

AFRICAN MODERNITIES AND MOBILITIES

*An Historical Ethnography of Kom,
Cameroon, C. 1800-2008*



Walter Gam Nkwi

African Modernities

Jean Comaroff, John L. Comaroff



African Modernities:

African Modernities Jan-Georg Deutsch, Peter Probst, Heike Schmidt, 2002 This is a collection of original studies investigating the multifaceted notion of African modernities The authors examine ideas and practices of modernity as well as the implication of its meaning in current academic debate Both perspectives are thoroughly interdependent but they are often presented as distinct and opposed to each other One of the main aims of this volume is to show just how they are related and how they form a deeply entangled subject that continues to shape and affect the notion of modernity in Africa

African Modernities Jan-Georg Deutsch, Peter Probst, Heike Schmidt, 2002 This is a collection of original studies investigating the multifaceted notion of African modernities

African Modernities and Mobilities Gam Nkwi, 2015-05-11 In this book Walter Gam Nkwi documents the complexities and nuances embedded in African modernities and mobilities which have been overlooked in historical discourses in Africa and Cameroon Using an ethnographic historical approach and drawing on the intricacies of what it has meant to be and belong in Kom an ethnic community in the Northwest Region of Cameroon since 1800 he explores the discourses and practices of kfaang as central to any understanding of mobility and modernity in Kom Cameroon and Africa at large The book unveils the emic understanding of modernity through the history and ethnography of kfaang and its technologies and illustrates how these terminologies were conceived and perceived by the Kom people in their social and physical mobilities It documents and analyzes the historical processes involved in bringing about and making kfaang a defining feature of everyday life in Kom and among Kom subjects

Development, Modernism and Modernity in Africa Augustine Agwuele, 2013-03-01 This anthology examines the unfinished project of modernity with respect to the unrealized potential for economic social and political development in Africa It also shows how facing the consequences of modernism Africans in and out of the continent are responding to these unfinished projects drawing on a the customary b the novelty of modernity and c positive aspects of modernism for the organization of their societies and the enrichment of their lives even as they contend with the negative aspects of modernity and modernism

The African American Roots of Modernism James Edward Smethurst, 2011 The period between 1880 and 1918 at the end of which Jim Crow was firmly established and the Great Migration of African Americans was well under way was not the nadir for black culture James Smethurst reveals but instead a time of profound response fr

African Postcolonial Modernity S. Osha, 2014-09-04 African cultures and politics remain significantly affected by precolonial and postcolonial configurations of modernity as well as hegemonic global systems This project explores Africa s conversation with itself and the rest of the world critiquing universalist notions of democratization

Olive Schreiner and African Modernism Jade Munslow Ong, 2017-10-20 This book works across established categories of modernism and postcolonialism in order to radically revise the periods places and topics traditionally associated with anti colonialism and aesthetic experimentation in African literature The book is the first account of Olive Schreiner as a theorist and practitioner of modernist form advancing towards an

emergent postcolonialism The book draws on and broadens discussions in and around the blossoming field of global modernist studies by interrogating the conventionally accepted genealogy of development that positions Europe and America as the sites of innovation It provides an original examination of the relationships between metaphor postcolonialism and modernist experimentation by showing how politically and aesthetically innovative African forms rely on allegorical structures in contrast to the symbolism dominant in Euro American modernism An original theoretical concept of the role of primitivism and allegory within the context of modernism and associated critical theory is proposed through the integration of postcolonial Marxist and ecocritical approaches to literature The book provides original readings of Schreiner's three novels *Undine* *The Story of An African Farm* and *From Man to Man* in light of the new theory of primitivism in African literature by directly addressing the issue of narrative form This argument is contextualised in relation to the work of other Southern African authors in whose writings the impact of Schreiner's politics and aesthetics can be traced These authors include J M Coetzee Nadine Gordimer Doris Lessing Solomon T Plaatje and Zoe Wicomb amongst others This book brings the most current debates in modernist studies ecocriticism and primitivism into the field of postcolonial studies and contributes to a widening of the debates surrounding gender race empire and modernism

