

ENOLLYWOOD KE RE...
OWA ISEY'AMA N'KERE





OBOKHIAN!

Enollywood ke re . . . Owa Isey'ama n'kere keghi re ɔrhiemaan'iwu kevbẹ iruḡmwi n'ifo kevbẹ inwina isey'ama ne agha ya ghe agbon emwa n'ye owa isey'ama n'kere kevbẹ itan or'Edo kevbẹ ikinkin agbon or'Edo ne adeghe vbẹ u we isey'ama ne SolomonOsagie Alonḡe ru. Tẹ l ma gualo iyobo vbe obɔwua vbe ne a gha ya rẹḡen eni emwa n're ama egbe Owa Isey'ama n'kere, kevbẹ we re n'ima gie ne a tie rue ne u t'okha ɔghe egbe rue kevbẹ ayere vbẹ u re ovbokhan, ose, ẹgbẹ, agbon n'ẹde, kevbẹ ikinkin agbon or'Edo, Enaigirria vbẹ egbe ekẹn n'avbe ayere ivbiẹ Edo. U gha khian guan kaan emwa nii re isey'ama ne Alonḡe ru, gbẹn rrie ne Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, u ghi loo QR code ra uwuya elisofonarchives@si.edu (u ghi gbẹn Owa Isey'ama n'kere yọ uhunmwu). Ọmwa ne ọ nwina mwa gha ghẹere ighẹ ọ gbare, a ghi do dia avbe emwi ne agbẹn lele ɔrhiemaa na.

n'ke ukhumwun

Solomon Osagie Alonḡe
(ama egbe ẹre)
Ukpo 1942
EEPA 2009-007-0104

*oberh'omwa,
od'ukhumwun ya se ototo*

Otu Ivbiiyokuo ẹrhen ughughan oghe or'Eko

Or'Eko, Enaigirria
Isey'ama ne Neils Walwin
Holm ru, ukpo 1905
Eb'igiotue, aro ughughan
EEPA 1992-004-0046

*"Ikẹtin vbe lyeke Inwina,
Ogh'ue n'emwata, D.O.
Osagie"*

Daniel Egate Osagie
Isey'ama ne Solomon Osagie Alonḡe ru, ukpo 1938
EEPA 2009-007-0080

*Solomon Osagie Alonḡe rẹ ọ ru isey'ama hia
n'rre emwa vbẹ or'Edo, Enaigirria, adeghe a ma
gbẹn we re inren kevbẹ we a gha rue vbẹ aro
emuen ladian vbe emadogua ɔghe ughe egbe
vbẹ usun inwina Ọkhaemwẹn S.O. Alonḡe vbẹ
Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives.*

ENOLLYWOOD KE RE. . . OWA ISEY'AMA N'KERE

Enollywood ke re . . . Owa Isey'ama n'kere dugie ye Isey'ama oghe Solomon Osagie Alonge (ukpo 1911–1994) kevbe ya mu oghe ye egbe iran ni s'emwa yama vbe owa isey'ama n' rre to'Africa. Ni'bun ne a ma ren edenere, avbe iran ni s'emwa y'ama, n'a ka gha miye vbe otu Enaigirria, keg hi ziga vbe ne avbe Enollywood ni lele iran debaa emadogua khere vbe osomwe igho, iran na ye setin ru emwi kpataki ne o kaan okha oghe Isey'ama kevbe ama egbe oghe Africa kevbe i rhiemaa afiwerrie ne o rre evbo ughughan vbe of'Africa.

Eki owa isey'ama wa gha do vbe avbe evbo ne oko la gberraa vb'otu West Africa ye se ukpo ni bun uwu 1920. Avbe iran ni s'emwa y'ama ni lele eehia khia re o ka gi'ode isey'ama maa ivbi Enaigerrria ni bun ra owa isey'ama hiwa bun nyo bun nyo vbe evbo ni si k'okun vbe Eko kevbe Ekalaba. Vbe uwu ukpo 1930s kevbe 1940s, evbo ni ran aho dee vbe ne lbadan kevbe of'Edo ye, na do gha re eke nokhua na renren ye iran ni s'emwa y'ama vbe ivbievbo ke avbe owa isey'ama. Vbe ukpo 1942, Solomon Osagie Alonge na kie owa isey'ama n'okeere, o na re okaro oghe'eki owa isey'ama vbe of'Edo.

