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NOMENCLATURAL POETIZATION AND GLOBALIZATION

Edited by Adaku T. Ankumah

This prolific collection of essays, with contributions from scholars from across several disciplines, on the practice and implications of naming - *Nomenclatural Poetization and Globalization* - explores diverse concerns in onomastics: culture and ethnic implications and individual identity formation processes on the age of globalization. These are extended to a variety of contemporary theories of appreciation and internationalization.

“This timely, informative, multidisciplinary collection of essays brings together a wide range of international scholars with one important connection: their fascination for naming as a practice, a process, a performance and a culturally embedded starting-point for understanding a wide range of genres.”

- STEPHANIE NEWELL, University of Sussex, UK, author of *The Power to Name: A History of Anonymity in Colonial West Africa*

“This interesting collection shifts the ongoing discussion of literary onomastics to the African sphere: names have resonance and are not merely referents, and in Europhone African writing, characters’ names carry vital cultural and historical clues. In essays ranging from the implications of names in the age of globalization to the analyses of texts by well-known, as well as fascinating but lesser known authors, the contributors to *Nomenclatural Poetization and Globalization* explore the powers and limitations bestowed by names and the need – in a globalized world – to follow nomenclatural clues with the kind of scrupulosity demonstrated here.”

- ANNIE GAGIANO, Emeritus Professor, English Department, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

DR. ADAKU T. ANKUMAH is an Associate Professor of English at Tuskegee University. Her research interests focus inter alia on revolutionary playwrights from the African Diaspora and on gender and politics in the works of African women authors.

284 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2015 | Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-99-3: $29.95/£19.95
ESIABA IROBI’S DRAMA AND THE POSTCOLONY
THEORY AND PRACTICE OF POSTCOLONIAL PERFORMANCE
Isidore Diala

This study by Isidore Diala is the first book-length examination of Irobi’s work. It portrays a highly creative individual who was literally driven by the creative urge. The five chapters of this study illuminate different aspects of Irobi’s oeuvre and include a vivid portrayal of Irobi the actor in his dream role of Elesin Oba, the eponymous King’s Horseman in Wole Soyinka’s drama. Diala highlights Irobi’s fascination for African festivals, which feature prominently in the earlier plays. He also demonstrates that although he is rooted in his Igbo culture, Irobi draws on different ethnic groups, pointing to conceptions of pan-Africanism that include the African diaspora.

“Esiaba Irobi’s adventures and often innovative playwriting deserves much greater recognition. Isidore Diala’s study fills an important gap in our knowledge of contemporary Nigerian theatre.”

- MARTIN BANHAM, Emeritus Professor of Drama and Theatre Studies, University of Leeds, UK

298 pages | 210 x 148mm | 2014
Kraft Books, Nigeria
Paperback: ISBN 978-978-918-113-1 $32.95/£22.95

THE INTERPRETERS
RITUAL, VIOLENCE, AND SOCIAL REGENERATION IN THE WRITING OF WOLE SOYINKA
Hakeem Bello

A concern for social regeneration stands as the factor that animates Soyinka’s life-long involvement in social and political activism, leading to his incarceration for two years during the civil war, and his having to flee into exile during the period of Sani Abacha’s dictatorship. Soyinka expresses this same concern for social regeneration in his writings, using different metaphors. The focus of this work lies in the exploration of the articulations of social regeneration in the works of Wole Soyinka. The first part focuses on the dramatic works, and the argument of the author is that the metaphor adopted by Africa’s foremost playwright in articulating his vision of social regeneration is that of ritual. Attention shifts in part two to Soyinka’s two novels; and here, Bello goes to the roots of Yoruba metaphysics to fetch a metaphor which describes a creature with contradictory personality; which at once is committed to the regeneration of the social order while at the same time retaining a vindictive, vengeful nature.

178 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
Kraft Books, Nigeria
Dr. Bate Besong was a social activist, a critic, troubadour, and playwright; an avant-garde, steeped in the tradition of the absurd, who fought against the corrupt system of governance that transmuted Cameroonians into a comatose and apathetic citizenry neutered by fear engendered by the workings of an existing Gestapo. For the first time, Emmanuel Fru Doh has gone beyond an analysis of Besong’s plays into giving an in-depth appraisal of his poems which have, for a long time, held back critics because of their opacity. Doh examines each of Besong’s plays and collections of poems in separate sections and succeeds in setting Besong’s work in perspective, mindful of their concerns and the nation’s history, as informed by a succinct political vision and an already established technique modified only by genre. The Obasinjom Warrior, which amounts to a brief look at the scholar’s life and a detailed study of his works, is a befitting tribute to a true patriot and scholar who died fighting the forces of evil in positions of power, which have transformed his native Cameroon into a province of hell. This is a careful, detailed, and authoritative study of one of the most significant literary figures ever to emerge from Cameroon.

