

25 MAY 2023  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFRICA DAY



UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TORINO



# AFRICAN HERITAGE A BRIDGE OF CULTURES

## CONFERENCE

Campus Luigi Einaudi,  
Lungo Dora Siena 100 - Torino  
Sala Lauree Blu grande  
3-6 pm

### Special guests

**Takele M. Assefa**  
Addis Ababa University

**Medhanie T. Mariam**  
Asmara Heritage Project

**Bekele M. Nigussu**  
Addis Ababa University

### Discussants

**Lucrezia Cippitelli** Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera

**Enrica Pagella** Musei Reali Torino

**Cecilia Pennacini** Università di Torino

**Alessio Re** Fondazione Santagata

**Janet Buhanza** Associazione Donne Africa Subsahariana e II Generazione

Designed to celebrate the Organization of African Unity anniversary (25 May 1963), the conference is dedicated to the value and potential of African cultural heritage as a means of promoting international dialogue within and outside the continent.

African cultural heritage is an extraordinarily rich and ancient repository of aesthetics, ideas, symbols and emotions, essential to African societies' history and identity and to humanity as a whole. These include oral literature, visual and performing arts, living environments, objects and material cultures. The exquisiteness of these traditions made them widely

circulated within and outside Africa for centuries and Colonialism led to a massive, traumatic export of African art to metropolitan museums. In recent years, a wide-ranging debate has highlighted the need for strong cooperation between African and European cultural institutions to explore, research, reinterpret, promote this heritage and make it physically and digitally accessible to the widest possible audience.

The conference is part of the Voices of Africa in the Colonial Legacy project, developed by the University of Turin with the Musei Reali, the Direzione Regionale Musei Piemonte and the Fondazione Santagata for the economics of culture.

The conference was financed with funds from the law n. 77 of 20 February 2006 "Misure speciali di tutela e fruizione dei siti e degli elementi italiani di interesse culturale, paesaggistico e ambientale, inseriti nella «Lista del Patrimonio Mondiale», posti sotto la tutela dell'UNESCO

