

Kawere African Museum



Main items in the collection - a catalogue

2012



The Kawere African Museum at Nsangi

In many parts of Uganda, community museum owners, supporters and managers, passionate about culture and heritage, have collected artefacts, oral history, and other elements of the local culture. Community museums also link past and future through their collections, which are accessible to

schools, local residents and those from farther away.

The Kawere African Museum was established by a local artist in 2007. It depicts the political history, religion and culture of Uganda as seen through the initiator's eyes,

with paintings, portraits and architectural replicas. It also holds a few antiques from the early colonial period.



Kawere African Museum is located along Kampala-Masaka road, ½ km from Nsangi trading centre. For further information, contact:

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**1. Pupils who perished in the 2008
inferno at Buddo Primary School**

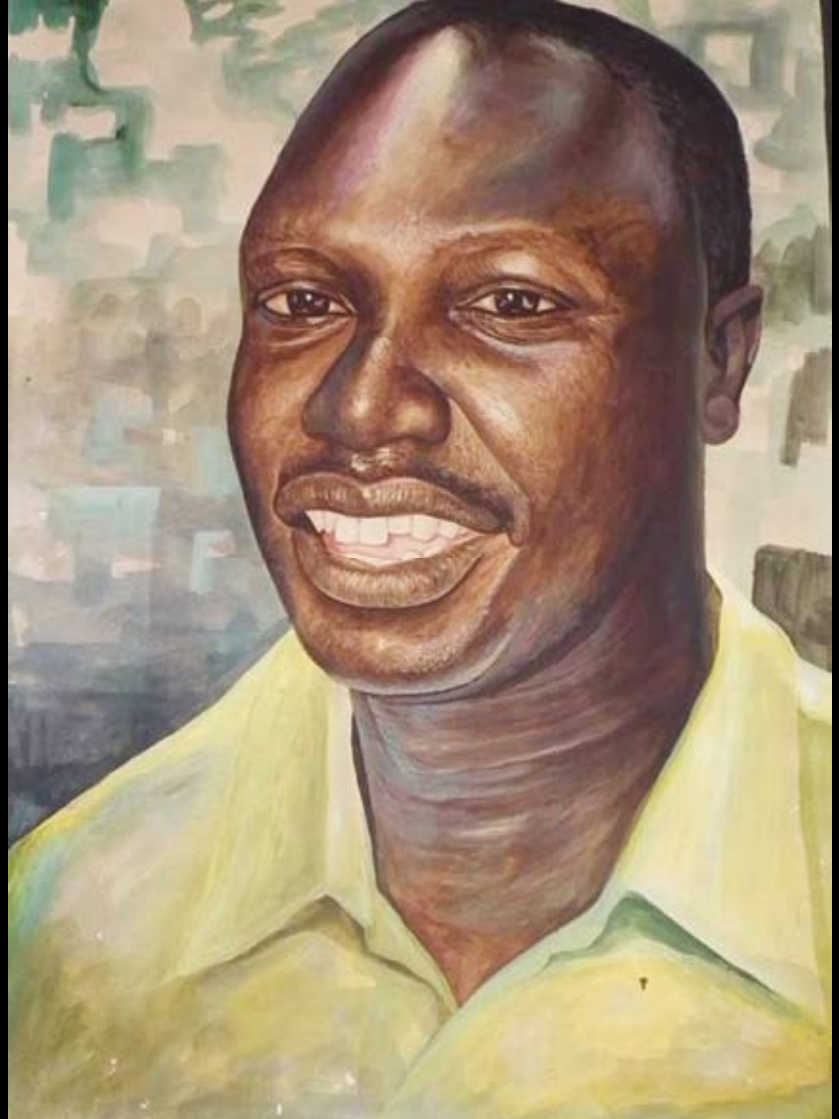
*Oil canvas painting 200cm x 150cm;
Godfrey Kawere*

(See detailed descriptions at the end of the catalogue)



2. Portrait of Dr. Lukwiya

*Painting on paper; 90cm x 60cm;
Godfrey Kawere.*



3. The recent Kings of Buganda

*Canvas painting; 240cm x 220cm;
Godfrey Kawere*



4. Presidents of Uganda since independence

Painting on paper, 240cm x 120cm; Godfrey Kawere



5. The Uganda Martyrs

*Painting on paper, 238width, 180
height; Godfrey Kawere*



6. Sir Apollo Kaggwa

*Bust, terracotta, 102cm height,
Godfrey Kawere*



7. World War II African Soldier

*Wooden statue, 97cm high;
Godfrey Kawere*



8. Fr. Lourdel (*Mapeera*)
Terracotta bust, 120cm high;
Godfrey Kawere





9. Traditional architecture

Miniature houses, 30cm high on average

10. Wall clock

*Wooden wall clock, 75cm
height, 30cm width*



11. Gramophone

*Gramophone encased in a box, 40cm
width, 60cm length*



1. This painting depicts some of the pupils of Buddo Primary School who perished in a mysterious fire of 14th April 2008. One, Yvonne Namaganda, in the centre of the picture, survived the blaze but died later while trying to save her crying comrades who were trapped in the raging fire. She is now considered a heroine by many Ugandans.