Avbe isey'ama oghe egbe oghe'ivbi-Edo vbe owa isey'ama oghe Alonge vbe ukpo 1950 kevbe 1960 m'ukpa ghee okha ne amatae vb'ekpa iran ni s'emwa y'ama vbe otu Enaigirria kevbe owa isey'ama oghe egbe n'o rre of'Africa. Ama egbe oghe edomwade emwa kevbe egbe ne a vi o ladian mwa—e hia rhiemaa vbe ne Alonge ya heko hann o avbe emwi e haan egbe, emwi n'a ya haan owa, of'owa, ekotin (ra ukpon) n'a tan ye egbeken ke avbe emwi ose—ore avbe emwi ne a ke miye a ke ama egbe oghe emwa ni hiin'okhuen ni rre ike'ude: Nollywood portraits. Egh e okao ne orhunmwunye ya rhie owa isey'ama n'kere, Alonge ghi ru emwi enwae n'kpataki oghe emwe arre, emuri evbo ke ilele evbaru n'emwa ni lele re khian hoo vbe ekpa emwi ukpo, emwi arre, ke vbe ode ughughan n'a ya s'egbe y'ama vbe debaa omwa ne iran khian gu se egbe y'ama. A ghi ke se ukpo ne Enaigirria ya fan egbe vbe ob o Britain, ni bun vbe uwu avbe ama egbe na wa gha re emwi ahoo n'maa ne avbe daa egh e n'odee.



Amy J. Staples

Okae Aza emwi Are/Enonwar enwa n'inwina
vbe Archive re Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives

OWA ISEY'AMA N'KERE

Vb'oghe emwa ni bun vbe or'Edo n'iran ya laa owa Isey'ama n'kere ọrọ okaro n'iran ya vbaa omwa n'ọ gue inwina Isey'ama. Emwa eso ghi hoo ni iran n'segbe iran kevbe emwi igho obioye ni rian mwẹ y'ama—emwi ogho oghe ugie isasegbe, emotosaiko kevbe okoto. Emwa ọvbehe hoo ne Solomon Alonge ye emadogua ọkpa oghe ughogbe ne ya ru Isey'ama, ọnren avbe ekotin ni mwẹ ama ne Oba Victoria oghe Britain na s'egbe y'ama ke avbe amazẹ n'a y'emwi haan egbe kevbe emwi ose ọvbehe n'a viọ lele iran egbe vbe ne egogo ye oboobo, eb'inye, ẹkpẹtin ihuan n'ọ lẹgaa debaa avbe emwi ayawewe.

Owa Isey'ama n'kere na do gha re ako ẹnwaẹ vbe irẹnmwi ne edomwade emwa na rhiemaa emwira omwa n'iran khi vb'ode emwe ewu, imwamw'egbe, emwi ogho ra emwi ose, kevbe emwa n'iran gha debaa s'egbe y'ama. Alonge viọ emwi ughughan vbene ekotin ye, emwi n'a ya haan otowa, n'a ya haan owa ke emwi ose owa Isey'ama n'emwa n'ọ s'iran egbe y'ama vbe gha guiran nwina n'iran setin miẹ aro ama ne iran hoo. Ọkpa vbe emwi n'emwa mobo gha mu egbe ko ke ghi re igagan erhan ne omatan s'ekun n'emwa ni segbe y'ama vbokho ra totana nyaa vbe ode n'orhirhi kọ iran.

Alonge vbe se y'ama emwi ne o kaan evbo kevbe agbon ivbi-evbo or'Edo. keukpo 1930 kpaa, avbe okae olotu ni re da deẹ keke avbe otu iguẹse, avbe ọduẹki, avbe owugamwe, avbe ow'ebe ke avbe ugha ni khua ni kaan emwi ugughan n'a ru er'ọ ghara nwina nyaa. Irẹn, ke n'ọ ye ukpo ogban mwina lele re, ighe Arasomwa, vbe zedia gha ye ikeke mu okhian ya gha s'emwa y'ama vbe ne otu ivbi-esuku ye, otu ivbi-evbo, emwa isasegbe keke otu avbe emitin kevbe wẹre n'ran se ugie ughughan y'ama katakate, ugie oromwe oghe ed'ubiemwe debaa ne a ya ladian vbe ow'ebe. Avbe emwi ighobioye n'e i lahin orhion ree ere avbe ama oghe egbee (egbere) na khin vbe edagbon emwa ni rre or'Edo.



