

Short-Form CURRICULUM VITÆ, 2015

Allen F. Roberts, PhD

Dept. of World Arts & Cultures/Dance, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), box 951608, Los Angeles, CA 90095

1. Education

Postdoctoral Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows, University of Michigan, 1980-1, 1984-5.
PhD (1980) and MA (1972) in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, University of Chicago.
BA (1968) in Socio-Cultural Anthropology, Amherst College.

2. Present positions

Professor (Step 8), Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA (from July 1999).
Professor (affiliated), Department of French and Francophone Studies, UCLA (from 2002).
Co-editor, *African Arts*; Editorial Boards, *Material Religion*, and *World Arts* (all peer-reviewed journals).

3. Past positions

Chair, African Studies MA Program, UCLA (2011-2014).
Graduate Advisor, UCLA Dept of World Arts & Cultures (2007-2009).
Director, James S. Coleman African Studies Center at UCLA (July 2001 to July 2007).
Professor of Anthropology and African American World Studies, University of Iowa (1995-July 1999).
Associate Professor of Anthropology and African American World Studies, University of Iowa (1988-95).
Director, University of Iowa African Studies Program (July 1995 to July 1999).
Co-founder/Director, Project for Advanced Study of Art and Life in Africa, U-Iowa (1989-99).
Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Albion College, Albion, Michigan (1981-88).
Assistant Research Scientist, University of Michigan Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (1979-88).
Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Michigan School of Natural Resources (1987-88).
Visiting Assistant Professor via Michigan Society of Fellows, U-Michigan Dept of Anthropology (1984-85).
Visiting Assistant Professor, Michigan State University Department of Anthropology (1985).
Visiting Professor, Faculté des Langues, Arts, & Sciences Humaines, Université Nationale du Bénin (Fall, 1984).
Secondary-School teacher, Chad: US Peace Corps (1968-70), Chadian Ministry of Education (1965-66).
Gandy dancer, Alaska Railroad (summer 1964).

4. Languages

fluent in French and Swahili, teaching and radio/TV broadcasts in both languages in US, Europe, Africa.

5. Teaching

Courses: Theories of Culture; Myth & Ritual; Ethnography of Religions; Africa & the Disciplines; Visual Cultures; Arts of Identity; Theories of Performance; Space and Place; Museums, Memory, Colonialism; Myth, Magic & Mind; African Peoples; African Religions; Islam in Africa; Urban Arts of Africa; Contemporary World Problems; Basic Ideas (world lit); Technology and Society; Introductory Anthropology.

6. Honors

Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award of the Arts Council of the African Studies Association for *A Dance of Assassins* as the best African arts book of 2011-2013; Finalist, Herskovits Award in African Studies, 2013.
Invited Scholar, "Humanities of Materiality" initiative, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan, 2013.
Keynote, "Rethinking Islamic West Africa" program, Boston University African Studies Prgm, September 2010.
Jane Powell Dwyer Memorial Lecture, Brown University, March 2009.
George A. Miller Endowment Visiting Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Fall 2006.
Herskovits Award of the African Studies Association naming *A Saint in the City, Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal* the best African Studies book of 2003 from a field of fifty (with M. N. Roberts).
Arnold Rubin Outstanding Publication Award of the Arts Council of the African Studies Association for *A Saint in the City: Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal* the best African arts book of 2001-2003 (with M. N. Roberts).
"A Saint in the City: Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal" hailed as one of the ten best exhibitions of 2003 on any theme at any U.S. museum by *The New York Times*.
P.I., U.S. Dept of Education Title VI National Resource Center grant for the UCLA African Studies Center. 2001-2006. Included FLAS fellowships for graduate students studying African languages.
Co-P.I. (with Thomas Smith, UCLA Tropical Research Center), UCLA Global Impact Research Grant to create an interdisciplinary research node in Cameroon & fund a conference on hunting in African rainforests '03-5.
Co-P.I. (with Edward Alpers, UCLA Dept of History), UCLA Global Impact Research Grant for conferences in 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 on Islam and Hinduism in the Indian Ocean World.
Team member (David Gere, P.I., UCLA World Arts & Cultures), UCLA Global Impact Research Grant "How to Make Art in a Global Pandemic: HIV/AIDS and the Arts," 2003-2005.
Co-P.I., UCLA Chancellor's Fund for Academic Border Crossing, team research (5 profs, 2 grads) Mauritius '03.
Invited nominator for fellows, MacArthur and Carnegie Foundations.
College of Examiners, Canadian National Chairs Program, 2001 to present.
U-California Humanities Research Institute, grant for major conference on Indian Ocean World (2001-2).
Global Scholar at U-Iowa (1999-2001); upon moving to UCLA, matched with year's paid leave (1999-2000).

Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Award for Outstanding Museum Scholarship of the College Art Association for *Memory: Luba Art and the Making of History* (1996), as the first Africanist book to be so honored (with M. N. Roberts).
 PI Ford Foundation "Training the Next Generation of Africanists" ('95-7) and "Revitalizing Area Studies" ('97-8).
 Diversity Award, University of Iowa African Students Association, 1997-8.
 Faculty Scholar at the University of Iowa (three semesters' paid leave, 1992-5).
 Invited speaker, workshops of Japanese and American Africanists, UCLA, Tokyo (1993-4).
 Swedish Royal Academy of History and Antiquities, Visiting Scholar (1992-3).
 PI, unsolicited grants with National Aeronautics and Space Administration on social aspects of photovoltaic applications in developing countries, U-Michigan Center for Afroamerican & African Studies,

1981-86.

