SOAS AFRICAN LITERATURES CONFERENCE

55 years after the first Makerere African Writers Conference

Saturday 28th October 2017
9.30am - 7.30pm
Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre
SOAS University of London

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Programme

9.15am-9.45am - Registration

9.45am - Welcome – Professor Mashood Baderin and Mr Ivor Agyeman-Duah

10am-10.30am - Keynote by Professor Wole Soyinka

10.30am - 12.15 - Panel 1: Title ‘Reflecting on the legacy of the 1962 Makerere conference: African Literatures in the 21st century’

Panellists:
Dr Sefi Atta – ‘Taking Stock’
Professor Mpalive Msiska – ‘The Kampala Conference the genesis of enduring Antinomies’
Dr James Gibbs - Title tba
Dr Louisa Egbunike - ‘Chinua Achebe and the Igbo-Nigerian Novel’

Discussant: Professor Sikhumbuzo Mngadi
Chair: Dr Wangui wa Goro

12.15 -1.30pm – Lunch – Brunei Suite

1.30pm- 3.30pm – Panel 2: Title ‘African Languages and Translations: past and present’

Panellists:
Dr Wangui wa Goro – Translating African Futures: Lessons from the past and present
Mr Richard Oduor – Possibilities for Literary Translations in the Digital Age
Dr Martin Orwin and Mr Hassan Dahir Ismail ‘Weedhsame’ – Form and Feeling in Translating Somali Poetry
Ms Sophie Alal - Reclaiming Tongues

Discussant: Dr Chege Githiora
Chair: Dr Alena Rettova

3.30pm - 4pm – Tea and coffee Break


Panel: Mrs Nana Ayebia Clarke (Publisher), Mr Ivor Agyeman-Duah (Editor), Ms Mary Ashun (Contributor to the Anthology)

4.50pm - 5.30pm – Tributes

Tribute to Buchi Emecheta by Mr Sylvester Onwordi

Tribute to Abiola Irele by Dr Kwadwo Osei-Nyame Jnr.

Tribute to Alain Ricard by Dr Wangui wa Goro

5.30 – 6.25pm – Poetry readings

1. Mr Hassan Dahir Ismail ‘Weedhsame’ will read GALIILYO/ CATASTROPHE in Somali language

2. Dr Ida Hadjivayanis will read a poem by Alamin Mazrui ‘NIGUSE’ in Swahili language

3. Prof Atukwei Okai will read the poem “ THE BOND-OATH OF UBUNTU” in English language

Chair: Dr Ranka Primorac

6.25-6.30pm – Closing remarks by Dr Chege Githiora

6.30pm-7.30pm – Reception (Brunei Suite)