n'ke ukhumwun

Solomon Osagie Alonge (ise y'ama egb'ere)
Ukpo 1942
EEPA 2009-007-1799

oberh'omwa

Ukpo 1937
EEPA 2009-007-0109





od'ukhumwun ya se ototo

Prince Solomon Akenzua (center) with his uncle Edison Eweka (seated left) and brother David Akenzua (standing left), others unknown, c. 1937
EEPA 2009-007-0135

Ukpo 1960
EEPA 2014-004-0126

Ukpo 1942
EEPA 2014-004-0187

Samuel Arasomwa, ne o ye ukpo ogban nwina lele Alonge
Ukpo 2019
Isey'ama ne Victor Ehikhame-nor ru

n'ke ukhumwun, od'ukhumwun ya se ototo

Otu iran ni gb'iboruru vbe ow'ebe Eghosa Anglican Grammar School

Ukpo 1963
EEPA 2009-007-0063

Ugie ede ubiemwe
Ukpo 1960
EEPA 2009-007-0313

Avbe emwa ni nwina lele Alonge kpele avbe ama vbe odaro isey'ama n'o keere
Ukpo 1960
EEPA 2009-007-1220

EVBARU Y'OTỌ NẸ WI: OR'ĘDO VBE ẸGHẸ N'OLAE KEVBE ẸGHẸ N'AYE NA

Evbaruy'otọ nẹ wi: Or'ẹdo vbe Ẹghẹ N'olae kevbe Ẹghẹ N'aye na ọ re inwina inwina isey'ama kukugbe n'a debaa onwina Victor Ehikhamenor ne ọs'ama vbe Enaigirria ru. Avbe ama egbe emwa ne Alonḡe ghaa se'ama vb'ẹghẹ okaro kevbe vbe n'ọya mien emwa ni mu inwina ne vbe or'Ędo, Or' Eko, ore London, ore New York kẹkevbe ore Washington DC, Evbaruy'otọ nẹ wi ya ghee itan ọ ghẹ inwina isey'ama vbẹ or'Ędo laẹ uwu agbọn emwa ni dia or'Ędo ya kpeẹ nẹ vbọ kevbe avbe emwi owa isey'ama n'kere. Agharhiemiẹ ghe emwa ni bun vbe iran na rre ukpo ekigbesiyenẹ ra ukpo iyenẹ, iran ye kakabọ yee ẹsẹsẹ onwina Alonge kevbe owa isey'ama ọnrẹn. Okha edọmwadẹ ọghọre kevbe avbe ivbi-ẹvbo, avbe ow'ebe, avbe otu, avbe otu ivbi-is'inwina kẹkevbe avbe ehe n'edẹ ya s'egbe avbe ọgua ẹbọ n'a werriegbe se y'ama rre usun odẹ ne Ẹghẹ N'olae kevbe Ẹghẹ N'aye ya ghe or'Ędo vbẹ emwi n'edẹ n'oma i wu.



od'ukhumwun ya se ototo

Ajayi Okao debaa okọ-otọ ẹre n'okao vbe owa isey'ama n'kere, ukpo 1971
EEPA 2009-007-1208

Ọkhaemwẹ Ajayi Okao vbe odaro ama ọnrẹn vbe ugi iy'ama n'Alonḡe do vbe aza emwi arre Enaigirria or'Ędo, ukpo 2019
Amy Staples re ọ sey'ama vbẹ or'Ędo, ukpo 2019



ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Christiana Alonḡe,
ovbi-Alonḡe n'odion vb'ḡ
rr'ukpeha, ukpo 1948

Christiana Uzebu (ne
ovbi-Alonḡe), vbḡ ore
New York, ukpo 2019



ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Adeola Aderiyike
Agbḡntaen (ne Ovbi-kester)
vb'ḡ rre om'ukpo
evanyaugie, ukpo 1952

Adeola Aderiyike Agbḡtaen
ne omw'ogho (ukpo 1930–
2021), or'Edo, ukpo 2019



ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Uvbi Adesuwa Akenzua (ne
a y'ukpon gue uhunmwu)
kevbe Emmanuel Emḡvḡn
vbe ugi'orḡnmwe
ogh'ivb'iyayi iran, na do
vbe owugamwe Aruosa
n'ḡhuanren, ukpo 1959

Ḳkhaemwe (iguḡese) Em-
manuel U. Emḡvḡn (ukpo
1929–2019), Ḳbayagbḡna
ogh'Edohia, kevbe uvbi
amwe Adesuwa Emḡvḡn,
vbe or'Edo, ukpo 2019

Adeghe a ma ta ghe ode
ovbe,
Solomon Osagie Alonḡe re
ḡ ru isey'ama egbe eghḡ
n'lae vbe or'Edo, ukpo
1930s–70s.

