

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Mashariki Literary and Cultural Studies Conference, Makerere University, August 24-26, 2023

## Aesthetics and Interpretative Practices across East African Literary and Cultural Imaginaries

Master of Ceremonies: Dr Isaac Tibasiima and Dr Danson Kahyana

Time	Thursday August 24, 2023
08:00 – 08:45	Registration
08:45 - 09:00	<b>Anthems:</b> Uganda, East Africa, Makerere
09:00 – 09:10	<b>Opening Remarks:</b> Chair, Scientific Committee, and Mashariki Board member: Dr Susan Kiguli
09:10 - 09:20	<b>Chair, Mashariki Board:</b> Prof Grace A Musila
09:20 - 09:30	<b>Head, Department of Literature, and Incoming Mashariki Board Chair:</b> Dr Edgar Nabutanyi
09:30 - 09:40	<b>Dean, School of Languages, Literature and Communication:</b> Dr Saudah Namyalo
09:40 – 09:50	<b>The Principal, CHUSS:</b> Prof Josephine Ahikire
09:50 – 10:00	<b>Remarks:</b> Prof Barnabas Nawangwe, <b>Vice Chancellor, Makerere University</b>
10:00- 10:10	<b>Official Opening of 6<sup>th</sup> Mashariki Literary and Cultural Studies Conference:</b> Guest of Honour, Mr Aggrey David Kibenge, <b>Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development</b>
10:20 - 11:20	<b>Keynote I: Prof Charles Okumu: The Life and Times of Okot p'Bitek: Structured Biography and Excursions into his Creative Writings</b> <b>Chair: Prof Dominica Dipio</b>
11:20 – 11:40	Exhibition walk-about & tea break

	CTF Auditorium	Study Room 3.1	Study Room 3.2	Lecture Room 4.2
11:40 – 13:00	<p><b>1A: Gender Perspectives</b></p> <p><b>Chair: John Wakota</b></p> <p><b>Abasi Kiyimba:</b> Kintu's Wives: The Power of Narrative and Voice in the Search for Buganda's Founding Mothers</p> <p><b>Julian Namiyingo:</b> Feminine Agency and Entitlement on Lineage and Property in Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi's <i>Kintu</i> and 'Let's Tell This Story Properly</p> <p><b>Namirembe Theresa:</b> Situating Ugandan Women Writers' Novels within the Corpus of Contemporary Women's Writing in Africa</p> <p><b>Esther Mbithi:</b> A Comparative Study of Rebeka Njau's <i>The Sacred Seed</i> and <i>Mirrors of My Life</i></p>	<p><b>1B: East African Critical Trajectories I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: C. K Rono</b></p> <p><b>Florence Ebila:</b> Translation Massacres and Recreations: The Dialogue Between <i>Wer pa Lawino</i>, <i>Song of Lawino</i>, <i>The Defense of Lawino</i> and <i>Song of Ocol</i></p> <p><b>Benge Okot:</b> Protest Aesthetics in <i>Song of Prisoner</i> by Okot p'Bitek</p> <p><b>Jonathan Mugenyi:</b> The Ghetto Republic of Uganja: Bobi Wines's Art of Protest and Politics</p> <p><b>Danson Kahyana:</b> The Potential Cost of a Joke (Almost) Gone Wrong: On the Use of Wry Humour in Ali Jimale Ahmed's Poetry Collections</p>	<p><b>1C: The Truths of Fiction</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Kudzai Barure</b></p> <p><b>Jacinta Matheka:</b> Author Surrogacy: Therapy or Agency? Abdulrazak Gurnah (Re)imagines Regimes of Excess</p> <p><b>Barasa Remmy Shiundu:</b> Revisiting the Waves: Indian Ocean as a Site of Cultural Memories in the Novels of Abdulrazak Gurnah</p> <p><b>Obala Musumba:</b> Re-Imagination of the Luo Mythology in Grace Ogot's Fiction</p> <p><b>Yunusy Ng'umbi:</b> Afropolitan Feminism: Mobility and Urgency in Sefi Atta's <i>A Bit of Difference</i></p>	<p><b>1D: Childhood Narratives and Representations</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Wafula Yenjela</b></p> <p><b>Gabriel Kosiso Okonkwo:</b> Childhood Trauma and the Adult War-Man Identity in Glaydah Namukasa's <i>The Deadly Ambition</i></p> <p><b>Furaha Phedees Khisa and Esther Mbithi:</b> Just How Many can many be? Number of Characters in Children Literature in Relation to Reader Response</p> <p><b>Godwin Siundu:</b> The Education of a Racially Exposed Child: Reflections on Colonial Pedagogy in East African Asian Fiction</p> <p><b>Veronica Barnsley:</b> Childhood and the Ecological Weird in Khadija Abdalla Bajaber's <i>House of Rust</i></p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break			

