



Media Information

YOUNG AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY

»The Journey | New Positions in African Photography« profiles 17 emerging positions in contemporary African photography. The versatile practices of these young photographers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, and Sudan encapsulate many of the ambitions, enthusiasms, and possibilities on the African continent today. All of them are alumni of the “Photographers’ Masterclass”, a decade-long mentorship-program (2008–2018) by curator Simon Njami and the Goethe-Institut.

Bielefeld/Berlin, January 10, 2020 – A journey through Africa’s wide-ranging photo scene: »The Journey | New Positions in African Photography« documents the collaborations between 17 young African photographers, their mentor and international curator Simon Njami, and the Goethe-Institut.

Heartened by a mutual feeling of community, the Photographers’ Masterclass created a space for intense debates and reflections on the current state of African photography. Over the course of years, this committed network of kindred spirits created important professional relationships throughout the African continent and established vivid contacts to the international photo scene.

»The Journey | New Positions in African Photography« is an original publication, yet inseparably linked to the Photographers’ Masterclass. This profound survey on African photography is inspired by those photographers who all enrolled in the mentorship-program and expressed themselves with the greatest personal openness.

Thus it is no wonder that the portfolios of the participants constitute almost two thirds of the extensive volume, supplemented by 13 essays on photography in Africa. As manifold the photographic positions are, as varied is the vast spectrum of scholarly perspectives relevant for the critical understanding of African photography in this particular historical moment.

Artists

Sammy Baloji, Eric Gyamfi, Macline Hien, Lebohang Kganye, Ala Kheir, Gosette Lubondo, Mário Macilau, Sabelo Mlangeni, Moss Morwahla Moeng, Mimi Cheron Ng’ok, Musa N. Nxumalo, Adeola Olagunju, Monique Pelsler, Thabiso Sekgala, Georges Senga, Michael Tsegaye, Jansen van Staden



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