Victor Ehikhamenor re ḡ ru
isey'ama egbe eghḡ n'aye
vbḡ or'Edo, ore New York
kevbe ore Philadelphia, ukpo
2019–20.

*ke obiy'omwa gha rrie
oberh'omwa*

Ọkhaemwẹ Gaius Ọbaseki,
Iyase ọgh'Edohia, ukpo
1940

Godwin Nogheghase
(Enogheghase) Ọbaseki,
Ọkae Ariqba ọghe Edo,
or'Edo, ukpo 2019



*ke obiy'omwa gha rrie
oberh'omwa*

Ugi'oromwẹ ọghe
Ọhẹn-osa Osadọlọ Imasogie
kevbe Yewande Abebe
Akinwunmi, vb'otọ Ile-Ife,
ukpo 1958

Ọhẹnosa (Iguẹsẹ) Osadọlọ
Imasogie (ukpo 1928–
2022), vb'ore Philadelphia,
ukpo 2019



*ke obiy'omwa gha rrie
oberh'omwa*

Ọb'ebo Ekhaguosa Aisiẹn
kevbe amwẹ ọnrẹn Ebiuwa
vb'iran mu ama ọghe
ugi'oromwẹ iran ne S.O.
Alongẹ s'ran re vb'ikpẹdẹ
n'ogieva nyaa ugjie vbe uki
ifie, ukpo 1966
Isey'ama ne Amy Staples ru,
vbe or'Edo, ukpo 2013

'ebo Ekhaguosa (ukpo
1930–2021) kẹ Ebiuwa
Aisiẹn vbe uhunmwu iba
(n'ọ rre) ọghe ow'ogbọn
ọgh'iran, vbe or'Edo
Isey'ama ne Amy Staples ni,
or'Edo, ukpo 2019



ODE N'AYA Y'OBỌ Y'EMWI ARO: OMUHEN VBE A Y'ARO UGHUGHAN RU ISEY'AMA

Ake mu so emwi aro ughughan n'ya ru isey'ama vbe ẹvbo West Africa, iran ni s'emwa y'ama ma re wa guẹ, sokpan iran keghi vbe gha ruẹ—ode n'y a y'obọ ya s'emwi ama aro ughughan—ne ẹko miehe na vọn emwa ni viọ inwina n'iran. Ikhuo Ẹdo wa kakabọ gha hoo ne ukpọn, emwi ihanegbe, kevbe ugbaletọ iran gha mwẹẹ aro ughughan ni gha y'ose iran rhiębe ladian ẹsẹsẹ. Ẹvbi-ama Marshall Photo-Oil n'loo aro emu ughughan ne a viọ ke otọ New York rre, ọre Alọngẹ yam aa egb'ere vbe ne a y'obọ ru isey'ama aro ughughan. Iruẹmwi kevbe iguemwi ọnrẹn maa keghi re isey'ama egbe n'omose ọghe ovbukhunvbi Stella Gbinigie (Igbinigie) kevbe ọghe okpokhuo Ogiugo debaa ọkhaẹmwẹ Ẹdo Osagie, ne Alọngẹ y'obọ ru.

Ukpo 1950 ọre Alọngẹ se okpokhuo Stella Gbinigie kevbe otẹn ọnrẹn n'ikhuo y'ama. Ukpo ọkpa nyaa ekesugie ọre Stella ye vbe ose, oghọ kevbe ifinẹro ẹre rhie-maa enya kevbe oghọghọ n'ọ kaan ugie ne ọdee ne Enaigerria khian ya fan egbe vbe obọ Ebo vbe ukpo 1960. Ọ y'owebe nẹ vbe ore London, Stella keghi werriegbe gha dee Enaigirria do nwina inwina akọwee, ukpo eva nyaa ọgban ọ ya nwina, ọ ke zeki vbe iyeke ọ ghi se uhunmwu uta ọghe avbe akọwee ni ghaa rre ugh'arriọba ne a tiẹre Federal Ministry Cabinet office ne ọ rre Eko. Zẹ vbe ọmwa ne a rẹnrẹn (rẹẹ) ye "Live wire of the End room" (ọ ye a ma miẹ air u, ya rhie ovan), Stella keghi miẹ egie ọghọ ọghe otọ Enaigirria ne a tiẹre "Members of the Order of the Niger (M.O.N) vbe ukpo 1979, zẹ vbe ọkpa vbe usun ikhuo ibozẹghẹ ni he miẹ aro ọghọ vberriọ rhunmwunda inwina esiesi ọghe imuegberri'otọ kevbe ugamwẹ n'ọ ru.