<p>14:00 –15:20</p>	<p><b>2A: Theatre Aesthetics I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Lillian Mbabazi</b></p> <p><b>Kalundi Serumaga:</b> A Memory of Beauty as Resistance: Abafumi Theatre Company</p> <p><b>Frances Nakiwala:</b> Reconstructing Cultural Memory Through Drama: <i>Katapu and the Princess</i>, as an Aesthetic Celebration of the Ganda World View</p> <p><b>Fred Mbogo:</b> Remembering Barnabas Kasigwa: Can We Still Write Like That?</p> <p><b>James Taabu Busimba and Mary Ann Namubiru:</b> A Reflection on Aesthetics of the Absurdist Idiom in Robert Serumaga’s Drama</p>	<p><b>2B: Excesses of Power</b></p> <p><b>Chair: David Okimait</b></p> <p><b>C K Rono:</b> Dictatorship Syndrome: Disease within Excesses in Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s <i>Wizard of the Crow</i></p> <p><b>Angelo Kakande and Amanda Tumusiime:</b> On Art, Militarism, and the Defense of the Rule of Law in Uganda</p> <p><b>Robert Madoi:</b> The Unburnt Bush and a Pandemic: Museveni’s Military Conceptualisation of Uganda’s First Coronavirus Wave</p> <p><b>Wafula Yenjela:</b> Tom Olali’s Magical Realism: Imagining Regimes of Excess</p>	<p><b>2C: Ecocritical Voices I</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Ruth Wenske</b></p> <p><b>John Wakota:</b> Poetics of the Environment in Contemporary Tanzanian Poetry</p> <p><b>Barack Wanderah and Peter Amuka:</b> Myth, Literature and the Environment</p> <p><b>Robert Wesonga:</b> The Indigenous vis-à-vis Foreign Storytelling: Contested Narrative Space on Ecological Phenomena in Eastern Africa</p> <p><b>Vera-Simone Schulz:</b> Eco-Poetics, Eco-Aesthetics, and the Artistic, Architectural and Literary Imaginaries in Coastal East Africa</p>	<p><b>2D: Dystopian Narratives</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Joseph Kwanya</b></p> <p><b>Aynew Guadu:</b> Images and Themes of the Apocalyptic and the Atherlife Hell in <i>The Thirteenth Sun: An Intertextual Reading</i>.</p> <p><b>Edgar Nabutanyi:</b> <i>The Monitor’s</i> Literary Journalism and the Scrutiny of the Ugandan Interregnum Dystopia: Insights from Two Satirical Columnists</p> <p><b>Dawit Dibekulu Alem:</b> Mourning in Selected Contemporary Amharic Novels</p> <p><b>Serah Kasembeli:</b> Fragments and Afterlives: (Dis)Owning Slave Identity in Indian Ocean Narratives of Slavery</p>
<p>15:30-17:00</p>	<p><b>Screening: Omulanga gwa Lawino Documentary Film</b></p> <p><b>Producer:</b> Prof Ernest Okello Ogwang</p> <p><b>Associate Producer:</b> Jacob Katumusiime</p> <p><b>Director:</b> Kizito Samuel Saviour</p>			

