

MAY 18th 2010 – h 6.30 pm

Fatoumata Kandé Senghor presents *Seeking the Truth*, with **Lorenzo Fusi**

Fatoumata Kandé Senghor is a young artist from Senegal; she created an artistic research platform called Waru Studio in Dakar that works like an experimentation lab, allying – Art- science-technology –Ecology-environment and Politics. Waru in Wolof language means wonderment and the platform is an incubator that combines all these sciences using new technologies. Convinced that art in Africa is an efficient weapon to address and resolve issues that concern Africans, and touch others in the world. She also works with young artists that need to broaden their discourse. In her own work she uses mediums such as photography, video, printing to raise consciousness around her.



Fatoumata Kandé Senghor, No woman no cry, frame of video, 2009

Fatoumata Kandé Senghor, *Seeking the truth*

Presentation of the video *My piece of poetry*, about a Diola tribe ritual called the *bukut*.

According to the legend, Diola people are descendants of two sisters: Aguene and Adiambone. They were lost during a trip while on a fragile fishing boat, on the river. Aguene ended up in the region called “Saloum” and later became mother of the Sereer tribe and Adiambone ended up in Casamance where she founded the Diola tribe.

In the modern era, the Diola community trapped in modernism and dealing with other communities came up with a ritual to protect their community and organise its young people to meet and reproduce between them : the « *bukut* » rite. It is the survival of what the Diola tribe is made of. It is an initiation ceremony, a meeting aimed to protect our beliefs and our cultural usage. It’s a stay in an area of meditation and learning in the sacred wood. It is a key ceremony for the Diola people.

The most beautiful moment in the life of a Diola is the « *bukut* » rite. Access to the sacred wood. It is the most beautiful feast in the Diola community. If you ask the question to any Diola whatsoever, he will confirm it. The Diola can save his money for 20 years and almost starve himself while waiting for that one special day to come and, without the least hesitation, spend millions on that sole day. There is no moment such strong in their lives. If anything happened to that ritual it would definitely kill their identity.

As long as they have not gone through the sacred wood they cannot get a wife within the community. They do not have access to the palaver tree where all the issues about the community are decided. This is another cultural resistance. It is the secret of their masculinity, what makes them full men, ready to face life, obedient and faithful

to the community. That is their cement. That is the door that leads to the other world, a world which unites their dreams.

Depending to the villages, the buket rite takes place every 25, 30 or 40 years.

Fuori Luogo 2010 | Out Of Place 2010

“The other side of avantgarde”

Thirty years after “L'altra metà dell'avanguardia” (“The other half of the avantgarde”) –the exhibition curated by Lea Vergine in 1980, which first highlighted the work of women artists in the twentieth century, a milestone in the rethinking of modern and contemporary art, FuoriLuogo | OutOfPlace presents a series of encounters with a generation of contemporary women artists in their thirties and early fourties with the aim of presenting the work of this younger generation and their reflections with regard to their research and the art system within which they work.

The underlying theme connecting the seven artists' work will be the relation between art and knowledge. This year's FuoriLuogo intends to research the variety of interests and starting points, the processes and procedures that these artists have put into practice, the specific spheres of knowledge relevant for each artist and the very particular observation points or perspectives that those special interests imply.

The seven artists' projects – with different modalities, sensibilities and attitudes – confront the more complex aspects of knowledge: from psychology to anthropology, from history to neuroscience, from cognitive science to epistemology. Our aim is, on the one hand, to build an interdisciplinary discussion in which artists could meet speakers from different fields of study verging on the areas their own research has touched on; and on the other, to guide the audience along a complex and exciting pathway of contemporary artistic reasoning. The motive is not to rebuild a poetic vision “common” to “the other half of the universe”, but to better comprehend the differing perspectives on the complex world of knowledge and its definitions which fascinate and dominate the work of this generation caught in a precarious equilibrium between artistic creation and the complex universe of intellectual discovery.

The fourth edition of **FuoriLuogo | OutOfPlace** – series of meetings organized by Connecting Cultures from April to November 2010 – deals with contemporary themes observed through an interdisciplinary approach with the collaboration of artists, thinkers, philosophers and critics.

EVENTS:

15th June

Meris Angioletti

8th July

Eva Marisaldi

22nd September

Marzia Migliora

14th October

Susan Hefuna

10th November

Letizia Cariello

Past events:

13th April - Margherita Morgantini

INFO

EVENT FuoriLuogo | OutOfPlace 2010
 “L'altra metà del contemporaneo”

CURED BY Connecting Cultures

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