Africa after Modernism Michael Janis, 2013-05-13 *Africa after Modernism* traces shifts in perspectives on African culture arts and philosophy from the conflict with European modernist interventions in the climate of colonialist aggression to present identitarian positions in the climate of globalism multiculturalism and mass media By focusing on what may be called deconstructive moments in twentieth century Africanist thought on intellectual landmarks revolutionary ideas crises of consciousness literary and philosophical debates this study looks at African modernity and modernism from critical postcolonial perspectives An effort to sketch contemporary frameworks of global intersubjective relations reflecting African cultures and concerns must resist taking modernism as a term of African periodization or master narrative but as a constellation of discursive and subjective forms that obtains upon the present moment in African literature philosophy and cultural history *Africa after Modernism* argues for a philosophical consciousness and pan African multiculturalist ethos that operate after the deconstruction of Eurocentrism beyond self other paradigms of exoticism or West Africa political ideologies in dialogue with postcolonial approaches to cultural reciprocity

Tradition and Modernity Kwame Gyekye, 1997 Gyekye offers a philosophical interpretation and critical analysis of the African cultural experience in modern times and shows how Western philosophical concepts help in addressing a wide range of specifically African problems

Conjuring the Folk David Nicholls, 2000 Provides a new way of looking at literary responses to migration and modernization

Modernity and Its Malcontents Jean Comaroff, John L. Comaroff, 1993-11 What role does ritual play in the everyday lives of modern Africans How are so called traditional cultural forms deployed by people seeking empowerment in a world where modernity has failed to deliver on its promises Some of the essays in *Modernity and Its Malcontents* address familiar anthropological issues like witchcraft myth and the politics of

reproduction but treat them in fresh ways situating them amidst the polyphonies of contemporary Africa Others explore distinctly nontraditional subjects among them the Nigerian popular press and soul eating in Niger in such a way as to confront the conceptual limits of Western social science Together they demonstrate how ritual may be powerfully mobilized in the making of history present and future Addressing challenges posed by contemporary African realities the authors subject such concepts as modernity ritual power and history to renewed critical scrutiny Writing about a variety of phenomena they are united by a wish to preserve the diversity and historical specificity of local signs and practices voices and perspectives Their work makes a substantial and original contribution toward the historical anthropology of Africa The contributors all from the Africanist circle at the University of Chicago are Adeline Masquelier Deborah Kaspin J Lorand Matory Ralph A Austen Andrew Apter Misty L Bastian Mark Auslander and Pamela G Schmoll Of Revelation and Revolution, Volume 2 Jean Comaroff, John L. Comaroff, 1991 V 1 Christianity colonialism and consciousness in South Africa v 2 The dialectics of modernity on a South African frontier African Modernity and the Philosophy of Culture in the Works of Femi Euba Iyunolu Osagie, 2017-06-05 This book is a significant and original contribution to the ongoing conversation on modernity It uses the creative and critical works of Nigerian playwright and novelist Femi Euba to demonstrate the place and function of African cultures in modernity and makes the case for the vibrancy of such cultures in the shaping and constitution of the modern world In addition to a critique of Euba's fifty year artistic career this book offers an account of Euba's formative relationship with the 1986 Nobel Prize for Literature winner Wole Soyinka during the promising days of the Nigerian theatre in the immediate post independence period and the effect of this relationship on Euba's artistic choices and reflections Euba contributes to our understanding of Africa's negotiation of modernity in significant ways especially in his sensitive reading of Esu the Yoruba god of fate and chance as an artistic consciousness whose historical and ideological mobility during New World slavery during Africa's colonial period and in the manifestations in the black diaspora today emblemizes the process we call modernity By using ritual myth and satire as avenues to the debate on modernity Euba lays emphasis on the transformative possibilities at the crossroads of history His works engage the psychological interconnections between old gods and new worlds and the dialogic relationship between tradition and modernity Delineating the philosophical and literary debates that reject an easy division between a stereotypically traditional Africa and a modern West the author shows how Euba's plays and novel engage the entwined and intimate relationships between the modern and the traditional in contemporary Africa and thereby she asserts the global resonance of Euba's African and specifically Yoruba conception of the world By meticulously collecting cataloguing and critiquing Euba's works Osagie models a new way of practicing African literary studies and invites us to glimpse narrative genius on the continent that she firmly believes African scholars should both promote and celebrate **Swahili Modernities** Patricia Caplan, Farouk Topan, 2004 This book considers the themes of modernity identity and politics on the East African coast and islands Currently this area is undergoing rapid change as

