REMAPPING BLACK GERMANY
New Perspectives on
Afro-German History, Politics and Culture

University of Massachusetts Amherst
21-23 April, 2006
http://www.umass.edu/germanic/remapping

Conference Program
special pre-conference screening:
Tal der Ahnungslosen / Valley of the Innocent (2003, d. Branwen Okpako)
Shortly before her 40th birthday, police officer Eva Meyer is transferred from Frankfurt to Dresden. Eva was raised in an orphanage in Dresden, so the return forces her to deal with her past. With dazed curiosity she begins a quest for her parents. She is anxious and, at the same time, afraid about what she will discover. Eva starts looking in her former orphanage and in the “Stasi Archives,” where information from the East-German secret police is held. A puzzle starts to unfold in front of her as she slowly puts the information about her parents together. Her birth was the result of a one-night stand her mother Helga had with one of her husband’s students, a Kenyan student named Shepard….

German with English subtitles

Director Branwen Okpako will introduce her film and hold a Q&A session after the screening

Friday, 21 April
Hampden Gallery, Southwest Residential Area

4:00 – 7:00 pm Art Opening and Reception
  Paintings by Daniel Kojo Schrade / Video works by Ingrid Mwangi

7:30 – 9:30 pm Olumide Popoola (spoken-word poetry), accompanied by jazz pianist Eugene Uman / Chima (acoustic performance), accompanied by jazz guitarist Jeff Cashen

Saturday, 22 April
Hampden Art Gallery, Southwest Residential Area

9:00 am – midnight
Exhibition: Paintings by Daniel Kojo Schrade / Video works by Ingrid Mwangi

Isenberg School of Management 137

9:00 – 10:30 Race and Modernity
Fred Moten (University of Southern California), "Black Kant (Pronounced Cant)"
Robert Bernasconi (University of Memphis), "After the Invention of Race: Racial Discourse in Germany from Kant to National Socialism"

10:45 – 12:15 Race, Colonialism, and Imperial Germany
Andrew Zimmerman (George Washington University), "Bismarck Bell and Booker T. Washington in the Black Atlantic’s Berlin"
Sara Pugach (Ohio State University), "A Case of Mistaken Identity: Africans, Germans, and Definitions of Blackness in the Kaiserreich"

Lunch break
2:00 – 3:45 pm **The Black Presence in the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich**
Christian Rogowski (Amherst College), "Black Voices on the Black Horror on the Rhine?"
Tobias Nagl (University of Massachusetts), "Afro-Germanic Doublings: Fragments, History, Identity"
Maria Diedrich (Universität Munster), "Black Others? African Americans and Black Germans in the Reich"

4:00 – 6:30 pm **Blackness in Two Germanies**
Heide Fehrenbach (Northern Illinois University), "Black Occupation Children and the Devolution of the Nazi Racial State"
Randolph Ochsmann (Universität Mainz), "German Brown Babies in the Fifties: Personal Accounts"
Peggy Piesche (Universität Mainz) "Relocating 'Race': The GDR and its 'Other'- Black Images in Visual Culture"
Jason Owens (South Dakota State University) "Namibia's 'GDR Kids' from Cadres to Catalysts"

*Dinner break*

8:30 pm **Artists' Roundtable**
Branwen Okpako, Chima Onyele, Olumide Popoola, Daniel Kojo Schrade

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**Sunday, 23 April**

**Hampden Art Gallery, Southwest Residential Area**

9:00 am – midnight
**Exhibition:** Paintings by Daniel Kojo Schrade / Video works by Ingrid Mwangi

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9:00 – 10:30 am **Race and the Visual Archive**
Tina Campt (Duke University), "Capturing the Black German Subject: Race and Gender in the Visual Archive"
Jurgen Heinrichs (Seton Hall University), "Against Race: The Universal Aesthetics of Marc Brandenburg"

10:45 am – 12:15 pm **Black Diasporic Thought and Contemporary Germany**
Alexander Weheliye (Northwestern University), "A Volk to Come: Black Germans and the African Diaspora"
Nicola Lauré al-Samarai (TU Berlin), "History, Theory, Experience: Diasporic Perspectives in Black German Thought"

*Lunch break*
Sunday, 23 April cont.
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2:00 – 3:45 pm **Black Diasporic Thought and Contemporary Germany**
Damani Partridge (University of Michigan), "Travelling Through the 'Black' Body and Finding the German Nation"
Michelle Wright (University of Minnesota), "Blackness and Its Discontents: Modernity and the Afro-German"
Fatima El-Tayeb (University of California at San Diego), "Queering Ethnicity? Beyond the Black Paradigm"

3:45 – 4:00 **Concluding Remarks**, Sara Lennox (University of Massachusetts Amherst)

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24 April – 30 April, Wheeler Art Gallery
Paintings by Daniel Kojo Schrade / Video works by Ingrid Mwangi

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