

UF's Center for African Studies & the UF France Florida Research Institute & the George A. Smathers Libraries & the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art & UF's Department of History & University Galleries & the Sequential Artists Workshop & City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department

**CO - P R E S E N T . . . .**

## Congo-Kinshasa meets Gainesville

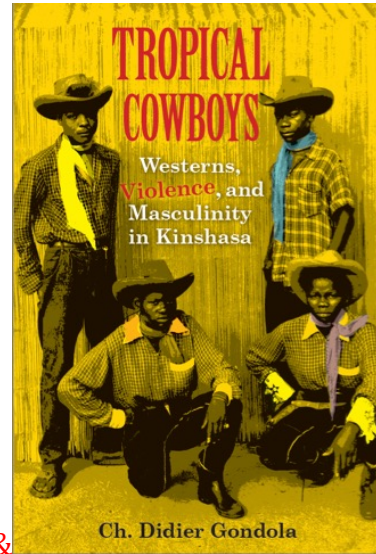
with (1) a gangster film, (2) a comics workshop, (3) the history of masculinity in Kinshasa  
 3 events | 29, 30, 31 march 2017



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**event 1, WED, 29 march, 6 pm, @ The Wooly: a screening of Djo Munga's award-winning "crime flick," set in Kinshasa.** Screening to be followed by a discussion with the prizewinning filmmaker, Djo Munga, widely recognized as a leading & innovative filmmaker since his fictional thriller "Viva Riva!" was released in 2010. The film is a fast-paced, 90-minute rush through the streets of DR Congo's megacity of 10 million. It uses the gangster genre to brilliant effect. Born in Kinshasa, trained at Belgium's National Film School, Djo Munga worked on international TV productions in Kinshasa from 2000; founded Congo's film production company, *Suka! Productions*, in 2006; and co-produced *Congo in Four Acts* in 2010. *Viva Riva!* met acclaim at the Toronto and Berlin International Film Festivals, and won six African Movie Academy Awards & the Best African Movie at the MTV Movie Awards. It uses *noir* film techniques to raise awareness of sexual, gender, and economic issues in this vibrant city -- without preaching. A gangster hero returns from neighboring Angola with a truckload of stolen oil. When he falls for the girlfriend of a Kinshasa gangster, chaos and violence erupts. The film speaks to machismo, corruption, sexual commodification, troubled kinship, and death. Cash bar.

**event 2, THURS, 30 march, 3-5 pm, Smathers Library (East), rm. 100: an interactive archival & exhibition workshop** focused on the Department of Special and Area Studies Collections' newest manuscripts collection, the **Papa Mfumu'eto comic archive, ca. 1985-2007, some 1000 text-image pages in Lingala, direct from Kinshasa's streets.** Invited specialists will present for public discussion and critique preliminary ideas for a Fall 2019 Harn Museum of Art exhibition and catalog. Possible themes may be the comic arts; Kinshasa's history, street cultures, & gender relations; media archaeologies & (obsolete) print technologies; vernacular linguistics; and future fieldwork & filmmaking. With Gainesville's premier comic artists, Tom Hart & Leela Corman; Kinshasa's premier historian, two of Congo's premier historians, Profs. Sabakivu Kivilu and Didier Gondola; filmmaker Djo Munga; Ann Arbor's global & East German comic specialist, Biz (Elizabeth) Nijdam; UF's historian of Congo, Nancy Hunt; Smathers' African Studies curator, Dan Reboussin; UF African Studies director Brenda Chalfin, & professors Apollo Amoko, Fiona McLaughlin, & Alioune Sow, among others; the Harn's director & African art curator, Rebecca Nagy and Susan Cooksey; and University Galleries' Amy Vigilante.

**event 3, FRI, 31 march, 3.30-5, 404 Grinter: manhoods, gangs, & visualities in Kinshasa, with a Baraza talk, "Buffalo Bill in Kinshasa: Westerns, Masculinity, and Violence in the Tropics," by Prof. Ch. Didier Gondola,** Chair & Professor of History and Africana Studies, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. A captivating exploration about how America's iconic figure, Buffalo Bill, influenced a generation of young Kinshasa men, their flamboyant feats, styles, and aspirations in this bursting colonial city in then Belgian Congo. Adapted from this distinguished, Paris-trained Congolese historian's most recent book, *Tropical Cowboys*.

