



Art Histories and Aesthetic Practices

From Traditional to Contemporary Aesthetic Practices in West Africa, Benin and Togo

The Art Histories and Practices Travelling Seminar 2015 | May 10-23, 2015

Hannah Baader and Gerhard Wolf (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, MPI / Forum Transregionale Studien) in collaboration with Romuald Tchibozo (Université d'Abomey-Calavi) and Suzanne Blier (Harvard University, Cambridge) | Funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research

Academic Program

Sunday, 10 May | Berlin – Cotonou

- AirFrance | 19:50 Arrival Cotonou COO

Monday, 11 May | Cotonou – Porto Novo

- Meeting Dominique Kouas
- La Grande Mosquée and the adjacent new built mosque

Tuesday, 12 May | Porto Novo

- Centre Songhai
- Musée Ethnographique, Musée Honmé and Musée da Silva de Porto Novo
- Preservation of architecture

Wednesday, 13 May | Porto Novo – Quidah

- Quidah: Museum Zinsou (Villa Ajavon, Museum of Contemporary African Art)
- Slave trade route / Door of No Return
- Sacred Forest

Thursday, 14 May | Quidah – Lomé | *Holiday: Ascension Day*

- Departure to Lomé / On the way: Grand Popo
- Border check Benin-Togo
- Fetish Market
- Reception at Alain Fassier Gallery: Meeting Cammi, Camille Tété Azankpo, Emmanuel Sogbadji

Friday, 15 May | Lomé – Atakpamé

- Goethe Institute / Meeting Eva Hamann
- Departure and drive to the north / Atakpamé

Saturday, 16 May | Atakpamé – Kara – Koussoukoingou

- Koutammakou: Tamberma Valley
- Somba villages/Takienta houses of the Batammaliba, performances
- Border check Togo-Benin



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Sunday, 17 May | Koussoukoingou – Natitingou

- Somba villages with performances around Natitingou
- Ethnographic Museum
- Taneká-Beri and Tammari people

Monday, 18 May | Natitingou – Abomey

- Early departure and drive to Abomey (ca. 7h)

Tuesday, 19 May | Abomey

- Meeting Yves Apollinaire Kpede
- Dances, Kings, Divination, Museum, Palaces – Part 1: Palace of King Glele or National Museum, consultation at the the Reine-Mere, divinations
- Voodoo temple Zewa
- Underground village in Bohicon

Wednesday, 20 May | Abomey

- Dances, Kings, Divination, Museum, Palaces – Part 2: Palace of King Behanzin; Visit of Chez Monique Collection

Thursday, 21 May | Abomey – Abomey-Calavi

- Université d'Abomey-Calavi (UAC), Faculté des Lettres, Arts et Sciences Humaines
- Abomey: Seminar with presentations of the fellows and discussion with the students
- Artistic Africa

Friday, 22 May | Cotonou

- Meeting Magou
- Musée de l'Art de la Vie Active (MAVA) with the library
- Meeting at the German Embassy / Ambassador Hans Jörg Neumann
- Centre Artisanal
- Vlisco
- AirFrance | 19:40 departure Airport Cotonou COO

Saturday, 23 May | Berlin

- AirFrance | 9:15 arrival Berlin TXL