Friday, 25 August 2023

<b>8:00 - 08:30</b>	<b>Registration for Day 2</b>			
	<b>CTF Auditorium</b>	<b>Study Room 3.1</b>	<b>Study Room 3.2</b>	<b>Lecture Room 4.2</b>
<b>08:45 - 10:00</b>	<b>3A Female Academic Sponsors and Blessers: Ethical Partnerships, Mentorship and Collaboration in an Era of Patriarchal Corporatisation of the East African Academy</b>  <b>Chair: Carli Coetzee</b> Dominica Dipio Caroline Mose Dina Ligaga	<b>3B: Literary Activism, Micropublishing and LINGO Networks: A Conversation with Practitioners in Uganda</b>  <b>Chair: Deus Kansiime</b>  Hilda Twongyeirwe Peter Kagayi Ngobi Charity Kwatampora Ronald Ssekajja	<b>3C: Using Performing Arts to Conceptualise Research and Disseminate Evidence: A Multidisciplinary Approach</b>  <b>Chair: Kellen Kiambati</b>  Joy Obando Mercy Mirembe Ntangaare Patrick Mangeni Danson Kahyana Benon Kigozi	<b>3D African Adapt(at)ions</b>  <b>Chair: Nicklas Hållén</b>  Lynda Gichanda Spencer Nedine Moonsamy Kudzai Barure Ashleigh Harris Charles Kebaya
<b>10:00-11:00</b>	<b>Keynote II: Prof Imani Sanga: Sonification of Decolonial Acts in Selected Swahili Novels by Adam Shafi: <i>Vuta N’Kuvute</i> and <i>Kasri ya Mwinyi Fuad</i></b>  <b>Chair: Prof Peter Simatei</b>			
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Tea break</b>			
<b>11:30- 13:00</b>	<b>4A: Film Imaginaries and Criticism</b>  <b>Chair: Julian Namiyingo</b>  <b>Radeev</b> Artem: Wakaliwood and the Problem of a New Type of Image	<b>4B: Urban Landscapes</b>  <b>Chair: Okot Benge</b>  <b>Sophie Lakot Oyat:</b> Changing Urban Notions in Uganda’s Written Poetry Anthologies (1960s-2020)	<b>4C: Popular Forms and Imaginaries</b>  <b>Chair: Athambile Masola</b>  <b>Mpale Silkiluwasha and Neema Laizer:</b> Tanzanian Oral Songs – Disappearing Heritage	<b>4D: Eastern African Critical Trajectories II</b>  <b>Chair: Esther Mbithi</b>  <b>Okot Benge:</b> Trends in the Development of Eastern African Literary Criticism

	<p><b>Evelyn Cindy Magara:</b> Hyper-Masculinity in Ugandan Films: An in-depth Look at Films by Male Directors</p> <p><b>Antony Osome and Emmanuel Shikuku:</b> Navigating Linguistic Diversity in East African Cinematic Arts: Decolonising Development Communication.</p> <p><b>Solomon Wali aula:</b> Oral Aesthetics in Digital Media: The Case of DJ Afro Films</p>	<p><b>Lydia Muthuma:</b> Painting in Kenya: The External Gaze</p> <p><b>Maureen Amimo:</b> Mapping the Nocturnal City: Sights and Sounds of Nairobi by Night in Troy Onyango's 'A Song from a Forgotten Place'</p> <p><b>Sam Dennis Otieno:</b> Inhabiting the City: The Nairobi Expressway in Photography and Popular Song</p>	<p><b>Lazarus Okurut:</b> Performing Resistance in the Songs of Maddox Ssemenda Ssematimba</p> <p><b>Grace A Musila:</b> Ujanja, Fraud and Kenyan Moral Commons</p> <p><b>Caroline Namugenyi –</b> Hell Gates and Hells Flames: Imagining Pentecostal Mediation with Sovereignty</p>	<p><b>Dominica Dipio:</b> All Things are Connected: Reflections on African Humanism from the Lenses of Austin Bukenya's <i>A Hole in the Sky</i> and Pope Francis' <i>Laudato Si</i></p> <p><b>Danson Kahyana and Mohamed Eno:</b> The Writer as a Continent: Ali Jimale Ahmed's Contribution to African Culture</p> <p><b>Lillian Mbabazi:</b> Ethical Values of <i>Ubuntu</i> as Aesthetics among the Bakiga: Focus on Bakiga Storytelling Performances</p>
<b>13:00 - 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>			
<b>14:00-15:20</b>	<p><b>5A: Okaka Opio Dokotum (2020) <i>Hollywood and Africa: Recycling the 'Dark Continent' Myth, 1908-2020</i></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Dominica Dipio</b> Ocen Lawrence Dorothy Atuhura Laurene Abdallah</p>	<p><b>5B: The Aesthetics and Interpretive Practices of Digital Influencers in Kenya</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Solomon Wali aula</b></p> <p>Joseph Okong'o Maina T Sammy Jane Ombati</p>	<p><b>5C: Applied cultural production in Jinja, Uganda</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Susan Kiguli</b></p> <p>Lillian Mbabazi Raymond Nsereko Jane Plastow</p>	<p><b>5D: Writers-in-training: Performances and Dialogue</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Danson Kahyana/ Jacqueline Adongo</b></p> <p>Precious Tumwesigye Patricia Mangeni Pharis Kateregga Agaba Joel Corda Tusiime Agatha Akullu</p>

