

# Museum Folkwang

## *Voyage Retour*

### **Museum Folkwang in Lagos, Nigeria**

**17 November – 1 December 2013**

An exhibition project presented by the Photography Department of the Museum Folkwang, Essen, in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut, Lagos, Nigeria

Venue: Federal Government Press, Broad Street, Lagos, Lagos Island, Nigeria

Opening: 16 November 2013

*Voyage Retour* is the title of a new exhibition, the first to be staged by the Museum Folkwang in a country lying south of the Sahara. For this project, the Nigerian city of Lagos will host a show presenting pictures by the internationally renowned Nigerian photographer **J. D. 'Okhai Ojeikere**, alongside works by **Rolf Gillhausen, Germaine Krull, Robert Lebeck, Malick Sidibé** and **Wolfgang Weber** drawn from the Museum Folkwang's collection. The exhibition tour is an integral part of the curatorial concept, which focuses on the perspectival shifts and exchanges that took place between Africa and Europe, as manifested in the medium of photography, from the 1920s up until the period of decolonisation and the transition to independence. *Voyage Retour* brings together images by European and African photographers that bear the marks of the various sociopolitical conditions that channelled their expression. With a view to extending the frame of reference, the show also includes numerous allusions to the original contexts in which the exhibits were produced and received.

The exhibition's venue, the **Federal Government Press Building** constructed in 1896 under the auspices of British colonial rule, can be seen as both a presentation space and one of the conceptual starting points of the project. Numerous relics from the past still evoke the building's historical usage – it was used to house the state photographic archive into the mid-1990s and until ten years ago the official government gazettes were printed here – and these reminders are systematically incorporated into the exhibition's concept and design. *Voyage Retour* picks up on this history and seeks to create a productive crossover space, intended as a platform for new discussions. The exhibition is designed with a particular eye to the specific conditions that pertain in the African countries south of the Sahara. It is against this background that a final colloquium entitled **Crossing Archives** will be held with an international panel discussing overarching questions relating to the perspective, function and significance of photographic archives for society and artistic practice. The event is supported by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Lagos.

The exhibition is sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office.

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## Information

### The project is supported by

Folkwang University of the Arts, Essen  
Fraunhofer Society, Munich  
Hahnemühle Fine Art, Germany  
HALBE Rahmen, Kirchen  
HEIDE & VON BECKERATH Architekten BDA, Berlin  
Braunschweig University of Art (HBK)  
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## Publication

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue produced by Steidl/Göttingen  
Editor: Museum Folkwang, Essen  
Length: 108 pages  
Languages: English and French

## Venue

Federal Government Press, Broad Street, Lagos, Lagos Island, Nigeria

## Opening hours

Mon – Fri, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Sat / Sun, 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

## Contact and guided group tours

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City Hall, Lagos Island, Lagos, Nigeria  
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info@lagos.goethe.org  
www.goethe.de/nigeria

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Images are available for download at [www.museum-folkwang.de](http://www.museum-folkwang.de)

**Opening hours:** Tue – Sun, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri 10 a.m. – 10.30 p.m., Mon closed

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