

BOLAJI CAMPBELL

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Providence, RI 02903
Tel. 401-277-4870 (w)
bcampbel@risd.edu

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1998-2001 Ph.D. Art History, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dissertation "Yoruba Shrine Painting Traditions: Color, Cosmos, Process, and Aesthetics", 320 pp.

Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Henry J. Drewal, Evjue Bascom Professor.

1986-1989 M.F.A. (Painting), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria

M.F.A. Thesis "*A Comparative Study of Selected Shrine Paintings in Ilesa and Ile Ife*", 108 pp

1981-1984 B.A Fine Arts, University of Ife, Ile Ife, Nigeria

B.A Long Essay: "*Kolade Oshinowo's Drummer Series—a critical appraisal*", 80 pp.

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

July 2015—to date Professor, History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD

July 2014—to date Department Head, Department of History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD

July 2009—June 2015 Associate Professor, Department of History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD

September 2002- June 2009 Assistant Professor, Department of History of Art and Visual Culture, RISD

September 2001- July 2002 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

1999-2001 Lecturer, Departments of Art, Art History, and the African Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison

1998-2001 Teaching Assistant, Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

1996-1997 Adjunct Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

1992-1996 Lecturer I, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria

1989-1992 Lecturer II, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria

1986-1989 Teaching Assistant (Post Graduate Fellow), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife

1984-1985 Lecturer, Federal College of Education, Pankshin, Nigeria

DISTINCTION AND AWARDS

2014 Citation & Award of Excellence by the Mayor of the City of Providence, RI

2008 Mark of Excellence Award, Eko Club of Rhode Island

2007-2012 Member, Board of Friends of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University

2006 Listed in Marquis' Who's Who in America

2006 Professional Development Funds Award, Rhode Island School of Design

2006 Humanities Funds Award, Rhode Island School of Design

2005 Outstanding Alumnus Award, Department of Fine Arts, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife, Nigeria

2001/02 Postdoctoral Fellow, Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

1998-2000 The Richard Horovitz Funds for Professional Development, Institute of International Education, New York, NY

1997-1998 Sylvan and Pamela Coleman Memorial Fund Fellow, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY

1996-1997 Visiting Scholar/Artist in Residence, Department of Art, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

1994 Listed in *L'Art Africain Contemporain*, "Guidebook to Contemporary African Art", published in collaboration with Association *Dialogue Entre les Culture*, Paris

1992 Listed in *Nigerian Artists: A Who's Who and Bibliography*, Smithsonian Institution Press

1990 Listed in a Special Issue on "Design in Nigeria", *DESIGN JOURNAL*, (Seoul), 26:70-92

1987-1989 Obafemi Awolowo University Post Graduate Fellowship Award

PUBLICATIONS

Authored Books:

2008 *Painting for the Gods: Art and Aesthetics of Yoruba Religious Murals*, Trenton, NJ:

Africa World Press

Edited Books:

1993 *Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria* (ed.) Bolaji Campbell, et.al. Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife, Nigeria, 408 pp (editing, introductory essay and a chapter)

Contribution to Books; Published Articles; Book Reviews and Conference Proceedings:

2015 "Eegun Ogun: War Masquerades in Ibadan in the Era of Modernization", *African Art*, vol.48 #1 Spring 2015

2014 Biographic Entry on Suzanne Wenger (revised and updated) *Grove Art: Oxford Art Online*, New York: Oxford University Press

2013 Book Review—"Vigilant Things: On Thieves, Yoruba Anti-Aesthetics, and the Fate of Ordinary Objects in Nigeria", *Art Bulletin*, Vol. xcv, # 2, June 2013

2012 "New Perspectives on Contemporary Nigerian Painting" in *Ezumezu: Essays on Nigerian Art and Architecture, a Festschrift in Honour of Demas Nwoko*. (Eds.) Obiora Udechukwu and Chika Okeke-Agulu Glassboro, NJ: Goldline & Jacobs Publishing, pp.55-64

2011 Catalogue Entries in *Ancestors of Congo Square: African Art in the New Orleans Museum of Art*, London: Scala Publishers.

2009 "Coloring the Orisa' in *SURFACES: Color, Substances, and Ritual Applications on African Sculpture*, Leonard Kahan, Donna Page, and Pascal Imperato (edited.) Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, pp. 272-298

2009 Book Review, Orisa Devotion as World Religion, (ed) Jacob K. Olupona and Terry Rey, in *The African Studies Review*, vol. 52, #2.