globalization makes its impact Tourism increased monetisation emigration from and immigration to the area and the varying policies of multinational agencies and local states are all significant factors These chapters reveal some of the ways in which the Swahili seek to maintain their boundaries even as they adapt their cultural practices to new realities Some of the specific issues addressed are the effects of recent economic and social changes in towns such as Bagamoyo and Malindi the north and south of Mafia Island and the Comoro Islands The history of Zanzibar long a multicultural society which underwent a revolution in 1964 and has recently once again experienced violent political confrontations is also examined especially within the context of the tensions which arise when ethnic differences are essentialized and politicized as they have been on Zanzibar The volume also focuses on how the Swahili language literature and culture have been affected by modernity The expression of Swahili identity in poetry and song are explored revealing how recent songs and performance known as taarabu reflect changes in social circumstances as well as shifting audience boundaries By examining the representation of women in two kinds of Swahili literature a classical nineteenth century poem and two recent plays this volume also reveals the strong social constraints under which Swahili women and others in East Africa continue to live *Readings in Modernity in Africa* Peter Geschiere, Birgit Meyer, Peter Pels, 2008 New perspectives on one of the most problematic issues in contemporary African studies **Research in African Literatures**, 2007 Vol 1 spring 1970 include A Bibliography of American doctoral dissertations on African literature compiled by Nancy J Schmidt Migrant Modernities Alicia A. Kent, 2000 **African, American and European Trajectories of Modernity** Peter Wagner, 2015-03-09 African American and European Trajectories of Modernity asks why from some moment onwards Europe and the rest of the world entered into a particular relationship one of domination conceived as a kind of superiority and as an advance in historic **African Studies Bulletin**, 1999 **The African Diaspora** Toyin Falola, 2013 The African diaspora is arguably the most important event in modern African history From the fifteenth century to the present millions of Africans have been dispersed many of them forcibly others driven by economic need or political persecution to other continents creating large communities with African origins living outside their native lands The majority of these communities are in North America This historic displacement has meant that Africans are irrevocably connected to economic and political developments in the West and globally Among the known legacies of the diaspora are slavery colonialism racism poverty and underdevelopment yet the ways in which these same factors worked to spur the scattering of Africans are not fully understood by those who were part of this migration or by scholars historians and policymakers In this definitive study of the diaspora in North America Toyin Falola offers a causal history of the western dispersion of Africans and its effects on the modern world Reengaging old and familiar debates and framing new ones that enrich the discourse surrounding Africa Falola isolates the thread running nearly six centuries that connects the history of slavery the transatlantic slave trade and current migrations A boon to scholars and policymakers and accessible to the general reader the book explores diverse narratives of migration and shows that the

cultures that migrated from Africa to the Americas have the capacity to unite and create a new pan Africanist movement within the globalized world Toyin Falola is the Jacob and Frances Sanger Mossiker Chair in the Humanities and University Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin He is the 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Africanist Award from the African Studies Association and serves as the vice president of the International Scientific Committee of the UNESCO Slave Route Project His previous books published by the University of Rochester Press include The Power of African Cultures and Nationalism and African Intellectuals

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