AFRICA BEYOND AFRICA:
The Future of Cultural, Social, and Scientific Research

A conference organized by the Georgia Institute of Technology
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the Royal Museum
for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium.

May 15 - 17, 2014

Global Learning Center, Georgia Institute of Technology
and the Student Center Theater, Georgia Institute of Technology
with a special trip to the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville
A warm welcome to our conference participants.

This international conference recognizes the many, and often changing, roles that contemporary museums must fill to remain relevant and viable societal institutions. The conference showcases research from multiple perspectives. Addressing issues related to identity, presentation, representation, community and cross-community engagement, such multiple views highlight the capacity of innovative knowledge generation to enhance understanding and help us in sustaining healthy, productive, and prosperous cities.

The conference and a companion art exhibition, *KONGO across the WATERS*, are principal events of Africa Atlanta 2014.

**Sponsors**

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- Delta
- Booth Western Art Museum
The Conference Organizers

Georgia Institute of Technology
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts,
Atlanta, Georgia

Celebrating 125 years of liberal arts at one of the world’s premier research universities, the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts forms a vanguard in 21st century interdisciplinary research, education, and innovation. These endeavors bridge the traditional separation between the technological disciplines and the humanities and social sciences. From this crossroads, faculty and students consider the human implications of technologies, policies, and actions and create sustainable solutions for a better world. The College is comprised of six schools — Economics; History, Technology, and Society; The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs; Literature, Media, and Communication; Modern Languages; Public Policy; and Georgia Tech’s Reserve Officer Training Corps. Degrees offered are ten bachelor’s of science, six master’s, and six doctoral. Graduates are prepared for professional leadership in government, business, public policy, international affairs, law, technology, and new media. The College is named in honor of former Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr.

Royal Museum for Central Africa,
Tervuren, Belgium

The Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA) is known for being one of the world’s most beautiful and impressive museums devoted to Africa. Since its founding in 1898, its task has been to preserve and manage collections, carry out scientific research, and disseminate knowledge to a wide audience through its scientific, educational, and museological activities. The RMCA plays an active role in the sustainable development of Africa and aspires to be a centre for collaboration and reflection on today’s Africa and the challenges it faces. Its collections, noted for their diversity, are of enormous scientific value and are unique in many ways. Large portions have now been digitised and made available to researchers the world over. The RMCA also plays a crucial role in numerous projects and networks to which it lends its expertise and specialized knowledge. Each year, RMCA scientists publish more than 300 publications.
Africa Atlanta 2014 is a citywide year-long series of events highlighting Atlanta as a nexus for reinventing the cultural and economic bonds among Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

The inspiration for this endeavor was the opportunity to bring the KONGO across the WATERS art exhibition to Atlanta. Over the past years, that seed idea grew into a robust, cross-cultural, interdisciplinary collaboration of stakeholders across metropolitan Atlanta and around the world. Modeled on the highly successful France-Atlanta initiative, Africa Atlanta 2014 brings together more than fifty partner activities related to the transatlantic experience, highlighting the arts and humanities, science and technology, enterprise and innovation, education, and public engagement.

Africa Atlanta 2014 has been organized by the Georgia Institute of Technology Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts in collaboration with the Consulate General of Belgium in Atlanta and the Africa Atlanta Partners.

The Office of the Dean, Georgia Institute of Technology Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts gratefully acknowledges our many partners, sponsors, and friends whose enthusiasm and support have helped create the extraordinary endeavor that is Africa Atlanta 2014.

www.africaatlanta.org
Africa Atlanta 2014 is an initiative of the Office of the Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology.

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Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts  
Creator and Organizer of Africa Atlanta 2014

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Director, Royal Museum of Central Africa
Tervuren, Belgium

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The Africa Atlanta 2014 Partners
This special reception introduces a magnificent exhibition of art and artifacts from the Royal Museum of Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium and from U.S. collections. The exhibition explores the connections between the art and culture of the Kongo peoples of West Central Africa and African American art and culture in the United States.

Hosted by:
Jacqueline J. Royster, Dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts
Geneviève Verbeek, Consul General of Belgium in Atlanta

Among our distinguished guests are:
President Jimmy Carter, 39th President, United States of America
His Excellency Johan Verbeke, Ambassador of Belgium to the United States
G.P. “Bud” Peterson, President, Georgia Institute of Technology
The Honorable Kwanza Hall, Council Member, Atlanta City Council

Sponsors
A collaborative project by the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida and the Royal Museum for Central Africa, the collection is brought to Atlanta by the Georgia Institute of Technology Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts.