230 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon

Remembering a Legend: Chinua Achebe recaptures for the literary world the inimitable legacies of Chinua Achebe (1930-2013), Africa’s leading novelist and literary philosopher of the 20th century. It addresses the questions of Achebe’s role in establishing the African art of the novel, his theories and standards for the criticism of African writing. The volume articulates unequivocally how Achebe provided the message and pioneered a confident voice to African writers to express the message with audacity; repudiate without equivocation, any form of distortions of African past and present realities. The essays remind the reader how Achebe brought to the field of world literature new perspectives and vitality that distinguished the African art of storytelling from imaginative creativities elsewhere.

ERNEST N. EMENYONU is a professor of Africana Studies at the University of Michigan-Flint. A specialist in African Literature, he has taught African Literature in institutions of higher learning in Nigeria and the United States, and published extensively in the field.

CHARLES NNOLIM is Professor of English, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

264 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
African Heritage Press, Nigeria
Paperback: ISBN 978-1-940729-12-1 $32.95/£22.95
FROM HOME AND EXILE
A NEGOTIATION OF IDEAS ABOUT HOME IN MALAWIAN POETRY
Joanna Woods

This book is about home. With Malawi as its focus, it seeks to understand ideas about home as expressed through poetry written by Malawians in English. Although African Literatures are studied, those of Malawi have not received agreeable attention. This book surveys poetry by five Malawian writers – Felix Mnthali, Frank Chipasula, Jack Mapanje, Lupenga Mphande, and Steve Chimombo. The discussion negotiates the experience of exile, engendered by Dr. Banda’s regime, and shows that the selected poets effectively converse with a sense of home, reflecting on its transformations in their work. Interrogating the strict definitions of home, the argument highlights that far from home-less, exiles in fact clarify the sense of what ‘home’ is. The manoeuvre is one of thinking towards an unboundaried ‘home’.

This book will be of value not only to readers interested in the cultures of Africa but to all those with an interest in worldwide literary phenomena, and ideas therein of home and exile.

236 pages | 216 x 140mm | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: ISBN 978-9956-792-77-1 $32.95/£22.95

NOVELS OF BOTSWANA IN ENGLISH, 1930-2006
Mary S. Lederer

There is a misconception that Botswana has not produced fiction in the English language. Dr. Mary Lederer from the English Department at the University of Botswana, has sought to fill this gap through a survey both of the history of the novel, and of its critical reception.

“Mary Lederer’s current study [Novels of Botswana in English…] goes beyond its declared intention as an ‘introductory survey’ of the subject. It is substantive, thorough and lucid. For its depth and originality it is a necessary and worthwhile companion to a significant and emerging topic.”

- JACK MAPANJÉ, Visiting Professor, York St John University, UK

“With admirable lucidity and characteristic modesty, Mary Lederer provides us with a valuable critical/historical survey of the genesis and development of the English novel in Botswana. This book comes as a timely correction of the notion that Botswana has no sustained fiction written in English, thus filling a gap that has existed for a long time in the literature of Botswana.”

- M. J. MELAMU, Professor of English, University of Botswana

196 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
African Heritage Press, Nigeria

4 www.africanbookscollective.com
Africa in Narratives
Edited by Charles Smith and Chin Ce

Africa in Narratives illuminates or proves, against the backdrop of attitudes toward nations deemed ‘ethnic’ or ‘minorities’, that literature in Africa can live up to the challenge of aesthetic imagination to form an active, refreshing part of world cultural discourse.

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The Dark Edge of African Literature
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This volume attempts to discern how such interpretation of contemporary history may be received from an African perspective and what the implications are for African cultures and literatures abound by such experience.

166 pages | 2014 | 229 x 152mm
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This volume charts the widening frontiers of black literary aesthetics using the prose and dramatic fictions of writers from Africa and the African diaspora.

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Edited by Charles Smith and Chin Ce

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- Toby Bennett, “Caverns Measureless to Man”
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284 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2015 | Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920590-91-8: $16.95/£11.95

**ALSO OF INTEREST:**

**FEAST, FAMINE AND POTLUCK**
*Short Story Day Africa*
Edited by Karen Jennings

Kenya’s **Okwiri Oduor** won the 2014 CAINE PRIZE FOR AFRICAN WRITING for her short story entitled ‘My Father’s Head’ from this 2014 collection.

260 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2014 | Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback 978-0-620-58887-4: $15.95/£12.95
AFRICAN SHORT STORIES: Vol 1
Edited by Chin Ce

The International Society of Literary Fellows (Lsi) is the society of creative writers and scholars from Africa and the world with a critical interest in current developments around modern cultures of indigenous and foreign language expressions. In partnership with Progeny international, the Lsi aims to assess and promote the emergence of works of visionary creative impetus in the genres of modern African fiction, non-fiction and visual arts. 38 stories are included in this anthology.

CHIN CE is one of the new generation of African writers from Nigeria, a poet, fiction writer and novelist; and is also a graphic editor, columnist, column editor, and essayist.

318 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
Handel Books, Nigeria

THE CLASH OF THE TITANS and Other Short Stories
Christopher M. Mabeza and Munyaradzi Mawere

The Clash of the Titans and Other Short Stories is a sundry, marvellous collection of short stories that reflect and capture diverse life experiences. Mabeza and Mawere offer with great dexterousness a snapshot, richness, and practical potentialities of childhood to adulthood experiences in shaping, inspiring and influencing moral rectitude, industriousness and determination. This is an incisive and invigorating exposé steeped in candour and earnestness. For aficionados of creative writing, cognoscenti, students and instructors of English Literature, this is a collection to enjoy and cherish.

