



RWANDA



Tradition and innovation in vegetable fibres' design

Participation of the Republic of Rwanda at the 12. International Exhibition of Architecture – La Biennale di Venezia 2010

PRESS RELEASE

presentation to the press

Friday 27th August 11am Campo Santo Stefano

opening

Saturday 28th August from 6pm Magazzini Ligabue

VI Venice Summer School

Fondazione Claudio Buziol, Palazzo Mangilli – Valmarana

opening: Tuesday 17th August

Padiglione Rwanda

IUAV-AFRICA

Magazzini Ligabue

opening: Saturday 28th August

Möbius

Fondazione Claudio Buziol, Palazzo Mangilli – Valmarana

opening: Friday 27th August

Coques – Coquilles - Esprits – Génies

Ledi Info Point – Campo Santo Stefano

opening: Friday 27th August

commissioner

Gaddo Morpurgo

curators

Bettina Scholl-Sabbatini

Gaddo Morpurgo

scientific committee

Abraham Atta Ogwu

Amerigo Restucci

Giancarlo Carnevale

John Mshana

Renzo di Renzo

Rector KIST

Rector IUAV

Architecture dean IUAV

Vice-rector KIST

Artistic Director Fondazione Claudio Buziol

a project by

Fondazione Claudio Buziol

KIST - Kigali Institute of Science and Technology

Soroptimist International

Università Iuav di Venezia

with the scientific collaboration and the contribution of

Favero&Milan ingegneria

For the first time the **Republic of Rwanda is taking part in the 12. International Exhibition of Architecture at La Biennale di Venezia** with two exhibitions, one at the Fondazione Claudio Buziol

(Palazzo Mangilli – Valmarana, opening August 27th) and the other at the Magazzini Ligabue (IUAV University, opening August 28th).

The Republic of Rwanda is there to highlight the **strategy for environmental sustainability** that they are in the process of creating by using natural materials in construction and by banning the use of plastic bags throughout the country.

The two exhibitions are the result of the multi-year **Atelier Rwanda** project which is a series of workshops held in the **Centre for Research into Design Innovation for Africa** created based on the combined efforts of the Fondazione Claudio Buziol in Venice, the Kigali Institute of Science and Technology, Soroptimist International and the Iuav University in Venice.

The exhibitions will be accompanied by a number of meetings and workshops from the **sixth edition of the Venice Summer School** under the title of ***Tradition and innovation in vegetable fibres' design, a series of workshops and meetings*** on design and architecture with a special focus on Rwanda and Burkina Faso. (Information and the schedule of events at: atelierwanda.wordpress.com www.iuav.it www.fondazioneclaudiobuziol.org)

The **Möbius** exhibition which is being held at the Fondazione Claudio Buziol presents the **first line of jewellery created by Rwandan artisans** specialised in the “uruhindu” technique and who worked with **European designers**. This is the result of two years of experimentation (2009-2010) at the **Atelier Rwanda** which saw the involvement of a group of 42 young designers and architects. In the same place visitors will be able to see prototypes of the building materials produced from vegetable fibres which have come from joint research between the Kigali Institute of Science and Technology and the Iuav University in Venice. Among these pieces we find the innovative MUSA® panel made entirely from banana bark and which provides thermal and acoustic dampening and insulation of buildings using only natural materials, as well as uses of coffee wood in the production of light carpentry items and other objects.

The Fondazione Claudio Buziol will present a recent project of **Francis Kéré**, a tribute to the architect of Burkina Faso, **winner of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture in 2009**.

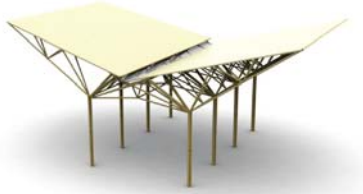
On the 28th, after the official presentation of the Padiglione Rwanda at 6pm, the masterly lesson of **Francis Kéré, Making architecture in Africa**, will open the **Padiglione Rwanda** section at the Magazzini Ligabue, the headquarters of the Iuav University in Venice. On show the **Research Laboratory on natural materials and local techniques**, which is being held at the Centre d'accueil et de formation “San Marco” del Soroptimist in Kigali during the **2nd Atelier Rwanda Workshop** in Kigali from May to September 2010. The Padiglione Rwanda is a kind of “petri dish” where researchers and students from the Kigali Institute of Science and Technology and the Iuav University in Venice can come together to produce scale models of parts of buildings so as to verify and test the behaviour of natural fibres in a controlled environment. Fruit of the close scientific collaboration between KIST and IUAV, this workshop is an innovative example of the organisation of research and training in the application of natural fibres in construction.

Also at the Magazzini Ligabue the **IUAV-AFRICA** exhibition is an opportunity to see the most recent work that the Iuav University in Venice has done for Africa. Here we find workshops, study holidays, research projects and degree dissertations not only about Rwanda but also Mali, South Africa, and Burkina Faso.

As Gaddo Morpurgo commissioner and curator of the exhibition writes in the catalogue, “with this our first appearance at La Biennale di Venezia the Republic of Rwanda is showing some of the paths we can follow if we consider design as a tool for solving problems which today are no longer either mine or yours, but ours.”

