



TALKING DRUM

AFRICAN SCHOLARS FORUM NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019 EVENTS



OCTOBER, 2019

November 7th - ASF & Global Governance sponsored talk by Professor Patricia Agupusi {American University}.



Bring Back Our Girls: Boko-haram & Gender violence in Northern Nigeria.

Time: 3:15PM—4:45PM.
Venue: MGS 03-625

November 8th & 9th - Cameroonian Conference : **Conflict & Change in Cameroon.**

November 12th - Oliver Tambo : Documentary & Movie screening.



Have you heard from Johannesburg: The life of Oliver Tambo at the Campus Ballroom 6 pm – 9 pm followed by a panel discussion and a reception. The groups will host a film showing of the PBS documentary, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cm6cWa8Ca4>

Movie Summary

Oliver Tambo is described as one of the world's greatest



The talking drum is one of the oldest musical instrument from West Africa and it is prominent among the Yorubas and Hausas. It can be regulated to mimic the tone of human speech. The talking drum is used as a form of communication to send messages to people both home and faraway.

statesmen, his strategy to the international community to isolate and sanction the Apartheid regime created the most globalized human rights struggle of the 20th century. Contact: Darlene.Gordon@umb.edu Shukura@sharedinterest.org

November 19th—UMass Boston ASF Pre-Conference Reception @ At the African Studies Association Conference, Copley place, Mariot. Time: 6PM—8PM. **See program/register here:** https://www.umb.edu/news_events_media/events/pre_conference_african_studies_association_reception_2019

November 21st- 24th—African Studies Association conference @ Mariot, Copley Square.

December 10th – Remembering the Rwandan Genocide 25th Memorial (Human Rights Program). Timothy Longman {Boston University}.

December 13th – Kwanzaa Fest & Amilcar Cabral Speaker. Professor Nada Ali: **Democratic Transitions in Sudan.**

SPRING 2020 EVENTS.

February 28th - Africa Day : "Challenges to Pan-Africanism: Afrophobia and migration across African Borders".

May 20th - Ubuntu Awards Amilcar Cabral Speaker.

PHOTO GALLERY FROM OCTOBER 16th AFRICAN SCHOLAR FORUM MEETING



Presentation by Lemi Ghariokwu



Cross section of participants



Group picture with Lemi Ghariokwu

Lemi Ghariokwu

Art is beyond a profession for him. It is not just a tool of self-expression. It is a liberating force, a story and most importantly, a tool of hope. I am Ghariokwu Lemi but my friends call me Lemi Ghariokwu. {"I am a Self-taught Fine Artist, Graphic Designer, Illustrator and a Conscious African born, bred and buttered in Lagos"}. He is an artist and graphic designer who created 26 of Fela Kuti's album covers, including many of his most powerful ones. Since his Kuti debut, for 1974's *Alagbon Close*, Lemi's art has been an integral part of Afrobeat's Pan African message, working hand in hand with the music to identify injustice, educate, galvanize protest and bring about change.

Among Lemi's other Africa 70 and Egypt 80 album covers are those for *Before I Jump Like Monkey Give Me Banana* (1975), *Ikoyi Blindness* (1976), *Kalakuta Show* (1976), *Yellow Fever* (1976), *Upside Down* (1976), *J.J.D. Johnny Just Drop* (1977), *Zombie* (1977), *Fear Not For Man* (1977), *Sorrow Tears And Blood* (1977) and *Beasts Of No Nation* (1989).

Alongside his design work, Lemi was in 1976 a founder member of the Young African Pioneers (YAP), who took Afrobeat's political message into the protest and publishing worlds. Wholly in sympathy with Kuti's philosophy, but always his own man, Lemi's work has been enriched by his experiences as an activist, and this adds to its power.

Looking at least a decade younger than his 55 years, Lemi continues to be a vital part of Afrobeat, and is the cover designer of choice for artists in Nigeria and overseas. Among the hundreds of covers he has designed, his recent work includes designs for Brooklyn's *Antibalas* and *Akoya Afrobeat Ensemble* groups, and for *Seun Anikulapo Kuti's From Africa With Fury: Rise* (Knitting Factory, 2011). The success of the Broadway musical *FELA!* in 2010/11 has given a welcome boost to Lemi's career, with his work on exhibitions throughout several continents.

Lemi is excited to travel to Boston to discuss the importance of his art work and his freedom to create artistic expression in Fela with African Scholar Forum.

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