Stella debaa etẹn ọnrẹn n'ikhuo, Imarrayi Gbinigie, Helen Uzzi, kevbe Helen Uwaifo iran mudia mu lse y'ama egbe. Zevbe ọmwa okaro ne ọ suẹn aro imuegbe ne a rẹnrẹn ye "Auntie style", ne ọ ghi do gha re emwi are ne ọ (n'ọ) kaan iha-negbe vbe otọ Enaigirria nia, etẹn ọnrẹn ke ghi ye emwi iye iran muegbe—avbe ẹwu elesi ẹre, avbe ukpọn n'rhuan y'ẹkun kevbe avbe ugbaletọ—kevbe emwi ihaa-negbe n'omwe alughaaen. Emwi ọkpa ne orẹ ọghiran vbe emwi hia ne iran ya muegbe ọr'ọ ghaa re ibata iran. Vbene iran hẹko gha ru kevbe vbene ugbaro edomwadẹ ọghore ghaa ye hẹẹ keghi rhie aro ọmwa ọmẹhẹ ne Alọngẹ khin kevbe iruemwiesi ne ọ rre ọre egbe maa vbe egbe avbe emwa ne ọ ghaa sey'ama. Vbe ọ ye vbe gberraa ukpo iyeha nẹ, okpokhuo Stella yeerhe ighẹ "ọ ya obọ esi mu ima vbe ne a miẹ wẹre ivbiẹre ma khin, ọ ma y'aro emwa ni do gha s'egbe y'ama gh'ima)."

Ọduẹki nọkhuọkhua ne ọ duẹki ẹvbuebo kevbe ne ọ vbe khien emwi ughughan ne a ya bọ owa kevbe itaba ni ke otọ Britain rre, Ogiugo ghaa rre otu Akugbe ọrẹtin (unity is strength) ọna re otu ikhuo ni gu'ẹki ya do. Emwi ne a y'Ẹdo gbẹn "Esehosanerakugbe vb'Ẹdo" n'ọre ukpọn na y'obọ do, re y'akha vbe ebo wẹ re "God's glory encompasses unity in Ẹdoland" (Uyiosan'orrakugbe vb'Ẹdo).

Ọkhaẹmwẹ Francis Ẹdo Osagie ghaa re ne ọ da suẹn ẹki igẹdu vbe Enaigirria, ọ na vbe gha re usun emwa ni khaemwe sẹ vbe isi inwina nẹ a tiẹre Shell-BP Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria. Zẹ vbe ọmwa ne ọ guẹ emwi are kevbe emwi n'edẹ. Ẹdo Osagie n'a bọ owa ne a rẹn ye 'Erinmwino rose Hous' ye or'Ẹdo ne ọghi re owa ọghe aza emwi n'edẹ vbe ẹdẹnẹrẹ.



od'ukhumwun, ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Stella Osarhierre Igbinigie
vb'ọ rre om'ukpo ene rhọ
vbẹugie
Ukpo 1950
EEPA 2009-007-1787

Okpokhuo Stella Osarhierre
Igbinigie
Ore Eko, Enaigirria
Isey'ama ne Victor Ehikhame-
nor ru, ukpo 2019

ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Stella Osarhierre Gbinigie
kevbe etẹn ọnrẹn
ke obiy'omwa gha rrie
oberh'omwa: Imarayi Igbinigie,
Helen Uzzi kevbe Helen
Ediagbonya Uwaifo
Ukpo 1950
EEPA 2014-004-0249

Imarayi Igbinigie, Helen Uzzi, kevbe Helen Ediagbonya Uwaifo
Ore Eko, Enaigirria
Victor Ehikhamenor re ọ sey'ama, ukpo 2019

n'ke ukhumwun, ke obiy'omwa gha rrie oberh'omwa

Okpokhuo Esther Egharrevba Ogiugo (ukpo 1909–1991), omw'ogho, ọduẹki n'okhuokhua kevbe n'okhin-emwi
Ukpo 1950
EEPA 2009-007-1771

Okhuokhua Francis Edo Osagie, Okhuokhua Oghie Edohia ama egbe irhiegie
Ukpo 1960
EEPA 2009-007-1775



