

Reading Pan-African Festivals: Archival Encounters at G.A.S.

A Reading Circle Hosted by the Annotations Research Programme

19/07/2024 | 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

About Our Event



G.A.S. Research Associates invite visitors to participate in a reading session developed in response to Archival Consciousness, mentors of the Annotations Research Programme. Archival Consciousness was initiated by artist Mariana Lanari and graphic designer Remco Van Bladel to collaborate with libraries and archives in cultural institutions. They work closely with archivists to implement methods and infrastructure to make their collections more accessible.

The research associates will be utilising an archival mobile unit influenced by Archival Consciousness' Silverfish model. The model investigates the daily practices of archiving and the slow construction of site-specific collective memory infrastructures in libraries and archives of cultural institutes. The associates will be inviting the participants to engage with their own version of the Silverfish model in a live archiving session. The live archiving session will involve the participants engaging with the

materials on camera and also invites participants to make annotations of the text or material they encounter during the session.

Taking the literary and visual traces of the Pan-African Festivals and incorporating Archival Consciousness' methodology of documenting interactions with archival and literary material, the reading session invites artists, researchers, archivists and interested persons to G.A.S. Foundation to interact with reading materials selected by the Research Associates and contribute variegated annotations to a chosen text. Ephemera from the session will later be displayed at the Associate's Open Research Room.

Event Schedule

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| 5:00 - 5:20pm | Introductions: (of) Associates, the Programme and the participants <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome remarks and introduction.• Overview of the event. |
| 5:20 - 6:00pm | Introduction of reading material and group reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group reading of general material: "<i>Entangled Panafrika: Four Festivals and an Archive</i>," by Malaquais, Dominique, and Vincent Cédric (pdf). |
| 6:00 - 6:30 pm | Discussion of reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The moderator will lead the conversation, inviting participants to share comments and ask questions. |
| 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Live archiving session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction of participants to this section of the event.• Participants will read and engage texts using the silverfish inspired model.• Participants will annotate and express their thoughts on the selected texts. |
| 7:30 - 7:50 pm | Final remarks and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The moderator will guide the group in recounting their personal encounters during the live archiving session.• Closing remarks. |

Data Capture Notice: During the Live Archiving Session of today's event, two cameras will record the archiving process. The footage will be used for archival purposes and may be used in the Annotations Programme publication. For those who don't wish to be recorded, cameras will be switched off during the first and last 15 minutes of the hour-long duration of the live archiving session.

Reading List

Group reading: "*Entangled Panafrica: Four Festivals and an Archive*," by Malaquais, Dominique, and Vincent Cédric ([pdf](#)).

Selected Titles for Live Archiving Session:

1. "Wadsworth Jarrell : the artist as revolutionary" by Robert L. Douglas and Wadsworth Jarrell. pp 48-56. **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
2. "Soul of a nation : art in the age of Black power" by Zoé Whitley and Mark Godfrey. pp 142 -143 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
3. "Faith Ringgold" by Lisa E. Farrington and Faith Ringgold. pp 63-67 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
4. "FESTAC '77" by Betye Saar ([pdf](#))
5. "Jacob Lawrence : thirty years of prints (1963-1993) : a catalogue raisonné" by Peter T. Nesbett and Patricia Hills. pp 38-40 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
6. "Nigeria: A New History of a Turbulent Century" by Richard Bourne. pp 108 - 111 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
7. "The Festival of African Arts," by UCLA James S. Coleman African Studies Center. Africans Arts Journal, vol. 9, No. 1 (Oct. 1975) pp 8-19 ([pdf](#))
8. "FESTAC 1977," by: Iris Kay. African Arts, vol._11, No. 1 (October 1977) ([pdf](#))
9. "Public Lecture Five The Scholar in African Society," by Wole Soyinka in Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture: Colloquium on Black Civilization and Education. Edited by A. U. Iwara and Engelbert Mveng. p 50 ([pdf](#))

Note: On this page Soyinka complicates personal identification of being Black and it being an identifier made by outsiders.

10. "Last Day in Lagos," by Marilyn Nance **(G.A.S. Library Collection)**
11. "In Senghor's Shadow: art, politics, and the avant-garde in Senegal" by Elizabeth Harney 19 - 26; 70 - 79 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
12. "Arts and Politics in Senegal 1960 - 1966," by Tracy D. Snipe pp. 47 - 53 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
13. "Black Artists in British Art: A History Since The 1950s", by Eddie Chambers pp. 41 - 44 **(G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)**
14. "Art in Development: A Nigerian Perspective," by Uche Okeke **(G.A.S. Library Collection)**
15. "The First World Festival of Negro Arts, Dakar 1966" by David Murphy ([pdf](#))
16. "Dance at the 1966 World Festival of Negro Arts: Of 'Fabulous Dancers' and Negritude Undermined," by Hélène Neveu Kringelbach. Chapter 2 ([pdf](#))
17. "The Impoverished Generation," by Demas Nwoko (1992) **(G.A.S. Library Collection)**
18. "On Remembering Le premier festival culturel panafricain d'Alger 1969: An Assembled Interview" by Anna Jayne Kimmel (2021) ([pdf](#))

19. "FESTAC '77" by Leopold Senghor, P. Chile Onwuachi, J. H. Kwabena Nketia, et al. (G.A.S. Library Picton Archive)
20. "Fela: This Bitch of a Life" by Carlos Moore ([pdf](#))
21. "Rumble in the Jungle: Muhammad Ali and George Foreman on the Global Stage," by Lewis A. Erenberg ([pdf](#))
22. "The Event of Photograph: Black Consciousness from the Wall of Respect '67 to FESTAC '77," by Romi Crawford ([pdf: 10p](#))
23. "Marilyn Nance: Remembering FESTAC" by Fanny Robles ([pdf](#))
24. "Secrecy: African art that conceals and reveals," by Mary Nooter Roberts and Wande Abimbola (G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)
25. "Ways of the rivers art and environment of the Niger delta" (G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)
26. "Black refractions," by The Studio Museum in Harlem (G.A.S. Library Collection)
27. "Art and death in a Senufo village" by Anita J. Glaze (G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)
28. *Moving with the face of the devil* by John W. Nunley (G.A.S. Library Picton Reference Collection)

About the Annotations Research Programme:

'Annotations' is a six-month project that explores major Pan-African cultural festivals and their dual nature as historic events and repositories of postcolonial pan-African encounters. Led by co-curators Naima Hassan and Maryam Kazeem, Annotations engages the complex histories of FESMAN, PANAF, Zaire '74, and FESTAC '77 through the Annotations Research Programme, residencies and publication. 'Annotations' falls under the G.A.S. Library and Picton Archive's multi-year cultural development programme, *Re:assemblages*. For more information about *Re:assemblages*, please visit www.guestartistspace.com.

Meet Our Annotations Research Associates:

Adeyosola Adeniran (Curator)
Amaya Loubeau (Art History, Spelman College)
Neil Grasty (Art History, Morehouse College)
Osayame Emokpae-Ozoro (Archivist)
Robyn Simpson (Art History, Spelman College)
Ufuoma Ogbemudje (Curator)