

# **ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE 2024**

## **AFRICAN MEMORIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUMS BUILDING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR PEACE**

**Kigali, Rwanda / 28 July - 1 August 2024**

**Conference Chair: Ophelia Leon**

**Conference Co-chair: Teresien da Silva**



## **AFRICAN MEMORIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUMS BUILDING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR PEACE**

ICMEMOHRI is meeting for the first time on the African continent. The backdrop of the 30th commemoration of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda provides a unique opportunity to place African memorial and human rights museums at the center and foster an exchange of ideas, views, and experiences. The conference will focus on the various pathways used by African memorial museums and sites to present and process the memory of genocide, war, violence, and human rights violations, engage the community, and look towards the future.

The conference begins by acknowledging the colonial past and exploring decolonization in the present and where it will lead in the future. The second topic is an examination of how using literature and graphic novels can influence or contribute to addressing dissonant histories and events in a museum or memorial setting. The third topic is ways in which the performing arts in museums create additional ways and formats for processing trauma and healing.

## **LISTENING AND LEADING: THE ART AND SCIENCE OF PEACE, RESILIENCE AND TRANSFORMATIONAL JUSTICE**

We will begin our conference during the final day of the international conference Listening and Leading: The Art and Science of Peace, Resilience, and Transformational Justice organized by Aegis Trust to take place in Kigali, Rwanda, 26–28 July, which marks both the 30th anniversary since the 1994 genocide and the foundation of the Isoko Peace Institute. On the 28th, the last session, organized by ICMEMOHRI, will turn the discussion at the conference to the role of memorial and human rights museums.

**Registration Pre-conference, 28th July**

[//event.aegistrust.org/](https://event.aegistrust.org/)

**Registration ICMEMOHRI Conference, 29th July/1st August - Sold Out**

in collaboration with:



*For Multimedia Heritage*





# MEMORIAL MUSEUMS IN ADVANCING PEACE, RECONCILIATION, AND JUSTICE

## ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE, DAY 1

28 July 2024, Merriot Hotel

Afternoon panel session of the Aegis Trust Conference: Listening and Leading. The Art and Science of Peace, Resilience, and Transformational Justice

14:00 -  
15:30

### Welcome

- Jane E. Klinger, ICMEMOHRI Chair
- Emma Nardi, ICOM President

### Introduced and moderated by:

Erik Somers, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies, Amsterdam

### Speakers:

- Hang Nisay, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Cambodia
- Amina Krvavac, Executive Director of War Childhood Museum
- Bonita Bennett, Founding Director of the District 6 Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

For more information about the Listening and Leading Conference visit:  
[event.aegistrust.org](https://event.aegistrust.org)

URwanda  
rwacu  
Notre Rwanda  
Our Rwanda

URwanda ni igihugu kigizwe n' imisozi, amashyamba, ibiyaga, ahana bishimye, abaturage b' abakozi, abakaraza, ababyinyi, abanyabugeni n' abanyabukorikori. Iyo misozi igihumbi iturwego n' abaturage miriyoni umunani ku buso bwa kilometero kare 26.338. URwanda rufite ubutaka bwiza n' ijuru ryiza, ibyo bisobanuye ko ubwo butaka burumbuka. N' iyo isura y' igihugu cyacu kuva imyaka amagana. Turi bamwe, turuguru ururimi rumwe, dutite n' amateka amwe.

Nyamara mu bihe bishize, jenoside yadushyeye mu icuraburindi iducamo ibice. Iyo ni ibihe bibi twanyuzemo, ariko twagamba kwibuka kubera abacu babiguyemo no kugira ngo duteganyirize ejo hazaza.

Turavugaga amateka yacu n' ibihe bizaza. Inzozo mbi twarose n' imanza turangamiye. Imihangayiko yacu n' amirigiro yacu. Niyo mpamvu aho dutangirye ari naho turi busoreze...

Tuvugaga igihugu cyacu dukunda.