Further information

2011 Burkina Faso
From 17 August - 17 September



In 1949 during the 7th CIAM (Congrès International d'Architecture Moderne) in Bergamo (Italy) the programme for the first CIAM Summer School was put forward, a project which was offered to students from the countries in attendance at the Congress. The **first edition** of the international school was in 1951 in Hoddesdon (England) held at the same time as the 8th Congress – and second in England – and was under the guidance of Maxwell Fry. Two young Italians took part in the school, Franco Berlanda and Francesco Gnechi-Ruscione, while the representatives from Italy among the coordinators were Franco Albini, Ignazio Gardella, Ernesto Nathan Rogers and Giuseppe Samonà.

The last of these was of particular interest to the school because he was the Director of the IUAV (Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia or Venice University of Architecture) in Venice and it was he who moved the summer school to Venice. From September 10th to October 10th 1952 at the Palazzo Giustinian the **Second Edition** of the international school was held with the support of the IUAV. 60 students took part and Egle Renata Trincanato, Giancarlo De Carlo, Gino Valle and Franco Berlanda were among the assistants. The subject of the seminar was a Venetian problem, to find a solution for the area of land between the Santa Lucia railway station and Piazzale Roma.

The subject of the **third edition** of the Summer School, held in September 1953, was the future of the historic centre of Venice and its relationship with the mainland, with a special focus on finding a solution for the Central Pavillion of the Giardini della Biennale di Venezia and on the relationship between the exhibition, the Castello sestiere and its impact on the local urban fabric.

For the **fourth edition** in September 1954 six workgroups focused once again on the “bridge end” (Piazzale Roma) and traffic management, analysing the existing situation and working towards a solution.

Financial difficulties forced the school council to wait a year before holding the **fifth edition** which, in 1956, was boosted by Le Corbusier who was in Venice at that time and who was invited to the school to give a conference at Ca' Giustinian on September 27th.

In 1956, during the 10th congress in Dubrovnik, members of the Team 10 decided to end the CIAM. The following year the final edition was held in Venice – the fifth in the lagoon city – changing its name but maintaining its focus on the city of Venice. It was called the *Fifth International Summer Seminar in Architecture* and was dedicated to the design of a new Pavillion for Italy in the Giardini della Biennale. The school, on the subject of *Tradition and innovation in vegetable fibres' design* had Piero Moroni, Gabriele Scimemi, Francesco Tentori and Eduardo Vittoria as assistants and was attended by 19 young architects.

On the 17th of August in what has been a turbulent 2010 for European and especially Italian Universities, the **sixth edition** will take place. Bringing the Republic of Rwanda to the 12. International Exhibition of Architecture at La Biennale di Venezia by creating an **European Industrial Design Laboratory** with Rwandan students is part of the project this year. The aim is to create a **Masters in Design with a specialisation in International Cooperation**.

PROGRAM

Tuesday 17th August

morning

arrival of participants and organization of works

afternoon

opening session

conference

From the Summer School of 1949 to the V Summer International Seminary of Architecture

Maddalena Scimemi
Palazzo Mangilli-Valmarana Cannaregio 4392

WORKSHOP 1

Wednesday 18th / Thursday 26th August

Exhibit design

Filippo Mastinu, Benimana Christian

Friday 27th August

11.00 am

LEDI INFO POINT

opening

Coques – Coquilles - Esprits – Génies di Bettina Scholl Sabbatini

with the support of the Ministry of Culture, Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg
Campo Santo Stefano

5.00 pm

Worldwilde opening of

Yego! A Rwandan story, a direction by Leandro Lisboa

in collaboration with Circuito Cinema of Comune di Venezia
Cinema Giorgione

7.00 pm

only with invitation

Fondazione Claudio Buziol - Palazzo Mangilli-Valmarana Cannaregio 4392

Saturday 28th August

6.00 pm

Opening exhibition

Joseph Habineza

Minister of Sport and Culture, Rwanda

Hanne Jensbo

President Soroptimist International

John Mshana

Vice-rector KIST

Wilma Malucelli

President Soroptimist Italy

Renzo di Renzo

Artistic Director Fondazione Claudio Buziol

Amerigo Restucci

Rector IUAV

conference

Making Architecture in Africa

Francis Kéré

IUAV Magazzini Ligabue Dorsoduro 1827

WORKSHOP 2

Wednesday 1st / Friday 3rd September

Banana tree

Riccardo Blumer

Sunday 5th September

morning

meeting

Soroptimist International European Projects for Africa

Palazzo Mangilli-Valmarana Cannaregio 4392

WORKSHOP 3

Tuesday 7th / Thursday 9th September

Wood coffee and other materials

Kaftanic Julijana, Marco Zito

Thursday 9th September

afternoon

conference

Gino Valle: results of the CIAM school in design and architecture

Luka Skansi

Palazzo Mangilli-Valmarana Cannaregio 4392

WORKSHOP 4

Tuesday 14th / Thursday 16th September

Bambuu and clay

Francesca Parotti, Alberto de Simone

Thursday 16th September

morning

workshop

afternoon

closure of Venice Summer School

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with the scientific collaboration and the contribution of:



favero&milan ingegneria

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