OTU OKHI OGHE IVBI'EDO

Otu okhi oghe ivbi'Edo re'ọ ghaa rre usu ẹmwe emwa ẹvbo ni da hiin usi vbe or'Edo. Ukpo 1938 ẹre Elijah Osaheni Igbiniḡie kevbe ivbi-ẹvbo n'a rẹn se ayọ mue otu na gbọọ, usun emwa ni ghaa rre nene otu okhiẹvbo kegha re avbe ọduki nikhua, avbe ọmamwaemwi, ekhaemwe kevbe emwa n'owebe. Uki uki ẹre iran y'agha do iko, koko emwa maa iran emwi vbe mua emwe ye emwi kpataki, eriọ iran vbe ya agha loo igbo ye iku vbe ugie ughughan vbone ugbemwe ọrhiowelowẹ ye. Nnamdi Azikiwe ne ọ re ọmw'karo n'ọ ghaa kha'emwise vbe Enaigerria ọre ọ ghaa rre ọmwa n'odo guan vbe ọkpa vbe usun iko okaro n'iran do vbe ukpo 1938 (ototaa ye odaro, adeseneva vbe obiy'omwa).

Alongẹ ghaa rre usun emwa ni mu otu okhi oghe ivbi-ẹdo na gbọọ (uviẹn iyeke, okhie vbo obiy'omwa) ọ vbe gha re ọmwa uyi vbe uwẹbu ihuaere, avbe ọmamwaemwi kevbe ọkai-evbo. Vbe ukpo 2018, otu okhi oghe ivbi-Edo na dugie ọgba vbe ukpo iyene na ghi mu enren gbọọ. Emwa ni ghi rre otu na ede n'ere ọ re ivbi avbe emwa hia ni mu onren gbọọ kevbe avbe eye ọgh'iran.



od'ukhumwun ya se ototọ

Otu okhi oghe ivbi-Edo debaa ne a tiere ne ọ doo guan gb'ebe Nnamdi Azikiwe, omwa ne ọ khian gha re ọkai ariqba oghe okaro vbe Enaigerria vbe ukpo

1963 (uviẹn okarovbe odaro, adeseneva vbe obiy'omwa)
Ow'ebe Arriqba, vbe or'Edo na tiere
Ukpo 1938
EEPA 2009-007-0149

Ama oghe otu okhi oghe ivbi-Edo ne a mu vbe ede ne iran dugie ọ gba vbe ukpo eha rrovbe ekigbesiyene ne iran ghi mu otu na gbọọ vbe or'Edo, vbe Enaigerria Ukpo 2015

Francis Odupte ne onwina vbe ugha *Nigerian Observer* ọ sey'ama

ULAMWÈ AKWETE: ỌGHỌ NE A MU YE ỌMW'UYI VÍCTOR UWAIFO EGBE

A deghe uwè na yee Jorromi, ihuan are Èdo vbe uwu ukpo 1960 rre, ọnii nọ wèrè uwe gha rẹẹ Victor Uwaifo (ke ukpo 1941 ye sẹ ukpo 2021), ne ọ re adesusu ne ol'guita.

Irẹn kevbe avbe ikpesikẹn onrẹn ne a rẹren ye "Melody Maestros" keghi s'ihuan iyisẹn kevbe errekoḍu erẹnẹn ye emadogua ephonogram viọ ladian¹ vbe ukpo 1965 ya se 1976. Usun vbe avbe ihuan na ọ re avbẹ Ekassa oghe Uwaifo ne ọ ya ru igiemwi "progressive traditionalism"² kevbe ihuan "Kirrikisi (Ekassa 24)", ne Uwaifo ya rhie ulamwè ẹgiọn vbe ihuan emwi kevbe ilele evbo ọmwa maa. Vbe uwu ulamwè Akwete oghe ọre, Uwaifo keghi fi aro ukpon oghe otọ igbo ne a ya obọ do werriẹ ya khian ulamwè ihuan ne aro ughughan na mu yo mu rre.³

