

# World Heritage Völklinger Hütte

**THE  
TRUE  
SIZE OF  
AFRICA**

**9.11.24  
17.8.25**





**NOT TO KNOW  
IS BAD, NOT TO  
WISH TO KNOW  
IS WORSE.**

African Proverb



# THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA

9.11.24–17.8.25

Exactly 140 years ago, in November 1884, the Congo Conference in Berlin began, dividing Africa among the colonial powers without any African participation – a timely reason to take a fresh look at this vast continent and the people who come from it, from November 2024 at World Heritage Völklinger Hütte. THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA explores ways to detect thought traditions, prejudices, and stereotypes, creating new perspectives through cultural history and contemporary art, through constant shifts in viewpoint, and through a multiplicity of artistic voices.

While a MUSEUM OF MEMORABILITY reflects on Africa's past and present from the perspective of colonial Europe, African sculptures and objects from private collections in Saarland enter into a dialogue with the machines and flywheels of the historic blower hall. Major artworks from recent decades are paired with numerous sound and spatial installations realised especially for the show by artists from Africa and the global diaspora, all making THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA tangible. For the first time, this exhibition route, reflecting the vastness of the subject, extends from the Pump house through the Blower hall, the Compressor hall, the Sintering plant, and all the way to the Ore shed.





# MUSEUM OF MEMORABILITY

From the dawn of mankind until today

Beyond the Mercator Map / Africa, Cradle of Humankind / Ancient Egypt, Religion, and Culture / Medieval Kingdoms in Africa / Black in the Eighteenth Century / Early Colonialism: Missionaries and Military / Congo Conference in Berlin, 1884/85 / First Pan-African Conference in London 1900 / Colonial Germany / Colonial Saarland / Politics of Memory and Monuments: Dar es Salaam, Hamburg, Cape Town, Bristol / Colonial Heroes/Criminals / After World War I: The Black Horror on the Saar / Before World War II: Colonial Renaissance in Germany / Pathways of Pan-Africanism: Marcus Garvey, Haile Selassie, Bob Marley / 1960, Year of Independence / Structural Racism: James Baldwin, Angela Davis / Migration in the Line of Fire: Samuel Yeboah / Greetings from Africa / Queer Culture / Afroglobal Music and Dance





**DELE ADEYEMO** (KADUNA, NIGERIA / LONDON, ENGLAND / LAGOS, NIGERIA), **JOHN AKOMFRAH** (ACCRA, GHANA / LONDON, ENGLAND), **JAMES GREGORY ATKINSON** (FRANKFURT, GERMANY / SEATTLE, USA), **SAMMY BALOJI** (LUBUMBASHI, RD CONGO / BRUSSELS, BELGIUM), **ARÉBÉNOR BASSÉNE** (DAKAR, SENEGAL), **MEMORY BIWA** (WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA), **MARÍA MAGDALENA CAMPOS-PONS** (MATANZAS, CUBA / NASHVILLE, USA), **CATPC** (LUSANGA, DR CONGO), **OMAR VICTOR DIOP** (DAKAR, SENEGAL / PARIS, FRANCE), **SOKARI DOUGLAS CAMP** (BUGUMA, NIGERIA / LONDON, ENGLAND), **WILLIAM KENTRIDGE** (JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA), **KONGO ASTRONAUTS** (KINSHASA, DR CONGO), **SUSANA PILAR DELAHANTE MATIENZO** (HAVANA, CUBA / ENSCHEDE, NETHERLANDS), **ROMÉO MIVEKANIN** (BOUAKÉ, IVORY COAST / TOULOUSE, FRANCE), **ZANELE MUHOLI** (KAPSTADT, SOUTH AFRICA / UMLAZI, SOUTH AFRICA), **JOSÈFA NTJAM** (METZ, FRANCE), **KALOKI NYAMAI** (NAIROBI, KENYA), **EMEKA OGBOH** (LAGOS, NIGERIA / BERLIN, GERMANY), **ZINEB SEDIRA** (ALGIERS, ALGERIA / PARIS, FRANCE / LONDON, ENGLAND), **SANDRA SEGHIR** (LOMÉ, TOGO / DAKAR, SENEGAL), **YINKA SHONIBARE** (LONDON, ENGLAND), **THE SINGH TWINS** (RICHMOND, ENGLAND), **GÉRALDINE TOBE** (KINSHASA, DR CONGO), **KARA WALKER** (NEW YORK, USA) AND **CARRIE MAE WEEMS** (SYRACUSE, USA)