<p><b>15:20-16:40</b></p>	<p><b>6A: Gender Perspectives II</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Florence Ebila</b></p> <p><b>Athambile Masola:</b> Writing Across Borders: The Transnational Archive of Pumla Kisosonkole</p> <p><b>Lucky Ariho:</b> Discourses of Rape and Sexual Violence in Ejjet’s ‘Aida’ and Okurut’s ‘The Tribe on Dewinton Road’</p> <p><b>Dlamini Nohlanhla:</b> A Quest for Men who Love: Farah’s Visions of Masculinities in <i>Links</i></p> <p><b>Ignas Fedeo:</b> Deviating from Africanicity: The Representation of Love when a Woman Seduces a Man in Tanzanian Music</p>	<p><b>6B: Digital Spaces and Narratives</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Jacqueline Kosgei</b></p> <p><b>Edna Olondo:</b> Content Creation and Disruption of Gender Binarism in the Kenyan Digital Space</p> <p><b>Dina Ligaga:</b> Radio, Colonial Modernity and the Rise of Black African Voices in Postcolonial Kenyan Media</p> <p><b>Deus Kansime:</b> Self Help Imaginaries: Lateral Networks as Contingent Positions and Solidarities in the Literary Field of Contemporary Uganda</p> <p><b>Wanjiru Kabeira:</b> Reading the Pandemic as the Mother of (Re)Invention: Covid 19, Aesthetics of Content Creation and the Growth of Digital Artpreneureship in Kenyan Popular Art</p>	<p><b>6C: Ecocritical Voices II</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Lynda Spencer Gichanda</b></p> <p><b>Peter J Maurits:</b> Lunar Technology and the Science of Being Bird: Mozambican Poetry on the Borders of Science Fiction</p> <p><b>Ruth Wenske:</b> The Rains are Waiting: Animist Materialism and Rainfall in Goretti Kyomuhendo’s <i>Waiting</i> and Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor’s <i>Dust</i></p> <p><b>Anne Lanoi Keton:</b> The Aesthetics of Ecology in Female Eco-poetics: An Examination of Mary Tutuma’s <i>Kanyor Enkop Ai Sidai</i></p> <p><b>Charles Kebaya:</b> Interrogating Modes of (Re)telling Stories of Environmental Degradation in Kenyan Feature Films</p>	<p><b>6D: Eastern African Critical Trajectories III</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Janet Remington</b></p> <p><b>Valentine Mutecho and Esther Mbithi:</b> The Guise of Postcolonialism: A Critical Reading of Ngugi wa Thiongo’s <i>Devil on the Cross</i> and Marjorie Oludhe McGoye’s <i>Coming to Birth</i></p> <p><b>Emmanuel Kilatu:</b> Juxtaposing the title with the Literary Devices to Highlight the Untenability of Ujamaa Ideology in Tanzania: A Focus on Mwaffisi’s <i>Distant Destination</i></p> <p><b>Peter Tirop Simatei:</b> Writers as Critics: The Contribution of East African Writers to Literary Criticism</p> <p><b>Eve Nabulya:</b> Imaginations of the Landscape in Mbugua’s <i>Different Colors: Strategies and Insights</i></p>