CHRISTOPHER M. MABEZA is a PhD researcher in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

MUNYARADZI MAWERE is a PhD student in the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and a senior lecturer at Universidade Pedagogica, Mozambique.

50 pages | 203 x 127mm | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Suburban and cosmopolitan, youthful and elderly, formal and experimental, these binaries twist like threads which meet in this anthology, and interweave on the loom of prosody, forming rich and varied textures. Few can craft poems with the skill of these two artisans from Zimbabwe.

“The sites, sounds and smells of the Zimbabwean veldt and suburbia determine the shape, imagery and content of Eppel’s poems.”
- Kizito Muchemwa, POETRY INTERNATIONAL

“Muzanenhamo can be ‘cool’ but seldom ‘light’.”
- John Greening, THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

106 pages | 210 x 148mm | 2014 amabooks Publishers, Zimbabwe
IREDI WAR was the winner of THE NIGERIA PRIZE FOR LITERATURE 2014.

The playwright introduces the notion of ‘folk script’ with its special stamp. The use of the oral literature genre allows for the full exploitation of the creative licence which allows for the swings from the historical to the oral, the natural to the supernatural, the real to the fantastic.

“The content is serious, the handling in quite mature. The events in the drama are re-anacted vividly and the craftsmanship is quite commendable. The narrative tradition is interwoven with action. The description of the event is in the linear order but the interweave of narration and unfolding of events is quite refreshing.”

- THE NIGERIA PRIZE FOR LITERATURE 2014

102 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2014 | Kraft Books, Nigeria
Paperback: 978-978-918-159-9: $16.95/£12.95

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DRAMA

THE GREEN CROSS OF KAFIRA
Francis D. Imbuga

In his last play published posthumously, the late Francis Imbuga presents the dramatic dialogue of his characters as mind games. In addition to using a narrator, Sikia Macho, to fill us in on the broken politics of Kafira, centring around detention without trial, Imbuga deliberately delays the inciting action, the formation of the Green Party of Kafira which then challenges the hitherto political monolith called the National Party. The candidate of the new party, former detainee Pastor Mgei, wins the election, and thereby dethrones the so-called Chief of Chiefs. In The Green Cross of Kafira, Imbuga, with a renewed sense of urgency, addresses the theme of dictatorship in Africa, and completes his trilogy of the Kafira plays which begins with Betrayal in the city followed by Man of Kafira.

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THE LOCK ON MY LIPS
Pepertua K. Nkamanyang

The Lock on My Lips foregrounds gender, narrative and identity in its representations. It tells the story of a woman who defies traditional patriarchal boundaries that deny women their rights, most especially the right to landed property and buy land in her name. Discursive constructions, ‘travelling concepts’, metaphors, multiple perspectives, narrative, imagery, folklore, anthropological objects, and mixed-genre plot structure (narrative-(poetic)-drama), combine to tell the story of gendered beings and thus pave the way for exploring the interdisciplinary potentials of the play-text.

234 pages | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback:
978-9956-791-08-8
$32.95/£22.95

THE RISING SUN AND BOMA
Kenneth Usongo

The Rising Sun and Boma interrogate social evils such as moral decadence, corruption, and greed that are rife in the Cameroonian society. In both plays, Ipah, Paddy, Dinna, and Boma, for example, exemplify how waywardness and avarice can subvert moral integrity. At the same time, the plays problematise the intersection of tradition and modernity, articulating the tension inherent in both visions of life. Although the moral landscape of the drama appears sordid, characters like Abu Ipah and Joseph enkindle hope. Initially performed seventeen years ago, the plays are still as poignant as they are didactic and hilarious as they are refreshing. The characters are credible and compelling partly because of the felicitous language that is anchored in the local imagery.

234 pages | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback:
978-9956-791-71-2
$19.95/£15.95

SEARCHING FOR BATE BESONG
Mbuh Tennu Mbuh

This play is sine qua non to searching for the collective memory of a community marginalized and subjugated by successive regimes of exploitation and repression. It promises the rediscovery of the dignity and destiny of an active volcano wrongly rendered docile. The Search will liberate a people who agonized from the whips by the Germans, the hypocrisy of the British, the outright exploitation of the French and the eternal domination of La Republique du Cameroun. The search will culminate in liberating not only Cameroonians, but Africa from corruption, nepotism, tribalism, organized crime, wars and the abuse of basic human rights and freedoms.