2008 "Of storytelling and the slippery medium of clay: Babette Wainwright's Image of the Woman at the Diasporic Crossroads" in *African and Black Diaspora: an International Journal* (Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, UK)

2007 "Reinventing Identities in the New World: Ori Olokun as Zumbi dos Palmares in Rio de Janeiro", in *Afro-Brazilian Mind / A Mente Afro-Brasileira: Contemporary Afro-Brazilian Literary and Cultural Criticism*, (eds.) Niyi Afolabi, Márcio Barbosa and Esmeralda Ribeiro, Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press

2006 Book Review, *The Pan-African Nation: Oil and the Spectacle of Culture in Nigeria* by Andrew Apter, in *The African Studies Review*, vol. 49, # 1

2005 Catalogue Entries in *Resonance from the Past: African Sculpture from the New Orleans Museum of Art*, New York: Museum for African Art, pp. 70-75

2004 Biographic Entries on Contemporary Nigerian Artists, in *The Grove Dictionary of Art Online*, Oxford University Press

2004 "To Unravel the mysterious, the wonderful, and the fearful" in *Convergence Exhibition Catalogue*, James Lewis Museum of Art, Morgan State University; Baltimore, MD pp. 45-56

2003 "Altars of Memory and of Identity: The Art of Sonya Clark", in *Marvels of the African World: African Cultural Patrimony, New World Connections, and Identities*, (ed.) Niyi Afolabi. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, pp. 395-410

- 2000 Book Review, "Olowe of Ise: A Yoruba Sculptor to Kings" by Roslyn Adele Walker, in *African Arts* (spring) vol. xxxiii, #1, pp 88-89
- 1999 "Yoruba Notions of Color: an introduction", *Wisconsin African Studies News and Notes*, # 51, winter, pp. 12-14
- 1996 "Ogboni Shrine Paintings in Ilesa" in *The Nigerian Field*, 61: 104-114
- 1995 "Images of Power in Sixteen Yoruba Shrine Paintings" in *Ife: Annals of the Institute of Cultural Studies*, #6, O.A.U, Ife, pp. 25-31
- 1995 "Ise Loogun Ise: Theme of Labour in Contemporary Nigerian Art, *Kurio Africana*, vol. 2, # 1, Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife, pp. 21-27
- 1995 "Metaphor of Spiritual Power: the example of Yoruba Shrine Wall Paintings", in *Powers of Expression and Expressions of Power in Yoruba Art* (ed.) R. O. Rom Kalilu. Ikeja, Lagos: Bidol and Associates, pp. 63-80
- 1995 Book Review, "Architectures of Nigeria" by Kevin Carroll in *The Nigerian Field*, Ibadan
- 1994 "Introduction: The Dream Lingers on" in *The Proceedings of the 1994 Father Kevin Carroll Seminar*, R.I. Ibigbami and Bolaji Campbell (ed.) Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife
- 1994 "Pagan Doors on Sacred Altars" in *The Proceedings of the 1994 Father Kevin Carroll Seminar*, R.I. Ibigbami and Bolaji Campbell (ed.) Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife
- 1993 "Transition in the Visual Image of the Woman in Contemporary Nigerian Art", in *The Eye*, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, pp. 10-13
- 1993 Book Introduction: *Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria*, (ed.) Bolaji Campbell et. al. Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife, Nigeria, pp. xv-xx
- 1993 "Oshinowo's World of Drummers" in *Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria*, Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife, Nigeria, pp. 117-124
- 1992 "The Trial of Traditional Art: the Bird Symbolism in Contemporary Yoruba Art" in *Principles of Traditional African Art*, (ed.) Moyo Okediji, Bard Books, Ibadan, pp. 54-69
- 1992 "Colour Attitudes: A Critique of Seven Nigerian Painters." *Artifacts* (Lagos) 1, no. 1 pp. 8-9, 11(reprinted with permission)
- 1991 "Patterns of Tradition in Contemporary Yoruba Paintings" in *ORITAMETA: Proceedings of the 1990 International Conference on Yoruba Art*, Dept. of Fine Arts, Ife
- 1989 "Colour Attitude: A Critique of Seven Nigerian Painters" in *Kurio Africana*, vol. 1, #2 Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife, pp. 42-51
- 1989 "Continuity and Change in Yoruba Shrine Painting Tradition" in *Kurio Africana*, vol. 1 # 1, Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife
- 1989 Book Review: A Review of Bruce Onobrakpeya's Sahelian Masquerade, in *Kurio Africana*, vol. 1 #1, Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife

