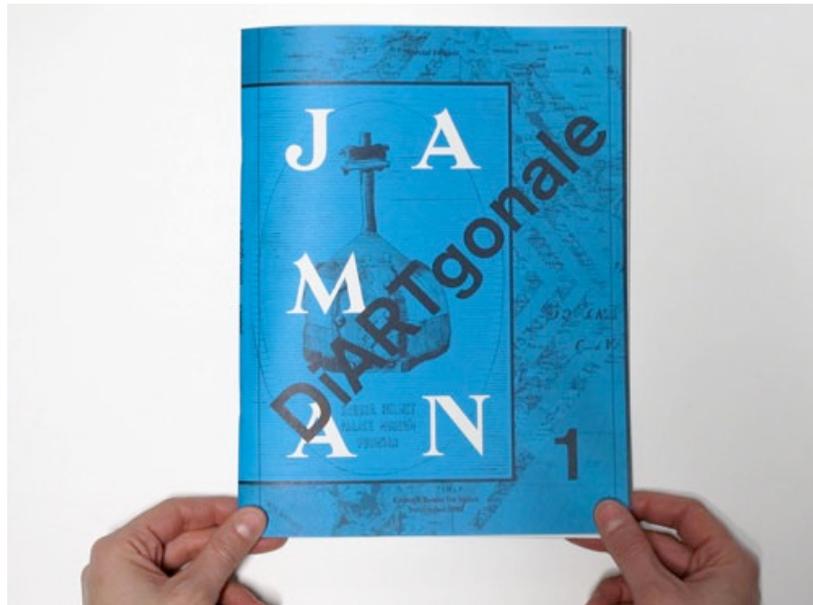


JAMAN – DiARTgonale Special Edition #1

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French/English, 72 p., 26 x 20 cm.



This contemporary art magazine JAMAN (Bamum for “German”) spotlights encounters between Cameroon and the ‘West’ during more than a hundred years. The art works, the poetic and scientific texts and the cartoons that have been specially produced for this issue challenge cherished notions of cultural authenticity. JAMAN is the first of a series of special editions, published by the European art organisation *Enough Room for Space* in collaboration with the Cameroonian artist journal *DiARTgonale*.

This issue’s core project JAMAN explores the reciprocal fascination between the German colonisers and the sultan of Foumban, a city in Cameroon’s Hinterland, around the year 1905. Artist **Christian Hanussek** (DE) chose the ancient printing technique of engraving to shed light at the processes of self-historisation that sprang from this encounter. **Salifou Lindou** (CM) collaged his pictorial inventions based on historical photographs that Hanussek found in European archives. The caricatures of **Nyemb Popoli** (CM), editor of a famous satirical daily in Cameroon, put these historical finds into a contemporary perspective. The three artists chose to display their various points of entry on the virtual stage of their fictitious, comical opera text. Additionally, the cultural anthropologist **Michaela Oberhofer** (DE) sheds light at the historic voyage of the Sultan’s throne to Berlin. For more than a century already this valuable diplomatic gift is used for stagings of power.

We explore this topic of cultural appropriation further with contemporary artist **Andrew Gilbert**’s (UK) dialogue with primitivist artist **Ernst Ludwig Kirchner** (DE, 1880 - 1938). Furthermore, **Paul Hendrikse**’s (NL) associative flow of found imagery sheds light at the troubled love-story of the reknown Cameroonian poet **Louis-Marie Pouka-M’Bague** (CM, 1910 – 1992) with the colonial motherland France. We share **Hervé Yamguen**’s (CM) pleasure in observing the transformation of his Picasso-inspired drawings in the hands of traditional Cameroonian craftspeople (beading and woodcarving). Cultural anthropologist **Anschaire Aveved** (CM) has looked into the history of a statue from Cameroon that radically changed its meaning while travelling the world and even became sacred.

Artist **Dunja Herzog** (CH) challenged the creativity of some bronze casters in Fouban that cater to the exoticist taste of tourist clients there. We document the surprising deal of artisan **Garba Tanko** (CM) with sculptor **Maarten Vanden Eynde** (BE): a brand-new *Stihl* chain saw for its exact copy in ebony wood.

Cameroon's most famous artist **Pascale Marthine Tayou** (CM), shows two of his sculptures made from Venetian crystal that recall ritual statues with their magic add-ons and majestic posture.

A conversation with **Matthias de Groof** (BE), **Marjolijn Dijkman** (NL) and **Nav Haq** (UK) about current appropriations of science fiction in African settings and/or for African audiences closes this issue. We link a recent exhibition on the subject matter at *Arnolfini* in Bistol, UK, to the futurist filmmaking of **Jean_Pierre Bekolo** (CM). We thus conclude our timeline on historical exchange, appropriation and hybridisation that started in 1905 in the year 2025.

Editors of Special Edition #1: Marjolijn Dijkman (NL) and Annette Schemmel (DE)

Designer: Indre Klimaite (LT)

Editor of DiARTgonale: Achille K Komguem (CM)

Enough Room for Space is a non-profit art organisation based in Rotterdam, Brussels and Berlin. Four years of discussions, artistic residencies, exhibitions and collaborations between Cameroonian and European artists have led to a series of contemporary art magazines. Each edition is headed by co-productions of Cameroonian and Dutch / German / Belgium artists and explores a specific subject matter in depth. The three special editions are hosted by DiARTgonale, a Cameroonian artist journal.

www.enoughroomforspace.org