

## **Symposium on Art, Aesthetics and Politics in Africa and the Caribbean to be held Apr. 9-22**

**March 30, 1993**

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SYMPOSIUM ON ART, AESTHETICS AND POLITICS IN AFRICA AND THE CARIBBEAN TO BE HELD AT UCSD APRIL 9 - 22

A symposium on "Art, Aesthetics, and Politics in Africa and the Caribbean," featuring a keynote lecture by noted novelist and art critic Simon Njami, will be held at the University of California, San Diego from April 9 - 22. The symposium is free and open to the public.

The symposium will begin on April 9 at 9 a.m. with a talk given by Haitian psychoanalyst Willy Apollon of GIFRIC (the Interdisciplinary Group of Freudian Clinical Researchers) in Quebec on "Re-envisioning Caribbean Art and Aesthetics," followed by a roundtable discussion. Following this session, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., the film *In and Out of Africa*, by Ilisa Barbash and Lucien Taylor, will be shown. From 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. a roundtable on Art, Politics, and Society in Africa will be held, featuring a lecture by Simon Njami on "New Developments in Contemporary African Art." These sessions will both be held in the UCSD Price Center Ballroom.

Njami, who is visiting UCSD as a Regent's Lecture and the first scholar-in-residence at the African & African-American Studies Research Project, is considered a leading figure in contemporary African art and literature. The author of four novels as well as a biography of James Baldwin, Njami is also the founder of several literary publications in Paris, including *Revue Noire* and *Bwana Magazine*. During the mid-1980s, Njami founded the ethnicolor literary movement in France, which has promoted the participation of African literary and artistic figures in mainstream French publications, and has argued for a broader inclusion of alternative artistic and literary perspectives in European art.

The symposium will also include a creative reading of selected works of Simon Njami by UCSD Literature Professor Quincy Troupe. The reading will take place at 7 p.m. on April 16 at the Porter-Randall Gallery in La Jolla.

"Art, Aesthetics, and Politics in Africa and the Caribbean" is being sponsored by UCSD's African & African-American Studies Research Project, UCSD's Third College, and the Department of Sociology. The symposium is being coordinated by UCSD Sociology professor and African & African-American Research Project coordinator Bennetta Jules-Rosette.

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