Roy D. Albert Prize for Excellence in Anthropology, University of Chicago (1972).
Chevalier de l'Ordre Civique, knighted for public service, Republic of Chad, 1970.
 Andrew Laurie Scholar at Amherst College (1967-68).

7. International Research

≈15 years' residence in Africa (mostly in rural areas); 45 months of PhD research in Zaïre (Congo/Kinshasa).
 Field research: Bénin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Mauritius, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe; Morocco, Tunisia; Guyana, Ecuador, Jamaica, Suriname; Marshall Islands; India; Japan.
 Archival/museum research: Belgium, Bénin, Bermuda, Chad, England, France, Gabon, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mali, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Scotland, Sénégal, Taiwan.
 Consultant development anthropologist, USAID, NASA, UNDP. Social impact assessment, technology transfer.

8. Major Exhibitions of African Art

Co-curator with Tom Joyce, Henry Drewal, and William Dewey, "Striking Iron: The Art of African Blacksmiths," major book and traveling exhibition hosted by the UCLA Fowler Museum, projected for 2018.
 Co-curator with M. N. Roberts, "A Global Saint in a Virtual World," Wellin Museum, Hamilton College, 2016.
 Co-author/curator with Mary Nooter Roberts, "A Saint in the City: Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal," a major NEH-funded book and exhibition at the UCLA Fowler Museum, 2003-2008, six venues across the U.S.
 Co-curator with Carol Brown (Director, Durban Art Gallery), "'Break the Silence': Art and HIV/AIDS in South Africa," UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, 2002.
 Co-author/curator with Mary Nooter Roberts, "A Sense of Wonder," 1997-1999, six venues across the U.S..
 Co-author/curator with Mary Nooter Roberts, "The Shape of Belief," de Young Museum of Art, San Fran, 1996.
 Co-author/editor with Mary Nooter Roberts, "MEMORY: Luba Art and the Making of History," major NEH-funded book and exhibition organized by the Museum for African Art, NYC, 1996-1998, five venues.
 Author/curator, "Animals in African Art: From the Familiar to the Marvelous," major NEH-funded book and exhibition organized by the Museum for African Art, NYC, 1995-1997, five venues across the U.S.
 Principal consultant/writer, "Recycled, Reseen," Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, 1996-1998,
 Curator/author/editor, "The Rising of a New Moon: A Century of Tabwa Art" NEH-funded book and exhibition organized at the U-Michigan Museum of Art, 1986-1987, Smithsonian, Royal Museum of Central Africa.
 Co-founder with the late Mary Kujawski Roberts, African National Museums Project (Bénin, Gabon, Mali; 1984-9).

9. Books

A Dance of Assassins: Performing Early Colonial Hegemony in the Congo (2013, Indiana University Press).
Visions of Africa: Luba, with Mary Nooter Roberts, in English and French (2007, Paris: 5Continents Press).
A Saint in the City: Sufi Arts of Urban Senegal, with Mary Nooter Roberts (2003, Univ. of Washington Press).
A Sense of Wonder, with Mary Nooter Roberts (1997: University of Washington Press).
The Shape of Belief, with Mary Nooter Roberts (1996: University of Washington Press).
LUBA, with Mary Nooter Roberts (1996: New York: Rosen Books).
MEMORY: Luba Art and the Making of History, with Mary Nooter Roberts (1996: Munich: Prestel)
Animals in African Art: From the Familiar to the Marvelous (1995: Munich: Prestel)
The Rising of a New Moon: A Century of Tabwa Art, with Evan M. Maurer (1985: Univ. of Washington Press).

10. Selected Recent Articles (among more than 100 published)

"Spiritscapes of the Indian Ocean World" (with M.N.Roberts), in *Afrique/Asie*, D. Malaquais, ed. Paris: PURH 2015
 "Icons from the End of Days: Visual Hagiography Among Layennes of Senegal," *World Art*, 2013.
 "Movement of Ideas and Forms Between Central and Eastern Africa," in *Shangaa! Art of Tanzania*, CUNY, 2013.
 "Citoyenneté visuel au Sénégal contemporain," *Les arts de la citoyenneté*, M. Diouf, ed. Karthala, 2013.
 "Performing Cosmology," in *African Cosmos*, C. Kreamer, ed. Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, 2012.
 "Sufi Arts of Senegal" (with M. N. Roberts), *Companion to African Religions*, E. Bongmba, ed. Blackwell, 2012.
 "Les arts itératifs au Sénégal" (with M. N. Roberts), *La fabrique des images*, Musée du quai Branly 2010.
 "Resignification and the Migration of Images," in *Religion and Material Culture*, D. Morgan, ed. Routledge, 2009.
 "Flickering Images, Floating Signifiers" (with M.N.Roberts), *Material Religion*, 2008.
 "Mystical Graffiti and the Refabulation of Dakar" (with M.N.Roberts), *Africa Today*, 2008.