



54 Artworks of 54 contemporary african artists - committed to Africa's sustainable access to renewable energy - are shown at the UN Office in Geneva for the 4th step of *Lumières d'Afriques*.

**Opening of the exhibition on Monday 13th of March at 6:30 pm
Mezzanine, E Building, 2nd Floor - Door 40 - Geneva
Lumières d'Afriques will be shown from 13th to 31st of March**

Lumières d'Afriques is an **African Artists for Development's (AAD-fund)** exhibition - hosted at the UN Office in Geneva (UNOG) thanks to the joint support of the UNOG, of the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) and of the African Union (AU). Geneva is the fourth step of *Lumières d'Afriques* after Paris, Abidjan and Dakar. Michael Møller, Director-General of the ONUG, Antoine Barbry, permanent representative for the OIF, Jean-Marie Ehouzou, permanent representative for the AU and Matthias Leridon, Co-President of AAD-fund, organize the opening of the exhibition the 13th of March: an opportunity for celebrating in presence of the whole diplomatic community a new "alliance for change" calling for a sustainable development of Africa.

For the first time in the history of contemporary art, 54 artists coming from each country in the great continent of Africa will each present an art work created with the same inspiration: "Africa of Enlightenment" (L'Afrique des Lumières). Through their creations, the 54 painters, sculptors and photographers will offer visions, hopes, dreams and fears, depicting the complexity, power and the richness of contemporary African art.

Lumières d'Afriques is not only a tribute to African creativity but also a call to think about its message: the trust of the 54 artists in Africa's future. Taking place at the UN office in Geneva is the powerful demonstration of the key role Africa and African civil societies play in the promotion of Sustainable Development Goals.

Lumières d'Afriques to allude to the renewing of African art and philosophy in the 21st century.

Lumières d'Afriques for the role that this great continent aspires to attain within the global centers of creativity and humanism.

Lumières d'Afriques in its more literal meaning. This exceptional exhibition is also an artistic engagement that bring to light the issues facing the African continent's future through its access to energy. A large portion of the population lacks access to electricity, which greatly impedes development opportunities.

Lumières d'Afriques for freedom. The right to energy access is a fundamental freedom for an individual living in the 21st century.

Among the 54 artists committed in *Lumières d'Afriques* : Malala Andrialavidrazana (Madagascar), Naziha Arebi (Libya), Nu Barreto (Guinea Bissau), Jamila Lamrani (Maroc), Teddy Mazina (Burundi), Hassan Musa (Sudan), Nyaba Ouedraogo (Burkina Faso), Amina Zoubir (Algeria) will attend the opening of the exhibition. Their artworks break down the common misperception about Africa, often biased in which the artistic force inspires on many levels, through the intensity of the artists' look at their lived reality and through the depth of the global issues linked to development of the continent. The entire list of the artists taking part in *Lumières d'Afriques* is available on : www.lumieresdafriques.com

African Artists for Development and its partners – among them Schneider Electric Foundation and the communications consulting firm TILDER – gave life to this project: *Lumières d'Afriques*.

Artistic direction : Jean-Michel Champault



À propos d'African Artists for Development :

Set up in 2009 by Gervanne et Matthias Leridon, in response to the Sustainable Development goals defined by the United Nations, the endowment fund African Artists for Development is creating and supporting development projects in africa, linked with african contemporary art works. The unique approach was recognized by the Clinton Global Initiative and allowed AAD to receive aserver status membership in the United Nations Economis and Social Councili.

African Artists for Development (AAD) started with a deep-seated conviction: contemporary African artists' commitment to development projects is one of the best ways to built a future for the continent.
www.aad-fund.org

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