

29/05/2017

**\*Extension\* Exhibition at GfZK Leipzig until 08.10.2017**



With works by: Ayo Akinwande, Opeyemi Balogun, Sammy Baloji, Dounia Cherfaoui, Bodil Furu, Allyn Gaestel / Benedicte Kurzen, Anawana Haloba, Dan Halter, Gerda Heck / Christian Hanussek, Louis Henderson, Sam Hopkins / David Lalé, Eric van Hove, Huang Xiaopeng, Taiye Idahor, Daniel Sixte Kakinda, Daniel Kötter, Mansour Ciss Kanakassy / Christian Hanussek / Baruch Gottlieb, Li Jinghu, Li Xiaofei, Lu Shan, Luo Xiye, Michael MacGarry, Denise Maheho, Map Office, Elke Marhöfer / Mikhail Lylov, Eddy Mayaya, Stary Mwaba, Nobukho Nqaba, Folakunle Oshun, Henrik Spohler, Mladen Stilinovic, Moffat Takadiwa, Song Ting / Adam Smith / Wang Qihan, Paolo Woods, Joseph Wright of Derby, Yu-Shen Su, Payne Zhou, Sofiane Zouggar and others

OPENING: JUNE 1st, 7 pm

EXHIBITION: JUNE 2 – October 8, 2017

at Museum for Contemporary Art Leipzig

GfZK

Karl-Tauchnitz-Straße 9–11

D-04107 Leipzig

Opening hours:

Tue – Fri: 2 pm–7 pm

Sat – Sun: 12 am–6 pm

On Wednesdays admission free

The goal of the artistic research project *Chinafrika. under construction* is to trace cultural relationships between China and Africa and to portrait a global process, which is sure to fundamentally alter no less than the notion of Europe. “Chinafrika” is a symptom of the de facto ongoing provincialisation of Europe.

The project is concentrating on the Copperbelt in northern Zambia and the South-Eastern DR of Congo as a hub for the extraction and the transport of raw materials, as well as on the megacities Lagos (Nigeria), Johannesburg (South Africa) and Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). In China, it is focusing on the Pearl River Delta with its African trade centres in Hong Kong, Guangzhou and the free-trade zone in Shenzhen.

African, Chinese and European artists and curators, theorists and protagonists reflect on new developments and phenomena in the fields of artistic practice and visual cultures, everyday social life, as well as architecture and urbanism. Working Groups in Guangzhou, Johannesburg, Lagos and Lubumbashi develop shared theoretical and artistic positions in order to generate local research, theory and art as well as a local debate. These will be presented in a mobile “travelling construction site” format in workshops and conferences, exhibitions, performances, film screenings and publications.

The presentation *Chinafrika. under construction* in Leipzig’s Galerie für zeitgenössische Kunst (GfZK) is the central exhibition of the Chinafrika project. It features a mix of contributions from Africa, China, and Europe based on more than twenty artworks specially prepared for Leipzig, findings from the four Chinafrika Working Groups and already existing works.

Participants’ diverse artistic and exploratory works are structured and explained through a curatorial narrative (*Establishing Shots, Contact Zones, interviews, materials, frequently*

*asked questions*) in terms of both substance as well as scenography. Chinafrika. under construction unfolds a spatial terrain spanning three continents, addressing interconnected spheres of the economic and cultural dynamics of the “Chinafrika” phenomenon, organised around the themes of *Explosion/Exposition, Resourcing, Shipping, Factory, Shopping, Urban, Transit, Exchange, Future* and *Trailer*.

The pavilion structure of the challenging exhibition space is outfitted with mobile walls, interweaving the various themes into a spatial scenario with multiple potential pathways through which to explore the exhibition. Simple supporting structures criss-cross the pavilion, while exhibits, objects, and various devices are unfolded across the space and “time zones” of light traverse the room. In this sense, the building’s flexible, deconstructive architecture characteristic of late Western modernity, now plays host to works of the current “Chinafrikan” era. This implicit antagonism simultaneously represents the core of the project itself, transformed into a spatial experience in the context of the exhibition.

The exhibition *Chinafrika. under construction* is curated by Jochen Becker (metroZones, Berlin) together with Julia Schäfer (Museum of Contemporary Art, Leipzig) and Daniel Kötter (Berlin). The working group leaders are Huang Xiaopeng (Guangzhou), Michael MacGarry (Johannesburg), Patrick Mudekereza (Lubumbashi) and Folakunle Oshun (Lagos). Berlin-based architecture firm ifau (institut fuer angewandte urbanistik, Berlin) and designer Markus Dreßen (Spector Bureau, Leipzig) are responsible for the exhibition’s design.

## Download Exhibition Materials

### Program

#### Opening June 1st

7 pm: Introductory Talks by Jochen Becker (metroZones) and Franciska Zólyom (GfZK)

8 pm: Guided Tour with the Curators and Artists present

#### June 2nd

5-7 pm: Guided Tour with the Curators and Artists present

7-8 pm: “Making of” – Panel Discussion with the curatorial Team and the Working-Group-Leaders

8-9:30 pm: Round Table Chinafrika

9:30 pm: Open-Air Screening with Bodil Furu

#### June 3rd

12 noon – 2 pm: Guided Tour with the Curators and Artists present

Registration not required.

The curatorial team and various artists are expected be present:

Mansour Ciss Kanakassy, Bodil Furu, Anawana Haloba, Christian Hanussek /  
Gerda Heck, Sam Hopkins / David Lalé, Taiye Idahor, Daniel Sixte Kakinda,  
Folakunle Oshun, Eric van Hove, Yu Shen Su, Payne Zhu