

KWANI?



KWANI TRUST MONTHLY BULLETIN

Issue 1 2010

From The Editor

Welcome to the premier edition of the brand new Kwani Monthly Bulletin. We are excited as Kwani recently moved to a spacious new office on Riverside Drive. We are also proud to have been awarded the 2010 Prince Claus Award. Kwani has witnessed various changes and challenges in the publishing industry but are still committed to developing and promoting quality writing in Africa. We are preparing for the Nairobi Book fair in the second half of September and Story Moja Hay Festival in October.

We look forward to receiving feedback from you through our interactive website, Facebook page or email on info@kwani.org

IN A NUTSHELL:

- Kwani Trust a Prince Claus Laureate
- Somi in East Africa
- Kwani? Open Mic
- Kwani Short Story Writers Workshop and Retreat
- Opportunities

Coming Soon in all leading bookshops:



Follow us on:



www.kwani.org

Kwani Trust a 2010 Prince Claus Award Laureate

Kwani Trust has been awarded a 2010 Prince Claus Award, given annually in recognition of exceptional achievements in the field of Culture and Development. Each year, this prestigious award run by the Prince Claus Fund invites an expanding network of colleagues, partners and experts in artistic and cultural fields that are relevant to the Fund's mission to nominate candidates for the award.

The Award will be presented in Nairobi in December 2010 by the Netherlands Ambassador to Kenya, HE. Laetitia van den Assum. The Trust plans to use the award money as a seed fund for a manuscript project that produces novel-length manuscripts between 2011 and 2013, with the project kicking off in early 2011. Further details will be available through the press and the Kwani Trust website from December 2010.

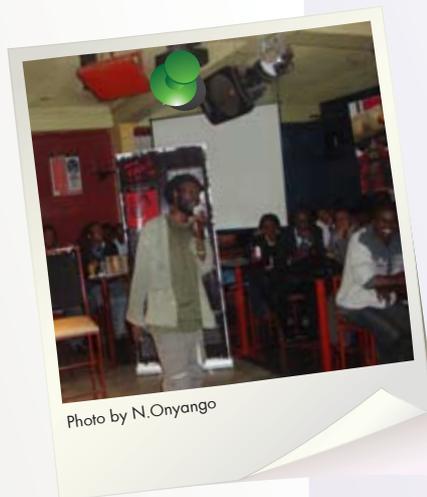


Photo by N.Onyango

KWANI OPEN MIC RELOADED

Kwani? held two successful editions of the monthly poetry sessions at Club Soundd. Audiences enjoyed performances from Poets such as Tony Mochama, Kennet B , Wanjiku Mwaura and Mstari wa Nne . Anto Neo soul and Dela were the featured artists during the months of July and August.

WRITERS WORKSHOPS AND RETREAT

Kwani Trust held a four day Short Story Competition workshop in June 2010 at the Lenana Conference Center. Up to 12 writers attended the 4-day workshop facilitated by Kwani editors, the judges from the short story competition and other African short story writers. The participating writers were long-listed in the recently concluded Kwani short story competition. Mehul Gohil won the competition with his short story: 'Farah Aideed Goes to Gulf War.' In July, Kwani held a one week retreat for the writers in Watamu.



Photo by Paul Munene

SOMI

The Chinua Achebe Centre for African Writers, Rainmaker Ltd. and Kwani Trust threw a party on Saturday 7th August at Kifaru Gardens to introduce Kenyans to Somi, a neo soul artist who was visiting from New York by way of Uganda and Rwanda. The party was held with support from the USA Embassy, Nairobi .

FEATURED WRITERS

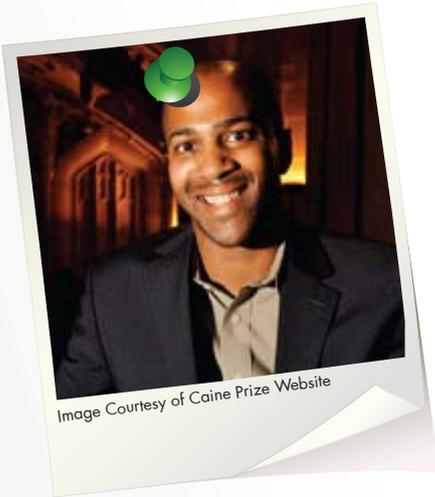
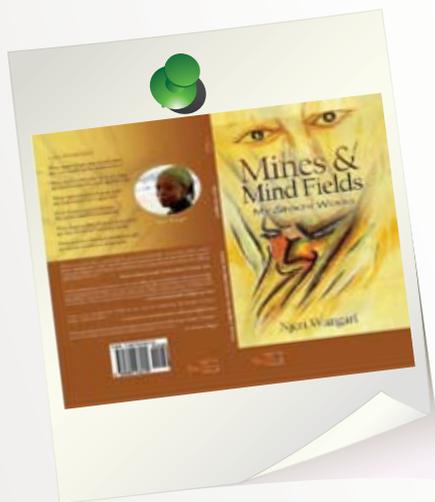