# THE CATALOGUE

A richly illustrated catalogue in English will be published in February 2025 by Hirmer Verlag, edited by Ralf Beil, Markus Messling and Christiane Solte-Gresser, with contributions from Ralf Beil, Elara Bertho, Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Till Förster, Franck Hofmann, Nadia Yala Kisukidi, Markus Messling and Christiane Solte-Gresser. A documentation of the Museum of Memorability, text-image inserts on all artists and works in the exhibition as well as literary-philosophical source texts from Chinua Achebe, Johannes Leo Africanus, James Baldwin et Josephine Baker to Teju Cole, Olaudah Equiano, Patrice Lumumba, Wole Soyinka, Binyavanga Wainaina and many more make this book a veritable compendium of THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA. The catalogue book can be ordered until 31 January 2025 at a subscription price of € 40. Price in the museum shop from 1 February 2025: € 50 and € 55 in bookshops.

# THE PROGRAMME

An extensive supporting programme accompanies the exhibition with film screenings, panel discussions, workshops, readings and lectures. Cooperation partners include the Käte Hamburger Centre for Cultural Practices of Reparation CURE at Saarland University, Aktion 3. Welt Saar, the Filmhaus Saarbrücken, the Haus Afrika association, the achteinhalb cinema and the Kassiopeia art school.

# THE MEDIAGUIDE

The media guide provides in-depth information about the exhibition, the Museum of Memorability as well as on all artists, works and installations in the show.

Media guide and headphones to borrow are included in the admission price. You are welcome to bring your own headphones with cable (3.5 mm jack plug).





# World Heritage Völklinger Hütte

Weltkulturerbe Völklinger Hütte  
Europäisches Zentrum für Kunst und Industriekultur GmbH  
General Director Dr. Ralf Beil  
Managing Director Susanne Degenhardt  
Rathausstrasse 75 – 79  
66333 Völklingen / Germany

## Entrance

Standard 17 €  
Reduced rate 15 €  
2-day ticket 27 €  
Children and youths up to 18 years free  
Students up to 27 years with ID free

## Opening hours

Open 362 days a year!  
Daily 10 am – 6 pm / 1 April to 31 October 10 am – 7 pm  
Open on Boxing Day and New Year's Day  
24, 25 and 31 December closed

**Public guided tours** at [www.voelklinger-huette.org](http://www.voelklinger-huette.org)

## Guided tours of the site or exhibition

About 1,5 hours / max. 30 persons  
For groups advanced booking required 110 €  
plus reduced admission of 15 € per person.  
Special rate for school classes. Guided tours for  
schools and groups before 10 am possible.  
The World Heritage Völklinger Hütte  
is largely barrier-free.

## Annual ticket

Adults 55 €

## Visitor Service

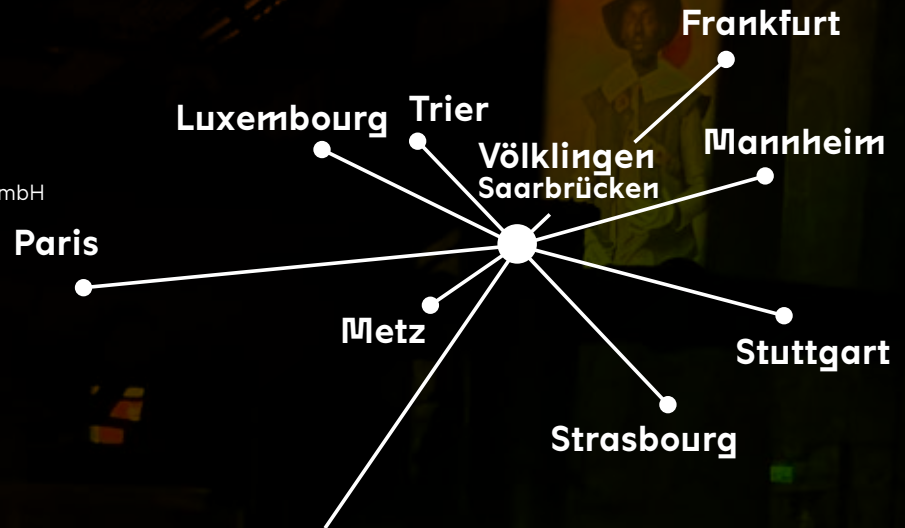
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Partner THE TRUE SIZE OF AFRICA



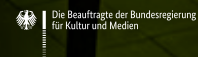
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# World Heritage Völklinger Hütte



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