



Ministry of Culture  
of Mali



Press release  
July 10, 2009

## **8<sup>th</sup> Bamako Encounters African Photography Biennial “Borders”**

**November 7 – December 7, 2009**

*Artistic Directors: Michket Krifa and Laura Serani*

**From November 7 through December 7, 2009, in Bamako (Mali), the Bamako Encounters – African Photography Biennial will bring together some 100 photographers and video artists displaying their works for a month in different venues around the Malian capital. This year the Encounters will explore the theme of *Borders*, “a concept that is eminently current and paradoxical in a world where, on the one hand, we proclaim and practice the disappearance of political and economic borders and, on the other, erect walls to protect them.”**

**This 8<sup>th</sup> edition was introduced on July 10, 2009, at the Arles Encounters by the new leadership team composed of Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, serving as artistic directors, and Samuel Sidibé, delegate general for the event.**

**Getting the general public more involved in the event is a priority for the new leadership team. In addition to the awareness-raising work done in the schools and universities, about ten exhibits will be shown in important places and working-class neighbourhoods of Bamako: the National Museum, the Palace of Culture, the District Museum, and the Institut National of Arts Gallery (INA). More over, workshops, debates, interactive projects and screenings will provide opportunities for exchanges and discovery for artists and professional photography from around the world.**

**Panafrican Exhibit**, a panorama of contemporary creativity in Africa through 40 photographers from 20 African countries, along with thirteen video artists who will question their interpretations and representations of borders.

**Photography :** Myriam Abdelaziz (Egypt), Arwa Abouon (Libya), Kader Attia (Algeria-France), Abdoulaye Barry (Chad), Lilia Benzid (Tunisia), Jodi Bieber (South Africa), Mohamed Bourouissa (Algeria-France), Mohamed Camara (Mali), Seydou Camara (Mali), Nestor Da (Burkina Faso), Saïdou Dicko (Burkina Faso), Faten Gaddes (Tunisia), François-Xavier Gbré (Côte d’Ivoire), Yo-Yo Gonthier (La Réunion), Uche Okpa Iroha (Nigeria), Ayana Jackson (Diaspora – Us), Antony Kimani (Kenya), Majida Khattari (Morocco), Ananias Leki Dago (Côte d’Ivoire), Armel Louzala (Congo RDC), Robert Mafuta (Centrafrique), Lebohang Mashiloane (South Africa), Baudouin Mouanda (RDC), Zanele Muholi (South Africa), Malik Nejmi (Morocco), Rana El Nemr (Egypt), Abraham Oghobase (Nigeria), Emeka Okereke (Nigeria), Ali Mohamed Osman (Sudan), Georges Osodi (Nigeria), Zak Ove (Trinidad), Fidisoa A.J. Ramanahadray (Madagascar), Zineb Sedira (Algeria), Mouna Jemal Siala (Tunisia), Aboubacar Traore (Mali), Barthélémy Togo (Cameroon), Alain Wandimoyi (RDC), Graeme Williams (South Africa), Alastair Whitton (South Africa)

**Video :** Ismaïl Bahri (Tunisia), Jack Beng-Thi (La Réunion), Berry Bickle (Zimbabwe), Andrew Esiebo (Nigeria), Isoje Iyi Eweka Chou (Nigeria), Mounir Fatmi (Morocco), Amadou Kane Sy (Senegal), Bouchra Khalili (Morocco), Mohamed Konaté (Mali), Riason Naidoo (South Africa), Tiécoura N’Daou (Mali), Dinkies Sithole (South Africa), Guy Wouete (Cameroon)

**Monographic exhibits:** focus on artists and their unique visions of borders: Baudouin Mouanda, Patrizia Guerresi Maimouna, Angèle Etoundi Essamba, Fazal Sheikh, Hassan Hajjaj.

**Thematic exhibits** on various aspects, issues and consequences of cross-border movements: *The Maghreb Connection*, *Living Under One Roof*, *Albinos* by Alain Turpault, *Goudron Tanger-Le Cap* by Bruno Boudjellal, *Nord-Kivu* by Karel Prinsloo.

Father more, within the programme for this 8<sup>th</sup> edition: a **Focus on the Michael Stevenson Gallery (Cape Town, South Africa)** with Pieter Hugo and Nandipha Mntambo, a video work on the work of Martin Parr thanks to the partnership between the **Bamako Encounters and the Arles Encounters, heritage exhibits** (Oumar Ly, Jean Depara, Bruce Vanderpuije), many **Malian exhibits** (collective of young Malian photographers, fashion photography by Malick Sidibé and the Archives of the Agence Malienne de Presse et de Publicité (AMAP)) and also, several **workshops presented in the form of screenings and urban posters** whose *Visa pour Bamako* organized in Accra by the French Embassy in Ghana, or *Matola* held in Mozambique by the association L'Oeil en Cascade.

For more information: [www.culturesfrance.com](http://www.culturesfrance.com)

The **Bamako Encounters, African Photography Biennial** are a production of the Ministry of Culture of Mali and of Culturesfrance, with support from the Delegation of the European Union to Mali, Bolloré Africa Logistics, AFD, OIF, PUMA.creative, Prince Claus Fund and the cultural service of the french Embassy in Mali.

Held in partnership with the National Museum of Mali, the Bamako District Museum, Dupon and Picto.

In media partnership with :



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