80 pages | 2014
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback:
978-9956-791-71-2
$19.95/£15.95
Between Two Worlds is Amma Darko’s fifth novel to be published in English. All Amma Darko’s novels give an initial impression of being, in the words of Ato Quayson in his discussion of Faceless, “relentlessly issue driven” (Quayson 2014: 218). Perhaps the theme of inter racial and (more importantly) inter-cultural marriage that governs Between Two Worlds is not an “issue” in quite the same sense that poverty, social injustice and predatory sex are issues, but such issues underlie the problems of both Ursula and Jofri. Among Ghanaian writers, Amma Darko holds a special and highly individual place. Rather unexpectedly, she can be interestingly compared to Kojo Laing, even though he is a very different kind of novelist. Like him, she takes a resolutely non-academic approach to writing. They share a fascination with the journeys people make between the worlds of Europe and Ghana, and between spiritual worlds, although the spiritual worlds that interest them are very different. Amma Darko is far more interested than Laing in the day to-day relations among individuals, and between the individual and the community, and Laing does not seem to share her passionate concern for the downtrodden and the dispossessed. Yet from this engaged perspective on living in two worlds, or perhaps one should really say multiple worlds, Darko arrives at another shared concern, for spiritual wholeness. The moral and spiritual integrity of the individual cannot be separated from the integrity of the community within which the individual exists.

AMMA DARKO is one of the most significant contemporary Ghanaian literary writers. She is the author of four previous novels: Faceless (Sub-Saharan, 2003), The Housemaid (Heinemann, 1999), Beyond the Horizon (Heinemann, 1995) and Not Without Flowers (Sub-Saharan, 2007).

528 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2015 | Sub-Saharan Publishers, Ghana
Paperback: 978-9988-647-93-3: $19.95/£15.95

Also available:

Faceless
Amma Darko

Street life in the slums of Accra is realistically portrayed in this socially-commited, subtle novel about four educated women who are inspired by the plight of a 14-year old girl, Fofu.

236 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2003 | Sub-Saharan Publishers, Ghana
Paperback 978-9988-550-50-9: $19.95/£15.95

OMENUKO
Pita Nwana
Translated by Ernest N. Emenyonu

Omenuko (real name: Igwegbe Odum) whose home in Okigwe, Eastern Nigeria, was a popular spot for field trips by students in schools and colleges, as well as a favourite attraction for tourists in the decades before and after the Nigerian Independence in 1960. Generations of Igbo children began their reading in Igbo with Omenuko, and those who did not have the opportunity to go to school still read Omenuko in their homes or at adult education centers. Omenuko was a legendary figure and his 'sayings' became part of the Igbo speech repertoire that young adults were expected to acquire. Omenuko, a classic in Igbo Literature, written by Pita Nwana and published in 1933 by Longman, Green & Co, Ltd, London, is in this translation made accessible to a global audience. Emenyonu utilizes his mastery of both languages (Igbo and English) to faithfully present to his audience a complete rendition of Omenuko as originally written. The timeless significance of this novel as a progenitor of the Igbo language novel is again underscored.

96 pages | 216 x 140 mm | 2014 | African Heritage Press, Nigeria
Paperback: 978-1-940729-17-6: $12.95/£9.95

ALSO OF INTEREST:

King of the Jungle
Bizuum Yadok
272 pages | 2014
Kraft Books, Nigeria
Paperback: 978-978-918-209-1
$19.95/£15.95

So Bright a Darkness
Chidubem Iweka
262 pages | 2014
Kraft Books, Nigeria
Paperback: 978-978-918-155-1
$19.95/£15.95

Stillborn
Diekoye Oyeyinka
282 pages | 2014
East African Educational Publishers, Kenya
Paperback: 978-9966-25-969-1
$19.95/£15.95

This Side of Nothingness
Mohamed Gibril Sesay
194 pages | 2015
Sierra Leonean Writers Series
Paperback: 978-99910-921-7-1
$19.95/£15.95
THE MAESTRO, THE MAGISTRATE AND THE MATHEMATICIAN

Tendai Huchu

Three very different men struggle with thoughts of belonging, loss, identity and love as they attempt to find a place for themselves in Britain. The Magistrate tries to create new memories and roots, fusing a wandering exploration of Edinburgh with music. The Maestro, a depressed, quixotic character, sinks out of the real world into the fantastic world of literature. The Mathematician, full of youth, follows a carefree, hedonistic lifestyle, until their three universes collide. In this carefully crafted, multi-layered novel, Tendai Huchu, with his inimitable humour, reveals much about the Zimbabwe story as he draws the reader deep into the lives of the three main characters.

“The Maestro, The Magistrate & The Mathematician’ comes at a time when writers from the continent are protesting the ‘African Literature’ tag and this text goes a long way in making the case. Though majorly concerned with the lives of three Zimbabweans abroad and those around them, it’s a universal and truly illuminating work.”

- Reviewed by PHILANI A. NYONI in ‘GATEWAY FOR AFRICA’

284 pages | 210 x 148mm | 2014
amaBooks Publishers, Zimbabwe

THEY ARE COMING

Christopher Mlalazi

This is the story of a small family in Lobengula township, Bulawayo: a shoemaker, Ngwenya; his wife, MaVundla; and their two children, Ambition and Senzeni, whose lives are turned upside-down when Senzeni joins the local youth militia. Mlalazi captures the texture of everyday life in the township, the humour, warmth, rivalry and fear as neighbours interact with each other or get swept up by events outside their control. Their constant search, however, is for autonomy and independence, for the ability to have control over their own lives. They are Coming provides us with perspectives often hidden from view, in a story where particular events are part of a more complex history.

