FIRST ANNUAL AUDREY RICHARDS LECTURE: CHINUA ACHEBE

The Centre of African Studies is delighted to report the success of the first annual Audrey Richards Lecture in African Studies, delivered by Professor Chinua Achebe on 19 November 2010. An audience of around 600 people gathered at the Law Faculty in Cambridge to hear one of Africa's most respected public intellectuals deliver a paper that reflected deeply on the legacy of colonialism and examined the current complex challenges facing Nigeria in the twenty-first century. Professor Achebe was recognised by a standing ovation at both the beginning and the end of his talk. The event was introduced by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz. It was made possible with the support of the A.G. Leventis Foundation and by Mr. Hakeem Belo-Osagie.

Events at African Studies
Research Seminar Series Lent 2011

Seminars will take place in the Seminar Room at the Centre of African Studies at 5 pm on Mondays. The next speaker, on 31 January, will be Professor John Iliffe, University of Cambridge: ‘Obasanjo and the ‘Third term’ Agenda in Nigeria’. Check the Centre’s website for further details www.african.cam.ac.uk

Africa-related University events

Professor Hugh Brody, Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies, University of the Fraser Valley, to give lecture on ‘Land, Truth, Water: Finding the #KhomaniBushmen of the Southern Kalahari’: Seminar Room, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, 16 March 1 pm.

Ingrid Monson, Quincy Jones Professor of African American Music at Harvard, to give lecture on ‘Race and Music in the 21st Century’: Faculty of Music 16 March, 5 pm.

Symposium in Cambridge to mark Black History Month 2011

Call for Papers: Celebrating Alexander Crummell: Reform, Education, Liberation
University of Cambridge, Faculty of English 22-23 September

Alexander Crummell (1819-98) was an African American anti-slavery campaigner, minister, missionary and teacher in Liberia. He was also a black nationalist who advanced the idea of Pan-Africanism. Crummell studied at Queen’s College in Cambridge between 1849 and 1853: a politically significant achievement for the time. Papers are invited for a broad interdisciplinary conference on topics relating to Crummell’s life and work. Themes may include: race, gender and reform, Abolition, Transatlantic and Black Atlantic history, ‘Back to Africa’, Liberia, the Colonization Movement, diaspora and Africa, race and education/Classics, ‘racial uplift’, reform movements, religion and ethical culture. Papers need not necessarily centre on Crummell himself. Please send 500 word abstracts, plus a brief CV or self introduction, by 15 March 2011 to Dr Sarah Meer Crummell@english.cam.ac.uk. A poster exhibition on Crummell in Cambridge, and Cambridge’s role in Black (Atlantic) history, will run alongside the Symposium.
Collecting film at the African Studies Library
The reading list for the recently launched MPhil in African Studies at Cambridge features 30 film titles. This enables us to develop the library’s existing film collection, in addition to our holdings of more than 500 DVD and video titles recorded from UK television since 1994. Future plans include the possibility of working with the University to provide password protected on-line access to even more audio-visual material.

Remember you can search the library catalogue for DVD titles from the LibrarySearch interface: select ‘Videos, DVDs etc’ from the dropdown in ‘Advanced search’. On the next page select ‘African Studies Library’ under location.

Bamako (Mali, 2007) , Many Words for Modern (Tanzania, 2007)

New books for the new year

- Missionary Labours and Scenes in Southern Africa / Moffat (1842, 2009 reprint)
- Obasanjo, Nigeria and the World / John Iliffe (2011)