

**MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF MALI  
AND L'INSTITUT FRANÇAIS**

**BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS, AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL  
BAMAKO – 5 NOVEMBER – 5 DECEMBER 2011 –9th Edition  
Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, Artistic Directors  
Samuel Sidibé, Executive Officer.**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS  
for the selection of artists presented at the Pan-African exhibition**

Since 1994, the Bamako Encounters, co-organised and co-produced by Mali's Ministry of Culture and l'Institut français,\* have been held every two years in Bamako and are recognised as the leading cultural event of international scope focusing on issues in contemporary photography and video in Africa.

Exhibitions, discussions among professionals and with the public, workshops, public projections fill the city, public spaces and cultural venues and represent an opportunity for discussion and reflection among artists of the African continent and Diaspora, curators, the media and collectors from all around the world. Open to the various trends in contemporary photography and video, with special attention to the cultural heritage and creativity in Africa, the Bamako Encounters feature a series of initiatives, focusing on a central theme, scattered throughout the city and its exhibition spaces.

For the second consecutive year, Michket Krifa and Laura Sérani will be the artistic directors for the Bamako Encounters. Samuel Sidibé is the executive officer.

The Pan-African Exhibition, resulting from a call for applications and the selection of artists representing all of the African continent and Diaspora, is part of the Biennial's central theme. In 2009 the theme was "Borders"; in 2011 the title is "For a Sustainable World."

*\* In 2011, Culturesfrance becomes the Institut Français, a new name for France's overseas cultural actions, an agency serving international cultural exchange, contemporary creativity, promotion of the French language, ideas, knowhow and cooperation with the countries of the South.*

**The 2011 Bamako Meetings: "FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD"**

The Bamako Encounters invite African photographers and video artists to present works, to conduct an inventory, to report their findings, to bear witness or denounce, but also to identify acts of prevention, signs of resistance or hope *For a sustainable world*. Collections of documentary, journalistic and narrative testimony, metaphorical and fictional interpretations, expressed through photos or video. The next Pan-African Exhibition seeks to be a place of dialogue and a manifesto for a sustainable world focusing on the following approaches:

Ecological concerns, formerly limited to a restricted circle of alert visionaries, are now part of our everyday life and at the heart of all debates. Global warming, the exhaustion of mineral and food resources, deforestation, water shortages are today at the centre of all planetary issues and balances. Finally, in his desire for endless growth, man has sought to excessively force and exploit nature, causing imbalances in the ecosystem and a chain of human and natural reactions.

Economic liberalism based on the consumer society has improved productivity and development, but it has also reinforced profit and inequality at the expense of basic respect for people and their environments.

Globalisation has sped up and amplified this unbridled process by including the emerging countries in the race. Everyone is pursuing the exploitation and pillaging of the South's manpower and raw materials, while creating new markets there where they can sell their products and get rid of the surpluses and waste from overconsumption.

The economic, political and social consequences of this "freewheeling development" spare no one. Local markets, traditional craftsmanship and trades are jeopardised and call into question the world of labour.

Furthermore, the speed of these exchanges and movements are fracturing the space-time continuum. In a world that lives with a cult of speed, virtuality and instantaneousness, what now is the relationship with time, belonging, continuity? Will the structures, landmarks and foundations of our societies hold, transform themselves or coexist in this changing world?

Michket Krifa and Laura Serani

## **CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION**

The call for applications for the participation of photographers in the international exhibition is launched as of **January 3, 2011**, on the Internet site of the Bamako Encounters and of l'Institut Français.

This call goes out to all photographers and video artists in Africa, regardless of where they live. All media, silver film, digital and others will be eligible.

Once the application period has ended, a selection committee chaired by the Encounters' Executive Officer, Samuel Sidibé, and meeting with the artistic directors, Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, will make the final selection of photographers. This committee's decisions will be final and unappealable.

Applicants must send their applications to l'Institut français to the attention of the Executive Officer of the Bamako Encounters no later than **March 15, 2011**, at the following address:

Attn: Executive Officer  
of the Bamako Encounters  
L'Institut Français  
1, bis avenue de Villars  
75007 Paris

Applications must include the following:

For photographers:

- a CD containing 15 to 25 JPG 300DPI photographs
- 10 prints, with a minimum format of 15/21 cm and a maximum of 30/40 cm, that are part of a body of work focusing on the theme. Each print must be titled and dated on the back, with the photographer's name and country.
- A curriculum vitae accompanied where appropriate by a critical text on the complete oeuvre.
- A letter explaining the photographer's vision of the relationship between the works proposed and the theme of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bamako Encounters.

For video artists:

- A DVD containing a selection of your films, with the title and length of each
- A document summarising the list of films sent on DVD with the title, length and a short synopsis, and possibly a link to an Internet site where the videos can be watched.
- A curriculum vitae accompanied where appropriate by a critical text on the complete oeuvre.
- A letter explaining the video artist's vision of the relationship between the works proposed and the theme of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bamako Encounters.

**Deadline for applications: March 15, 2011**

**Contacts:**

Samuel SIDIBE  
Executive Officer of the Encounters  
National Museum Of Mali  
BP 159 Bamako  
Tel: (223) 2023 1909  
[musee@afribonemali.net](mailto:musee@afribonemali.net)  
<http://rencontres-bamako.com/>

L'Institut Français  
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## **BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS**

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## **AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL**

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### **REGISTRATION FORM:**

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### **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2011 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION**

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↪ This registration form goes with the application for the international exhibition of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bamako Encounters, the theme of which is “For a sustainable world”.