MANUSCRIPTS ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

- "Illustration in the African Context" in *History of Illustration*, Susan Doyle et. al. (ed.) New York: Bloomsbury Books (forthcoming June 2016)
- "Aesthetics, meaning and function of the Pende Mask" in *Manual: a journal about art and its making*, #5, fall 2015
- "Of Color, Character, Attributes and Values of Orunmila" in *Ifa Divination: Knowledge, Power and Performance*, Jacob Olupona and Rowland Abiodun (eds.) Bloomington: Indiana University Press (forthcoming March 2016).
- "African Mask: Meaning, Motif and History" in *Second Face*, Logo Marketing and Vertrieb, Rhein Germany (forthcoming)
- "Orisa Color Reconfigured" in *Orisa Religion and Culture in Africa and the Diaspora*, Kola Abimbola and Wande Abimbola (eds.) Ibadan: Ibadan University Press, (forthcoming) ISBN: 1 905388 02 0.
- "Crafting an American Ideal: The Walter O. Evans Collection of African American Art", *The Avery Review of African American History and Culture*, (forthcoming)

VIDEO FOOTAGE/AUDIO TOUR

On Yoruba Egungun Masking and African Art and Aesthetics for the Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=No5w6KivJ3U>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1nq11TnlvzU>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38PXCQnoL3c>

On Yoruba Divination objects for The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH

<http://www.clevelandart.org/collections/onlinetour.aspx>

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2014—served as External Evaluator of Dr. Abayomi Ola for promotion and tenure to Associate Professor in the Department of Art and Art History, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

2012—Moderator, Conference on African Artist Imagine the Present: Aesthetics and Politics in Contemporary Art, Yale University, New Haven, CT

2011—Evaluated Manuscript for Publication—“*Olayinka, A Woman’s View: The Life of an African Modern Artist*” by Simon Ottenberg—for Africa World Press—Book Published in 2011

2009-- Evaluated Manuscript for Publication--“*Western Frontiers of African Art*” by Moyo Okediji for the University of Rochester Press—Book Published in 2011

2002—Moderator, Symposium on *African American Art: Preserving a Cultural Legacy*-- Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC

Coordination of International Conferences:

1994—Seminar in Honor of the Late Father Kevin Carroll

1992—International Conference on the Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria

Editing of Journals/Conference Proceedings:

1996 & 1995 Edited two special Issues of *Kurio Africana*, Department of Fine Arts, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife, Nigeria

1994 *The Proceedings of the 1994 Father Kevin Carroll Seminar*, (ed.) R.I. Ibigbami and Bolaji Campbell Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

2014 16th Triennial Symposium on African Art, Arts Council of the African Studies Association, Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY

2012 African Artists Imagine the Present: Aesthetics and Politics in Contemporary Art, Yale University, New Haven, CT

2008 African Studies Association, Chicago, IL

2008 Mami as Muse, Mami Wata: Arts for Water Spirits in Africa and Its Diaspora, UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, Los Angeles, CA

2008 Sacred Knowledge, Sacred Power and Performance: Ifa Divination in West Africa and the African Diaspora, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2007 AICAD Conference, Pratt Institute, New York, NY

2007 African Studies Association, New York, NY

2006 CAA, Annual Conference, New York, NY

2006 Theorizing African/Black Diaspora: History and Memory, DePaul University, Chicago, IL

2005 9th World International Congress of Orisa Tradition and Culture, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2004 CAA, Annual Conference, Seattle, WA

2003 Cultures in Motion, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

2002 Symposium on Toni Morrison’s Song of Solomon, Department of English, College of Charleston, SC

2002 African American Art: Preserving a Cultural Legacy, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, SC

2001 CAA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
 2000 Contemporary African Art Symposium, Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI
 1998 ACASA Triennial, New Orleans, LA
 1996 African Studies Association, San Francisco, CA
 1996 Symposium on African Art and Culture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
 1995 Conference on Phases of Contemporary Nigerian Art: Jimo Akolo 60th Birthday Celebrations, Institute of Education, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria
 1994 Seminar in Honor of Father Kevin Carroll, Oduduwa Hall, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
 1993 International Symposium on Contemporary Nigerian Art and the Uche Okeke 60th Birthday Celebrations, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria
 1992 Conference on the Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria, Conference Center, O.A.U, Ife
 1991 International Conference on the Images of Women, Dept. of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife
 1990 Workshop on the Crisis of Traditional African Cultures, Dept. of Architecture, O.A.U., Ile-Ife, Nigeria
 1990 International Conference on Yoruba Arts, O.A.U, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
 1989 Symposium on Contemporary Nigerian Art II, O.A.U, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
 1989 Symposium on Contemporary Nigerian Art I, O.A.U, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

