelblicke.** Published by Initiative Schwarze Menschen in Deutschland (ISD)

**Decolonise München.** Eva Bahl, Sarah Bergh, Tahir Della, Zara S. Pfeiffer, Martin W. Rühlemann (Eds.)

**Born on a Tuesday** by Elnathan John

**Venue:** Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016, 16:15 – 17:15 h  
**Chairs:** Anna-Maria Gentili (GER) & Alice Mingqing Yuan (CN/GER)



## Film & Discussion *ReMIXing Film*

Short Retrospective on and with Branwen Okpako (NGR/GER)



Branwen Okpako was awarded the FIRST STEPS Award in 2000 for her thesis documentary, *Dreckfresser (Dirt for Dinner)*. In 2007 she completed her film *The Pilot and the Passenger* on the Nigerian poet Christopher Okigbo. Her experimental film *Fluch der Medea (The Curse of Medea)* was screened at the

2014 Berlinale in the Forum Expanded section. The film is based on the literary original, *Stimmen. Medea. Stimmen (Voices. Medea. Voices)* by Christa Wolf. Excerpts from the three films will be shown and discussed with the director.

**Artist:** Branwen Okpako  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaushaus, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016, 17:30 – 19:00 h  
**Chairs:** Elnathan John & Philipp Khabo Köpsell

## Dance Performance

*ReMIXing Knowledge: Sous le Toit de mes Ancêtres*



»En Afrique, quand un vieillard meurt, c'est une bibliothèque qui brûle.« (In Africa, when an elder passes on, it is as if a library burns to the ground.) These words by the Malian writer Amadou Hampâté Bâ (1901-1991) inspired this performance by the Beninese dancer and choreographer Tschekpo Dan Agbetou, a special adaption for the BIGSAS LitFest 2016. Experience is etched into the body's archive:

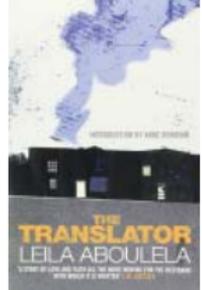
In his piece, *ReMIXing Knowledge: Sous le Toit de mes Ancêtres*, Tschekpo Dan Agbetou deals with how memory can be made fruitful in the present, thereby transcending space and time.

**Artist:** Tschekpo Dan Agbetou  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaushaus, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016, 20:30 h  
**Moderation:** Ute Fendler

## Cultural Extras: Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

### Scenic Reading *Literatures on/in Translation*

Beyond the traditional notion of translation as the practice of ›encoding and decoding‹ a text, the contemporary realities reveal how boundaries are being (re)configured and (re)defined in many social aspects of life and the academic field of translation is not left out. We are no longer talking about the passage from one language to another but about a transfer process that implies various kinds of practices that travel from one cultural context to another. Concepts and practices like transformations, transtextualities and remixing attest to these emerging trends. The session proposes experimental performance of/in global translation that points to new realities and futures. There will be readings from selected works of African writers of different generations like Ama Ata Aidoo, Chinua Achebe, Chimamanda Adichie etc. The readings will be accompanied by songs and visual images meant to capture our imagination of rhizome spheres of globalization. This performance will show interaction of genres, orature and literature in translation.



- Reading:** Samira Paraschiv, Oladapo Ajayi, Gilbert Ndi Shang, Nikitta Adjirakor  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016, 10:00 h

### The Poet's Corner *ReMIXing the BIGSAS LitFest 2016*

The British-Ugandan poet Musa Okwonga will wind up the festival with an assemblage of a poetic résumé of the festival. In the tradition of the griot, he might praise the festival's highlights and/or voice critic in the appropriate manner.