# AFRICAN MEMORIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUMS BUILDING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR PEACE - ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE, DAY 2

29 July 2024, Kigali Genocide Memorial

	9:00 - 11:00	<b>Visit of the Kigali Genocide Memorial</b>
	11:00 - 11:30	<b>Coffee and tea break</b>
<b>Conference Opening</b>	11:30 - 12:00	<p><b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jane E. Klinger, ICMEMOHRI Chair</li> <li>- Dr Jean Damascène Bizimana, Minister of National Unity and Civic Engagement of Rwanda</li> <li>- Freddy Mutanguha, CEO of the Aegis Trust and Director of the Kigali Genocide Memorial or James Smith, co-founder Aegis Trust</li> <li>- Emma Nardi, ICOM president</li> <li>- Betty Karanja, ICOM Africa</li> <li>- Louisa Nnenna Onuoha PhD, ICOM Nigeria</li> </ul>
	12:00 - 12:30	<p><b>Keynote speech, Memorial and Human Rights Museums in Africa</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr Kiprop Lagat, Director of Culture in the Ministry of Culture and Heritage of Kenya.</li> <li>- Ingabire Veneranda, Executive Director of the Memory and Prevention of Genocide at the Ministry of Culture of Rwanda</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p>
	12:30 - 13:30	<b>Lunch Break</b>





<p><b>SESSION 1 DECOLONIZATION IN MUSEUMS</b></p> <p>This session will be a podium for an exchange of views and discussions on the theme of decolonization. A process of rethinking colonialism and handing over the power of reinterpretation to its original owners can lead to fostering peace, to a more open society with greater social justice, and to reinforcing democratic processes through citizen engagement and an individual's responsibilities.</p> <p><b>Chairs:</b> Teresien da Silva Erik Somers</p>	<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p><b>Views on Decolonization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Views on Decolonization: The identity question!</b> Nath Mayo Adediran, former director of museums at the National Commission for Museums and Monuments, Nigeria</li> <li>- <b>Decolonising Museums, Reconciling Relationships</b> Catherine C. Cole, Principal Consultant, Catherine C. Cole &amp; Associates; former director of Planning for the Nunavut Inuit Heritage Centre, Canada</li> <li>- <b>Decolonisation of museums in different parts of the world</b> Hanna Pennock, co-chair working group ICOM decolonization</li> <li>- <b>Q&amp;A</b></li> </ul>
	<p>14:30 – 16:00</p>	<p><b>Colonial history and education in Museums in Rwanda</b></p> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assumpta Mugiraneza, co-founder and director of the IRIBA Center for Multimedia Heritage in Kigali, Rwanda</li> </ul> <p>Assumpta Mugiraneza in conversation with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gamaliel Mbonimana, historian, Professor Emeritus at the National University of Rwanda.</li> <li>- Jean Paul Kayumba and Mucyo Arnaud Kanyankore</li> </ul>
	<p>16:00 – 16:30</p>	<p><b>Coffee and tea break</b></p>
<p><b>Moderator</b> Ophelia Leon</p>	<p>16:30 – 17:30</p>	<p><b>Members' views</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jane E. Klinger, ICMEMOHRI Chair</li> <li>- Emma Nardi, ICOM president</li> <li>- Gege Joseph, Program Manager at Sites of Conscience, A lens to support human rights memorials and museums</li> <li>- Muthoni Thang'wa (ICOM Kenya), spokesperson of the ICOM National Committees</li> <li>- Helen Jarvis, former head of the Victims Support Section at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia</li> <li>- Ophelia Leon, The IHRA Charter for Safeguarding Sites</li> <li>- Mofidul Hoque, board of Trustees and founder of the Liberation War Museum, Dhaka, Bangladesh</li> </ul>