Please see Conference Organizers on page two for information about the Georgia Institute of Technology Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts and the Royal Museum for Central Africa.

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida
The Samuel P. Harn Museum opened in 1990, dedicated to promoting the power of the arts to inspire and educate people and enrich their lives. One of the largest university-affiliated art museums in the United States, the museum is located in Gainesville, Florida, and is part of the University of Florida Cultural Plaza.

The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum
The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, houses papers and other material relating to the administration and family life of the 39th president of the United States. The library also hosts special exhibits, such as Carter’s Nobel Peace Prize and a full-scale replica of the Oval Office.
### Day 1

**Conference Events**

**Friday, May 16, 2014, 8:00 am to 6:30 pm**  
**Global Learning Center, Georgia Institute of Technology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am – 8:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Registration and Coffee</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am – 8:45 am</td>
<td><strong>Welcome</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Jones Royster, Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 am – 10:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Bordering the Future: Museums and People</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker: Johnnetta B. Cole, Director, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution</td>
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<td>Chair: Jacqueline Jones Royster, Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response: Tina Dunkley, Director, Clark Atlanta University Art Galleries</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am – 10:15 am</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong> with Opportunity to View Poster Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 am – 11:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Envisioning the New RMCA</strong></td>
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<td>Speaker: Guido Gryseels, Director General, Royal Museum for Central Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Geneviève Verbeek, Consul General of Belgium in Atlanta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response: Constantine Petridis, Curator of African Art, Cleveland Museum of Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 am – 12:45 pm</td>
<td><strong>Panel: Reflections on KONGO across the WATERS</strong></td>
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<td>Speakers: Susan Cooksey, Curator of African Art, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida</td>
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<td>Robin Poynor, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida</td>
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<td>Hein Vanhee, Department of Anthropology, Royal Museum for Central Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carlee Forbes, Research Assistant, KONGO across the WATERS Exhibition, University of Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chair: Rebecca Nagy, Director, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response: Sylvie Kandé, Department of History and Philosophy, The College at Old Westbury, State University of New York</td>
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</table>
12:45 pm – 2:00 pm  Lunch Presentation

**Museums and Source Communities of the African Diaspora**

Speaker:  **Bambi Ceuppens**, Department of Anthropology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Chair:  **Els Cornelissen**, Head, Department of Anthropology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Response:  **Hashim Gibrill**, Department of Political Science, Clark Atlanta University

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2:00 pm – 3:15 pm  Ethnographic Collections and Material Cultures

Speaker:  **Kavita Singh**, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharl Nehru University, New Delhi

Chair:  **Pearl McHaney**, Associate Dean for Fine Arts, Georgia State University

Response:  **Kenneth J. Knoespel**, McEver Professor of Engineering and Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

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3:15 pm – 4:30 pm  African Museums and Ethnographic Exhibits

Speaker:  **Corinne Kratz**, Professor Emerita, Department of Anthropology and African Studies, Emory University

Chair:  **R. Candy Tate**, Associate Director, Center for Creativity and Arts, Emory University

Response:  **Yves Abrioux**, Department of English, University of Paris 8

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4:30 pm – 4:45 pm  Break - Opportunity to View Poster Presentations

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4:45 pm – 6:00 pm  Panel:  Impact of Africa on the Americas

Speakers:  **Jacky Maniacky**, Division Chief, Department of Anthropology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

“The Legacy of African Languages and Music in America: Brazil as a Case Study”

**Tine Huyse**, Department of Biology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

“The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the Introduction of Human Diseases: The Case of Schistosomiasis”

Chair:  **Thierry De Putter**, Division Chief, Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Response:  **Carla Gerona**, School of History, Technology, and Society, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

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6:00 pm – 6:30 pm  Closing Remarks

**Guido Gryseels**, Director General, Royal Museum for Central Africa

**Jacqueline Jones Royster**, Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology
Conference Events

Saturday, May 17, 2014
Morning: 8:00 am to 11:15 am
Student Center Theater, Georgia Institute of Technology

Seminar: Case Studies from the RMCA

8:00 am – 8:30 am
Coffee

8:30 am – 8:45 am
Welcome
Jacqueline Jones Royster, Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

8:45 am – 10:00 am
Case #1: Natural Resource Management: What can Africa learn from the Americas?