- Griotage:** Musa Okwonga  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaush, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016, 18:15 h  
**Chair:** Albert Legrand Kamga & Yasser Qous

## Open Air Konzert

Das »BIGSAS Festival| Afrikanischer und Afrikanisch-Diasporischer Literaturen«  
 & »Bayreuth Event und Festival e.V.«  
 proudly present live & open air:

**Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky**  
 ft. special guest Mr. Reed

Sa, 4. Juni 2016, 20 Uhr | Stadtparkett Maximilianstraße

**EINTRITT FREI**

Vorprogramm:  
 »ReMIXing Wagner« mit Lara-Sophie Milagro + Philipp Khabo Koepsell  
 »Sounds Supreme« mit DJ Jay Scarlett

DFG IWALEWAIIAUS UNIVERSITÄT AFRIKASTUDIEN  
[www.bigsas.uni-bayreuth.de/literaturfestival](http://www.bigsas.uni-bayreuth.de/literaturfestival)

The concept of ReMIXing originates in urban DJ culture. And thus it is only befitting that with Paul Miller aka DJ Spooky, one of the most innovative composers/producers and preminent DJs of our time, and his guests, the BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures 2016 concludes by partying in style. Here we will not stop short of sampling Bayreuth city's (in)famous son either, as ReMIX creates new sounds out of the familiar. The evening will move you you from your head to your toes: Buckle up Bayreuth, it's going to be a *wild tour de force!*

### Opening Acts:

*ReMIXing Wagner* with Lara-Sophie Milagro & Philipp Khabo Köpsell  
*Sounds Supreme* with DJ Jay Scarlett

### Main Act:

Paul D. Miller aka DJ Spooky ft. special guest Mr. Reed

**Time:** Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016, 20:00 h  
**Venue:** City center, Maximilianstrasse  
**Chairs:** Susan Arndt & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

## DJ Spooky's musical guests:

**Philipp Khabo Koepsell** is a Berlin-based author, dramaturge and an internationally acclaimed spoken word performer of German and South African descent. On stage he mixes savvy afropolitan poetry with Black German activist messages and theatrical bits creating a unique, gritty, and entertaining style of performance poetry. He writes and performs in German and English. He is the publisher of a book series focused on Black German arts and literature production. His latest publications *The Afropean Contemporary* and *Erste Indaba Schwarzer Kulturschaffender in Deutschland* discuss afrufuturism, and agency in Germany's Black Arts Movement. [www.pkkoepsell.com](http://www.pkkoepsell.com)



**Lara-Sophie Milagro** is a Berlin born and based actress and opera singer who trained in London, Berlin and New York. She appeared in numerous theater and film productions in Germany, England and the US, worked with renowned directors and also synchronized various award-winning feature films, television and documentary films. Since 2009 Lara-Sophie Milagro has been working as an actress, director, author and artistic director at LABEL NOIR. [www.labelnoir.net](http://www.labelnoir.net)

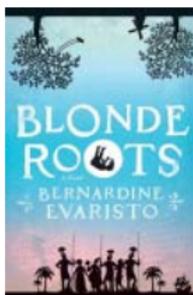


**Mr. Reed** is an American musician and singer from East New York, Brooklyn. His performances in public spaces such as the New Yorker subway, as well as his appearance on the famous casting show, »America's Got Talent« went viral on social media and won him a worldwide fan base. Mr. Reed describes himself as a drummer, Djele, griot, vocalist, bluesman, Soul singer, rapper, poet and master of word. [www.facebook.com/MrReedEnt/](http://www.facebook.com/MrReedEnt/)



## Academic Extras

**Course:** *Introduction to Transcultural Literary Studies*



This course aims to introduce students to the field of inter- and transcultural studies. It pursues a focus on concepts such as identity, migration and diaspora. In doing so, literary theory is at the fore. Theoretical texts by Wolfgang Iser, Stuart Hall, Édouard Glissant, Gayatri Spivak and Kwame Appiah will be read. In the second part of the course, texts by British, German, Nigerian and US-American writers such as Chimamanda Adichie, Bernardine Evaristo,

Pauline Melville, Philipp Khabo Köpsell, David Treuer and Zadie Smith will be discussed. Thus prepared, the course will participate at the festival, with daily tutorials to digest and analyse the discussions. After the festival, the course will be built on the findings of the festival and its discussions.