↪ Applicants’ profile: *The Bamako Encounters, African Photography Biennial*, is intended for individual photographers.

↪ Applicants must:

- n be professional photographers
- n be African, regardless of their place of residence

↪ Selection process:

The final selection is up to a selection committee chaired by the Encounters’ Executive Officer, Samuel Sidibé, and meeting with the artistic directors, Michket Krifa and Laura Serani. This committee’s decisions will be final and unappealable.

↪ Date and place of the Event:

5 November – 5 December, 2011, in Bamako - Mali

↪ Nature of assistance: The selected applicants will enjoy production of the selected prints, payment of royalties for the event and publication of a selection of the presented works in the Bamako Encounters catalogue.

↪ Application deadline: The complete applications can be filed with the French cultural institution (French Cultural Centre or Alliance française) in the applicants’ country of residence or sent directly to l’Institut français (*to the attention of the Executive Officer of the Bamako Encounters*) **before March 15, 2011.**

At the same time, the application must be sent by e-mail to the following two addresses:

[musee@afribonemali.net](mailto:musee@afribonemali.net)

[lucie.touya@institutfrancais.com](mailto:lucie.touya@institutfrancais.com)

↪ Results will be announced by regular mail only in early May 2011.



# BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS, 2011 AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL / INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

## Application Form

<b>&gt; Applicant / FILL IN IN CAPS</b>		
<input type="radio"/> Mrs <input type="radio"/> Miss <input type="radio"/> Mr.	↪ Surname (civil status)	↪ First name
↪ Artist's name ( <i>if different from civil status</i> )	↪ Profession	Photo
↪ Nationality	↪ Date and place of birth .. / .. / .. (dd/mm/year) in .....	
↪ Address ..... Postal code ..... City ..... Country.....		
↪ Telephone..... Cell ..... Fax ..... E-mail ..... Internet site .....		

<b>&gt; If you previously participated in the Bamako Encounters, indicate the year:</b>
<input type="radio"/> 1994 <input type="radio"/> 1998 <input type="radio"/> 2001 <input type="radio"/> 2003 <input type="radio"/> 2005 <input type="radio"/> 2007 <input type="radio"/> 2009
If yes, give the title of the series, its date and the exhibition in question:

<b>&gt; ARTISTIC DOCUMENTS, CATALOGUES, SLIDES, VIDEOS, CD's... (to be SPECIFIED)</b>
..... ..... .....

I, the undersigned .....

Declare that I have acquainted myself with and accept the conditions for registering to apply for the international exhibition of the BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS; AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL, specified on the form. Done in ..... on (date) .... / .... / ....

Signature (*preceded by the words "Read and approved"*)

## REGISTRATION CONDITIONS

1. Conditions for participation appear in the call for applications.
2. Every application for the international exhibition of the 9<sup>th</sup> Encounters INCLUDES:

▷ **AN ADMINISTRATIVE FILE** which must contain all of the following:

> The application form, duly filled in and signed. An ID photo, glued to the 1<sup>st</sup> page.

ON A CD:

> A text explaining the photographer's view of the relationship between the proposed works and the theme of the 9<sup>th</sup> Bamako Encounters

> A short biography of the photographer (maximum 10 lines / 1500 characters including spaces, maximum)

> A curriculum vitae, accompanied if appropriate by a critical text on the complete oeuvre

ON PAPER:

> The applicant's declaration on honour that the artist is the sole author of the works submitted to the jury.

> A bank identity statement indicating the applicant's name, address and bank number

> A photocopy of the applicant's valid ID card or passport.

▷ **ARTISTIC FILE**

- FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

> A CD containing 20 - 25 photographs in JPG 300DPI (at least 50/60 cm), with the title and year in the name of each file

> 10 prints forming part of a body of work.

Each print must be titled and dated on the back, with the photographer's name and country.

> Any visual document useful for assessing the project: photographs, slides, CD-ROM's, DVD's, manuscripts or published texts, catalogues and press articles. In the case of collaborative works, the co-authors must be declared and their part in creating the work.

- FOR VIDEO ARTISTS

> A DVD containing a selection of your films, with the title and length of each

> Three visuals in jpg 300DPI 20/30 cm taken from each video proposed by the applicant, on a separate CD

> A document summarising the list of films sent on DVD with the title, length and a short synopsis, and possibly a link to an Internet site where the videos can be watched.

> Any visual document useful for assessing the project: photographs, slides, CD-ROM's, DVD's, manuscripts or published texts, catalogues and press articles. In the case of collaborative works, the co-authors must be declared and their part in creating the work.

3. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: March 15, 2011

**For any additional information regarding the 2011 BAMAKO ENCOUNTERS:**

- Samuel SIDIBE, Executive Officer of the Meetings

Musée National du Mali, BP 159 Bamako, Tel: (223) 2023 1909

[musee@afribonemali.net](mailto:musee@afribonemali.net)

- L'Institut français / 1 bis avenue de Villars, 75007 Paris, Tel: + 33 (0)1 53 69 83 27/21 Lucie Touya,  
Representative for the visual arts / [lucie.touya@institutfrancais.com](mailto:lucie.touya@institutfrancais.com)