

Agenda March 2017

What we do...



Art Paris Art Fair: *lettera27* displays a selection of AtWork notebooks

March 30th - April 2nd, Grand Palais, Paris, France

lettera27 is proud to announce its participation to [Art Paris Art Fair](#) (Africa Guest of Honour curated by Marie-Ann Yemsi) with the exhibition of the selected [AtWork](#) notebooks made by students during 4 years of workshops in Africa and beyond. We'll be present in the fair at the F19 booth where we'll have the pleasure to welcome special guests like [Joel Andrianomearisoa](#). The artist, in fact, has just realized two notebooks for our collection that are going to be exhibited at our booth for the entire fair time. Moreover on the performer artist [Romina De Novellis](#) will realize an exclusive performance at our booth, creating a new "interactive" notebook for our [collection](#). Don't miss it!



Why Africa? next issue

This month *lettera27*'s [column](#) presents a [new piece written by Hanna Minaye](#) a participant of AtWork [Addis Ababa Chapter 06](#). Starting from the workshop's theme "What is home?", Hannah tells the difficulties that she faced searching and understanding the meaning of *home* philosophically and psychologically. Raised with a "western" education she felt she developed a distance between her and her Ethiopian peers, but after spending a period in the United States she has become aware of her uniqueness also compared to Americans. Back in Ethiopia she tried to mediate between her experiences and understand how the two cultures could live together and enrich each other. AtWork was for her a moment of reflection on these themes, an occasion for a dialogue with her peers and an opportunity of growth and development.



The White Hunter. African memories and representation

March 31st - June 3d. Opening March 30th 8.00pm, FM Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

The new and comprehensive review curated by Marco Scotini proposes an investigation on the decentralization of the hegemonic and unquestioned model of the artistic Western modernity in the current geopolitical perspective. With more than 40 artists and more than 120 artworks, the exhibition presents a course developed on the forms of representation and reconstruction of African memory and contemporaneity, through works coming from the biggest Italian collections and archive materials about frameworks of critical and expositive presentation, both Italian and international. The exhibition's title refers to the filmic work of the artists Yervant Gianikian e Angela Ricci Lucchi, pioneers in the practice of colonial history and migrations rewrite, and recounts the social construction of the "blanchité" alleged supremacy, that passes through the entire experience of capitalist modernity and consolidates with the colonial enterprise. The project, curated by Marco Scotini, boasts multidisciplinary Advisory Panel that includes: Gigi Pezzoli, africanist, Grazia Quaroni, senior curator, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Adama Sanneh, programs director, *lettera27* Foundation and others. The exhibition is accompanied by a program of lectures, conferences and screenings realized in collaboration with *lettera27* Foundation, Lumumbashi Biennial and others. Among the exhibited artists we highlight the presence of Pascale Marthine Tayou, author of an iconic notebook in our collection.

What we suggest...



Design Indaba

March 1st - 4th, Cape Town, South Africa

Labeled as one of the most important festivals of creativity in Africa, Design Indaba proposes a multifunctional platform which hosted conferences, exhibitions, cinema, and more. Under the art direction of fashion designer Selly Raby Kane, the conference will function as the creative mothership around which all the other arenas of Design Indaba Festival will oscillate. The exhibitions will promote from one side the emerging creatives from the whole African Continent and from the other side the

winner of the contest “The Most Beautiful Object in South Africa”: the annual competition that is aimed at facilitating discussions around beauty and the public’s perception of it. To know more about the festival you can read our interview with Design Indaba curator Mugendi K. M’Rithaa on [Why Africa?](#).



The Armory Show

March 2nd - 5th, Piers 92 & 94, New York City, USA

“[Armory Show](#)”, the famous Contemporary Art Fair of New York, that last year proposed a specific focus on African Contemporary Art, is back. This new edition brings together over 200 of the most influential galleries from 30 countries around the world. Five distinct exhibitor sections guide visitors through nearly two centuries of art history, from established masters of the early 20th century to the next generation of emerging artists. For the occasion [Alberta Pane Gallery](#) proposes an exhibition of Romina De Novellis & Marcos Lutyens. Romina De Novellis will also be present at [AtWork](#) booth at [Art Paris Art Fair](#) where she will realize a performance for the creation of a notebook that will join [lettera27 collection](#).



Biografia Plurale. Virginia Ryan 2000–2016

Mar 4th - Apr 25th, Centro per l’Arte Contemporanea Palazzo Lucarini Contemporary, Trevi, Italy

The exhibition presents the first systematic review of the artist's production over more than fifteen years in two West African nations, Ghana and the Ivory Coast. Over this intensely lived period, [Virginia Ryan](#) has developed a large body of work negotiating the ready-made and montage with personal observation. The art of Virginia Ryan is in deep conversation with both images and the imagination of modern and urbanized Africa, far removed from stereotypes. *Biografia Plurale* is closely linked to The Art of Migration project, a workshop with [MakeArtNotWalls/Italia](#), a group of asylum seekers from West Africa, that the artist is leading for several months. You can see the notebook that Virginia Ryan has made for our collection [here](#).



Afrique-Asie. Arts, espaces, pratiques

March 16th, 7:PM, Musée du Quai Branly Jacques Chirac, Paris, France

As part of the exhibition "L' Afrique des routes", that opened on January 31st at Quai Branly Museum in Paris and will stay open until November 12th, we would like to highlight the round table with presentation of the book "Afrique-Asie. Arts, espaces, pratiques". The collection of essays curated by the researchers Nicole Khouri, Dominique Malaquais presents a reflection on the role of Africa and Asia in the globalization process, approaching such different subjects as history, history of art, anthropology, sociology, geography, architecture, literature and cultural studies. A roundtable will bring together Nicole Khouri and Dominique Malaquais, editors of the anthology, artists Malala Andrialavidrazana and Sammy Baloji, whose work plays a central part in the book, and scholars Fiona Siegenthaler (University of Basel), Marian Nur Goni (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales) and Jean-Paul Colleyn (Assistant Director, Institut des Mondes Africains).