Ekassa ọ re iku na ugbe vbe ẹvbo vbe a ghaa ma Ọba ọgbọn ye ẹkete, sokpan oghe Uwaifo, zẹ vbenne ọ ye unu ọnrẹn ya ta re, "keghi viọ edomwadẹ ema oghe kedegba ughughan, avbe ezikẹn vbe ufere oghe ebo, ẹgiọn vbe emaba kevbe wẹẹ iren kpe eguita vbe do gha ya Èdo s'ihuan."⁴ Ekassa 24 keghi re ne a ya rhie maa ẹghẹ oghe emwi ne emwa Enaigirria ya ẹmwaẹ kevbe igiḍu ru vbe avbe ukpu ni lele ẹghẹ vbe a da fan egbe vbe obọ Britain. Vbe ne Akwete vbe ye, te ulamwè kevbe urhu re viọ emwi ẹghẹ ne ọ lae, eghe na ye kevbe ẹghẹ ne ọ dee kugbe zẹvbe i gie emwi ọghẹ ne ọ kaan ama egbe ne Alọngẹ ru n'ivbi-ẹvbo vbe Èdo ne ọ ya se emwi n'ede y'ama sokpan a vbe la gha ghee ẹghẹ ne ọ dee vbe odaro iran.



Ikpakpa ihuan Adesusu ne o le eguita n'iguese ukpo 1970–76

Is'inwina Soundway Records Ltd., ukpo 2008

Ne ọ y'obọ se y'ama: Tim Moore

© Is'inwina Soundway Records Ltd

ENDNOTES

1. Collins, John. 1985. *Musicmakers of West Africa*. Washington, D.C.: Three Continents Press, 74.
2. Interview with Victor Uwaifo. <https://afropop.org/articles/uwaifo>. See also Austin Emielu. 2018. "Tradition, Innovations, and Modernity in the Music of the Edo of Nigeria: Toward a Theory of Progressive Traditionalism." *Ethnomusicology* 62 (2).
3. Collins 1985, 78.
4. Ibid, 78–79.

Ngozi Patrick vbe ọ do ukpon Akwete vbe emasini ne ya y'obọ ido ukpon Ẹvbo Afikpo, vbe Enaigirria Emwi ilele oghe ikhuo Igbo ni wa rre ẹvbo ne a ti'ere Akwete ere gha nọ, tẹ Akwete ne a do ghi kpọ vbe

otọ Igbo ya sẹ Afikpo vbe Enaigerria. Simon Ottenberg ọ re ru isey'ama na vbe ukpo 1992 Usun a vbe ama oghe Simon Ottenberg EEPA 2005-001-3741





Onwina ne ovbi-Igbo
 Akwete, Enaigirria
 Ukpõn Akwete
 Ukpõ 1964
 Oru araba
 187.6x105.7cm
 (73 7/8 x 41 4/8 in)
 Èse ne ke obõ Linda Millete
 re
 Franko khoury õre õ ru
 isey'ama na

Akwete wrapper

Akwete õ re ukpõn ne a yõ ne ã i rherhe rria ne emwa wa loo vbe otõ Africa hia. Zẽvbe aro ughughan ne õ mwẽẽ kevbe nẽ i na rherhe rria nii, te emwa ghi wa ya ru upõn vbe emwi ama ughughan ogh'ran vbe otõ agbon hia. Te otu ne ikhuo ye ne õ kaan Akwete ghi wa y'ẽmwẽ õnrẽn ya mu õdakhaa, enwae kevbe etin ye iran egbe.

Emasini ne a ya mudia do ukpon ne ikhuo Igbo loo vbe ehe ne a tie ã re Akwete vbe otõ Enaigirria, ukpõn õghe isa, eve, irri ukpokoro, oru kevbe edõmwadẽ emwi ido hia õ re Akwete khin, erriõ õ vbe mwẽẽ edõmwadẽ uviẽn ni mwẽẽ aro ughughan ni rhie edõmwadẽ aro emwa, egie, ra egbẽe kevbe inwina emwa ladian, õ vbe gi'a ya ru ukokoghõ ne a ya gb'aro ghee ikhuo ni hanmwa kevbe ni khian biẽ. Vbe uwu ẽre, a miẽ edõmwadẽ aro oru ni mwẽẽ ume ughughan vbe ne eyelo ye, n'õfua, neragho kevbe ne õ baa rhiẽrhiẽ ne a do lele oru nekhui, õna ghi do rhie aro ughughan n'mose ne ukpõn na zẽ vbene õ ya mwẽẽ edõmwadẽ aro uviẽn ughughan kevbe aro avbe emwi ni filo lele ẽre.

This exhibition is dedicated to the living memory of our friends and supporters.