**Direction:** Susan Arndt & Weeraya Donsomsakulkij

**Time & Venue:** Thu, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 18:20:00 h, Iwalewahaus, Seminar Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Fri June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17.- 19.00 h, Iwalewahaus, Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Sat, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 16.-18:00 h, Iwalewahaus, Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Konversation** *ReMIXing History: ReMIX. Africa in Translation goes Togo*

As part of the *ReMIX. Africa in Translation* series, the former German colony of Togoland in present day Togo and Ghana is to be the first stop on the African continent. This discussion round, chaired by project leader Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard and co-curator of the ReMIX Cameroon-Segment Philippa Ebéné, brings together the core team responsible for the symposium that will take place in Lomé (Togo) in July, and then sets off on a joint excursion to the memorial sites of German colonialism in the North of Togo and Ghana:



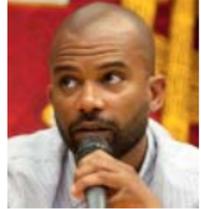
**Wazi Apoh** is a Ghanaian with a doctorate in archaeology and teaches at the University of Ghana in Accra. In 2013, together with Bea Lundt, he published the collection *Germany and its West African Colonies. Excavations of German Colonialism in Post-Colonial Times*. By combining different research approaches, his article draws a complex

and dynamic picture of the effects of colonial rule in the Kpando region and shows how colonial memorial sites can be preserved and turned into productive locations of German and local history. He is the academic co-curator of the *ReMIX* Togo-Segment.

**Nadine Golly** is a German-Togolese social and cultural studies theorist and research associate at the Institute for Integrative Studies (infis) at Lüneburg University. Her teaching and research areas of interest include Black Diaspora Studies, Critical Whiteness Studies, racism(theory) and (post)colonialism. Nadine Golly is the production and artistic co-curator of the *ReMIX* Togo-Segment.



**Nicolas Premier** is a French photographer and filmmaker. In 2004, together with Patrick Ayaman, he initiated the intervention agency AFRICA IS THE FUTURE (AIF), so as to challenge the mainstream representation of Africa. Nicolas Premier will direct the entire *ReMIX*-Film series. Beyond looking into the past, he is particularly interested in the perspectives of young Africans and in Africa's contemporary urban culture.



**Conversation:** Wazi Apoh, Nadine Golly & Nicolas Premier  
**Venue:** Iwalewahaus, Bayreuth  
**Time:** Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016, 19:30 – 20:30 h  
**Chairs:** Philippa Ebéné & Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard

### Literature Workshop for Children with Marianne Ballé Moudoumbou

You get it!? It is such an easy thing to say, but how does it function anyway: understanding someone else? And how can one make oneself properly understood? Is it enough to simply learn another language or is there perhaps more to it than that? *Understanding one another* is the theme of this year's public literature workshop for children, which the BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures is offering once again due to popular demand. Translator Marianne Ballé Moudoumbou from Potsdam is a master of making-oneseff-understood! The children's workshop is taking place in cooperation with »Bunt Statt Braun Bayreuth«.



**Artist:** Marianne Ballé Moudoumbou  
**Venue:** Stadtparkett, Maximilianstrasse  
**Time:** Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 2016, 11:00 h  
**Chair:** Katharina Fink  
**More Info:** [fri.fink@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:fri.fink@uni-bayreuth.de)

## Team

**Nikitta Adjirakor** , BA, MA student of African Art and History

**Oladapo Ajayi**, MA, BIGSAS Junior Fellow researching on literary concepts of flight and migration

**Susan Arndt** is Professor of Transcultural English Studies at the University of Bayreuth

**Nabil Barham**, MA, PhD student at the international graduate school, *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles (IPP)*, researching on trauma in Palestinian and Israeli poetry

**David Dina** Bachelor student of Intercultural Studies at the University of Bayreuth

**Weeraya Donsomsakulkij** , MA, BIGSAS Alumna and associate researcher in Transcultural English Studies, working on postcolonial posthumanism

**Maroua El Naggare**, Dr. phil, BIGSAS Alumna and research associate in Romance Language Studies, University of Bayreuth

**Ute Fendler** is Professor of Francophone Literatures and Media in Africa at the University of Bayreuth and Acting Director of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