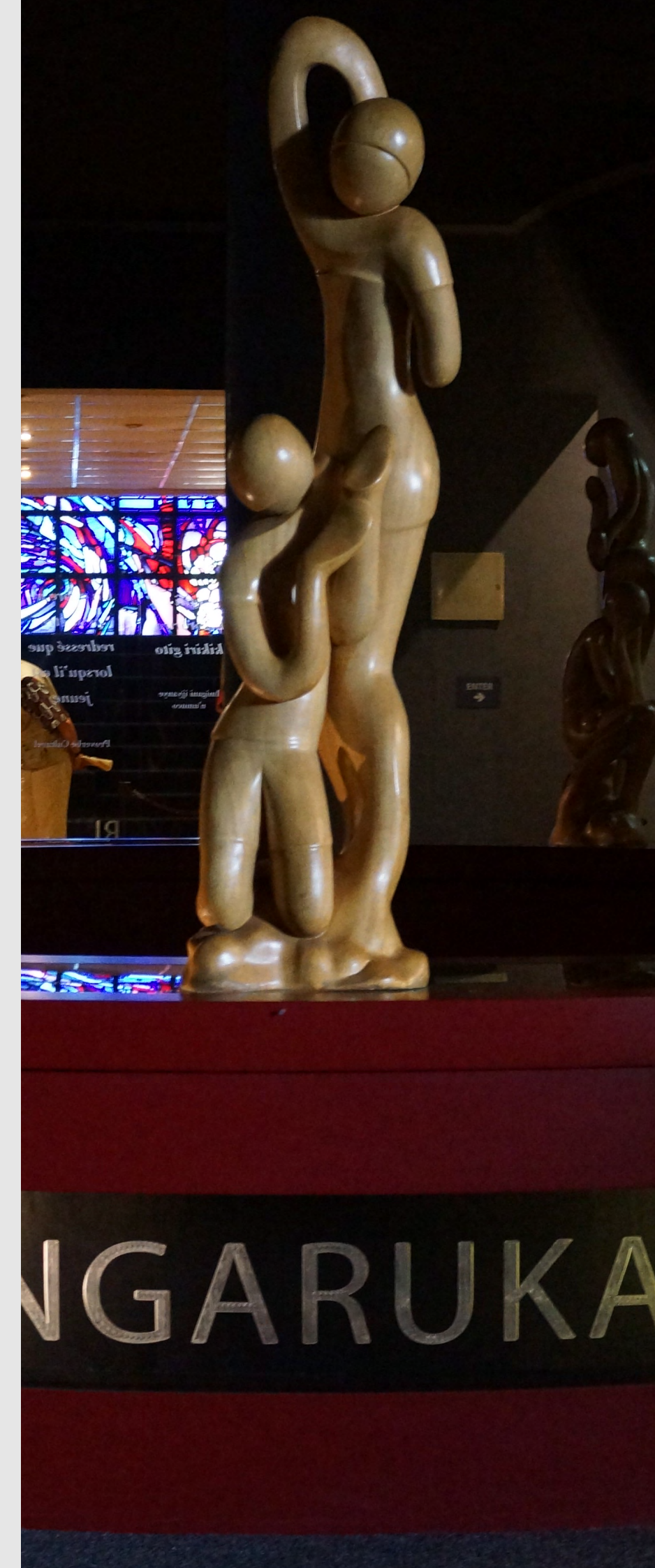




**AFRICAN MEMORIAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUMS BUILDING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR PEACE - ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE, DAY3**

