



**Arts  
Collaboratory**

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**REPORTS |  
on the Arts Collaboratory  
Assembly Senegal 2015**

**Djo Ngeleka,  
Picha, République Démocratique  
du Congo**

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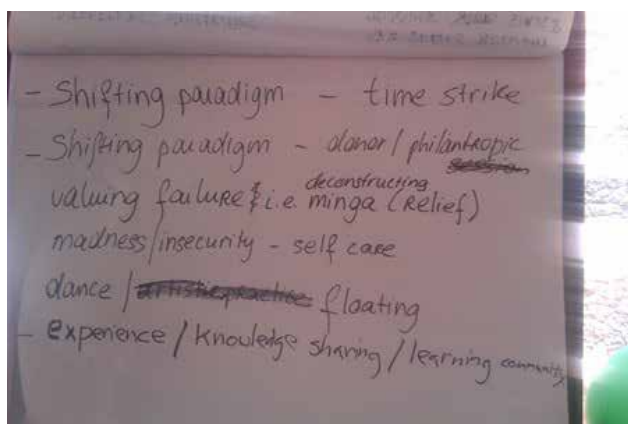


A recap by Barto on the passions and obstacles of Arts Collaboratory



Dancing at l'école des sables

The second Assembly of Art Collaboratory was a very good meeting for the sharing and exchange of knowledge. For me it was the first time to participate in an Arts Collaboratory Assembly, but it was as if I had already participated in several other before. This meeting allowed me to understand and deepen my knowledge of my mission to help my institution Centre d'Art Picha. I realized that Art Collaboratory is a common well of knowledge where everyone could come to draw and add to the sharing of knowledge.



Recap of our work at Sobo Bade

The Art Collaboratory partners Doen and Hivos Foundation are not only financial support platforms with different structures around the world. They also help encourage the development of the methodology of the four collaborative projects of Arts Collaboratory that were born during the first meeting in Indonesia. The annual meetings are the structures for coming together to get to know each other and exchange ideas on various joint projects.. These meetings are always born of new initiatives for the future, while the collaborative projects were born in order to create a common space. In terms of financial support from the network it is the only platform that balances the stability and durability of structures, because it gives structural support to all these diverse institutions unlike other donors who finance for specific projects.



Dinner at l'école des sables

By these methods and strategies for funding developed in Art Collaboratory that extends out into the communities making it possible to help parallel structures and have time to maintain relationships. To go further with the support and give the possibility for the network itself to direct its own funding dispersement. Discussions were undertaken to end the traditional funding model and develop a system. Thus, three groups were formed to decide on the new model of financing which were presented at the end of the Assembly. Moving forward a representatives of each group was invited to meet in Amsterdam in June to combine this ideas and come up with a single common model.

The second Assembly in Dakar Art Collaboratory was also a place of discovery of local arts context. With our hosts Ker Thiossane and Raw Material Company we visited several institutions including: In the Village of Arts in Dakar, Ouakam works with pottery and is a training center for the deaf, dumb, and orphans. I was moved to see that these children could have a new chance to live life like the others, L'Atelier Ceramic Almadies allowed me to appreciate the photo exhibition on different religions. In Joal we visited Portes et Passage and Toubab dialaw, a village rich with fish. Ecole des sables was wonderful and where we had fun having a dance session. We also were able to visit Le théâtre de l'engouement, Le théâtre Kaddou yarax, the atelier of the artist Issa Samb, L'institut français de Dakar, Gorée island with the Gorée institute and la maison des esclaves. During an encounter at the beautiful setting of La Librairie Athèna in Dakar we were able to meet the brave group y en a marre.

And many other discoveries thanks to this Assembly.



The participants assisting in a play at the theater of Kadou Yarax



Patrick translating at the discussion at Théâtre de l'engouement

I still keep in memory all the participants with whom we met and shared knowledge. I'm glad to be born in this new family and I hope to attend future Art Collaboratory meetings or be able to meet the participants in Lubumbashi and honored to be honored to welcome them home to Centre d'Art Picha.



Gertrude at the atelier of artist Issa Samb



Binna at the atelier of artist Issa Samb





On the ferry to Gorée Island in the Atlantic Ocean



Our guide speaking about the history of Gorée Island



Paula taking photos of Gorée Island



Introduction by the director of the House of Slaves