**Katharina Fink**, Dr. phil, BIGSAS Alumna and research associate at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, working on fashion and revolution in Africa

**Anna-Maria Gentili**, BA, MA student of African Art and History at the University of Bayreuth

**Albert Legrand Kamga Djodom**, MA, PhD student of literature and media at the University of Bayreuth

**Florian Kläger** is Professor of English Literature at the University of Bayreuth

**Xin Li**, MA, PhD student at the international graduate school, *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles (IPP)* working on feminism and the deconstruction of Western theories

**Ives S. Loukson**, MA, PhD student at the international graduate school, *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles (IPP)*, researching on South African literatures

**Loreen Maseno**, PhD, since October 2015, Humboldt Research Fellow guest at the University of Bayreuth

**Christine Matzke**, Dr. phil, lecturer for special tasks in English Studies at the University of Bayreuth, working, among others, on literature and theater in Africa

**Aminata Cecile Mbaye** BIGSAS Junior Fellow conducting discourse analytical work on bodily constructions and homosexuality in Senegal

**Nadja Ofuately-Alazard**, Dipl. Journ., BIGSAS Junior Fellow, researching on African(-diasporic) literatures

**Samira Paraschiv**, BA, MA student of Intercultural Anglophone Studies at the Bayreuth University

**Peggy Piesche** Researcher at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, working on racism, African diasporas and Black/diasporic literature

**Marlena Pompino** Bachelor student of Intercultural Studies at Bayreuth University

**Yasser Qous**, BA, is currently studying towards his MA in Anthropology at Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV). His focus is on complexities of Afro-Palestinian identities in the Afro-Jerusalemite Community

**Nele Schlötzer** Bachelor student of Intercultural Studies at Bayreuth University

**Gilbert Ndi Shang**, BIGSAS Alumnus, Fritz Thyssen Postdoc Fellow, Department of Romance Studies/Comparative Literature, University of Bayreuth

**Nadine Siegert**, BIGSAS Alumna and Acting Director of Iwalewahaus as well as Associate Project Leader at the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies

**Clarissa Vierke** is Professor of African Literatures in African Languages at the University of Bayreuth

**Rinaldo Walcott** is Professor of Gender und Diaspora Studies at Toronto University

**Alice Mingqing Yuan**, MA, PhD student with the international graduate school, *Kulturbegegnungen – Cultural Encounters – Rencontres Culturelles (IPP)*

## Contact

### Email contact Team:

BIGSAS-Literaturfestival@uni-bayreuth.de

### By mail:

BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures  
c/o Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies  
Universität Bayreuth  
D-95440 Bayreuth

### Team:

University of Bayreuth, Faculty of Language and Literature Studies,  
Professorship of English Studies and Anglophone Literatures

### Directorate:

Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt  
Nadja Ofuatey-Alazard, Dipl. Journ.

### Coordination & Accounting:

Nele Schlötzer

### Technical Department:

Nabil Barham

### Technical Assistance:

Kolade Casey  
Albert Legrand Kamga

### Production & Hospitality:

Joyce Abia Anchimbe  
Weeraya Donsomsakuokij  
Anna-Maria Gentili  
Xi Li  
Ives S. Loukson  
Samira Paraschiv  
Alice Mingqing Yuan

### Drivers:

Tahir Della  
Patrick Martin

### As well as:

Oladapo Ajayi  
Aminata Mbaye  
David Dina  
Dr. Katharina Fink  
Christina Heydenreich  
Dr. Florian Kläger  
Peggy Piesche

### Artwork:

Logo: Adam Azarian, Paris  
Layout, graphics, web design: [www.movimientos.net](http://www.movimientos.net)  
Translation: Linda Besigiroha  
Photography: Nicolas Premier & David Rentsch

**Venue:**

**Iwalewahaus**  
Wölfelstr. 2  
95444 Bayreuth



The **BIGSAS Festival of African and African-Diasporic Literatures** is an event of the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS), University of Bayreuth, in cooperation with:



Auswärtiges Amt

**DFG**



**IWALEWAAHAUS**