CHRISTOPHER MLALAZI is currently Guest Writer of the City of Hanover in Germany, the most recent of a series of writing fellowships. In 2012, he was a fellow at the Iowa International Writing Program, USA; in 2011, he was Guest Writer at the Nordic Africa Institute in Sweden; and, in 2010, Guest Writer at Villa Aurora, in Los Angeles, USA. Prolific as a prose writer and playwright, in 2008 he was the co-winner of the Oxfam Novib PEN Freedom of Expression Award at the Hague for theatre. He won NAMA Awards for his short story collection, Dancing With Life: Tales From The Township and for his play “Election Day”. His second novel, Running with Mother, has been translated into German and Italian.

152 pages | 210 x 148mm | 2014
Weaver Press, Zimbabwe
Paperback: ISBN 978-1-77922-258-9 $15.95/£12.95
FICTION - SOUTHERN AFRICA

MUUKOMA’S MARRIAGE and other Stories
Emmanuel Sigauke

The stories in Mukoma’s Marriage and Other Stories capture the lives of Zimbabwean men and the women they marry, and the lives of women and the men they fall in love with, each revealing the complexities of cultural and gender expectations against the backdrop of a changing country (war in the 1970s, political uncertainty in the 1980s and economic structural adjustment in the 1990s). Fati sets out to tell Mukoma’s story, but ends up also telling his wives’ stories. By telling his brother’s story, and that of his women, he ends up telling his own story. Fati is a new and interesting protagonist in Zimbabwean literature with a voice at times innocent, yet increasingly incisive, humorous and engaging. These stories are deeply personal yet universal in their treatment of human relationships, ambitions, and misplaced cultural and gender expectations. Whether he is telling the story of his brother’s first marriage, or remembers his brother’s fights at a Parents Day event at Mhototi School, whether he recalls the night Mukoma took him to see a new baby in the alleyways of Glen View, Fati renders these stories with a measured, composed voice which doesn’t fail to delight with its unusual humour.

208 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2014 | Booklove Publishers, Zimbabwe
Paperback: 978-0-7974-5660-0: $19.95/£14.95

ALSO OF INTEREST:

Acacia
Tendai Machingaidze

Acacia is a strong and independent woman whose heart and heritage lie rooted in Africa, while her reality in contemporary America finds itself in a very different time and place. In living her life, she must breach the distance between her current space and the ties that bind her.

160 pages | 2014 | African Perspectives, South Africa | Paperback: 978-0-9922285-2-1 $19.95/£15.95

The Innocent Bones
Charmaine Stewart

“Charmaine Stewart writes simply yet stirringly about a family’s quest for the truth and a man’s attempt to bury it while personalising the prejudice that shook and shamed a nation.”
- MARTHA MUKAIWA, columnist, The Namibian Newspaper

“The Innocent Bones bridges Southern African past and present, fact and fiction, crime and compassion.”
- SYLVIA SCHLETTWEIN, author of Bullies, Beasts and Beauties

162 pages | 2014 | Wordweaver Publishing House, Namibia
Paperback: 978-99945-82-00-6 $19.95/£15.95
KOVU MOYONI
John Habwe

Kovu Moyoni ni hadithi ya kusisimua inayosimulia matukio katika kijiji cha Siloko katika nchi huru ya Tandika. Inahusu mapambano ya mjané mmoja dhidi ya utawala dhalimu unaolinda na kulifadhili genge la wanaamgambo la vijana wanaoshambulia na kupora kijiji cha Siloko kwa kisingizio cha kuondo watu wasio wenyeji. Serikali ambayo Boke anatarajia imlinde na mali yake inafeli katika jukumu lake la kimsingi na badala yake inalinda kundi lenye uwezo mkubwa la wanyakuzi wa ardhi na mibabe wa kivita.

Kovu Moyoni or Scar in the Heart is a fast moving story set in a fictional village of Siloko in a post-independent nation called Tandika.

166 pages | 178 x 127mm | 2014
Bookmark Africa, Kenya

NYUMA YA PAZIA
Nkwazi Nkuzi Mhango

Nyuma ya Pazia inazungumzia unaomhusisha rais na mawaziri wake katika nchi ya Mafuriko au Abracadabra. Rais akishirikiana na waziri mkuu walileta kampuni ya kigeni ya kuua wadudu ya Richmen kuwekeza kwenye kuzalisha umeme rhichi hayo inaomuhusiwa rais na mawaziri wake katika nchi ya Mafuriko au Abracadabra. Rais akishirikiana na waziri mkuu walileta kampuni ya kigeni ya kuua wadudu ya Richmen kuwekeza kwenye kuzalisha umeme rhichi hayo inaomuhusiwa rais na mawaziri wake katika nchi ya Mafuriko au Abracadabra.

Nyuma ya Pazia or Behind the Curtain is about corruption involving the president, and his ministers who rob the country of Mafuriko or Abracadabra.

