

FINAL REPORT ON THE RESEARCH FINDINGS, LEIPZIG AND DRESDEN GERMAN 2014

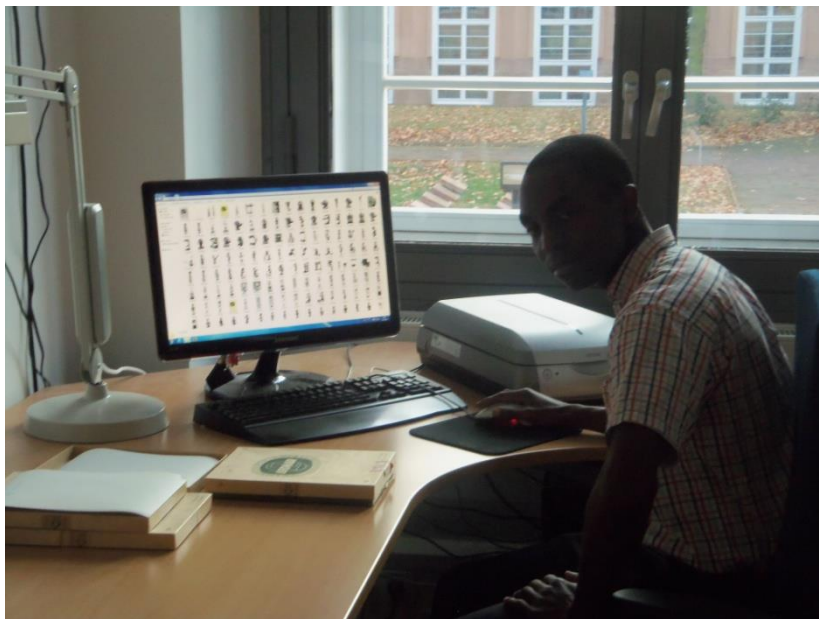
This report shares the findings of what I have been working on since my arrival in Leipzig, during my six (6) week research fellowship:

1. I researched the collections of the South of Tanzania which were principally created by Karl Weule in 1906 about Makonde, Makua and Ajauas: WEULE, K. (1909), *Native Life in East Africa (The Results of an Ethnological Research Expedition)*.
2. I compared these collections with those created by Margot Dias in the North of Mozambique in 1956/57 also about Makonde, Makua and Ajauas: DIAS, M. (1964a, 1964b and 1967c), *Os Maconde de Moçambique*.
3. I compared their literature and added my comments about what I know regarding these artifacts as Makonde and as a worker of the Ethnology National Museum. It is crucial to clarify that, the literature from DIAS has been translated by me into English, as the books were written in Portuguese language.



From left: Dr Birgit-Scheps-Bretschneider, Director and Curator of the Australian and South Pacific Collection, Friederike Brandenburgere and Antonio Luis Ntombanga, the research fellow at the Grassi Museum in Leipzig

4. I studied a big photography collection of the objects from the Ethnology National Museum in Nampula (1950/1960) and also objects from the Natural History Museum in Maputo (1962) given by the couple Dias in Lisbon to Mr. Blesse (Curator of the East and South Africa) from the Grassi Museum in 1991. I scanned all two hundred and forty-five photographs, digitized all the original information contained on them and, again using my experience as Makonde and a worker of the Ethnology National Museum, wrote descriptions of one hundred and sixteen photos, looking at their intangible significance.



Antonio Luis Ntimbanga, the research fellow during the photos scanning process at the Grassi Museum in Leipzig

5. I translated from Portuguese into English, Shimakonde into Portuguese and English, an audio interview of an hour conducted by Mr. Blesse in 1985 in the cooperatives of the Makonde sculptors in Maputo, Mozambique. In this interview, Makonde sculptors are talking about their artistic work.

During the research period at the Grassi Museum, I had the opportunity to broaden my vision concerning the work of museums through:

- ✓ The guided visits to different regional galleries such as Africa, Asia, Americas, Australia and Oceania;

- ✓ A guided visit to different restoration studios;
- ✓ A guided visit to storage;
- ✓ A guided visit to Wittenberg (the city where the reformer Marthin Luther lived and was buried)

I also visited other SKD institutions such as: the Residenzschloss (Royal Palace), Herrnhut Ethnology Museum and the Ethnographic Sammlungen Sachsen in Dresden.

NOTE: The Grassi Museum in Leipzig has a huge collection of Makonde objects from the South of Tanzania and, due to the short period of time, I studied the following categories of objects: *Masks, Lip plugs, Ear plugs and Nose Pins*. In regard to the photographic collection, I described one hundred and sixteen (116) photos.

On the 4th December, I delivered a presentation on the research findings at the Wissenschaftsforum (Forum of Science) in Dresden in the presence of the SKD General Director Dr. Hartwig Fischer, Prof. Dr. Gilbert Lupfer, Head of Research and Scientific Cooperation at the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden and representatives of all SKD Institutions. On the 12th December, I presented the same research findings at the Grassi Museum in Leipzig.



Antonio Luis Ntimbanga, presenting the research findings results at the Wissenschaftsforum (Forum of Science) in Dresden

The meeting I had with the SKD General Director Dr. Hartwig Fischer in Dresden and a visit by Claire Messenger (the British Museum International Training Programme Manager) in Leipzig is evidence of the huge commitment of these two personalities and two European cultural institutions towards one goal: Research Promotion and the International Cooperation.



From left: Claire Messenger, the British Museum International Training Programme Manager, Antonio Luis Ntimbanga, the research fellow in Leipzig, Germany.

In summary, I find this kind of cooperation between the SKD in Germany, British Museum International Training Programme and museum professionals around the world as being very relevant because, not only do we have the opportunity to share experiences about the collections and responsibilities in our museum, but also we strengthen our relations for future cooperation.

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