

Conference on
**Dress, Popular Culture and
Social Action in Africa**



Northwestern University
March 13 - 14, 2009



March 13, 2009

Conference will be held at 620 Library Place unless otherwise noted

12:00-12:15 pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS BY THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS:

D. Soyini Madison, Interim Director of PAS, Performance Studies,

Karen Tranberg Hansen, Anthropology,

Andrea Felber Seligman, History

Special observer: Joanne B. Eicher, Regents Professor Emerita, Design
Housing and Apparel, University of Minnesota, Editor-in-Chief,
Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion

1:00-3:00 pm

INDEPENDENCE, SOCIAL ACTION, AND EMBODIMENTS OF GENDER

Chair: D. Soyini Madison, Performance Studies, Northwestern University

Leslie W. Rabine, Departments of Women's Studies and French, University
of California, Davis

'Ambiguous Embodiments of Independence: The Use of Fashion
and Photography by Independence Leaders of Senegal and Mali'

Victoria Rovine, School of Art and Art History, Center for African Studies,
University of Florida

'Strangelove: Social Action through Fashion in South Africa'

Katherine Wiley, Graduate student, Department of Anthropology, Indiana
University

'Men in Abayas and Women in Dollars: The Mauritanian Veil in the
Age of Mechanical Reproduction'

Graduate student discussants: Queen Meccasia Earth Zabriskie,
Sociology, and Melissa Minor, Anthropology

3:30-5:00 pm

KEYNOTE LECTURE

University Hall, 1987 Sheridan Road, Room 122

Chair: Karen Tranberg Hansen, Anthropology, Northwestern University

Bennetta Jules-Rosette, Distinguished Professor of Sociology,
University of California, San Diego

'Spectacular Dress: Josephine Baker's Fashions and Black Paris,
1925- 1975'

5:00-6:00 pm

MEDIA PRESENTATION

University Hall, 1987 Sheridan Road, Room 122

Chaz Maviyane-Davis, Professor of Design, the Massachusetts College
of Art

Special presentation of graphics on the UN Human Rights Articles

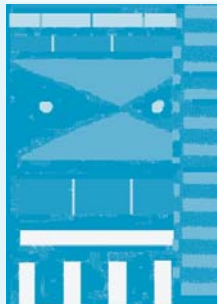
Discussant: Etiido Inyang, Fulbright Ph.D. scholar in residence from the
University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria

8:30 pm-10:00pm

PERFORMANCE EVENT

Ballroom Studio, Marjorie Ward Marshall Dance Center #186, 10 Arts
Circle Drive, Evanston

Performance by David Donkor, Department of Performance and
Africana Studies, Texas A & M University
with the African Drum & Dance Ensemble, Northwestern
University





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UNIFORMS, CONTEMPORARY FASHION, AND ENACTMENTS OF DISPLAY

Chair: Ariel Bookman, Graduate Student, English

Keith Rathbone, Graduate Student, Department of History,
Northwestern University

'Dressing the Colonial Body: The Senegalese Rifleman in Uniform'

Kelly A. Kirby, Graduate student, Department of Anthropology &
Museum Studies, University of Michigan

'Cloth, Fashion, and Social Displays in Dakar, Senegal'

Chris Richards, Department of Art History, University of Florida

'Identity is the New Black: Clothing in Contemporary South
African Art'

Faculty discussants: Caroline Bledsoe, Anthropology, and Jonathon
Glassman, History, Northwestern University

11:00am-1:00 pm

VISUALITY, HIP HOP, AND DRESS PERFORMANCE

Chair: LaRay Denzer, Program of African Studies

Misty L. Bastian, Department of Anthropology, Franklin & Marshall
College

'Dressing for Success: The Politically Performative Quality of an
Igbo Woman's Attire'

Candace Keller, Department of Art and Art History, Michigan State
University

'Visualizing Agency in the Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keita
and Malick Sidibé'

Adeline Masquelier, Department of Anthropology, Director, Religious
Studies Program, Tulane University