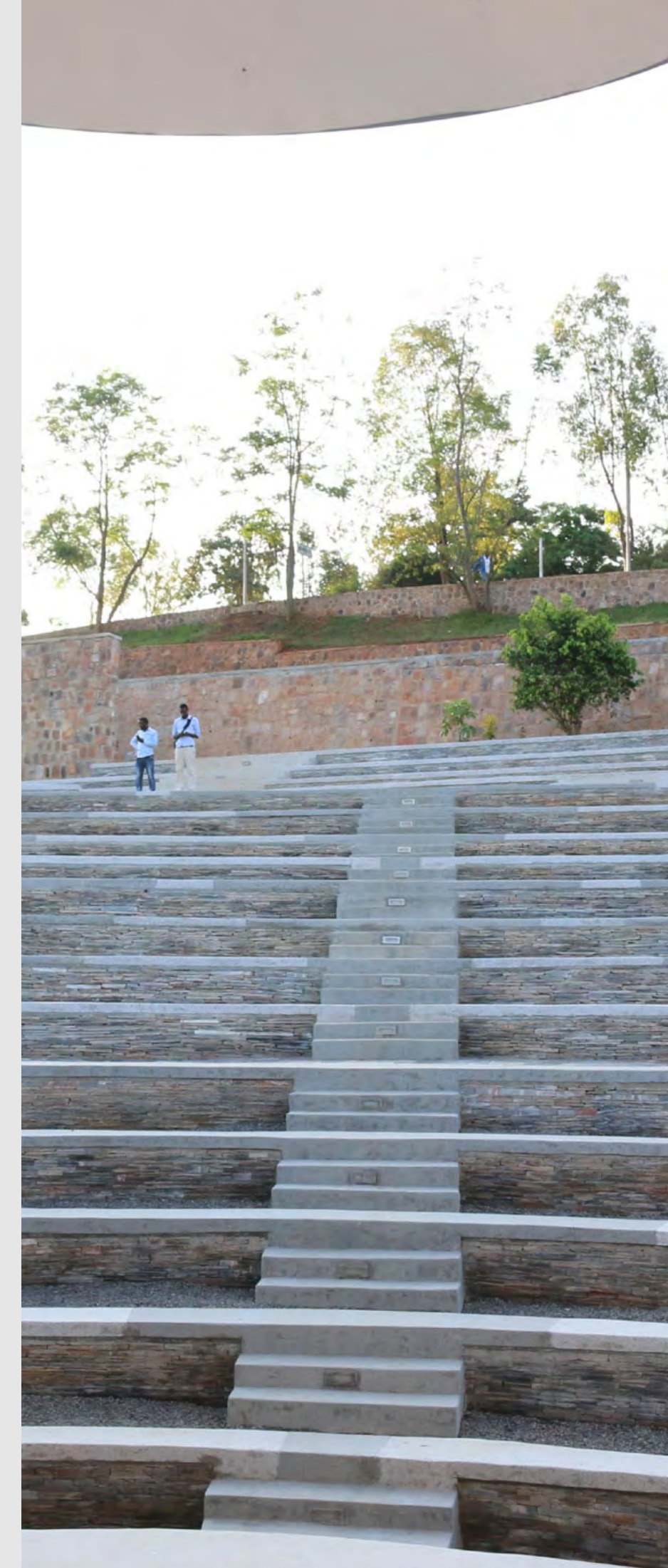
**30 July 2024, Kigali Genocide Memorial**

<p><b>SESSION 2 LITERATURE</b></p> <p>The question in our session is how literature, performance and narrative art forms also shape the content, presentation, and storytelling in African museums as they attempt to not only reflect but also process the various experiences of violence on the African continent.</p>	<p>9:00 - 11:00</p>	<p><b>Chairs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Felicitas Heimann-Jelinek</li> <li>- Ophelia Leon</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gasana Ndobu</li> <li>- Sandra Shenge</li> <li>- Jean Jules Irakoze</li> <li>- Majula Swareh. Memory Reconciliations and Oral History of Goree Island in Karmen Gei, Little Senegal and the novel Beyond the Door of No Return</li> </ul>
	<p>11:00 - 11:30</p>	<p><b>Coffee and tea break</b></p>
<p><b>SESSION 3 FROM GRAPHIC NOVEL TO NEW MEDIA</b></p> <p>Autobiographical comics and new media storytelling are emerging in memorial and human rights museums, supported often by participatory methodologies. Their capacity to incorporate the experiences of victims as protagonists fuels reflection and debate in the museum sphere, enhancing both their commemorative objectives and their aim for reconciliation.</p>	<p>11:30 - 13:30</p>	<p><b>Chair:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raúl F. San Miguel</li> </ul> <p><b>Speaker:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assumpta Mugiraneza</li> <li>- Participatory Travelling Sound Cartography</li> </ul> <p><b>Workshop</b></p>