Image Courtesy of Caine Prize Website

OLUFEMI TERRY

Terry Olufemi won the 2010 Caine Prize for African writing with his story 'Stickfighting Days'. His writing has appeared in Chimurenga, New Contast and The Caine Prize For African Writing 8th Annual Edition

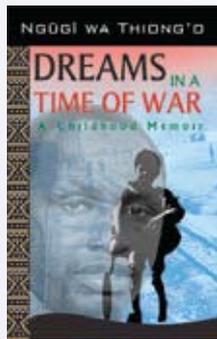


NJERI WANGARI

Njeri Wangari is a multi talented; Kenyan poet, performer, IT specialist and arts blogger. She recently published a poetry anthology titled, 'Mines & Mind Fields; My Spoken Words'.

"She is one of the most respected female poets in Nairobi today". The Sunday Nation writer Joseph Ngunjiri says of Njeri, "Njeri Wangari has a powerful voice, and she knows how to put it to good use. Whenever she takes to the podium to recite a poem, she has her enthusiastic audience applauding all the way."

FEATURED BOOK



DREAMS IN A TIME OF WAR – Ngugi wa thiongo

This memoir vividly narrates reflections from Ngugi's childhood. It clearly illustrates the colonial rule in Kenya, gradual change in culture, environment and life in rural and urban Kenya during pre and post independence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

KWANI OPEN MIC

5th Oct 2010

Venue: Club Soundd

Entrance: 100/-

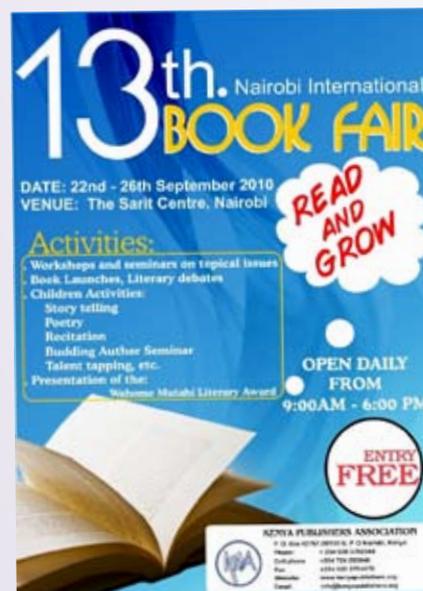
13th NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

Date 22nd – 26th September

Venue: Sarit Center, Nairobi

Entrance: Free

Visit Kwani Trust's Stand No: 50



STORY MOJA HAY FESTIVAL

Dates: Fri 1st - Sun 3rd October 2010

Venue: The Railway Sports Club, next to Uhuru Park, Nairobi

OPPORTUNITIES

BRITISH COUNCIL CREATIVE ENTERPRISE TRAINING

Creative Enterprise is a project of training, mentoring, networking and secondment across the Creative Industries, led by the British Council. The project's vision is to be Africa's most respected and effective scheme for developing aspiring creative entrepreneurs.

For more details contact:

Martha.njuno@britishcouncil.or.ke or

jmatogo@strathmore.edu

The GoDown Arts Centre will be hosting the second **Economy of Creativity Conference**, in Mombasa from the 29th of September to the 3rd of October 2010.

CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN WOMEN'S POETRY

Poems may focus on: the work life, motherhood, wifehood, children, the state and nation, war, Africa's wealth or lack thereof, poverty, HIV-AIDS, prison, freedom, celebration, grief, happiness, border crossings, marriage, birth, the environment, loss, love, trans-nationalism, migration, gender, race, class, and any other topics or issues that interest African women globally. Unpublished poems are preferred. email to: Anthonia Kalu (kalu.5@osu.edu); Folabo, Ajayi-Soyinka (omofola@ku.edu);

ACP PHOTO COMPETITION

Applications close 15th September 2010
Are you a young photographer under 30?
The themes of the competition (as they relate to African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and development): trade, climate change, culture and science and technology
For more information visit:
www.acp-eucourier.info

QUEER AFRICA READER:

Discussion paper & call for abstracts.
Applications close 15th September 2009.
The African LGBTI / Queer Reader [Working Title] seeks to make a timely intervention by bringing together a collection of writings and artistic works that engage with the struggle for LGBTI liberation and inform sexual orientation and gender variance.

Submissions can be any of the following: essays, personal stories, poems, art work, photography, short stories. Chosen entries will be published in Pambazuka Press in June 2011.
Email: qar@fahamu.org