

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Bamako Encounters African Photography Biennial

BORDERS

7 November – 7 December 2009

***This call for submissions is strictly reserved to African photographers and video artists and concerns the 8th Bamako Encounters / African Photography Biennial.
This year's theme is **Borders**.***

The theme is exceedingly current while also being paradoxical in a world favoring global nomadism and the partial disappearance of borders.

From natural barriers to artificial lines traced across the earth, in Africa more than elsewhere, borders and their complex realities represent current problematics and the crystallizations of processes which are political, economic, sociocultural, and at this time particularly tied up with ethnic, cultural, religious and other sorts of personal and group identifications.

While the effects of globalization and economic liberalization have made for the porosity of some sorts of borders, economic and political exigencies continue to provide a framework for a migratory flow encountering other sorts of borders that are increasingly impermeable. Humanity ceaselessly seeks sites of refuge and reference points for values in territories offering possibilities for identifications and putting down roots. Material or symbolic borders imply a notion of delimited territory beyond which the elsewhere, the otherwise and the foreign take shape. Borders simultaneously mark limits and define space, while being meeting places of the in-between, aptly called no man's land. Borders are also sites of symbolic passage and represent the space allowing for transgression and openings toward the elsewhere and the unknown. The relation to the other, to the foreign—a corollary to borders—can be seen in different ways, from perspectives of integration, segregation, and exchange.

Perceived as territories of demarcation, enclosure or transit, they can just as well be places for transformation and exchange, territories—whether real or imaginary—of opening, opportunity or expansion.

Michket Krifat and Laura Serani

Creative Directors of the 8th Bamako Encounters / African Photography Biennial.

This year the Biennial is moving to further develop interdisciplinary and linguistic interchanges by opening the international exhibition to different artistic modes of expression and supports, and wholly integrating approaches using video with the objective of attaining an extensive exploration of the concept of real or metaphorical *Borders*.

And it is in view of these multiple conceptions of *Borders* that we are inviting photographers and artists working with video to submit their work for consideration.

The call for proposals by photographers to participate in the international show was announced on January 30, 2009 on the CULTURESFRANCE and Maison Africaine de la photographie Web site. All application materials must be received by **April 20, 2009**.

Conditions and Requirements for Participation

This call for submissions is directed toward all photographers and video artists on the African continent, regardless of where they reside. All supports—film-based, digital or other—are eligible. After the closing date for applications, a selection committee headed by the Biennial's general director, Samuel Sidibé, and including the creative directors, Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, will make the definitive selection of photographic work to be exhibited. The judges' decisions are final and not subject to change. Application

materials are to be sent to the following address:

A l'attention du Délégué Général
des Rencontres de Bamako
CULTURESFRANCE
1, bis avenue de Villars
75007 Paris France

Application dossiers will not be returned and will be archived by the Maison Africaine de la Photographie in Bamako.

Application dossiers must include:

For photographers :

- a CD with 20 to 25 photographs (300 dpi JPGs)
- 10 prints, minimum format 15 x 21cm maximum format 30 x 40cm, which is part of a body of work relating to this year's theme. The date, and photographer's name and country must be written on the back of each print.
- A CV accompanied, if need be, with a critical text on the work.
- A letter written by the photographer explaining the relation of the work submitted and the theme of the 8th Bamako Encounters.

For video director :

- a DVD with a selection of your films, (please include the title and the period of each film).
- A document with the list of the videos sent on DVD including the title, the period and a short synopsis of each film, with the possibility to complete with a link on a website where the video can be played.
- A CV accompanied, if need be, with a critical text on the work.
- A letter written by the video director explaining the relation of the work submitted and the theme of the 8th Bamako Encounters.

Contacts :

□ Samuel SIDIBE
Délégué Général des Rencontres
Musée National du Mali
BP 159 Bamako Mali
Telephone: (+223) 2023 1909
musee@afribonemali.net
Maison Africaine de la Photographie
www.fotoafrica.org

CULTURESFRANCE
Département des Echanges et
Coopérations Artistiques
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75007 Paris France
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BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS

AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL

SUBMISSION APPLICATION

2009 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

¶ **Entries for the 8th Bamako Encounters / African Photography Biennial must include this application form. This year's theme is "Borders."**

¶ The application submission process is open to individual photographers:

- with professional experience
- who are Africans who reside anywhere in Africa

¶ Selection Criteria:

The selection committee is headed by Samuel Sidibé, general director of the biennial, and includes Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, the creative directors. The judges' decisions are final and not subject to change.