<p><b>SESSION 4</b>  <b>PERFORMANCE IN MUSEUMS:</b>  <b>ENLIVENING SPACE WITH</b>  <b>MOVEMENT AND SOUND</b></p> <p>This session explores ways in which African museums are or can become flexible spaces for healing. We will look at ways in which the arts – spoken word, drama, music, and dance – offer important ways to communicate difficult histories and express traumatic experiences. Performance can link both performers and diverse audiences to deeper understanding, reconciliation, and the horrors of repeated atrocities.</p> <p><b>Chairs:</b>  Louisa Nnenna Onuoha, Ph.D.  Jill Vexler, Ph.D.</p>	15:00 – 15:10	<p><b>Introduction:</b>  – Jill Vexler, Ph.D.  – Louisa Nnenna Onuoha, Ph.D.</p>
	15:10 – 15:30	<p><b>- Overview of Performance Meanings and Places</b>  Professor Oladele Layiwola, Nigeria</p>
	15:30 – 15:50	<p><b>- Performance I</b>  Aubaine Hirwa, Rwanda  Q&amp;A</p>
	15:55 – 16:15	<p><b>- Performance II</b>  Carole U. Karemera , Executive Director, ISHYO Arts Centre , Rwanda  Q&amp;A</p>
	16:15 – 16:35	<p><b>- Performance III</b>  Cécile Umutoni, Rwanda  Q&amp;A</p>
	16:35 – 16:45	<p><b>- Performance IV</b>  VIDEO: Alhanislam, Spoken word, Nigeria  <b>- Performance V. Biafuru- a poetry performance which speaks against the genocide against the Igbo people of south eastern Nigeria between 1967-1970</b>  VIDEO: Amarachi, Spoken Word, Nigeria</p>
	16:45 – 17:00	<p><b>- Conclusion: Inferences and a weaving together of additional perspectives on performance</b>  Professor Oladele Layiwola, Nigeria</p>
	17:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Performance</b>  <b>A Minute of Silence</b></p>





## MEMORIAL SITE VISITS - ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE, DAY4

31 July 2024, Off-Site

Pick up and	All day	<b>Nyamata Genocide Memorial</b> <b>Ntarama Genocide Memorial</b>
	19:00	<b>Performance: Inherited Sorrow</b> by Jean Jules Irakoze at the Goethe Institute

## NATIONAL MUSEUM VISITS - ICMEMOHRI CONFERENCE, DAY5

1 August 2024, Off-Site

	All day	<b>Ethnographic Museum</b> <b>King's Palace Museum</b>
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## Extra Activities

### **Ubumuntu Arts Festival - 19/28 July 2024**

<https://ubumuntuartsfestival.com/>

### **Kibwuka, Resilience in Ink. Graphic and Immersive Narratives of Conflict and Memory in Africa**

Exhibition organised by Raúl F. San Miguel for ICMEMOHRI at the Kigali Genocide Memorial. Dates TBC

### **Group dinner at IRIBA hosted by ICMEMOHRI - 29 July 2024**

### **Optional Tour to Akagera National Park - 02/04 August 2024**

For more information, please contact:

[secretary.icmemo@icom.museum](mailto:secretary.icmemo@icom.museum)

## Useful information

### **ICMEMOHRI website**

<https://icmemo.mini.icom.museum/>

### **Hotel recommendation:**

**Onomo Hotel, KN1 Avenue Rugenge, Nyarugenge District, Kigali**

<https://www.onomohotels.com/en/hotel/onomo-hotel-kigali/>

The majority of ICMEMOHRI participants will be staying in this hotel. This affords us the opportunity to travel together to/from the different venues.

Reservations at the hotel are being made through ICMEMOHRI.

Send your travel dates with arrival/departure times at Kigali International Airport to [secretary.icmemohri@icom.museum](mailto:secretary.icmemohri@icom.museum).

Indicate if you need a double room, who you are sharing with, or if you are willing to share a room.

### **Transportation:**

Travel from the airport to the hotel can be arranged if your travel dates are known (see above) at the base rate of \$25 per person.