Speakers: Theodore Trefon, Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa, “Global Dynamics of Natural Resource Management: Africa and Beyond”
Mvemba Phezo Dizolele, Peter J. Duigman Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

Facilitator: John Stremlau, Vice President, Peace Programs, The Carter Center

10:00 am – 11:15 am
Case #2: Policy, Governance, and Economic Development in the Congo

Speakers: Thierry De Putter, Division Chief, Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa, “Conflict Minerals, Trade Regulation Attempts, and Economic Development in the Great Lakes Area”
Evans Harrell, Associate Dean, College of Science, Georgia Institute of Technology

Facilitator: Thomas D. “Danny” Boston, The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

11:15 am – 11:30 am
Break
Saturday, May 17, 2014
Afternoon: 11:30 am to 5:30 pm
Booth Western Art Museum, Cartersville, Georgia

Art and Conversation at the Booth Western Art Museum

11:30 am – 12:15 pm
Bus Departs for Booth Western Art Museum, Cartersville

Please note that our bus departs promptly at 11:30 am for the 40 minute drive to the Booth Museum.

Lunch will be served upon our arrival at 12:15 pm.

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm
Booth Cafe
Lunch

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm
Break

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm
Bergman Theatre

Welcome
Seth Hopkins, Director, Booth Western Art Museum

An Overview of Africa Atlanta 2014
Jacqueline Jones Royster, Dean, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

A Conversation with Bernard Williams, Artist
Facilitator: Seth Hopkins, Director, Booth Western Art Museum

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Tour of the Exhibitions
Complex Frontiers: Selected Works by Bernard Williams and Permanent Collection Galleries

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Bus returns to Atlanta
Speaker Biographies

Yves Abrioux
Professor of English
Department of English, University of Paris 8

Yves Abrioux is professor of English literature at the University of Paris 8. He has published extensively, in English and in French, on a range of topics and artistic practices (poetry, fiction, visual arts, landscape, and gardens). His research foregrounds theoretical issues in connection with philosophy and science. He is particularly interested in displacements between media, both traditional and modern. His publications include: *Photography in the Visual Arts* (with Susan Butler, David Allan Mellor and Ian Walker, 1996); *Lightworks* (with Bill Culbert, 1997); *Ian Hamilton Finlay: A Visual Primer* (2007); *Interlacing Words and Things: Bridging the Nature-Culture Opposition in Gardens and Landscape* (with Stephen Bann, Mahwash Alemi, and Frederick M. Asher, 2012). He is currently working on the history and, more specifically, the future of the museum.

Thomas D. “Danny” Boston
Professor of Economics
The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

Thomas D. “Danny” Boston received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University. He is professor of economics in The Sam Nunn School of International Affairs and also CEO of EuQuant, an economic research company that specializes in business analytic and urban planning. In November of 2011, frustrated by the lack of timely data and information on small businesses, he launched the Gazelle Index. This blog focuses on the economy and small businesses, including minority and women-owned business performance and hiring. Boston’s current research is on entrepreneurship and firm growth (focusing on minority and small businesses), public economics (focusing on project evaluation), and urban economics (focusing on the impact of public housing policies on families and neighborhoods). He is a regular economics contributor to CNN; has testified numerous times before committees and subcommittees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives regarding the impact of federal policies on minority business performance and federal housing policies on low income families and neighborhoods; and serves as a consultant to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, providing research to congressional committees regarding their exercise of oversight over the nation’s minority and small business programs.

Bambi Ceuppens
Senior Researcher
Department of Anthropology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Bambi Ceuppens holds a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. She is a senior researcher at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium, where she researches the western representation of Africa and Africans, Belgian and Congolese colonial history, the Congolese diaspora in Belgium, colonial and post-colonial popular culture in Congo as well as autochthon, interculturalism, and multiculturalism in the Flemish Region. She was also the curator of the exhibition *Indépendance!* on the independence of Congo in 2010 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Congo’s independence from Belgium.

Johnnetta B. Cole
Director
National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution

Before assuming her current position as director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Johnnetta B. Cole had a long and distinguished career as an educator and humanitarian. She completed her undergraduate degree at Oberlin College and Ph.D. in Anthropology at Northwestern University. She has conducted research in Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States, and authored and edited several books and numerous scholarly articles. Among her recent publications are: *Gender Talk: The Struggle for Women’s Equality in African American Communities* (with Beverly Guy-Sheftall, 2003) and *Dream the Boldest Dreams: And Other Lessons of Life* (2001). Cole served as president of Spelman College, the first African American woman to hold this position, and Bennett College for Women. She is also professor emerita of Emory University from which she retired as presidential distinguished professor of Anthropology, Women’s Studies, and African American Studies. In addition, she is a fellow of the American Anthropological Association and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She has received more than 60 honorary degrees and she has been presented numerous other prestigious awards. Whether as professor, college president, speaker, author, or public leader, Cole has consistently addressed racial, gender, and all other forms of inequality.
Susan Cooksey
Curator of African Art
Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida