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<p><b>16:40-18:00</b></p>	<p><b>7A: Gender Perspectives III</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Robert Madoi</b></p> <p><b>Stephen Onchwati:</b> Aesthetics of Two Sisters Characterisation in Eastern Africa</p> <p><b>Furaha Phedeles and Esther Mbithi:</b> How Thorough can a Feminist Be?: Reading of Feminism in Selected Works of Francis Imbuga Using Deconstruction</p> <p><b>Sinthia Atata Joech:</b> Exploring the Intersection of Mental Health, Gender and Expectations in an African Speculative Fiction: An Analysis of Makena Onjerika's <i>Disassembly</i></p> <p><b>Lexa Lubanga:</b> Literature and Language as Cultural Heritage: examples from oral and written Kenyan literatures</p>	<p><b>7B: Theatre Aesthetics II</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Fred Mbogo</b></p> <p><b>Patrick Mangeni:</b> Framing Gender for Action Through Theatre: Reflections on Selected Theatre Experiences from Uganda</p> <p><b>Matthew Elliott:</b> Masculinities and Mental Health: Questioning the Role of Participatory Art in Developing Culturally Responsive Mental Health Care</p> <p><b>Mohammed Inuwa Umar-Buratai:</b> The Place of English Language in the Nigerian Radical/Popular Theatre: A Blessing or a Burden?</p> <p><b>James Taabu Busimba:</b> Reflections on the Origin, History and Impact of Shared Mythic Structures in Shakespeare and John Ruganda</p>	<p><b>7C: Excesses of Power II</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Tina Steiner</b></p> <p><b>Prossy Kuteesa:</b> Voicing Human Rights Advocacy Amidst Excesses of Bad Governance in Susan Kigui's and Jared Angira's Poetry</p> <p><b>Joseph Kwanya:</b> Counterfactual Narratives and Power Structures in African Historical and Speculative Fiction</p> <p><b>Joseph Nderitu Murage:</b> Countering Colonial Ideology in Ngugi wa Thiongo's <i>Wizard of the Crow</i></p> <p><b>Felix Mutunga Ndaka:</b> "Humorous Aesthetics?": Performing Kenyan Regimes of Excess in Eric Omondi's Digital Content</p>	<p><b>7D: Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of FEMRITE as a Publishing House: Panel Discussion with Pioneering Authors</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Hilda Twongyeirwe &amp; Danson Kahyana</b></p> <p>Lilian Tindyebwa Susan N. Kiguli Lillian Barenzi Anne Ayeta Wangusa Dominica Dipio Violet Barungi Goretti Philo Nabweru</p>