SELECTED REVIEW/BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BOLAJI CAMPBELL'S WORK

- Abiodun, Rowland, (2014) *Yoruba Art and Language: seeking the African in African Art*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Sytsma, Janine, (2014) "Departures: A Critical Study of the *Ona* Group and the Spread of Onaism", Ph.D. Dissertation, Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin-Madison (unpublished)
- Makinde, David Olajide, (2014) "Modernisation of Creative Heritage: Ona in Modern Nigerian Art", Ph.D. Thesis, Nsukka: University of Nigeria (unpublished)
- Oyeronke Oyewumi (2012) "Beyond Gendercentric Models: Restoring Motherhood to Yoruba Discourse of Art and Aesthetics" in Nicholas M. Creary (edited) *African Intellectuals and Decolonization*. Athens: Ohio: Ohio University Press
- Oyeronke Oyewumi (ed.) (2011) *Gender Epistemologies in Africa: Gendering Traditions, Spaces, Social Institutions, and Identities*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Iriwieri, Godwin Ogheneruemu (2010) "Onaism: An Artistic Model of Yoruba Civilization in Nigeria" in *African Research Review—an International Multi-disciplinary Journal*, Ethiopia Vol. 4 # 3a (July)
- Renne, Elisha (2009) Book Review: *Painting for the Gods: Art and Aesthetics of Yoruba Religious Paintings*, in *African Studies Review*, Vol. 52, # 2, pp. 227-228
- Ojo, Akinloye & Solomon Olabiyi (2009) Book Review: *Painting for the Gods: Art and Aesthetics of Yoruba Religious Paintings*, in *Journal of the African Literature Association (JALA)*, Vol. 3, #1, pp. 145-151
- Adejumo, Christopher, (2008) "Migration and Slavery as Paradigms in the Aesthetic Transformation of Yoruba Art in the Americas" in *Migrations and Creative Expressions in Africa and the African Diaspora* (Toyin Falola, Niyi Afolabi and Ronke Adesanya, eds.) Carolina Academic Press,
- Adesanya, Aderonke. (2008) "Contemporary Nigerian Artists' Confrontation, Contestation, and Conversation with Modernity" in Toyin Falola, and Salah Hassan, *Power and Nationalism in Modern Africa: Essays in Honor of Don Ohadike*, Carolina Academic Press.
- Henry Drewal (2008) *Mami Wata: Arts for Water Spirits in Africa and Its Diaspora*, UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History
- Holland Cotter, (2005) "In a New Jersey Suburb, a Potent Look at the Use of Color in African Art", *The New York Times*, January 8,
- Holland Cotter, (2004) "Pick a Culture: There's Always a Blue Period", *The New York Times*, December 24.

Bill Van Siclen, (2004) “Conference Looks at Immigration”, *The Providence Journal*, Saturday, April 24,
 Exhibition Review (2004) *Surfaces, Tribal Art*, Autumn/Winter

Moyo Okediji, (2003) *African Renaissance: Old Form, New Images in Yoruba Art*, Boulder Colorado: University Press of Colorado

Simon Ottenberg (2002) (ed.) *The Nsukka Artists and Nigerian Contemporary Art*, Seattle and London: Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and University of Washington Press

Stephen Folaranmi (2002) “The Importance of Oriki in Yoruba Mural Art”, *Ijele: Art eJournal of African World* ed. Nkiru Nzegwu (2002) ISSN: 1525-447x

Henry Drewal (2000) Foreword, *Common Ties: Dots and Dashes, Beads and Beauty*—exhibition catalogue, Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin

Simon Ottenberg (1997) *New Traditions from Nigeria*, Washington & London: Smithsonian Institution Press

Rosalind Hackett, (1996) *Art and Religion in Africa*, New York and London: Cassell

Michael Harris, (1996) “Contemporary Yoruba Art in Ile Ife: History, Continuum, Motive, and Transformation” Ph.D. Dissertation, New Haven, Conn: Yale University (unpublished)