Susan Cooksey is the curator of African art at the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida. She manages one of the largest collections of African art in the Southeast, with works dating from 5th century B.C.E. to the 21st century. Her doctoral research was on the arts of divination in southwestern Burkina Faso and she continues to conduct research about divination, textile arts and ceramics in Burkina Faso. She also conducted recent fieldwork in Mali and Ghana. She has curated numerous original exhibitions including *A Sense of Place: African Interiors* (2009); *Voicing Indigenous ARTifacts: Amazonian Featherwork* (2008); *Between the Beads: Reading African Beadwork* (2008); and *African Arts of Healing and Divination* (2007); and many others. She has curated a number of original exhibitions on African, Oceanic and Ancient American art. She was the co-curator of *Kongo across the Waters*, and co-editor of the book by the same title.

Els Cornelissen
Head
Department of Prehistory and Archaeology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Els Cornelissen’s research interests include a focus on technological changes at the end of the Stone Age in Central Africa, as well as the impact of climate change there on prehistoric communities at the end of the Pleistocene. During the RMCA’s 2010 Congo River expedition, she was responsible for the first leg on the Congo and Itimbiri Rivers. Approximately 20 sites, dating approximately between 2,500 and 3,000 years ago, were identified along these tributaries. Because of time constraints, the expedition excavated only a few of them. In recent years, she has been involved in museum practice projects at the RMCA and in Lubumbashe, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Her publications include, *Site Gnjh-17 and Its Implications for the Archaeology of the Middle Kaphurin Formation, Baringo, Kenya* (1992).

Thierry De Putter
Division Chief
Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa

The author of numerous articles in geological studies, Thierry De Putter is division chief of the Department of Earth Sciences at the Royal Museum for Central Africa. He has done research in the development of a tracking system introduced in the Great Lakes region of the Congo to guarantee that minerals do not come from conflict zones; the Sidi Driss and the Douahria ore deposits in the Nefza mining district in northern Tunisia; human exposure to cobalt and other metals in Katanga, a mining area of the Democratic Republic of Congo; and many other related subjects. Included among his publications is *Les Pierres Utilisées dans la Sculpture et L'Architecture de L'Egypte Pharaonique: Guide Pratique Illustré* (1992).

Mvemba Phezo Dizolele
Peter J. Duignan Distinguished Visiting Fellow
Hoover Institution, Stanford University

A writer, foreign policy analyst, and independent journalist, Mvemba Phezo Dizolele holds an International Master of Business Administration and a Master of Public Policy from the University of Chicago, after graduating *magna cum laude* in political science and French from Southern Utah University. He is the author of the forthcoming biography, *Mobutu: The Rise and Fall of the Leopard King* (Random House, United Kingdom). His analyses have been published in the *Journal of Democracy, New York Times, Newsweek International, International Herald Tribune, Foreign Policy.com, Foreign Affairs.com, The New Republic, Forbes.com, St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and other outlets. He is a frequent commentator on African affairs, and has been a guest analyst on PBS’s *NewsHour, Foreign Exchange with Fareed Zakaria, NPR’s Tell Me More, On Point, the Diane Rehm Show, the BBC World News Update, Al Jazeera’s The Stream, Inside Story, and the Voice of America*. He was a grantee of the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting and covered the 2006 historic elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo. With the Pulitzer Center, he produced *Congo’s Bloody Coltan*, a documentary report on the relationship between the Congo conflict and the scramble for mineral resources. He served as an election monitor with The Carter Center in Congo in 2006 and 2011. He has testified before various subcommittees of the United States Congress and before the United Nations Security Council.

Tina Dunkley
Director
Clark Atlanta University Art Galleries

Tina Dunkley is an artist, curator, and gallery director. She has served as the director of the Clark Atlanta University Art Galleries since 1994. Of the gallery’s two collection categories, African and American,
the largest and most historically significant is the American collection comprised mainly of works by African American artists—some 750 works of art spanning eight decades, 1914 to 2010. In 2012, Dunkley published *In the Eye of the Muses: Selections from the Clark Atlanta University Art Collection*, which commemorates the 70th anniversary of Clark Atlanta University’s historical permanent collection and the 60th anniversary of the unveiling of *The Art of the Negro* mural series. During the 1996 Olympic Games, Dunkley produced a program highlighting Atlanta’s history for its Cultural Olympiad.

### Carlee Forbes
Research Assistant
*KONGO across the WATERS* Exhibition, University of Florida

Carlee Forbes is a doctoral student in African art history at the University of Florida (after August 2014: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill). Her master’s thesis research at the University of Florida focused on Kongo raffia textiles and mats. She worked as a curatorial and editorial assistant for the *Kongo across the Waters* exhibition and publication.

