

Antawan I. Byrd
Weinberg Fellow
Department of Art History
Northwestern University
1880 Campus Drive
Evanston, IL 60202

EDUCATION

PhD (ABD) In Progress	Northwestern University, Department of Art History, Evanston, IL Dissertation: “Interferences: Sound, Technology, and the Politics of Listening in Afro-Atlantic Art” Advisor: Professor Krista A. Thompson Committee: Professors Huey Copeland, Hannah Feldman, and Alexander Weheliye Major Field: Modern & Contemporary Art History Minor Exam Fields: African Diaspora Art History and Sound Studies
M.A. 2013	Northwestern University, Department of Art History, Evanston, IL
B.A. 2008	Tyler School of Art, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA Art History and Digital Media Design (double major), Magna Cum Laude 2007 Temple University Rome, Semester Abroad

EMPLOYMENT

2021-	Weinberg Fellow, Department of Art History, Northwestern University
2021-	Associate Curator (At Large/Special Projects) Department of Photography and Media, Art Institute of Chicago

CURATORIAL PROJECTS

2021	Mimi Cherono Ng’ok: Closer to the Earth, Closer to My Own Body Art Institute of Chicago Curator
2019	The People Shall Govern! Medu Art Ensemble and the Anti-Apartheid Poster Art Institute of Chicago Co-Curator [with Felicia Mings]
2019	How To Build A Lagoon With Just a Bottle of Wine? 2 nd Lagos Biennial of Contemporary Art Co-Curator [with Tosin Oshinowo and Oyindamola Fakeye]
2017-2018	Andrew Mellon COSI Curatorial Fellow Art Institute of Chicago Exhibition Project: <i>Volta Photo: Starring Sanlé Sory and the People of Bobo-Dioulasso in the Small but Musically Mighty Country of Burkina Faso</i> curated by Matthew Witkovsky

- 2016-2017 **Kader Attia: Reflecting Memory**
Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University
Co-curator [with Kathleen Bickford Berzock & Janet Dees]
- 2015 **Telling Time, the 10th Bamako Encounters, African Biennale of Photography, Associate Curator of Publications/Special Projects**
[with Bisi Silva, Artistic Director, and Yves Chatap, Associate Curator]
- 2014-2015 **Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL**
Curatorial Fellow under Kathleen Berzock, Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs
- 2012 **Inventer le Monde: L'artiste Citoyen, 2012 Biennale Bénin, Cotonou**
Research & Editorial Assistant invited by Abdellah Karroum, Artistic Director
- 2011 **J.D. 'Okhai Ojeikere: Moments of Beauty,**
Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki
Curatorial Assistant [with co-curators Bisi Silva and Aura Seikkula]
- 2009 – 2011 **Center for Contemporary Art, Lagos**
Curatorial Assistant
- 2009 **Revealing the African Presence in Renaissance Europe**
Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Curatorial Intern
- 2008 **The Philadelphia Museum of Art Intern, Museum Studies Program**

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Edited/Co-Edited Volumes

Antawan I. Byrd and Felicia Mings, *The People Shall Govern! Medu Art Ensemble and the Anti-Apartheid Poster (1979-1985)*, exhibition catalogue, (Art Institute of Chicago/Yale University Press, 2020).

Antawan I. Byrd, Yves Chatap, and Bisi Silva, eds., *Telling Time: Rencontres de Bamako, Biennale africaine de la photographie 10ème Edition*, exhibition catalogue, (Heidelberg: Kehrer Verlag, 2015).

Essays / Interviews

“Ernest Cole’s *House of Bondage*,” *Aperture / The Photobook* Review (Fall 2020)

“Kiluanji Kia Henda: In the Days of the Dark Safari,” *Foam International Photography Magazine*, (February 2020).

“Amplifications: Sanlé Sory’s Great Movements Between Photography and Music,” in *Sanlé Sory: Volta Photo* (Art Institute of Chicago; Steidl, 2018)

“On the Origins and Evolution of Àsikò: A Conversation between Bisi Silva and Antawan I. Byrd” in Bisi Silva, ed., *Àsikò: On the Future of Artistic and Curatorial Pedagogies in Africa*, (Lagos: CCA, 2017).

“By Sight and Sound: Along the Wayfarings of Em’kal Eyongakpa and Dawit L. Petros” in Remi Onabanjo, ed., *Recent Histories: Contemporary African Photography & Video Art*, (Göttingen: Steidl, 2017).

