



Africa Commission

Board

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Objectives

The objectives of the Africa Commission are

- The creation of new UNIMA centres (Congo DRC, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Uganda, Gabon, Guinea)
- To revitalize the existing centres
- To organize the caravan of the African puppet (itinerant festival in the different African countries)
- To promote the heritage and the history of the African puppet
- To engage in the protection of the different types of puppets in danger of disappearing
- To encourage transmission and training in Africa
- To revitalize the links of cooperation between countries and continents

Activities 2021-2022

Since taking office in 2021, we have wanted to involve all the existing African centers in the new Africa Commission Board. By putting in place a larger Board, to involve them more in the activities of the Commission, which aims to revitalize the African centers and to implant new centers in other African countries.

The Project Spotlight on puppetry in Africa carried out jointly by the UNIMA international and the Commission Africa with for goal to develop a project linked to the creation and to the professional training of the young African puppeteers.

This project was declined in a cycle of training course, several professional meetings of network and times of professional immersion leading to an African creation within the framework of the project 4 creations 4 continents of the UNIMA International, on the text DOUANE of the Brazilian height

This creation involved young artists from several African countries.

With a training course animated by Dadi Pudumjee in Abidjan and in March 2000 on the MASA in Ivory Coast, three residences of Creations, one in Ivory Coast, in Burkina and in Senegal, animated by Naomi Van Niekerk of South Africa via Zoom in February 2021 in Ivory Coast to the Ivory Academy Puppets, March 2021 in Burkina to ACMUR Rendez Chez Nous and in April 2021 in Senegal to Djarama

The three main stakes of this project are:

- The impulse of a structuring of the arts of the puppet, in Africa of
- The exchange of skills between peers
- The learning by the professional training

This project allowed the revitalization of the centers in standby, Mali, Burkina, Ivory Coast, Benin, Senegal, Togo and Niger.



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It also allowed us to set up 7 new UNIMA representatives in 7 African countries.

Congo DRC, Guinea Conakry, Gabon, Zambia, Uganda, Ghana

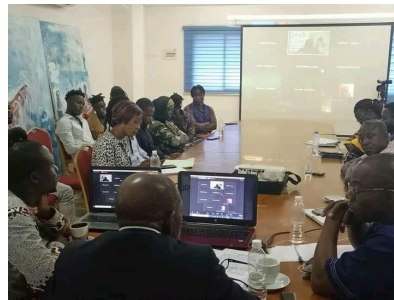
- A booklet on the process of African creation is being produced and will be published soon

From 27 to 30 October 2021, a sub-regional workshop on the theme of: The Transmission of the art of the puppet in West Africa, organized by La compagnie du fil de Athanase Kabre in Partnership with the Commission Africa.

The Board of the Commission meets once a month and every 2 months with all the centers of the Commission.

Future project

- Training cycle for the benefit of African centers in partnership with the Professional Training Commission
- African tour of the African creation with Patricia Gomis and the artists retained in the creation (Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Togo)
- Organisation of a physical meeting of the Executive Committee in Africa



Activities 2022 – 2023

In our dynamics of structuring of the centres UNIMA Africa and the professionalization of the young Puppeteers of Africa, the Africa commission in collaboration with the professional training commission of the UNIMA and UNIMA international secretariat initiated a project named Tomorrow's Puppetry in Africa. A project of trainings which articulates around the dramaturgies and the digital experimentations a cycle of 5 free training courses organized by the national centres of UNIMA in Tunisia, Togo, Kenya, South Africa, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Zambia, the representative of Uganda and a structure in Tanzania. This project started on 10 February and will end on 16 May 2023.

The launching of the beginning of the courses took place on Friday, February 10th and was marked by a beautiful conference-discussion animated by the Polish Researcher in history of the art of puppets, critic, lecturer, Marek Waszkiel.

This project The Puppet of Tomorrow in Africa is supported by the UNESCO and coordinated by the UNIMA in collaboration with the Africa Commission and the Professional Training Commission.

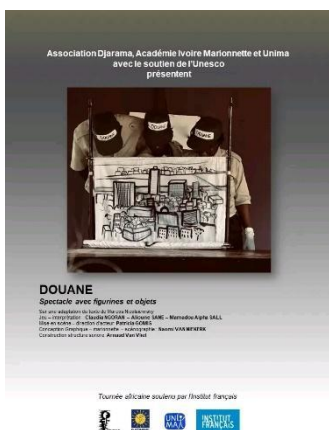


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The previous project "Spotlight in Puppetry in Africa" which was declined in a cycle of training course, several professional meetings of network and times of professional immersion leading to an African creation within the framework of the project 4 creations 4 continents of the UNIMA International, on the text DOUANE of the Brazilian author.

The African creation directed by Patricia Gomis, toured in October 2022 in 3 countries, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Mali, the tour was supported by the French Institute.



A meeting in presential of the presidents of the national centres of the UNIMA Africa is foreseen next November in Ivory Coast on the RIMA (International Meetings of the Puppet of Abatta) to make the state of the art of the different centres with the presidents and the appointed representatives.