Mafurikony; Richmen to invest in power generation in Mafuriko. Kupitia rushwa na ushawishi wa wakubwa hawa Richmen ilipata tenda na kutumika watawala wao kwa kuwafunga maisha na wengine kuhukumiwa vifo. Kitabu kinaupiga kijembe tawala fisadi barani Afrika.

Nyuma ya Pazia or Behind the Curtain is about corruption involving the president, and his ministers who rob the country of Mafuriko or Abracadabra.

NKWAIZI NKUZI MHANGO was born in 1965 in Malampaka Tanzania. He’s a teacher, Human Rights Activist, author and journalist educated at Kahororo and Milambo secondary schools and Universities of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Winnipeg and Manitoba in Canada. He is the author of Saa ya Ukombozi, Matembezi Mbugani a children’s book co-authored with his wife Nesaa, and has many manuscripts waiting to be published.

254 pages | 203 x 127mm | 2015
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
In the Service of Satan
Colin Diyen

Horror stories have become so banal that even children read them and sleep without nightmares. This story is different and quite scary. Brace yourself for what you are about to read.

114 pages | 2014 | 216 x 140mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-791-56-9
$19.95/£15.95

Drum Bits of Terror
Imali J. Abala

Poignant and perceptive this book tells the story of Samuel Adooli, a young man struggling to find his place in society. Inadvertently learning he was not born of wedlock, a cultural taboo, he embarks on his pursuit to find his father.

234 pages | 2014 | 216 x 140mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-791-43-9
$29.95/£19.95

God was African
John Nkemngong Nkengasong

When Kendem, a varsity instructor, returns to his native Lewoh countryside where he spent his childhood, he is seeking relief from the complexity of human civilization after time in the United States.

294 pages | 2014 | 216 x 140mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-40-5
$29.95/£19.95

The Mirror and Nine Other Short Stories
Susan Nkwentie Nde

These are short stories that present a cross section of an African society presenting life in the village, life in town, portraits of teenagers and adults we encounter every day.

226 pages | 2014 | 216 x 140mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-978-918-155-1
$24.95/£18.95

Touring Girls
George Atanga

Touring Girls tells the story of Jacob Mbuy a young Cameroonian whose primary objective in life is having affairs with as many women as possible. His demise comes when he changes his world from the Christian to the Muslim world.

44 pages | 2014 | 203 x 127mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9966-25-969-1
$15.95/£12.95
There’s the not-quite twenty-year old journalist, with the world open to her but not knowing what to do with it, who finds herself at the Baviaan’s Drift Bugle under the watchful eye of an old acquaintance of her father’s; an older woman with her young lover, caught in Johannesburg traffic during ‘load shedding’, the new leveller; and a young boy who finds a painful intimacy with his mother’s boyfriend through the beatings he receives from him. And then there are the four friends sharing a house in London, where the only thing they have in common is that they have all left home. But do they really know anything about each other?

A new voice of South African writer Melissa de Villiers, with her debut collection, The Chameleon House. In her powerfully condensed, poetic style, De Villiers manages to say a lot with few words. Often it’s what remains unsaid that tells us the real story. The Chameleon House is a remarkable debut by a voice to keep both ears open for. The collection demonstrates that no matter where in the world we find ourselves, our hearts are never far from home.

136 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2015 | Modjaji Books, South Africa
WITCH GIRL
Tanvi Bush

Under the surface lurks Luse, a sharp street child combing the gang-ridden city in a desperate search for Doctor Georgia Shapiro who can offer her a way back into her once-bright past. The Doctor is trying to unravel the mystery of her friend’s sudden death while mourning the new gap in her life and the AIDS crisis laying waste to the country around her. Meanwhile the Blood Of Christ Church and its enigmatic leader Priestess Selena Clark gain traction in the community with their murky promises of salvation and violent clandestine rituals. A small silver box links the three in ways they cannot imagine and will force the women to question who they trust, who they are and for who they fight. Witch Girl is a pacy crime thriller that juggles the past and the present effortlessly and whose magic holds the reader hostage until the final page.

Through a unique blend of issues such as witchcraft, AIDS activism, religious extremism, Tanvi Bush weaves together a thrilling narrative with vivid descriptions and unforgettable characters.

272 pages | 234 x 156 mm | 2015 | Modjaji Books, South Africa
Beginning from an auteur standpoint, this book interrogates extant cinematic re-presentation of African and Nigerian postcolonial realities in Nollywood. It makes a case, using Kunle Afolayan’s The Figurine, for a critical space-clearing gesture around the notion of a neo-Nollywood, which transcends the formulaic cinematic re-presentation of African and Nigerian realities to embrace a visionary and philosophic rearticulation of the role of film-making, and of Nollywood, in the Nigerian imagination. The idea of neo-Nollywood, and a visionary director, therefore stands at the core of a cinematic production process that challenges, disturbs and stimulates perceptions of current and future African identities.

“With this volume a considerable volume of Nigerian scholars and Nollywood specialists have come together. The result is probably as unique in African cinema studies as the film itself… It presages a new, positive development in Global South cinema studies where the great interest of the public in popular cinemas will have spawned an important body of scholarship.”

