



2019 ITALY,
CULTURES,
AFRICA

OCTOBER 24, 2018
MUSEO MAXXI - ROMA



Farnesina
*Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale*

#VIVERE ALL'ITALIANA

in collaboration with



**MINISTERO
PER I BENI E
LE ATTIVITÀ
CULTURALI**



CARLA ACCARDI

Cornici e corde, 1997

Farnesina Art Collection

ITALY, CULTURES, AFRICA

A year of culture and dialogue

"Italy, Cultures, Africa" is the programme that the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is promoting for the year 2019, involving the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, in continuity with the 2018 programme "Italy, Cultures, Mediterranean", focused on North Africa.

"Italy, Cultures, Africa" aims to **promote intercultural dialogue and understanding, collaboration, and growth** both by focusing on existing initiatives and by creating new opportunities. Filled with many initiatives and projects, the Programme will be inspired by tradition, innovation, and creativity, all qualities that will be at the heart of the events that the Italian diplomatic and cultural network in the area (22 Embassies, 2 Consulates, and 4 Cultural Institutes) will organise in the coming year. It will also see the **collaboration of local partners** and other Italian governmental institutions such as the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities.

Music, visual arts, dance, archaeology, drama, science are some of the areas where the Italian and African talent will be on stage, seeking to plant the seeds to create strong bonds between all the countries involved, witnessing that working together can yield extraordinary fruits. We strongly believe that culture is an instrument to build bridges between people and communities and reinforce mutual comprehension. It can be a drive for social and economic progress. Therefore, in these times of global challenges, investing in culture and exchange of experiences will certainly provide both Italy and the African Countries with significant results, not only for the year 2019 but also for the years to come.

This evening, that will mark the **inauguration of the II Italy-Africa Conference**, we are proud to present the "Italy, Cultures, Africa" programme. In these stunning premises, in presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Enzo Moavero Milanesi, and of the President of the MAXXI Foundation, Giovanna Melandri, surrounded by the artworks on display for the African Metropolis exhibition, we will be celebrating art and culture, through the performance of exceptional dancers and musicians.

AFRICAN AND ITALIAN STRINGS

Kaw Diali Madi Sissoko, *kora*
Simone Battista, *guitar*

MIRRORS

Mirrors is a multidisciplinary artistic performance recounting and enhancing the ties between Africa and Italy. It is a mosaic of gestures, cultures, sounds, words, faces and images, interpreting the nexus between contemporary and traditional stories which reflect our past and present, as well as our unique and diverse identities and heritage.

Birth, Discovery, Contamination - three moments that shape our lives and relations with the other and in which Italy and Africa are able to become alive and reverberate through body language, visual stimulations and a soundscape resulting from the fusion of instruments and musical genres.

Mirrors is a powerful emotional dialogue celebrating the value and richness of diversity in contemporaneity.

In partnership with GRIOT

Concept + Art Direction, Johanne Affricot
Choreographer, Lidia Carew
*Performers, Lidia Carew * Andrea 'DREW' Bouothmane*
Music, Celine 'EHUA' Angebeletchy
*Video Art, Luca Brinchi * Daniele Spanó*
Light Design, Daniele Davino
Portraits, Adaeze Ibehom



VISIT TO THE “AFRICAN METROPOLIS. AN IMAGINARY CITY” EXHIBITION

In collaboration with MAXXI, today we are proud to offer our guests the special opportunity to visit the **“African Metropolis. An imaginary city”** exhibition.

Curated by Simon Njami and co-curated by Elena Motisi, the project has been realised by MAXXI in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

“African Metropolis. An imaginary city” presents the works of 34 artists, reflecting on the on-going social and cultural transformations in the African continent.

**Guided tours led by cultural mediators
are available in English and French.**

Groups will leave at:

8pm

8.15pm

8.30 pm