Clementine Deliss, et. al. ((1995) *Seven Stories about Modern Art in Africa*, London: White Chapel

Janet Stanley, (1993) *Nigerian Artists: A Who’s Who and Bibliography*, New York: Hans Zell Publishers for National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution Libraries Washington DC

Adetola Wewe, (1991) “ONA: A Revolutionary Art Movement in Nigeria”, in *ORITAMETA: Proceedings of the 1990 International Conference of Yoruba Art Ife*: Department of Fine Arts, OAU, Ife

Nkiru Nzegwu, (1989) *PUSHING THE LIMITS OF VISION: Select Paintings and Drawings by Campbell, Filani, Ojomo, Okediji, Uwechia and Wewe*, Lagos: Zegu, 32 pp.

Okediji, Moyo, (1989) Introduction, *OUT OF THE MOULD: An Exhibition of Drawings and Paintings by Bolaji Campbell* on May27-June 3, 1989, Ile Ife: Ona Solo Exhibition Series 002, 9 pp

LANGUAGES

Proficient in the written and oral dimensions of Yoruba and English with a reading knowledge of French

STUDIO WORKS

COMMISSIONED METAL GATE
 1996 “Osun” Knoxville, TN

PUBLIC MURALS

1984 Weavers—Seminar Room, Department of Architecture, O.A.U, Ife

COMMISSIONED PORTRAITS

1988 His Royal Highness, Onilala of Lanlate, Nigeria
 1984 His Royal Highness, Oba J. O. Akinpelu, Olola of Ola-Ejigbo, Nigeria
 1983 Chief Felix Ibru, Ex-Governor Delta State of Nigeria

GROUP/JOINT EXHIBITIONS

2012 Return of Ona, Nike Art Gallery & Watersworth Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
 2009 Tasting Cultures: The Art of African/Diaspora Foodways, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, SC
 2008 Mami Wata: Arts for Water Spirits in Africa and Its Diaspora, UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, Los Angeles, CA; Chazen Museum, University of Wisconsin-Madison; National museum for African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; Mariner’s Museum, Newport News, VA; Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University, CA
 2005 Ife Art School in Retrospect, Traveling Exhibition, Onabolu Art Center, Lagos Nigeria
 2004 SURFACES: Color, Substances and Ritual Applications on African Sculpture, The African Art Museum of the SMA Fathers, Tenafly, NJ

2004 Crossing Borders: 24th Annual Providence Journal/Brown University Public Affairs Conference, Hillel Center, Brown University, Providence, RI
2003 RISD Faculty Biennial, Museum of Art, RISD, Providence RI
2000 Common Ties: Dots and Dashes, Beads and Beauty, Porter-Butts Gallery, UW-Madison
1999 Perpetual Motions, Skoto Gallery, New York
1998 Contemporary African Art, Skoto Gallery, New York
1997 March Exhibition, Bennett Galleries, Knoxville TN
1997 February Exhibition, Bennett Galleries, Knoxville TN
1995 Best of Ife, Signature Art Gallery, Lagos Nigeria
1993 Best of Ife, Signature Art Gallery, Lagos Nigeria
1992 Maiden Exhibition, Signature Art Gallery, Lagos Nigeria
1992 Diversity of Creativity in Nigeria, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife
1990 Ona...2, Radiance of Rhythms, National Museum, Lagos
1990 Exhibition of Contemporary Yoruba Art, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ife
1990 Reflections from Africa, Ottawa, Canada
1989 Silver Jubilee Exhibition, Society of Nigeria Artists, National Theatre, Lagos, Nigeria
1989 Pushing the Limits of Vision, USIS, Lagos Nigeria
1989 Exhibition of Contemporary Arts from Nigeria, London
1989 Ona...1, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
1989 Contemporary Ife Arts, University Hall, O.A.U, Ife
1989 Graduate Exhibition, Department of Fine Arts, O.A.U, Ife
1986 Butterfly Creations, National Museum, Lagos Nigeria
1985 Staff Exhibition, Federal College of Education, Pankshin, Nigeria
1985 National Youth Service Corps Group Exhibition, Jos Township Stadium, Jos Nigeria

ONE PERSON SHOW

2007 Yoruba Masking Traditions: a photo exhibition, Ewing Multicultural Center, RISD
1996 "Like a Play in the Sand", Department of Art, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
1989 "Out of the Mould", University Hall, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES

College Art Association
Art Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA)
Society of Nigerian Artists
Nigerian Folklore Society
Ona Artists