

## **DAY 5: FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

### **9am: Opening of GREEN FESTIVAL @ Food court**

(Celebrating 20 years of the founding of **Children and the Environment, CATE**)

Every year, hundreds of pupils and students from as many as 50 schools – public and private – from around Lagos converge on the festival ground of LABAF to participate in the “Feast of Life and Ideas”. Through the session curated by the **Children Care for the Environment, CATE**, founded by the Environmental author and activist, **Sola Alamutu aka Green Queen (GQ)**, the young ones partake in mentoring and workshop sessions that help them discover their talents and/or sharpen their skills through creative activities such as writing, reading, storytelling, spelling bees, drama, dance, poetry and music. Over the years the session, popularly referred as the **GREEN FESTIVAL** or the Children/Youth Segment of the LABAF, has grown from its initial 3-day duration to a full one-week event. There have been 13 annual editions already, and this year is the 14<sup>th</sup>, which coincides with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CATE, and thus have a robust programme line-up. The Green Festival often enjoys the collaboration of the Lagos state Ministry of Education.

### **11am: The BOOK IN MY LIFE @ Foodcourt**

The A-list Actress and Media Personality, **MONALISA CHINDA-COKER** mentors students on importance of reading and education. Session is also called *My ENCOUNTER with the BOOK*. The students are drawn from 25 primary and secondary (public and private) schools around Lagos.

### **1pm: SYMPOSIUM @Kongi Gallery**

Theme: **EMERGE: Breaking into the NEW**

**Synopsis:** The theme is premised on the notion of breaking free from the shackles of social, political, economic and cultural factors that inhibit the progress of the individual and the nation. Ostensibly, the theme will reflect on obstacles to the process of nation building, and human capital development – two concepts central to the philosophy of the Committee for Relevant Art, CORA, and, which have consistently formed the core of the objective of LABAF since its birth in 1999 to mark the return of Nigeria to democratic governance after over three decades of military regimes. The thematic thrust of the 31-odd events that will feature in the week-long festival will thus examine issues around 20 years of Nigeria’s democracy; the shifting political events and discourses around the continent; as well as development in/around global politics.

Keynote: **Awam Amkpa**, *Global Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis, NYU USA*

Moderator: **Maxim Uzoatu**, *Poet, literary activist*

Chairman: **Mrs. Taiwo Ajai-Lycett**, *veteran actress, culture activist, author, Just Sharing*

### **3pm: COLLOQUIUM @Kongi’s Harvest Art Gallery**

Theme: **Literature and the Return of Hope**

- i. **Utopia for Realists and How We Can Get There**, by **Rutger Bregman**
- ii. **Afonja: The Rise**, by **Tunde Leye**
- iii. **We Were Eight Years in Office?** by **Ta-Nehi Coates**

**Synopsis:** Societies are built on ideas. Modern Development is a series of implementation of written agreements. The world as it is, which tethers on anarchy, can be redeemed by literature. By examining three texts; one that seeks to know how Utopia can be reached; another which reconstructs a past that was deemed glorious and a third, which examines a brief flicker of hope in the last few years, the Lagos Book and Art Festival hopes to provide a lamp to the lingering darkness.

Moderator: **Kayode Komolafe**, *Dep. MD, ThisDay Newspaper*

Panel: **Kayode Faniyi** (Culture Critic). **Kolawole Oluwadamilare** (*literary activist*). **Tunde Leye**, author of **Afonja The Rise**

### **5pm: READERS’ ASSEMBLY @Food Court**

Theme: **Obstacles to Emergence**

- i. **The Old Drift**, by **Namwali Serpell**
- ii. **Why Not- Citizenship, State Capture, Creeping Fascism and Criminal Hijack of Politics in Nigeria**, by **Pat Utomi**
- iii. **Do not Die in Their War**, by **Dele Farotimi**

Moderator: **Kunle Ajibade**, *Executive Director, TheNews*

Panel: **Aderinsola Ajao** (arts journalist). **Pat Utomi** (author). **Dele Farotimi** (author). **Femi Onileagbon** (*book reviewer*)

### **7pm: AWARDS CEREMONY @Foodcourt**

Event: **Ken Saro-Wiwa Prize For Review**

**Synopsis:** Contestants were asked to review ONE of three books:

- i. **Afonja The Rise**, by **Tunde Leye**
- ii. **Three Women**, by **Bunmi Oyinsan**
- iii. **Where are you from**, by **Lola Akande**

Guest of Honour: **JUDE IDADA**, author of **BOOM BOOM**, winner of the 2019 Nigeria Prize for Literature

### **7.30pm: SPECIAL ARTHOUSE FORUM @Amphitheatre**

Event: Performed Readings of **Afonja: The Rise**

**Synopsis:** A historical fiction written by **Tunde Leye** and published by TLS Place Media (2018) is

set in the late period of the Oyo Empire starting from the events immediately after the death of Alaafin Abiodun and leading up to the ascension, abdication and suicide of Alaafin Aole, the story follows the evolution of Afonja and Aole’s characters as they played what they believed was short-term politics but which ultimately led to the collapse of the Empire.

(Readings by **Oxygen Concepts**)

### **8pm: JAZZ and CONVERSATIONS: Live @ Foodcourt**

Event: **A night of Jazz, highlife and afrofusion**

**Synopsis:** This is a night with **The BassMan** (aka **Peter Fisher**), host of *Jazz and Conversations*, the “best African Jazz show on radio”, running for three years on Sunday nights from 8-10pm on *LagosTalks 91.3FM*. The concert features some of the best original Nigerian Jazz of this era, headlined by **The Niran Obasa Trio** featuring jazz pianist **Niran Obasa** (UK), the mercurial **Bright Gain** on Bass and Yamaha Brand Ambassador **Adewale S. Adeyemi** on drums.

(Produced by **Peter Fisher** for the **PF Music Group**)