

Performance Arts and Political Action
Mellon Workshop
June 23-29, 2017
Maropeng Hotel, Sterkfontein, Magaliesburg, South Africa

SUNDAY, JUNE 25
Panel Session 1 – 2:30-4:45 (40 minutes per paper)

Hybridity: South African Opera

Chair: Grant Olwage

Naomi André, *New Experiences, New Narratives: Black South African Opera*

Daniel Herwitz, *Post-Postcolonial: Figaro South of the Zambesi*

Innocentia Mhlambi, *African Heritage - Veritable Tradition: Locating the Humanity Ethos in Hiawatha's Wedding Feast, Ouanga and Moshoeshoe*

MONDAY, JUNE 26
Panel Session 2 – 10:00-12:15

Embodied History

Chair: Judy Irvine

Yolanda Covington-Ward, *Seditious Songs and Menacing Gestures: Spirituality as Performance and Political Action in Colonial-era Belgian Congo*

Kwasi Ampene, *One Hundred and Eleven Years: Asantehemaa, Funerary Rites and the Performance of Asante History and Socio-Political Power*

Maria Suriano, *Cultural Forms of Pan-African Solidarity in Tanzania*

Lunch – 12:30-1:45

Panel Session 3 – 2:00-4:15

Performing in Speaking

Chair: Liz Gunner

Judy Irvine, *Performing Political Identities: Senegalese Speakers and Their Audiences*

Nikolas Sweet, *Joking Relationships as Everyday Performance: Navigating Sociality in West Africa*

Jendele Hungbo, *Participation beyond Gratitude: 'Sterling Greetings' and Mediation of Social Ties on Nigerian Radio*

Coffee Break – 4:15-4:45

PERFORMANCE – 4:45-5:30
Angalia Ni Mimi by Marthe Djilo Kamga

TUESDAY, JUNE 27
Panel Session 4 – 10:00-12:15

Performing Migrant Experiences

Chair: Kristina Wirtz

Frieda Ekotto, *Angalia Ni Mimi: A Performance by Marthe Djilo Kamga*

Thomas Pooley, *The Phenomenology of Collapsing Worlds: The Isishameni Dances of abaThembu Migrants in Johannesburg*

Liz Gunner, *Political Masculinities and Isicathamiya Music*

Lunch – 12:30-1:45

Panel Session 5 – 2:00-4:15

Gender Performances & Performativity

Chair: Anita Gonzalez

Gaurav Desai, *"Frail Skiffs Tossed on the Ocean of Life": Gendered Self-fashioning and Performativity*

David Kerr, *Street Life: Performance Masculinity and Morality in Dar es Salaam*

Lucia Saks, *Pedagogy and Production in South African Cinema Today*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28
Panel Session 6 – 10:00-12:15

Performing Africa in Diaspora

Chair: Naomi André

Supriya Nair, *Palimpsestic Memory and Expressive Cultures in Zadie Smith's Swing Time*

Kristina Wirtz, *"African" Voices in Revolutionary Cuba's (Anti-)Colonial Chronotope*

Grant Olwage, *On the Political Limits of Sound: Paul Robeson's African Letters and English Voice*

Lunch – 12:30-1:45

Panel Session 7 – 2:00-4:15

Performance & Activism

Chair: Innocentia Mhlambi

Anita Gonzalez, *Surviving Gender Violence: Activating Community Stories for Social Change*

Mpume Zondi, *Intrinsic Power of Songs during Protests at Institutions of Higher Learning:
An Interview*

Ashley Lucas, *Theatre in South African Prisons: Strategies for Social Change*