### Carla Gerona
Associate Professor
School of History, Technology, and Society, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, Georgia Institute of Technology

Carla Gerona holds a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in history. Her interests center on Early American, Atlantic, and Borderlands history. Her first book, *Night Journeys: The Power of Dreams in Transatlantic Quaker Culture* (2004), traced the ways in which a dissenting group interpreted their dreams to shape their world in innovative ways. Currently, she is working on *More than Six Flags: Histories of an East Texas Place from the Caddos to the Texans*, a study of the multiethnic borderlands before Texas’s annexation to the United States. She draws on interdisciplinary methods as well as Spanish, French, English, and Native American source materials to explore the ways in which the different people interacted and competed with each other. Gerona has received numerous research awards for her work, including National Endowment for the Humanities and Newberry Library Fellowships. She teaches courses on early America, the Atlantic world, the Spanish-Indian Borderlands, colonial Latin America, and museum studies.

### Hashim Gibrill
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science, Clark Atlanta University

Hashim Gibrill is an associate professor and former chair of the Department of Political Science, Clark Atlanta University, and an adjunct professor at Spelman College, Atlanta. He has also taught at the University of Maiduguri, Nigeria, and Bethune-Cookman College, Florida. He teaches courses in international relations, African politics, and political research methodology. Gibrill received his postsecondary education at the University of Reading, England, Birmingham University, England, and Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University). His recent and pending publications focus on the disintegration and restoration of state authority in Sierra Leone, the political thought and practice of Amilcar Cabral and Walter Rodney, and the methodology of W.E.B. Du Bois’s Africanist scholarship.

### Guido Gryseels
Director General
Royal Museum for Central Africa

Guido Gryseels is director general of the Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA) in Tervuren, Belgium. This federal scientific institute is the most important reference center in the world for Central Africa and has collaborative research, training, and educational programs in more than 20 African countries. The RMCA has scientific expertise in the fields of earth, biological, and social sciences. The museum holds the largest and richest collections in the world with respect to Central Africa and is well known for its exhibitions and educational activities. The RMCA has approximately 300 staff members—of which 85 are Ph.D. level scientists—and an annual budget of around 25 million USD. From 1987 to 2001, Gryseels worked as principal agricultural research officer at the FAO Headquarters in Rome and from 1978 to 1987 he was a scientist at the International Livestock Centre for Africa in Addis Ababa. He is a national of Belgium, has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Wageningen (Netherlands), and has graduate and postgraduate degrees from the University of Leuven (Belgium) and the University of New England (Australia).
Evans Harrell is professor of Mathematics at Georgia Tech’s College of Science. He received degrees from Stanford University and Princeton University. Before coming to Georgia Tech from Johns Hopkins in the 1980s, he had a series of postdocs and teaching positions in the United States and Europe, and he has held several visiting positions in France since then. While at Georgia Tech he has received a Sloan Fellowship and an Eichholz Faculty Teaching Award. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Before his appointment as associate dean of sciences in late 2005, Harrell managed the graduate programs of the School of Mathematics. He works on the Schrödinger equation, which describes nonrelativistic matter on the atomic scale, and on similar differential equations. His research has focused primarily on semi-classical quantum mechanics and on the effects of geometry on the eigenvalues of differential equations. Harrell has written numerous articles and participated in several international scientific events, including his work for several years with colleagues in Senegal.

Seth Hopkins
Director
The Booth Western Art Museum

Hired as executive director of Booth Western Art Museum in 2000, Hopkins holds a Master’s in Museum Studies from the University of Oklahoma and has published articles in many leading art publications. Hopkins was honored in September 2010 with the Kennesaw State University Flourish Award as Outstanding Arts Leader, and he is the current president of the Museums West Consortium. During his tenure at Booth Museum, he has mounted nearly 100 temporary art exhibitions, many of which he has curated or co-curated. Hopkins is recognized for his leadership in bringing the culture of the Western United States to the Southeast.

Tine Huyse
Department of Biology, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Tine Huyse works at the Royal Museum for Central Africa where she studies the molecular epidemiology of helminth parasites. She previously worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Leuven, the Tropical Institute of Medicine in Antwerp, and the Natural History Museum in London. She has a special interest in colonization patterns of parasites with a focus on cichlid parasites and schistosome blood flukes. In both systems she explores the utility of molecular parasitological studies to reconstruct the evolutionary history of the host.