- KENNETH HARRROW, Michigan State University,
480 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
University Press, Nigeria
Paperback: ISBN 978-978-069-828-7 $42.95/£29.95

TRENDS IN NOLLYWOOD
A Study of Selected Genres
Barclays Foubiri Ayakoroma

Trends in Nollywood: A Study of Selected Genres is a welcome addition to the growing body of works on the Nigerian cinema. It is part film history and part film theory and criticism. The history part traces the origin of the Nigerian cinema up to the present era of video productions. The work examines in detail, the contextual issues which have helped to define emergent trends within the industry.

“Trends in Nollywood … is an important contribution towards the establishment of a culture of film scholarship in Nigeria. Issues related to genre theories and critical practice are examined in detail in the work. This should provide scholars and students an additional critical approach to the study of the Nigerian cinema.”

- FEMI SHAKA, Professor of Film Studies,
Dept of Theatre and Film Studies,
University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria

BARCLAYS FOUBIRI AYAKOROMA is Executive Secretary of the National Institute for Cultural Orientation and a visiting Senior lecturer in Department of Theatre and Cultural Studies, Nasarawa State University.

386 pages | 229 x 152mm | 2014
Kraft Books, Nigeria
In *Splintering Silence*, Philo Ikonya takes us to the source of her strength and power. Her poems rise from a gamut of experiences and thoughts, her philosophy and vision. In this amazing collection, soulful, reflective and introspective the poet searches with us even into her own name. The one she was given by her ancestors and the ones she is called by. She says darkness is visible in light but both are us and therefore we must reach for the ‘I’ and surprise ourselves hailing ourself: Hello Darkness My Old Friend! This book is a celebration of the resilience of spirit and a constant loving compassion for the love of humanity. Philo Ikonya connects with activism and change in practical ways and liberating thoughts.

"Philo Ikonya looks unflinchingly at the horrors of poverty and violence. She brings the voices of their survivors into the spaces where powerful elites gather. She refuses silence and rejects simplification."

- SHAILJA PATEL, author of *Migritude*

"The poems of Kenyan human rights campaigner Philo Ikonya inspire a sense of urgency and provide a melodious and metaphorical wake-up call to courageous men and women in the struggle for justice."

- KHAINGA O'OKWEMBA, *Pambazuka News*

PHILO IKONYA lives in exile in Norway. She has published two anthologies: *Out of Prison - Love Songs* (2010 Löcker, Vienna) a bilingual book in German and English and *This Bread of Peace* (2010, Lapwing, Belfast). These are beautifully written powerful poems. Like her other collections of poetry, *Splintering Silence* resounds with the energy of the poet's insight.

140 pages | 203 x 127 mm | 2014 |
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-791-23-1: $19.95/£15.95
JOANNA SKELT was the City of Birmingham Poet Laureate, UK, for 2013-2014. This collection presents poems around the theme of the central core of her worldview: the inter-connectedness of cultures and peoples. From the multicultural communities of Birmingham depicted with deep empathy, to her times spent in Africa, she reflects on the differences of peoples and sameness of the human experience; and on her perceptions of the beauties of place in all their myriad manifestations, as in the title poem: “The great wheel turns into 2014, another archway and races on...Each new year we stop, link hands sweep the past aside as if it were easy to rejuvenate, rebuild, reinvent ourselves as if it were easy to forgive”. Addressing the challenges and realities of our world, she sees hope in the “glorious and extraordinary merging and transcending of difference”. Joanna’s work and readings reveal a passionate engagement with the world around her (and beyond) through its many levels and layers. It is perhaps not surprising that her own story, losses and loves have been deeply linked to this ongoing narrative.

74 pages | 203 x 133 mm | 2014 | Mkuki na Nyota Publishers, Tanzania
Paperback: 978-9987-08-238-4: $12.95/£8.95

ALSO OF INTEREST

Homegrown
Christine Coates
72 pages | 2014
Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920590-81-9
$15.95/£12.95

The Last to Leave
Margaret Clough
62 pages | 2014
Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920590-55-0
$14.95/£12.95
eBook: 978-1-920590-96-3
$9.99/£6.99

Now the World Takes These Breaths
Joan Metelerkamp
66 pages | 2014
Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920590-53-6
$15.95/£12.95

The Reckless Sleeper
Haidee Kruger
64 pages | 2014
Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920397-33-3
$18.95/£14.95

Woman Unfolding
Jenna Mervis
74 pages | 2014
Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920397-33-3
$18.95/£14.95
One Eternal Sleep
Bill F. Ndi

In this volume Bill F. Ndi portrays life, death, and dying as one great adventure through which one would explore the limitless bounds of Life.

62 pages | 2015 | 203 x 127mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-31-3
$19.95/£15.95

Requiem pour Ongola en Camfranglais
Une Poetique Camerounaise
Peter W. Vakunta

These verses deftly navigate through the multilingual lexicon of a new, African hybrid language, providing an insider’s account of the real stakes at hand in Ongola, the Ewondo word for Yaoundé.

