Village Drummer

HOPE Moshood Adekunle African Star on the rise

The venue was VHS Tübingen, and before the scheduled time for the opening ceremony, the hall had been jam-packed by enthusiastic art lovers, who came from far and near to witness the exhibition of the beautiful works of a creative fine artist, Moshood Adekunle.

The exhibition was tagged; AFRICA; DREAM AND REALITY, and rightly so.

Moshood's love for art and ingenuity glows like a candlelight. His works are outstanding, and his masterful use of colours, curve lines and loops is impresive. He uses his creative wealth to bring out best artworks that are rich in beauty and meaning. Using various artistic media, he

churns out, charming works like; The Orange Woman, Village Drummer, Beautiful Africa, and many more. This strong,

creative and tireless artist is also into teaching of African dances and writing of

Despite his very tight schedule, the mul-

ti-talent artist finds time to talk about his

life, works and many more in an exclusive

HA: When and how did you conceive the

MOSHOOD: My flair for art could be traced back to those days at primary school, when I made some small token by drawing and copying notes for friends, and also enjoyed different roles on stage, as an actor.

interview with Hope Africa. Excerpts:

idea of going into fine art?

plays.

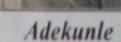
flavour, after the sudden death of the founder. Before then, every one was given the opportunity to prove him or herself in various areas of specialisation and be good in one and flexible in others, and also to be somebody in life. I also have a background of cinematography too.

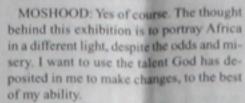
HA: Using your own experience and the prices of your artworks, do you think Africans, considering their limited resources, coupled with their near apathy towards artworks, can afford them?

MOSHOOD: It will be unfair to say that Africans cannot afford the tags on my works. They are not expensive when compared with other luxury, we give money out for. By and large, foreigners as a



Beautiful Africa





HA: What are the challenges before African art exhibition in a divergent cultural society as Germany and how do hope to deal with them?

MOSHOOD: Presentation of African art is not the only mountain one has to climb as



The Orange Woman

whole have other priorities. The standard of living here today is very high, even for the Germans.

HA: What is the level of acceptance of your artworks by the German society? MOSHOOD: "Your friends are the society and the society is your friend." So the

saying goes. At least 70% of my German friends like what am doing, they ask questions, give suggestions and never fail to make meaningful criticism. We should also not forget the fact that, many Europeans still see African art as being primitive, which of course is not true but will definitely influence their appreciation of our

HA: Are you meeting the aims or obligation of going into art exhibition?

an African. Some Africans in Diaspora lack values and respect for the continent. Not until we're able to build a network of appreciation for our own resources, we will remain a problem child.

There are still untouched areas in the field of art, whenever am through with my concept, you will be the first to know. My focus is on children and upcoming artist.

HA: Surely, in trying to ensure that the public gets the right package, you must be working with other stakeholders. How much support do you get from them, especially the Ministry in charge of arts and culture here?

MOSHOOD: You only get support, if they come knocking at your door. First, you have to cultivate the soil, before planting and reaping.

The on-going exhibition, AFRICA: DREAM AND RE-ALITY" is the product of my endeavour, solely financed from my pocket.

I am very grateful to VHS Tübingen for their support to make this exhibition a success. As you know, worldwide today, only a little stipend is always allocated to arts and culture. In a nutshell, there is no financial support so far.

HA: Frustration, not realising your full potential as a result of the situation, in a place like Germany?

MOSHOOD: I wouldn't relent in my efforts. Frustration is everywhere, not only in Ger-

HA: Do you ges inspiration or influence from other world renowned African artists like Bruce Onobrakpeya?

MOSHOOD: Bruce Onobrakpeya is one of the Michael Angelos of Africa. He belongs to the class of pioneers, who marked the beginning of modern Nigerian art. Many Nigeric



Polygamy

art scholars and artists have benefited immensely from his legacy and this will su-







The New Bride





Iyawo Osingin

HA: What is the motivation?

MOSHOOD: Creativity! I always envy anyone with exceptional potentials and ta-

HA: At the beginning, what did you hawe in mind?

MOSHOOD: To work towards my dream and build a successful career as a Graphic artist and illustrator.

HA: Since you started, how has it been? MOSHOOD: Rough though, but I was able to establish myself, as a utility Artist while in Nigeria. However, it is just a different story here in Germany.

HA: What prepared you for this busi-

MOSHOOD: Self esteem and strong determination. It is quite heart-throbbing though, that most artists never reap the fru-If of their hard labour, while living. My ulintate goal has always been to do just Art. HA: Before you went into that, what were you doing? What is your background li-

MOSHOOD: After school certificate, I tried so many things before ending-up at a theatre company, called AYOTA. Too bad the this vibrant theatre house, lost its old