

Issue 1

January 2010



Welcome to the first issue of the library newsletter, and especially to the 87 new library users who registered last term! If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or improvements to library services, just fill in a suggestion form in the library, or email Marilyn and Rachel at afrib@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Recent exhibitions

THE CAINE PRIZE FOR AFRICAN WRITING

Ex Africa semper aliquid novi



There were two displays in the library last term. The display in October/November 2009 commemorated the 10th

Anniversary of the Caine Prize for African writing, awarded for a short story published in English by a writer from anywhere in Africa. The anniversary was marked by a tour concluding at the British library, attended by Marilyn. Ben Okri (Nigerian Winner of the Booker Prize) gave the keynote talk, and there was a lively interview panel with three previous winners; Chika Unigwe, Brian Chikwava and Binyavanga Wainana, chaired by Aminatta Forna. This year's winner was **E. C. Osondo** from Nigeria for *Waiting* which you can read in *Work in Progress* in the library. Other Caine prize anthologies available in the library include:

10 years of the Caine Prize (2009)

Obituary Tango (2006)

Jambula Tree (2008)

For further information on the Caine Prize see

<http://www.caineprize.com/>

World Aids Day exhibition

For World Aids Day on 1 December, we combined a display of recent books, journals and DVDs on HIV/ Aids with a collection for Médecins Sans Frontières which raised £20.



Africa Wide NiPad, a collection of searchable multidisciplinary databases, has become Africa Wide Information. Explore the new features and search for articles from the library's webpage <http://www.african.cam.ac.uk/library.htm>

Out of hours book return

Please note: when the library is closed, books can be returned through the letterbox at the side entrance to the Mond building, or renewed online or by email.

Would you like to represent Undergraduate users of the Library on the Library Committee?

Friendly meetings once a term, usually with good biscuits! Contact us by email or drop in to express your interest.

Share your knowledge:

Submit a review of any African studies related title for the next newsletter. Contact us by email or in person.

New books, E-books and DVDs available at the library

★ *African Studies in Social Movements and Democracy* /

eds. Mamdani and Wamba-dia-Wamba

★ *Isle of Fire: the Political Ecology of Landscape Burning in Madagascar* / Kull

DVDs Ousmane Sembene's critically acclaimed films *Xala* and *Mooladé*

E-Books now available university-wide, and off campus through Raven

★ *The Making of South African Legal Culture* / Chanock,

★ *Democracy and Political Change in Sub-Saharan Africa* / Wiseman



UK web-resources for Africa



Royal African Society
Promoting Africa

Recent posts on [The Royal African Society Blog](#)

African Arguments:

[Who Belongs?: the Politics of Citizenship in Africa – Debate Overview](#) Sebastian Kohn

[Being a Kenyan](#) L. Muthoni Wanyeki

[Counter-Terrorism in Somalia, or; How External Influences helped to Produce Islamism](#)

[Citizenship and Land: a Potent Relationship](#) Dr. Lucy Hovil

Now accessible through the UL's subscription to the **British Library Archival Sound Recordings**: a collection of **DECCA West African Recordings**. These commercial recordings of popular music feature High-life, Rhumba, Calypso and early Nigerian Jùjú from the 1940s and 50s. This is just one of the highlights of a great resource.

Follow the [link from our webpage](#)

<http://sounds.bl.uk/>

Africa in the news

You can check the **BBC news feed** for Africa in the news from the Library's webpage, or go to

http://newsrss.bbc.co.uk/rss/newsonline_uk_edition/world/africa/rss.xml

You can also keep up to date with current affairs in Africa through the RAS Africa in the News bulletin. Hard copies are available to consult in the library.

Forthcoming Seminars



The Centre of African Studies holds a **weekly seminar series during term**. This term the programme is organized jointly with the Centre of Governance and Human Rights (POLIS) and begins on Monday 25 January. See the Centre's website for details.

The next **SCOLMA** seminar, **Jazz, Photographs and Youtube: Using Modern Media to Enrich Research on Twentieth Century Africa**, Dr. Susan Williams, Senior Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, will be on Tuesday 2 February at SOAS. Contact Marilyn at the Library if you would like to attend, or for further information afrib@hermes.ac.uk.

Africa book news

The first African M-novel (composed on a mobile phone) was launched in South Africa on 30 September 2009. **Kontax** by Samuel Wilson is available in English and Xhosa.



The Noma Award for Publishing in Africa was awarded to Sefi Atta for **Lawless and Other Stories** (2008), now published as **News from Home**. A copy is on order for the library.

Popular books: most borrowed from the AS library last year

[Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Colonialism](#)
Mamdani

[State in Africa: the Politics of the Belly](#)
Bayart

[In Search of a Nation: Histories of Authority and Dissidence in Tanzania](#)
eds. Gibling and Maddox

[Hotel Rwanda: the True Story of a Man Who Fought Impossible Odds to Save Everyone He Could](#) (DVD)

Events supported by the Centre of African Studies Michaelmas 2009

The University celebrated the UK's annual **Black History Month** along with its own initiative,

Black and Minority Ethnic History Season, with a series of talks, events and workshops across the city in October and November 2009. Information on both programmes was available at the library.

Cambridge African Film Festival

The Centre is pleased to be one of the sponsors of the oldest annual African film festival in the UK, which enjoyed another successful season in November 2009.



From a
Whisper
Dir.
Wanuri
Kahiu