Dame Adeola Aderiyike Agbontaen (1930–2021)
Dr. Ekhaguosa Aisien (1930–2021)
Chief (Professor) Emmanuel U. Emovon (1929–2019)
Flora Edouwaye S. Kaplan (1930–2021)
Reverend Professor Osadolor Imasogie (1928–2022)
Princess Dr. Irene Ododo Odaro (1950–2021)
Captain Idahosa Wells Okunbo (1958–2021)
Sir Victor Uwaifo (1941–2021)

Special thanks to the citizens of Benin City, His Royal Majesty (HRM) Oba Ewuare II N’Ogidigan, Omo N’Oba N’Edo, Uku Akpolokpolo, Oba of Benin, and members of the Royal Court of Benin, Benin kingdom, who generously shared their personal stories, photographs, and memories of S.O. Alonge and the Ideal Photo Studio

(HRH) Professor Gregory I. Akenzua
Prince Ademola Iyi-Eweka
Prince Aghatise Erediauwa
Chief Sam O.U. Igbe, Iyase of Benin
Osagie Ehanire, Minister of Health, Nigeria
Godwin Osahiere Obaseki, Governor of Edo State, Nigeria
Ohen Osa Edebiri Igbinoghodua, Holy Aruosa Cathedral
Chief Stanley and Magdalene Obamwonyi
Chief Harrison Ehanire
Chief Ajayi Okao
Chief (Professor) Emmanuel Emovan and Princess Adesuwa Akenzua
Chief David Edebiri
Chief Gabriel and Lady Cherry Igbinedion

Funding and support

Johnnetta Betsch Cole and James D. Staton Jr., JCB Fund
Smithsonian Global and SI Women’s Committee
The Edo Association of Washington DC

National Commission for Museums and Monuments, Nigeria

Abba Isa Tijani, director-general, NCMM (2020–present)
Yusuf Abdallah Usman, director-general, NCMM (2009–17)
Theophilus Umogbai, curator, National Museum of Benin, Nigeria

The Alonge family and Benin-Edo community

Esther Alonge, Helen Oyawale, Omoregie Alonge, Uwaila Alonge, Aigbedo Alonge, and the children, grandchildren. and great grandchildren of S.O. Alonge
Samuel Arasomwan and family
Christiana Uzebu (née Alonge) and family
Madam Stella Osahiere Gbinigie and sisters Imarayi Gbinigie, Helen Uzzi, and Helen Diagonya Uwaifo
Omoregie Agbontaen and family of Adeola A. Agbontaen
Osato Edo-Osagie and family of Chief Francis Edo-Osagie
Ebiuwa Aisien and family of Dr. Ekhaguosa Aisien
Eghosa and Aime Osagie
Enis Ehizibue Ekhikhamenor and family
Patricia Fadaka Iginovia and family of Madam Ogiugo
Sola Adepetu and family of E. Agbe-Davies
Osagie Imasogie and the family of Reverend O. Imasogie
Diana Ramsey Oduwa and family
Kokunre Agbontaen-Eghafona, University of Benin
John Ogene, University of Benin
Ademola Williams, University of Benin
Ekhator-Obogie Osaisonor Godfrey, Institute of Benin Studies
Eghare Igbinosun, Edo Association of Washington DC

BENIN COMMITTEE

Yinka Omorogbe (chair), Olumide Akpata, Daniel Inneh, Chief Elizabeth Jibunoh, Chuka Mordi, Ivana Osagie, Bola Tinubu

Before Nollywood project team

Amy Staples
Ngair Blankenberg
Michael Briggs
Kevin Etherton
Migs Grove
Jeremy Jelenfy
Brad Simpson
Haley Steinhilber
Lisa Buck Vann



The full gallery of images may be viewed at
<https://africa.si.edu/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/before-nollywood-the-ideal-photo-studio/>



Ne ọ gben ọ re vb'Edo ke
 ghi re Godfrey n'ovbi-
 Ekhatọ, vbẹ Institute for
 Benin Studies, vbẹ or'Edo,
 Enaigirria

Edited by Mtgs Grove
 Designed by Lisa Buck Vann

n'ke ukhumwun

Comfort (Merry) Oritsetimeyin
 Ehanirre (ne ovbi-Cardigan)
 vbe ọ rre ọm'ukpo
 evairrọvbugie
 Ukpo 1940
 EEPA 2009-007-0114

front cover

Ovbialeke ne'tota ye
 emọtosaike
 Ukpo 1965
 EEPA 2009-007-0209

back cover

Ọdọ vbe amwẹ ni mu egbe
 ese
 Ukpo 1960
 EEPA 2009-007-0045



Smithsonian
National Museum of African Art

africa.si.edu