*Source: Godfrey Kawere,
Curator of Kawere African Museum, 24.09.2011*

2. The late Dr. Mathew Lukwiya is a national hero. He braved the *ebola* epidemic in northern Uganda in 2000 to try and save lives until he fell victim to the disease and died.

Source: as above

3. The recent Buganda Kings in succession. From the front is King Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II (1993-to date), his father Sir Edward Walugembe Muteesa II (1939-1966), Daudi Chwa II (1897-1939) and Mwanga II (1884-1897).

Source: as above

4. Uganda's Presidents since independence. Clockwise from top left: Sir Edward Muteesa II (October 1962-March 1966); Apollo Milton Obote (15 April 1966-25 January 1971 and 17 December 1980-27 July 1985); Idi Amin (25 January 1971-11 April 1979); Yusuf Lule (13 April-20 June 1979); Lukongwa Binasisa (20 June 1979-12 May 1980); Paulo Muwanga (22 May - 15 December 1980); Tito Okello (29 July 1985- 26 January 1986); Yoweri Museveni (1986 to-date).

Source: as above

5. The painting is a reminder of the deadly events that took place between 1885 and 1887, when mostly young Christian boys were killed and burnt at Namugongo on the orders of Kabaka (King) Mwanga of Buganda when he realised that the first Christian converts put loyalty to Christ above loyalty to the King. The painting depicts the shrine that has been built on the spot.

Source: as above

6. Apollo Kaggwa (1864-1927) was the longest serving Prime Minister (*Katikiro*) of Buganda Kingdom. Kaggwa served as regent from 1897 until 1914 when the infant King Daudi Chwa came of age. Kaggwa also led the Protestant faction after the civil war of 1888, when Kabaka Mwanga was ousted from the throne by Christians. He was the first historian to record most of Buganda's early history, culture and traditions. He wrote several books including 'Ebika bya Buganda', 'Empiza za Baganda', 'Entalo za Buganda', 'Bassekabaka ba Buganda'.

Source: as above

7. Depicts an *askari* (soldier) in colonial times. The town of Bombo along Kampala-Gulu road was the base for the King's African rifles soldiers whose battle dress of khaki shorts was known as *bombo* in Swahili, giving the town its name.

Source: as above

8. Bust of Father (Père) Lourdel (*Mapeera*, as commonly referred to by Ugandans). Lourdel was among the members of the first caravan of White Fathers that arrived in the region of Lake Victoria to introduce the Catholic religion. They set off from France in April 1878 and arrived at Entebbe on 19th February 1879. Father Lourdel led the spreading of the Catholic religion and his name is prominent in the minds of Ugandan Catholics. Various catholic oriented ventures have been named after him, the most recent being Mapeera House, a building on Kampala road, opposite the Constitution Square.

Source: as above

9. These miniatures depict the traditional architecture of different ethnic groups in Uganda through time, showing the use of diverse materials which have included mud, wattle, grass, wood, cow dung, banana fibres, reeds etc.

Source: as above

10. This type of clock was introduced in Uganda in the 1950s and owned by rich people. Its introduction marked a step in keeping time from looking at the sun or listening to a cockerel. According to Godfrey Kawere, the museum curator, the clock was interesting at the time because it had a melody at the fall of each hour, followed by a gong indicating the time.

Source: as above

11. Manufactured by the Gramophone Co Ltd, Hayes, Middlesex, England. The gramophone is one of the first forms of disc music players to come to Uganda, brought in by the British in the 1930s.

Source: as above

Throughout Uganda, inspired individuals, families and groups of people have established community museums open to the public to preserve and promote the local cultural heritage.

This catalogue, one of a series for 11 community museums across Uganda, highlights the most important items held by the Kawere African Museum along Kampala-Masaka road.

It is meant to publicise and record the collection, as well as to act as a reference point, reflecting Uganda's history

The catalogue was produced by the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, an organisation dedicated to promoting the recognition of culture as vital for human development that responds to Uganda's national identity and diversity. As part of its cultural heritage programme, the Foundation supports community museums in Uganda.

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www.crossculturalfoundation.or.ug