Sylvie Kandé
Department of History and Philosophy, The College at Old Westbury, State University of New York

Born in Paris to a French mother and a Senegalese father, Sylvie Kandé studied the image of Black people in ancient Greek art and literature as a topic for her master’s degree in Classics at the Sorbonne. She holds a Ph.D. in African History from Paris VII. Her dissertation focused on the repatriation of Black people to Sierra Leone and the resulting Creole culture that developed in Freetown. It was published under the title Terres, urbanisme et architecture ‘créoles’ en Sierra Leone, 18ème-19ème siècles (1998). In 1987, she established herself in the United States. She edited the proceedings of a colloquium held at New York University in 1997 on métissage (mixed racial identity) in the Francophone context, entitled Discours sur le métissage, identités métisées. En quête d’Ariel (1999). She has published a book of poetic prose Lagon, lagunes (2000), and her short stories and poems have been published in France in La Nouvelle Revue Française, as well as in Africa, (Stephen Gray, editor, The Picador Book of African Short Stories, 2000) and the United States (Callaloo). In May 1999, she was invited by the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, Washington D.C., to read from her fiction and poetry; in December 2001 by the Columbia University Center for Research in African American Studies; in April 2002 by the New York Teachers and Writers Collective; and in April 2004 by the Blind Beggar Press. In addition, she has translated Heart of Spain - Photos of the Spanish Civil War by Robert Capa (2000) into French, and co-translated Alexis Wright’s (an Australian Aboriginal writer’s) collection of short stories, Le Pacte du serpent arc-en-Ciel (2002). She has published numerous papers in scholarly journals on African, African-American, and Caribbean Literature and Cinema (Cambridge History of African and Caribbean Literatures, Research in African Literatures, Revue Francophone de Louisiane, QBR, le Soleil, Sociétés africaines et Diaspora, Mots Pluriels, Africultures, etc.) She taught African Studies in the Africana program, and Francophone African and Caribbean literatures in the French department at NYU for six years. She was a research assistant at the New York Metropolitan Museum in the African arts division. She has taught Caribbean history at the New School and African studies at SUNY Old Westbury.
Corinne Kratz is professor emerita of Anthropology and African Studies at Emory University, where she currently directs both the African Critical Inquiry program and the Grant Writing Program for graduate students. From 2000-2009, she co-directed the Center for the Study of Public Scholarship at Emory. Kratz’s research and writing focus on culture and human sciences, his recent work engages cognition and visual practice in mathematics and architecture. His work from the graduate seminar devoted to the “The Spatial Construction of Meaning” has been presented in Greece, Italy, France, England, Denmark and Sweden. He has worked closely with universities in Europe and Russia and is currently completing a project on the interaction of science and technology over the Baltic Sea. He is a founding editor of Configurations: A Journal for Literature, Science, and Technology, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. He has held research appointments at the University of Uppsala, Blekinge Tekniska Högskola, Cornell University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the Russian Academy of Science. Knoespel received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Chicago.

Pearl McHaney serves as the associate dean for the Fine Arts academic area. She has been teaching American and Southern literature at GSU since 1998. Her scholarly work focuses on Eudora Welty, and she has written or edited four books about Welty’s writings and photography. She is the editor of the annual Eudora Welty Review, a peer-reviewed journal that she transformed from its original form as a newsletter. She has two books in progress, plus a commissioned essay for the Cambridge Companion to Southern Literature. She is a GSU alumna, having completed her Ph.D. there in 1992. A former teacher at the Galloway School and other schools, McHaney has been active in teacher education initiatives at Georgia State. She served two terms as the chair of the university’s Professional Educational Council and, along with colleague Renee Schatteman, created an outreach program for K-12 teachers called Conversations among Partners in Learning, now in its 12th year. She and Schatteman won an NEH Summer Institute for Teachers grant in 2002.
In addition, McHaney has been active in international programs development, originating, and directing the college’s student and faculty exchange program with the University of Versailles Saint Quentin-en-Yvelines in France.

Rebecca Nagy
Director
Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art,
University of Florida

Rebecca Martin Nagy assumed the position of director of the University of Florida’s Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art in July 2002. Previously she spent 17 years at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, where she held positions in the Education and Curatorial departments. She received her Ph.D. in Art History from Chapel Hill and her undergraduate degree from Georgia Southern University. Nagy currently serves as president of the Florida Art Museum Directors Association and as a trustee of the Association of Art Museum Directors. She sits on the boards of the Florida Association of Museums Foundation, the France Florida Foundation for the Arts, the Alachua County Historic Trust/Matheson Museum, and the Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce. She served on the Art in Public Places Trust of Gainesville and Alachua County from 2004-2010. Nagy has organized exhibitions and published in the fields of medieval, African, and contemporary art.

