

Recent Books from Namibia – June 2021

Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd
Blk 231, Bain Street
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex
Singapore 180231
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204
info@marymartin.com
www.marymartin.com

History

Sites of Contestation : Encounters with the Ernst and Ruth Dammann Collection in the Archives of the Basler Afrika Bibliographien / (Eds) Julia Rensing, Lorena Rizzo & Wanda Rutishauser
Namibia: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, 2021
134p. ; 244x170mm. ; Colour Photographs.
9783906927312
\$ 40.00/ PB

This book is a collection of essays written by emerging scholars at the University of Basel on the basis of their subjective encounters with a specific archival collection housed in the Basler Afrika Bibliographien in Basel. The Ernst and Ruth Dammann collection consists of around 8100 images, 750 audio recordings and numerous manuscripts, diaries and notes. The German couple conducted research on Namibian oral literatures and languages as they were spoken and performed across the country in the early 1950s. Based on in-depth engagement with the textual, visual and audio records assembled in this intricate collection, the authors of this book critically interrogated the implications of opening a colonial archive, exploring alternative ways of reading and understanding the historical material. As unique examples of close reading and listening, the essays propose creative ways of attending to the politics of race, gender, famine, ethnography, biography and fiction in colonial knowledge production.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=765533>

Literature

Lewis Nkosi – The Black Psychiatrist, Flying Home! : Texts, Perspective, Homage / (Eds) Astrid Starck-Adler & Dag Henrichsen

Namibia: Basler Afrika Bibliographien, 2021

xxiv, 450p. ; 229x152mm. ; Colour Photographs.

Includes Index

9783905758887

USD 70.00 / PB

822gm.

“Much has happened to me that is worth narrating, worth celebrating, in spite of the regrets and sorrows of exile. My life began under Apartheid until I attained the age of 22, and then subsequently lived in many places and societies, in Central Africa, Britain, the United States, Poland, and during a brief sojourn, in France and, finally, in Switzerland.” - Lewis Nkosi in 'Memoirs of a motherless child'

This rich volume is dedicated to the astounding South African writer and literary critic Lewis Nkosi (1936–2010). In this book, Nkosi’s celebrated one-act play “The Black Psychiatrist” is published together with its unpublished sequel “Flying Home,” a play on the satirically fictionalized inauguration of Mandela as South African president. Critical appraisals, tributes and recollections by scholars and friends reflect on the beat of his writing and life.

An ideal volume for those encountering Lewis Nkosi for the first time as well as for those already devoted to his work.

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