Institute of African American Affairs
14A Washington Mews, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10003

The Institute of African American Affairs (IAAA) at New York University was founded in 1969 to research, document, and celebrate the cultural and intellectual production of Africa and its diaspora in the Atlantic world and beyond. IAAA is committed to the study of Blacks in modernity through concentrations in Pan-Africanism and Black Urban Studies.

The NYU-IAAA Wole Soyinka Scholar-in-Residence programs are free and open to the public. Space is limited. Please RSVP at (212) 998-IAAA (4222).

For updates and information please visit: nyuiaaa.org

"The greatest threat to freedom is the absence of criticism." — Wole Soyinka

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Institute of African American Affairs presents
Wole Soyinka
Scholar-in-Residence | Fall 2016

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Co-sponsored with NYU|Tisch
The Participants:

**Awam Amkpa**

Awam Amkpa is a dramatist, documentary filmmaker, scholar of theatre and film and a curator of art and cultural practices. He is Associate Professor of Drama at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts and Associate Professor of African Studies and Social and Cultural Analyses in NYU’s College of Arts and Sciences. His work includes co-founder and co-curator of the annual Radio Africa Documentary Film Festival in Accra, Ghana; curating the photographic exhibitions “Africa: See, You See Me” and co-curator of “They Won’t Budge: Africans in Europe” and; director of the documentary films The Other Day We Went to the Movies. A Very Very Short Story ofollywood among others. Mentored by Wole Soyinka, Professor Amkpa has a PhD in Drama from Bristol University, UK.

**Manthia Diawara**

Manthia Diawara is a Professor of African Studies at the Tisch School of the Arts, Director of the Institute of African American Affairs, New York University, and also a Professor of Comparative Literature. He has taught at the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of We Won’t Budge: An African Exile in the World (Basic Civitas Books, 2003), Black-American Cinema: Aesthetics and Spectatorship (ed. Routledge, 1993), African Cinema: Politics and Culture (Indiana University Press, 1992), and In Search of Africa (Harvard University Press, 1996). He has written widely on the topic of film and literature of the Black Diaspora. Professor Diawara also collaborated with Nigerian Thiorio in making the documentary Sembene Ousmane: The Making of the African Cinema, and produced the German-produced documentary Rouch in Reverse. Two of his most recent films are Negritude: A Dialogue Between Wole Soyinka and Senghor (2015) and Edouard Glissant: One World in Relation (2010).

**Frederick Cooper**


**Taiye Selasi**

Taiye Selasi is an author and photographer. Born in London and raised in Boston, she holds a BA in American Studies from Yale and an MPhil in International Relations from Oxford. In 2005 she published the seminal essay “Bye-Bye, Babalu: Or, What is an Afropolitan?”, sparking a movement among young transnational Africans. In 2013 Selasi’s debut novel, the New York Times bestseller Ghana Must Go, published as one of the 10 Best Books of 2013 by The Wall Street Journal and The Economist. The same year Selasi was named to Granta’s once-in-a-decade list of Best Young British Novelists. Her 2015 TED talk, “Don’t Ask Where I’m From: Ask Where I’m a Local,” has reached over a million viewers, redefining the way a global society conceives of personal identity.