Constantine Petridis
Curator of African Art
Cleveland Museum of Art

Constantine Petridis, curator of African Art at the Cleveland Museum of art, was born and educated in Belgium. He holds an M.A. in Art History and Archaeology (1991) and a Ph.D. in Art History (1997), both from the University of Ghent in Belgium. He has been in charge of African art at the Cleveland Museum of Art since January 2002. Initially in a joint appointment with Case Western Reserve University, where he served as assistant professor in the Art History and Art Department, Petridis became the museum’s first full-time curator of African Art in 2008. Petridis recently curated The Art of Daily Life: Portable Objects from Southeast Africa. Comprising some 70 loans from the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and 22 private American collections, it featured 15 new additions to the Museum’s collection. The accompanying catalogue also includes an essay by Karel Nel, a professor at the University of the Witwaterstand in Johannesburg and renowned specialist of southern African art. Currently, he is in the process of transforming his dissertation on the arts of the Luluwa people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo into a book-length publication.

Robin Poynor
School of Art and Art History,
University of Florida

Robin Poynor teaches the arts of Africa and of Oceania in the School of Art and Art History at the University of Florida. He has studied the arts of Africa since 1967, having earned a Ph.D. at Indiana University. His initial fieldwork in Nigeria as a Fulbright Hays Fellow examines the arts of the Owo Yoruba Kingdom in Nigeria. Subsequent work was in Sierra Leone. His research on the arts of the kingdom of Owo led to publications in scholarly journals and as chapters of books. Recent work addresses relationships between the Yoruba of Nigeria and Yoruba Americans, those who have adopted aspects of Yoruba religion and their attempt to live a Yoruba lifestyle in the United States, specifically those in Florida. He is a co-author of A History of African Art (2000) written with Monica Blackmun Visona and Herbert M. Cole. The book was named to Library Journal’s Best Books of 2000 and received honorable mention in the Arnold Rubin book Awards. The 2008 edition was released by Pearson Education and Prentice Hall. Other books include Nigerian Sculpture: Bridges to Power (1984), African Art at the Harn Museum: Spirit Eyes, Human Hands (1995), Africa in Florida: 500 Years of African Presence in the Sunshine State (2014, co-editor with Amanda Carlson), and the volume addressing the topic of the exhibition Kongo across the Waters (2013, with Susan Cooksey and Hein Vanhee).

Jacqueline Jones Royster
Dean
Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts,
Georgia Institute of Technology

Jacqueline Jones Royster is dean of Georgia Tech’s Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. She holds the Ivan Allen Jr. Dean’s Chair in Liberal Arts and Technology, and is professor of English in the School of Literature, Communication, and Culture. A graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta, Royster earned an M.A. and D.A. in English from the University of Michigan. Her research centers on rhetorical studies, literacy studies, and women’s studies. She has authored and co-authored numerous articles and book chapters; co-edited an anthology, Double-Stitch, Black Women Write about Mothers and Daughters (1991), an essay collection, Calling Cards: Theory and Practice in the Studies of Race, Gender, and Culture; and two school textbook

**Kavita Singh**  
School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Kavita Singh is on the faculty at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She trained as an art historian at M.S. University of Baroda and at Panjab University, Chandigarh. She has had a research fellowship at the Victoria and Albert Museum, a curatorial internship at the Asia Society, New York, and has been guest curator at the San Diego Museum of Art, California. She was also research editor at *Marg*, one of the major art journals in India. She has written on Indian classical and folk painting in publications such as *Marg* and *Orientations*; her current work is on the history and politics of the museum in India. Publications in this area include the collection *No Touching, No Spitting, No Praying: Modalities of the Museum in India* (co-edited, forthcoming), *Repatriation without Patria: Repatriating for Tibet*, *Journal of Material Culture* (2010), *The Temple’s Eternal Return: Swami Narayan Akshardham Complex in Delhi*, Artibus Asiae (2010), and *The Universal Museum: View from Below, in Witnesses to History: A Compendium of Documents and Writings on the Return of Cultural Objects* (2009).