'Forging Connections: Youth, Muslim Identity, and Hip-Hop
Fashions in Niger'

Graduate student discussants: Bethlehem Dejene, Anthropology, and
Karima Abidine, Anthropology

2:00-4:00 pm

FESTIVALS, REPRESENTATION, AND THE MORAL ECONOMY OF DRESS

Chair: Khairunnisa Mohammedali, Graduate Student, Political Science

Lauren Adrover, Graduate student, Department of Anthropology,
Northwestern University

'The Cultural Politics of Festive Dress in Ghana: T-Shirts, Corporate Logos, and Chiefly Images'

Catherine Bolten, Recent anthropology Ph. D. University of Michigan

'Costly Signaling, or, a Moral Economy of Dress: "Bluff Culture," Partner Hunting and Youth in Northern Sierra Leone'

Alana Glaser, Graduate student, Department of Anthropology,
Northwestern University

'Gendered Representations and Preoccupations: Gang Rape, Headscarves, and North African Youth in France'

Faculty discussants: Sandra Richards, African-American Studies & Theater, and Benjamin Soares, Religion, Northwestern University

4:00-5:00 pm

IMAGE DISPLAY

Coffee break and viewing of photographer Phil Sandick's image display,

'All Dressed up: Renarrativizing Contemporary African Masks'

5:00 – 6:30 pm

SPIRITUAL POWER, DRESS, AND AUTHENTICITY

Chair: Rebecca Shereikis, Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa

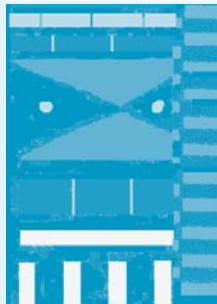
Dorothea E. Schulz, Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University

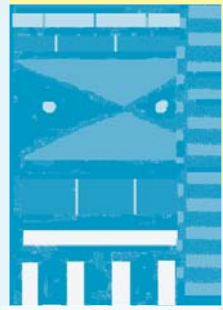
'Touched by Divine Grace': Dress and the Mediation of Spiritual Power in Muslim West Africa'

Nina Sylvanus, Department of Anthropology, Reed College

'Branding Counterfeits: Pagne (printed cloth) Fashion in Togo'

Graduate student discussant: Erik Johnson, Rhetoric & Public Culture, Department of Communication, and Abdoulaye Sounaye, Department of Religion





6:30- 7:00 pm

CLOSING REMARKS

What next? Special Observer, Joanne B. Eicher, University of Minnesota

8:30-10:00 pm

OPTIONAL EVENING STORY TELLING PROGRAM

Annie Mae Swift Hall, Black Box Theater

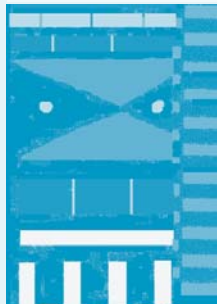
Facilitator: Sandra Richards, African-American Studies & Theater, Northwestern University

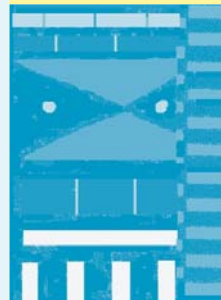
Evening performance of African story telling by S. Mashai Mwangola, Aga Khan University Kenya; Onawumi Jane Moss, Amherst College; and Joni L. Jones/Omi Osun Olomo, University of Texas

This conference has been organized as part of the Program of African Studies 60th Anniversary by Professors Karen Tranberg Hansen (Anthropology) and D. Soyini Madison (Performance Studies)

Graduate Student Organizers: Andrea Felber Seligman (History), Lauren Adrover (Anthropology), Bethlehem Dejene (Anthropology), Alana Glaser (Anthropology), Ariel Bookman (English)

Sponsored by The Graduate School, The Program of African Studies, The Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies and The Department of Anthropology





Program of African Studies

celebrating

60
years

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Photo courtesy of Lauren Adrover