## Saturday, 26 August 2023

<b>08:00 - 08:30</b>	<b>Registration</b>			
	<b>CTF Auditorium</b>	<b>Study Room 3.1</b>	<b>Study Room 3.2</b>	<b>Lecture Room 4.2</b>
<b>08:45-09:45</b>	<b>8A: African Cultural Imaginaries and (Post)Development Thought</b> <b>Chair: Carli Coetzee</b> Betty J Okot Veronica Barnsley Eve Nabulya Martina Kopf	<b>8B: Literature, Language and Education in East Africa</b>  <b>Chair: Ruth Wenske</b> Danson Kahyana Abasi Kiyimba Rebecca Nambi John Wakota	<b>8C: Musipolitics</b>  <b>Chair: Jonathan Mugenyi</b>  Namugenyi Caroline Itah Patience Komuhangi Olivia Stanley Erias	<b>8D: Citizen Protest and The Demand for Better Service Delivery on Social Media in East Africa</b>  <b>Chair: Isaac Tibasiima</b> David Okimait Sara Namusoga-Kaale Wilson Kaija Akiiki Jacky Kosgei
<b>10:00 - 11:00</b>	<b>Keynote III: Prof Annie Gagiano: Valuing East African Anglophone Literature: Aesthetic Range and Narrative Powers</b> <b>Chair: Dr Edgar Nabutanyi</b>			
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>			
<b>11:30 – 13:10</b>	<b>9A Roundtable on Foundational African Writers eds Bhekizizwe Peterson, Khwezi Mkhize and Makhosazana Xaba</b>  <b>Chair: Grace A Musila</b>  Jill Bradbury Khwezi Mkhize Tina Steiner Athambile Masola Innocentia Mhlambi James Ogude Corinne Sandwith Godwin Siundu	<b>9B The Language Question in East Africa</b>  <b>Chair: Maureen Amimo</b>  <b>Manuel Muranga:</b> Writing in and Translation into and out of Mother Tongue: A Goal to Aim at in African Literature  <b>Collins Kenga Mumbo:</b> Paradoxes and Dilemmas in the Language of African Literature: Reflections on the Kiswahili Imperative	<b>9C Ecocritical Voices III</b>  <b>Chair: Dina Ligaga</b>  <b>Dele Maxwell Ugwanyi:</b> Rethinking Ecological Violation and the Aesthetics in Ngugi's Novels in the Age of Anthropocene.  <b>Dirk Klopper:</b> Louis Leakey and Jane Goodall: Palaeoanthropology and Primatology in East Africa	<b>9D War and Peace Narratives</b>  <b>Chair: Peter J Maurits</b>  <b>Edith Natukunda-Togboa:</b> Tracing Africa's future projection of peace from the discourse of youthful conflict protagonists  <b>Kananelo Tsuene:</b> "All fiction is the factual refracted": Exploring Literary Aesthetics in Selected War Narratives About Ethiopia  <b>Maryline Chepngetich Kirui:</b> The Liminal Identity of the Child Soldier, the



		<p><b>Margaret Nanfuka Mbalule:</b> An Appraisal of the Notion of Conflict in Luganda Translation of George Orwell's <i>Animal Farm</i></p> <p><b>Nelson Nsereko, Innocent Masengo and Allen Asimwe:</b> The Evolution of a Ugandan Swahili Variety in Uganda</p>	<p><b>Jacky Kosgei:</b> Water Politics and Poetics and the Precarity of the Empire in Aboulela's <i>River Spirit</i></p> <p><b>Tina Steiner:</b> An Archipelagic Aesthetics? Lamu, Mombasa and the Comoros in the Novels of Owuor, Bajaber and Toihiri</p>	<p>Uncanny and the Memories of War in Emmanuel Jal's <i>War Child (2009)</i></p> <p><b>Judith Mankah:</b> Storytelling Sessions: The cultural aesthetics of Resistance, Survival and Identity Formation in East African Post-war Non-Fiction</p>
<b>13:10-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>			
<b>14:00- 15:30</b>	<p><b>Plenary: From Serial Text to Novella to Novel: The Journey of Goretta Kyomuhendo's <i>Whispers from Vera</i></b></p> <p><i>Chair: Susan Kiguli/ Isaac Tibasiima</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Goretta Kyomuhendo</li> <li>2. Lynda Spencer</li> <li>3. Evelyn Cindy Magara</li> <li>4. Racheal Kizza</li> <li>5. Edgar Nabutanyi</li> </ol>			
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<p><b>Closure</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Co-Convenor of 6<sup>th</sup> Mashariki: Dr Edgar Nabutanyi</li> <li>2. Deputy Principal, Prof Eric Awich Ochen</li> <li>3. Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Prof Umar Kakumba</li> <li>4. Guest of Honor and Official Closing: Founding Member, Afrigo Band: Mr Moses Matovu</li> <li>5. Anthems in reverse order</li> </ol>			
<b>19:00-21:00</b>	<b>Closing Dinner</b>			