**John Stremlau**  
Vice President for Peace Programs  
The Carter Center

John Stremlau is vice president for Peace Programs at The Carter Center, named to the post in January 2006. He oversees the Center’s programs to advance human rights, democracy, and conflict resolution globally; regional cooperation in the Americas; and promotion of grassroots democracy, rule of law, and social justice in China. From 1998 to 2006, Stremlau resided in South Africa where he was Jan Smuts Professor and head of international relations and the founding director of the Centre for Africa’s International Relations at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Previously, he served as senior adviser to the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict in Washington, D.C. (1994-1998), deputy director for policy planning in the office of the U.S. Secretary of State (1989-1994), strategic planning officer for the World Bank (1988-1989), and an officer of the Rockefeller Foundation (1974-1987), directing its international relations division from 1984-1987. At the Rockefeller Foundation, his responsibilities included supporting research and training in the fields of international security, arms control, and international economic cooperation. He also administered a special trustee-supported program to fund black leadership development in South Africa. Stremlau is a frequent media commentator on international network news programs and publishes extensively on foreign affairs. Among a long list of publications are: *A House No Longer Divided: Progress and Prospects for Democracy in South Africa* (1997); *People in Peril: Human Rights, Humanitarian Action, and Preventing Deadly Conflict* (1998); and *Ending Africa’s Wars* (2000).

**R. Candy Tate**  
Associate Director  
Center for Creativity and Arts, Emory University

R. Candy Tate received a Doctor of Arts in History from Clark Atlanta University. Her research focuses on the history of the arts in Atlanta and particularly on the intersections of arts and activism in this urban environment. This focus matches well with the Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts (CCA). Its mission is to advance the creation, scholarship, and enjoyment of the arts, encouraging artistic collaboration, experimentation, and participation. It supports artistic and scholarly inquiry, explores familiar as well as innovative collaborations, encourages artistic experimentation, and frames the imaginative spark that ignites a creative campus. The CCA communicates the richness of the artistic and creative work on campus to students, faculty, staff, and the larger Atlanta community.

**Theodore Trefon**  
Senior Researcher  
Department of Earth Sciences, Royal Museum for Central Africa

Theodore Trefon (Ph.D. Boston University) is senior researcher at the Belgian Royal Museum for Central Africa. A devoted Congo area specialist, his research focuses on state-society relations, environmental governance, aid delivery systems, and urban

**Hein Vanhee**

Historian and Curator  
Department of Anthropology,  
Royal Museum for Central Africa

Hein Vanhee works as a historian and curator at the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren in Belgium. From 2006 till 2012 he has developed the Division of Collection Management at the RMCA. His research interests include the precolonial history of West Central Africa and its cultural impact on the Americas, and the early colonial history of Congo (Democratic Republic of Congo). He is a curator, author, and editor for the project *Kongo across the Waters* (Harn Museum of Art, RMCA, 2013-2015). He is currently writing up a research project on the impact of Belgian colonial rule on the political culture of Mayombe in Lower Congo (1890s-1920s).

**Geneviève Verbeek**

Consul General of Belgium in Atlanta

Geneviève Verbeek was appointed consul general of Belgium in Atlanta in August 2012. In her present position, she has jurisdiction over the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee. Besides serving some 5,000 Belgian nationals, the Consulate General in Atlanta represents and promotes Belgium and Belgian interests, trade and investments. It fosters cultural and academic exchanges. After Teacher’s College in Brussels, Verbeek joined the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1975. After her training she started her career in 1977 at the Consulate General in Vancouver while pursuing law studies. She served as consul in Nairobi and Rabat, then as deputy chief of Mission in Sydney, Ottawa, Barcelona, New York and Athens. During two terms at headquarters in Brussels, she traveled extensively to carry out evaluations of embassy personnel, management, and operation practices in Belgian postings abroad. While making her temporary home in Atlanta, Consul Verbeek is developing strong ties with the local business communities in the Southeast and is involved in several projects with academic and cultural organizations.

**Bernard Williams**

Artist

Bernard Williams is a native of Chicago, Illinois. He holds a B.F.A. degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, and a Master of Fine Arts Degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He also studied at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Maine, 1987. He has been commissioned to create numerous outdoor murals around Chicago and abroad. They have been sponsored by a range of organizations and corporations including AT&T, GATX Corp., Kraft Foods, the Snite Museum of Art at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi. In 2003, Williams was selected as a resident artist at the prestigious Fine Arts Works Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. His work has also been featured at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson, Mississippi (2001) and the African-American Museum in Dallas, Texas (2002). Selected group exhibitions include the Chicago Cultural Center (2002), Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, Evanston, Illinois (2001), Dowd Fine Arts Gallery, Cortland, New York (2002), and The Eiteljorg Museum of Native American and Western Art, Indianapolis, Indiana (1999). In his exhibition at the Booth Museum, Williams combines African, Southern, Indian, and Western iconography to tell the story of African Americans in the West. His work is inspired by global history and culture, anthropology, archaeology, and the natural sciences. He combines aspects of American history and related stories, issues, events, and ideas to illustrate the continuity and complexities of a nation’s life.