- “Malala Andrialavidrizana’s *Figures*” *Aperture Magazine* #227 Platform Africa Special Issue, May 2017.
- “Turning Heads: Process and Production in Ojeikere’s Hairstyles,” in Bisi Silva, ed., *J.D. ‘Okhai Ojeikere*, (Lagos: CCA, 2014).
- “Lagos” in Kari Rittenbach, ed., *Art Cities of the Future: 21st Century Avant-Gardes*, (London: Phaidon, 2013).
- “Face Me I Face You: ‘Agbo Rago’ and the Performance Art of Jelili Atiku,” in Jelili Atiku, ed., *Agbo Rago in Performance*, (Lagos: Ateckhu Press, 2011).

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS / PANELS

- “On the 2nd Lagos Biennial of Contemporary Art,” Arts Club of Chicago, January 21, 2020.
- “Turning In: Self-Portraits and Photography,” panel discussant, Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago, March 9, 2019.
- “Listening Out: Seydou Kéita’s Radio and the Problem of Decolonization,” Invited Lecture, Museum of Modern Art, New York, C-MAP Program, March 6, 2019.
- “Technosonic Episodes from the History of Photography in Africa,” Invited Lecture, Àsikò Curatorial Intensive at ACASA, University of Ghana-Legon, Accra, August 8, 2017.
- “Africa’s Photographic Futures,” Panelist, 17th Triennial Symposium, University of Ghana-Legon, Accra, Ghana, Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA), August 8, 2017.
- “Kader Attia: Reflecting Memory,” Moderator, Roundtable Discussion with Kader Attia and anthropologists Peter Locke and Caroline Bledsoe, Block Museum of Art, Evanston, Illinois, January 21, 2017.
- “Photography Platforms in Africa” Invited Panelist, Beyond the Frame: Contemporary Photography from Africa and the Diaspora, Symposium, Columbia University, NY, October 21, 2016.
- “On Art Publishing in Africa,” Panel Moderator, Professional Week, 10th Bamako Encounters Biennale of African Photography, Musée National du Mali, November 4, 2015.
- “Wangechi Mutu: A Fantastic Journey,” Gallery Talk, Northwestern’s Block Museum, November 19, 2014.
- “Sabelo Mlangeni’s *Country Girls*,” Invited Gallery Talk, Iceberg Projects, Chicago, November 10, 2012.
- “Being There/Being Seen: Locality and Afterlife in Jelili Atiku’s *Agbo Rago*” Invited Participant, Shifting Plane of Performance Symposium, University of Toronto Art Museum, August 27, 2012.
- “Where Is There? On the “Local” and “Global” in Contemporary Art” Panelist, Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos, May 23, 2011.
- “On Contemporary Nigerian Art,” Invited Viewpoint Gallery Talk on the work of Odili Odita, Emeka Ogboh, Otobong Nkanga, and J.D. ‘Okhai Ojeikere, Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, March 11, 2011.
- “Safaa Erruas & Pinar Yolacan,” Invited Presentation on CCA, Lagos’ Exhibition Program, Sharjah Art Foundation, March Meeting Conference, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, March 15, 2011.

“On Digital Media in Contemporary Art” Invited Lecture, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Department of Art and Art History, November 25, 2009.

“Revisiting Globalization: Transnationality in work of Yinka Shonibare & Fatimah Tuggar,” Temple University, Global Studies Conference, November 11, 2008.

“The Evolution of Brancusi’s *Mademoiselle Pogany*,” Gallery Talk, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Aug. 12, 2008.

GRANTS / AWARDS / FELLOWSHIPS

2017	Award for Curatorial Excellence, Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA)
2017-2018	Andrew Mellon Curatorial Fellowship, Art Institute of Chicago, Department of Photography
2017-2018	University of Rochester, Frederick Douglass Institute for African/African-American Studies Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (declined)
2015-2016	Andrew Mellon Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources
2015	Buffett Institute for International Studies Graduate Research Award
2014-2015	Block Museum of Art Curatorial Fellowship
2013	Professional Development Grant Award, The Graduate School, Northwestern University
2012, 2013	Barbara Shanley Travel Research Grant, Northwestern University
2009-2010	Fulbright Fellowship, Lagos, Nigeria
2008	Pennsylvania Historic Commission Diversity Fellowship, Philadelphia Museum of Art
2008	Temple University Diamond Research Scholar Fellowship
2007	International Programs Art History Scholarship, Temple University Rome
2007	Neil Kosh International Studies Scholarship, Temple University Rome

RESEARCH RESIDENCIES

2016	Two-Month Scholar-in-Residence, Alice Yard, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad
2011	One-Month Curatorial Residency, Helsinki International Art Program

LANGUAGES

English – Native

French – Intermediate Speaking and Writing; Proficient – Reading

Portuguese – Reading