¶ Date and Location:

November 7 to December 7, 2009 in Bamako, Mali

¶ Photographers whose work is selected will also receive:

Prints of selected works, and royalties from the exhibition and publication of photographs presented in the *Bamako Encounters* catalogue.

¶ **Deadlines:** All application materials must be received by a French cultural institution (Centre Culturel Français or Alliance Française) in the photographer's country of residence or sent to CULTURESFRANCE ("Attention: *Délégué Général des Rencontre de Bamako*") **by April 20, 2009**. French cultural institutions in Africa will send application dossiers to CULTURESFRANCE **on April 20, 2009**.

Application materials must also be sent to both of the following e-mail addresses:

musee@afribonemali.net

lt@culturesfrance.com

¶ Results of the juried competition will be mailed to applicants in May 2009.



Application form

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| > Applicant / FILL OUT IN CAPITAL LETTERS | | |
| <input type="radio"/> Mrs. <input type="radio"/> Ms. <input type="radio"/> Mr. |] Last (Family) Name <hr/> |] First Name <hr/> |
|] Artist's Name (<i>if different from above</i>) |] Profession | Photo |
|] Nationality |] Date and Place of Birth .. / .. / ..(day/month/year) in | |
|] Address City Postal/Zip Code Country | | |
|] Telephone..... Mobile Phone Fax E-mail Web site | | |

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| <p>► If you have already participated in a biennial <i>Rencontre de Bamako</i> indicate the year:</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> 1994 <input type="radio"/> 1998 <input type="radio"/> 2001 <input type="radio"/> 2003 <input type="radio"/> 2005 <input type="radio"/> 2007 </p> <p>And if so, indicate the title of the series or works, the date, and the particular exhibition title:</p> |
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|--|
| <p>> ARTISTIC PUBLICATIONS, CATALOGUES, DIAPOSITIVES, VIDEOS, CDs... (bibliographic or other information)</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> |
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I, (name)....., understand and accept the conditions and requirements for submitting work to be judged for inclusion in the international BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS/ AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL exhibition as described on this submission application form.

Signed in (location) on (date) / /

Signature (*including writing "read and approved" next to your name*)

Application and Submission Conditions

1. Conditions and requirements for participation are described in the call for submissions.
2. Submissions for the 8th Bamako Encounters/ African Photography Biennial must include the following:

┌ **AN ADMINISTRATIVE DOSSIER** must contain the following material:

➤ A completed and signed application form, with an ID photo glued to the first page.

➤ A CV accompanied, if need be, with a critical text on the work.

➤ a CD with 20 to 25 photographs (300 dpi JPGs)

➤ 10 prints, minimum format 15 x 21cm maximum format 30 x 40cm which is part of a body of work.

The date, and photographer's name and country must be written on the back of each print.

• **AND/ OR**

➤ A DVD with a selection of your films, (please include the title and the period of each film).

➤ A document with the list of the videos sent on DVD including the title, the period and a short synopsis of each film, with the possibility to complete with a link on a website where the video can be played.

➤ A letter written by the photographer explaining the relation of the work submitted to the theme of the 8th Bamako International Photo Biennial.

➤ A short bio (10 lines maximum).

➤ The photographer's declaration that he or she is the creator of the work submitted to the jury.

➤ A *Relevé d'Identité Bancaire* or bank account routing information, including the name, address and bank account number of the applicant.

➤ A photocopy of a valid identification card or passport.

┌ **AN ARTISTIC DOSSIER**

This dossier includes any visual or written supporting material elucidating the project: photographs, slides, CD Roms, DVDs, manuscripts, published texts, and catalogues, as well as articles and reviews.

The names and contribution of each collaborator must be indicated for collaborative work.

The following programs are preferred for work submitted on CDs: *Word 5.1* for text files, *Quicktime Player* for audio and video files, *Quicktime Picture Viewer* for photos

- *Incomplete submissions will not be considered and will not be returned.*
- *Dossiers will not be returned.*

3. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BOTH DOSSIERS: April 20, 2009

Address all requests for information about the 2009 Bamako Encounters/ African Photography Biennial to:

- Samuel SIDIBE, Délégué Général des Rencontres

Musée National du Mali, BP 159 Bamako

Telephone: (+223) 2023 1909

musee@afribonemali.net

www.fotoafrica.org

- CULTURESFRANCE

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Lucie Touya, Visual Arts Representative

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www.culturesfrance.com