70 pages | 2015 | 203 x 127mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-91-7
$19.95/£15.95

A Torrent of Terror
Rome Aboh

Rome Aboh’s poetry unmistakably enwraps the condition of the politically and socially cannibalised segment of his society; and the beauty of the verse radiates from his facility with language as the stylist and linguist.

80 pages | 2014 | 198 x 129mm
Kraft Books, Nigeria
Paperback: 978-978-918-207-7
$9.95/£7.95

Bites of Insanity
Nsah Mala

132 pages | 2015
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-67-2
$19.95/£15.95

Blot On The Landscape
John Ngong Kum Ngong

84 pages | 2015
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-22-1
$19.95/£15.95

God the Artist and Other Poems
Sammy Oke Akombi

112 pages | 2015
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-55-9
$18.95/£14.95

Nuptials At Vespers And Other Strains
John Ngong Kum Ngong

90 pages | 2015
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-792-10-8
$19.95/£15.95
FOLLOW THE ROAD
Edited by Maire Fisher and Tiah Beautement

Journeys and arrivals in strange and magical places - a kaleidoscopic collection of stories by Africa’s younger writers. *Follow the Road* is a collection of stories pushing against the grain of right vs wrong. It is an anthology of unique perspectives, ideas and dreams.

“To anyone else his final cries would sound like ones of agonising pain, but I knew what that sounded like. And I knew this was him crying out as his heart was breaking, the sound of my betrayal strung on the snares of his innocent soul.”

– KAYA OOSTHUIZEN, “Phoenix”

154 pages | 210 x 148 mm | 2015 | Modjaji Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-1-920590-61-1: $16.95/£12.95

RECENTLY PUBLISHED:

**It Takes Two**
Edited by Ros Haden

*FunDza* celebrates young writers. Between June and December 2013, five of South Africa’s best authors teamed up with five talented young writers to bring you this anthology of fast-paced, exciting short stories.

240 pages | 2014 | 198 x 129mm
Cover2Cover Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-0-9922018-2-1
$15.95/£9.95

**Small Friends**
Edited by Jane Morris

The short stories and poems in this collection were written by students at King George VI School and centre for physically disabled children in Zimbabwe’s second city, Bulawayo.

72 pages | 2014 | 210 x 148mm
amabooks Publishers, Zimbabwe
Paperback: 978-0-7974-9452-7
$18.95/£12.95
eBook: 978-0-7974-9450-3
$9.99/£6.99

**Kids: Africa in Childhood Poetry**
Munyaradzi Mawere

*Kids: Africa in Childhood Poetry* powerfully conveys the wishful thinking, imaginations, experiences and critical reflections of children as they grow up.

88 pages | 2014 | 203 x 127mm
Langaa RPCIG, Cameroon
Paperback: 978-9956-791-65-1
$19.95/£15.95

www.africanbookscollective.com
IN SEARCH OF HAPPINESS
Sonwabiso Ngcowa

Nana is fifteen when she travels from her village in the Eastern Cape to the city. She is overjoyed to be reunited with her family, even if they are living in a tiny shack. But she struggles to fit in at her new school, and she is shocked at the violence shown to Chino and Agnes, her Zimbabwean neighbours. When she and Agnes become close friends, and find love in unexpected places, Nana learns firsthand just how brutal ignorance can be and how hard it is to hold on to happiness.

“In Search of Happiness - a journey full of heartache but rich in its celebration of diversity and defence of identity. A must read in a world full of prejudice and fear.”

- REDI TLHABI, radio and television journalist

160 pages | 229 x 152 mm | 2014 | Cover2Cover Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-0-9922018-0-7: $13.95/£9.95

ALSO OF INTEREST:

After The Tears
Michelle Faure

Busi is pregnant with Parks’ baby. Her granny is sick, there is no money for food, and her mother is still in Jozi. Her friends are supportive, but they don’t understand how lonely it feels to be pregnant while they are out partying. She knows she should forget Parks, but she can’t. So when he sends her an SMS telling her to meet him she goes - only to find out that he is not alone. And so Busi’s life becomes more complicated than she can ever imagine.

146 pages | 178mm x 111mm | 2014 | Cover2Cover Books, South Africa

Blood Ties
Zimkhitha Mlanzeli

Pholisa is coming to make a fresh start in Cape Town with her older brother Masi. Her old friend Lelethu is there to welcome her to Harmony High, where she meets the lovely Lazola, and romance is in the air. But at home Masi is becoming aggressive and moody, and Pholisa is worried about what he is doing late at night.

146 pages | 178mm x 111mm | 2014 | Cover2Cover Books, South Africa
Paperback: 978-0-9946516-0-0 $12.95/£8.95
FEATURED BACKLIST - LITERARY CRITICISM

The African Epic Controversy
Mugyabuso M. Mulokozi
572 pages | 2002
Mkuki na Nyota, Tanzania
978-9987-686-29-2
$54.95/£36.95

Safoura A. Salami-Boukari
270 pages | 2012
African Heritage Press, Nigeria
978-0-9790858-5-7
$26.95/£19.95

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