

Africa Fashion Conference

Programme

Online and in-person presentations



Friday, 18th November

From 10.00	Registration and coffee
10.30 – 10.40	Welcome and opening remarks / Joanna Norman , V&A
10.40 – 11.00	Introduction to the Exhibition and Conference / Dr Christine Checinska and Elisabeth Murray , V&A
11.00 – 11.45	Keynote / Sunny Dolat , The Nest Collective, Kenya
11.45 – 12.00	Break

Section 1: OBJECTS IN FOCUS

Chaired by **Benita Odogwu-Atkinson**, University for the Creative Arts

12.00 – 12.10

Emefa Cole, V&A

The Vulcan Series: Sculpting in Wax and Metal

12.10 – 12.20

Mazuba Kapambwe-Mizzi, Independent researcher, Zambia

Tonga Interrupted: Exploring the Impact of European Contact on Tonga Dress and Fashion

12.20 – 12.30

Joelle Firzli, Independent researcher, United States

New African Fashion Narratives; The Cowrie Shell as Evidence of Resistance and Power

12.30 – 12.50

Victoria L. Rovine, African Studies Centre, University of North Carolina

Fashion, Power, Subversion: The Pith Helmet as African Fashion Accessory

12.50 - 13.10

Dr Suzanne Gott, University of British Columbia

“Life (‘Fashion’) Goes On” —Revitalizing Ghana’s Grassroots Fashion System with New Digital Media Technologies

13.10 – 13.40 **Q&A**

13.40 – 14.40 **Lunch break**

Section 2: HISTORY AND MEMORY

Chaired by **Ezinma Mbeledogu**, University for the Creative Arts

14.40 – 15.00

Lulu Howell, Designer, and **Nkechi Noel**, Freelance Producer, United Kingdom

Textiles, Soundscapes and Memories

15.00 – 15.20

Sara Hume, Kent State University Museum

Cultural Crossroads: Fashions of North Africa

15.20 – 15.40

Maria Caley and **Loini lizyenda**, University of Namibia

Fashion Creatives as Agents of Change: Making of Museum of Namibian Fashion

15.40 – 15.55 **Break**

15.55 – 16.05

Dr Nassima Atmaoui-Fischer, University of East Anglia

The Kabyle dress – From folklore to Haute-Couture statement

16.05 – 16.25

Christopher Richards, Brooklyn College

Chez Julie: Ghana's Pioneering Fashion Designer

16.25 – 17.00 **Q&A**

17.00 – 18.30 **Exhibition visit**

18.30 – 20.00 **Drinks reception** / speech at 19:00 by **Karun Thakar**, The Karun Thakar Fund

Saturday, 19th November

- 10.00 – 10.20 Registration and coffee
10.20 – 10.30 Introduction / **Jessica Harpley**, V&A
10.30 – 11.15 In conversation / **Adebayo Oke-Lawal**, Orange Culture, with **Elisabeth Murray**, V&A

Section 3: CLOTH

Chaired by **Karun Thakar**, The Karun Thakar Fund

11.15 – 11.35

Bunmi Fabode, Ìtòbi Projects, Nigeria

Àdirẹ Translocalities

11.35 – 11.55

Dr Simon A. Clarke, Falmouth University

The Politics of Pattern on Khanga Cloth

11.55 – 12.10

Kesiena Harry and **Ireoluwa Soetan**, Annaire Arts and Fashion Agency

Digital Loom: African handwoven fabrics - The Culture, The People and The Unheard Stories. Are African indigenous fabrics going extinct?

12.10 – 12.35 **Q&A**

12.35 – 13.35 **Lunch break**

Section 4: INDUSTRY

Chaired by **Frederica Brooksworth**, Council for International African Fashion Education

13.35 – 13.45

Majdouline El hichou, Independent researcher and Designer, Morocco

Weaving sustainable futures: African textile traditions as a paradigm for ethical fashion

13.45 – 13.55

Fiona Uwamahoro, London College of Fashion

The Rwandan Fashion Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

13.55 – 14.05

Tolulope Omoyele, London College of Fashion

The Significance and legacy of Arise Magazine in globalising African fashion Design and Aesthetics

14.05 – 14.25

Dr Roberta Comunian, **Dr Lauren England**, and **Dr Ekaette Ikpe**, King's College London

African Fashion Cities: inspiration, knowledge, materials and markets in Lagos and Nairobi

14.25 – 14.55

Q&A

14.55 – 15.10

Break

Section 5: MEDIA AND REPRESENTATIONS

Chaired by **Nadia Denton**, Independent Curator, Producer and Author

15.10 – 15.30

D. Denenge Duyst-Akpem, The Art Institute of Chicago

Visible/Invisible: Pattern and Design as Protection in the AfroFuture

15.30 – 15.50

Darnell Lisby, The Cleveland Museum of Art

BEYONCÉ: Bridging Dimension of African Fashion

15.50 – 16.00

Tanisha C. Ford, The City University of New York

10 Years Since "Losing You": Solange and the Geopolitics of Black Street Fashion

16.00 – 16.30

Q&A

16.30 – 16.40

Break

16.40 – 17.20

Roundtable and closing remarks / Chaired by **Dr Christine Checinska**, V&A, with **Bunmi Fabode**, Itòbi Projects, **Eunice Olumide**, Model and Broadcaster, **Sunny Dolat**, The Nest Collective, and **Professor Wessie Ling**, London Metropolitan University

END

Please note this programme is subject to change.