Decolonising History: Visualisations of Conflict in a 'Post-War' Europe

18 Marzo, University College, London, UK

The Centre for the Study of Contemporary Art at University College of London, hosts the conference Decolonising History: Visualisations of Conflict in a 'Post-War' Europe". This interdisciplinary symposium seeks to engage with and challenge the notion of a 'post-war Europe' through the lens of artistic, photographic and filmic visualisations of decolonial struggles and their legacies. Writing in reference to France's imperial and colonial past, in her book *From a Nation Torn: Decolonizing Art and Representation in France, 1945-1962* (2014) Hannah Feldman has argued that the notion of a 'post-war' Europe occludes many of the conflicts which evolved after the end of the Second World War. These conflicts are manifest not only in the decolonial and liberation struggles in European colonies such as Algeria (1954-62), Angola (1961-74) or Indochina (1946-54), but in the displacement, migrations, and subsequent struggles for 'citizenship' and equal rights faced by colonial and 'post-colonial' migrants in Europe. The symposium proposes to consider these social, political and cultural shifts through the lens of visual culture. In what ways can images subvert dominant historical narratives? How can the visual express and serve as a tool for resistance?



Festival of African, Asian and Latin American Cinema “Where Future Beats”

March 19-26th, Fondazione Feltrinelli “Feltrinelli Pasubio”, Milan, Italy

At its 27th year, the Festival of African, Asian and Latin American Cinema is the only festival in Italy that deals with the cinematographies and cultures of 3 different continents (Africa, Asia and Latin America). In 2017 the FAALAC sums up its cultural proposition in the claim “Where Future Beats” and inaugurates an important collaboration with a new space of Fondazione Feltrinelli “Feltrinelli Pasubio”. The new structure will welcome the contest Extr’A -Razzismo Brutta Storia (Racism is a terrible thing) and a new cinematographic section dedicated to Latin America. There will also be talks inspired by an umbrella theme “Subjects” by Fondazione Feltrinelli and a round table in collaboration with Foundation Edu on business, study and creative work in Africa.



Mwangi Hutter: performance “Yes, Own Axis”

March 22nd, Let Sonorities Ring – Julius Eastman, Savvy Contemporary, Berlin, Germany

It’s a period rich of proposals and events for the artistic duo Mwangi Hutter. Bringing forward their research of an essence, of a private story that could become universal, the two artists leave traces: a fingerprint, a sound, a movement. And maybe it’s exactly these traces, simple and powerful at the same time, like the juxtaposition of two opposite colors as black and white, that tell a story already, that transcend reality conducting us to the essence of human expression. This is the poetics at the base of their next works. On March 22nd they are going to be part of the exhibition “Let Sonorities Ring - Julius Eastman” at Savvy Contemporary in Berlin, to present the performance “Yes, Own Axis”. We would also like to highlight the participation of the two artists to the next edition of Documenta (April 8th - July 16th in Athens, June 10th - September 17th in Kassel) and Venice Biennial (May 13th - November 26th). You can see the notebook that Mwangi Hutter realized for *lettera27* collection [here](#).



“Afriques Capitales”, exhibition curated by Simon Njami

March 29th - May 2nd, Musée de La Villette, Paris, France

La Villette Museum in Paris dedicates the 2017 edition of the Festival 100% to Africa, presenting within its framework the exhibition curated by Simon Njami “Afriques Capitales”. The exhibition brings together African artists of different generations, providing a comprehensive gaze on the African Contemporary Art proposals. More than 10 monumental and Site Specific artworks have been realized expressly for this occasion and many artists present in the exhibition are showing in France for the first time. Among the many artists chosen by Simon Njami are: Moataz Nasr (our partner in AtWork Cairo), Pascale Marthine Tayou, Joël Andrianomearisoa (who is going to be our special guest at Art Paris), Héba Amin (AtWork Cairo facilitator) and Youssef Limoud (who participated at AtWork Cairo and contributed to AtWork Cairo Chapter 04 booklet).

“Afriques Capitales” doesn’t end up with the exhibition inside La Villette: a special section dedicated to photography, hosted in the palace garden, will converge in “Mois de la Photo - Grand Paris” festival. For the first time the Parisian audience will have the opportunity to know the work of African contemporary Photographers in an exclusive and “en plein air” location. Among the exhibited artists we highlight: Franck Abd-Bakar Fanny, Delio Jasse, Andrew Tshabangu and Aida Muluneh (our partner of AtWork Addis Abeba).



African Spring in Paris

From March, the whole city, Paris, France

It’s going to be a spring of African Art in Paris. A series of events that involve different venues in the whole city will offer to the Parisians the possibility to dive into the African Contemporary Culture, attending fairs, exhibitions, symposiums, conferences and more. Starting from the already mentioned Art Paris Art Fair and Afriques Capitales, the path winds through many proposals:

March 7th - June 4th, Musée de la Chasse, Roger Ballen exhibition in collaboration with Hans Lemmen.

March 9th - June 25th, Mona Bismarck American Center, “Posing Beauty dans la culture africaine-américaine”, exhibitions curated by Raina Lampkins-Fielder.

March 17th - April 2nd, L’ Appartement, “La Sève du Nkoso”, personal exhibition of the artist Myriam

