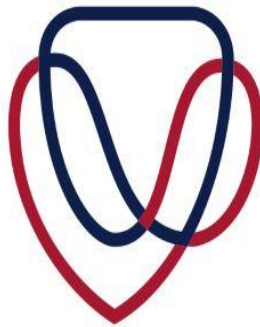


UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA



UFS
LIBRARY & INFORMATION
SERVICES

HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION INVITATION: Book Launch

The UFS Neville Alexander Library in collaboration with the Research Unit on South Campus invites you to a book launch by Bernedette Muthien & June Bam titled “Rethinking Africa Indigenous women re-interpret Southern African pasts”

07 September 2021

Time 12h00-14h00

Link: https://ufs.libcal.com/calendar/14845/Heritage_Month_Celebration1

The South African Heritage Month is about recognising and celebrating the cultural wealth of our nation. The University of the Free State joins the rest of South Africans to Heritage Month remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up our population. As a people we must remind ourselves that living heritage is the foundation of all communities and an essential source of identity and continuity. Aspects of living heritage include: cultural tradition, oral history, performance, ritual, popular memory, skills and techniques, indigenous knowledge system and the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships.

It is therefore important for South Africans to reclaim, restore and preserve these various aspects of living heritage to accelerate the use of living heritage to address challenges communities are facing today. Make time to join Bernedette Muthien & June Bam telling us about how indigenous peoples around the world re-interpret their pasts.

About the Book

In this book, indigenous women write their own history, define their own contemporary cultural and socio-economic conditions, and ideate future visions based on their lived realities. All chapters historicise the accepted 'histories' and theories of how we have come to understand the African past, how to problematize and rethink that discourse, and provide new and different historical lenses, philosophies, epistemologies, methodologies and interpretations.



Chapter contributors and Panellists:

Bernedette Muthien, Research Fellow, UFS

For over 20 years, Bernedette Muthien has held executive and senior management positions in academia, civil society and the public sector in South Africa and abroad. She is an accomplished facilitator, researcher and poet, who designs, implements and evaluates projects for diverse institutions, locally and internationally. She has over 200 publications and conference presentations to her name, some of which have been translated from English into at least 16 other languages. She was the first Fulbright–Amy Biehl fellow at Stanford University, and holds postgraduate degrees in Political Science. She served on the Executive Council of the International Peace Research Association and was co-founder of the African Peace Research and Education Association. She serves on various international advisory boards, including those of the international *Journal of Human Security*, and the International Institute on Peace Education. She co-founded Women’s International Network on Gender and Human Security (WINGHS) in 1998, and Gender Egalitarian, a global indigenous women’s network, in 2005. She has chaired and served on a number of constitutional and company boards since 2013. Since her childhood under Apartheid, she has remained committed to systemic transformation towards realising justice for all.

Chapter title: Rematriation: Reclaiming the indigenous matricentric egalitarianism

Babalwa Magoqwana, Director, Centre for Women and Gender Studies, NMU



Chapter title: Gendering social science: *Ukubuyiswa* of maternal legacies of knowledge for balanced social science studies in South Africa.

Bio: Babalwa Magoqwana is senior lecturer in Sociology and Anthropology, and interim director for the Centre for Women and Gender Studies, at Nelson Mandela University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. She is a fellow of the African Humanities Programme; a research associate for the South African Research Chair Initiative (SARChI) Chair in Social Policy at the University of South Africa (UNISA); and former president of the South African Sociological Association (SASA, 2017–2019). She is the recipient of the National Research Foundation/First Rand Foundation Sabbatical Grant for her project on ‘Woman-Centred Vernacular Sociology of the Eastern Cape’.

Ana Leite e Aguiar, Professor of Brazilian Literature, Federal University of Bahia

Chapter title: *The Falling Sky*: Some notes about originary peoples in Brazil.

Bio: Ana Lígia Leite e Aguiar is a professor of Brazilian Literature at the Federal University of Bahia and a post-doctorate at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. She specialises in Brazilian literature, biographical criticism, comparative literature, studies on the nation and image studies, and has written many articles on these themes. Currently, she is researching anti-colonial theories and arts in the tropics. Ana is also a visiting professor at the Centre for African Studies under the NIHSS Precolonial Catalytic Project and collaborates in research with the Khoi and San Unit and on the teaching of the African Studies major, Political Economy of Africa.



Sarah Malotane Henkeman, independent scholar

Chapter title: Ancestral letter to unborn descendants

Sarah Malotane Henkeman is a transdisciplinary practitioner–scholar who produces



knowledge from the standpoint of the oppressed. She is the mother of two adult sons and became aware of the more ubiquitous, invisibilised nature of the criminalisation of blackness (both inside and outside of South Africa) as they grew tall. It is her belief that knowledge produced from the impact side of dehumanisation is first about self-determination, then about a counterpoint to mainstream knowledge and modes of knowledge production. She recognises that she will die structurally oppressed, but that she will do so in the course of decolonising her mind – a lifelong process. And finally, she recognises that inasmuch as

oppression is an external force in the lives of the dehumanised, it is also met and matched by an internal, mainly denied force – internalised oppression – that presents in too many masked ways to mention. She has a PhD from the colonial academy, and thus much to disabuse herself of.

Poets:

Diana Ferrus

Poem: I've come to take you home – A tribute to Sarah Baartman; or The Bones. Diana Ferrus is a writer, poet, performance poet and storyteller. Her work has been published in various collections and some serve as prescribed texts for high school learners. In 2012 Diana received the inaugural Mbokodo Award for poetry. Her third book, *Die Vrede Kom Later*, was launched on 27 July 2019. She is internationally acclaimed for the poem that she wrote for the indigenous South African woman, Sarah Baartman, who was taken away from her country under false pretences and paraded as a sexual freak in Europe. This poem touched the heart of the French Senate



and, upon hearing it, they unanimously voted that Baartman's remains should come home. This poem is published in the French Law, a first in French history. Diana's work continues to influence matters of race and ethnicity, sex and gender, and reconciliation.

Khadija Tracey Heeger



Poem: Camissa

Bio: Khadija Tracey Carmelita Heeger is a celebrated poet, actor, facilitator, cultural activist, and writer who hails from the Cape Flats. She performs in a number of films and television shows, and other performances. Most recently she appeared in a film on the politics of hair on the Cape Flats. In 2019, Jazzart used Khadija's poetry for their dance drama, *Cape of Ghosts*, during which she narrated the story of land and landlessness on stage with the dancers. She also plays a lead role in a forthcoming film shot on Hangberg in Hout Bay, Cape Town. The Centre for Curating the Archive at the University of Cape Town commissioned Khadija to write the poetic script for their

historical film on the washerwoman slaves, and Kirsten Dunbar Chace commissioned her to write a poetic script for her short film on the Cape 'coloured' people. Among others, she has collaborated with the District Six Museum in Cape Town, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Iziko Museums of South Africa, the Cape Town Museum, and other museum services.