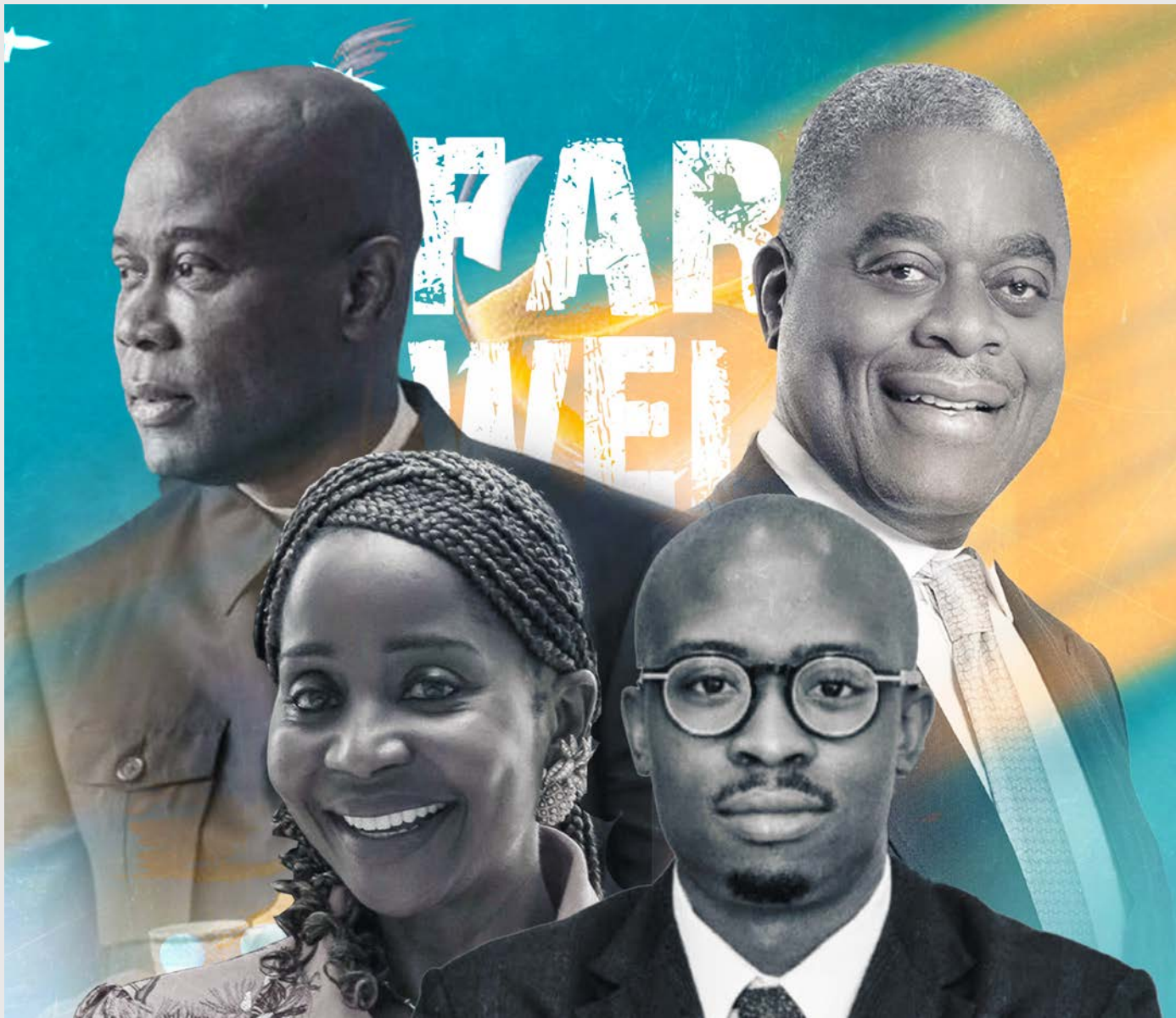


BUSINESS DAY WEEKENDER

EDITION 180 | 17, FEBRUARY 2024



SPORTS

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ENTERTAINMENT

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C O N T E N T S



5

LAUGHTER IN THE MIRROR



11

ART
BREAKING THE MOLD_ UNCONVENTIONAL ART MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES



27

PROFILE
A LEADER TRANSFORMING LIVES_ THE MULTIFACETED WORLD OF ADENRELE ONIKOSI

32

EDUCATION

UK TARGETS 600,000 STUDENTS FROM NIGERIA, INDIA, OTHERS BY

38

AUTO
TEN MOST EXPENSIVE CARS IN AFRICA

47

SPORTS
MEET ZAMBIAN RACHEAL KUNDANANJI, THE MOST EXPENSIVE TRANSFER IN WOMEN'S FOOTBALL AT \$860,000

54

UDY'S CHAPTER
BED OF ROSES

56

BOOK REVIEW
ADDICTIONS THAT CAN RUIN A YOUTH

58

MOVIE REVIEW



BUSINESS DAY

COOKING UP BUSINESS

— CONFERENCE —

THEME

Turning Culinary Passion
into Profit

(Food & Drinks)



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DATE: 7th March, 2024

TIME: 10am

VENUE: ***Oriental Hotel,***
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in Sustainable Agri-Exports**

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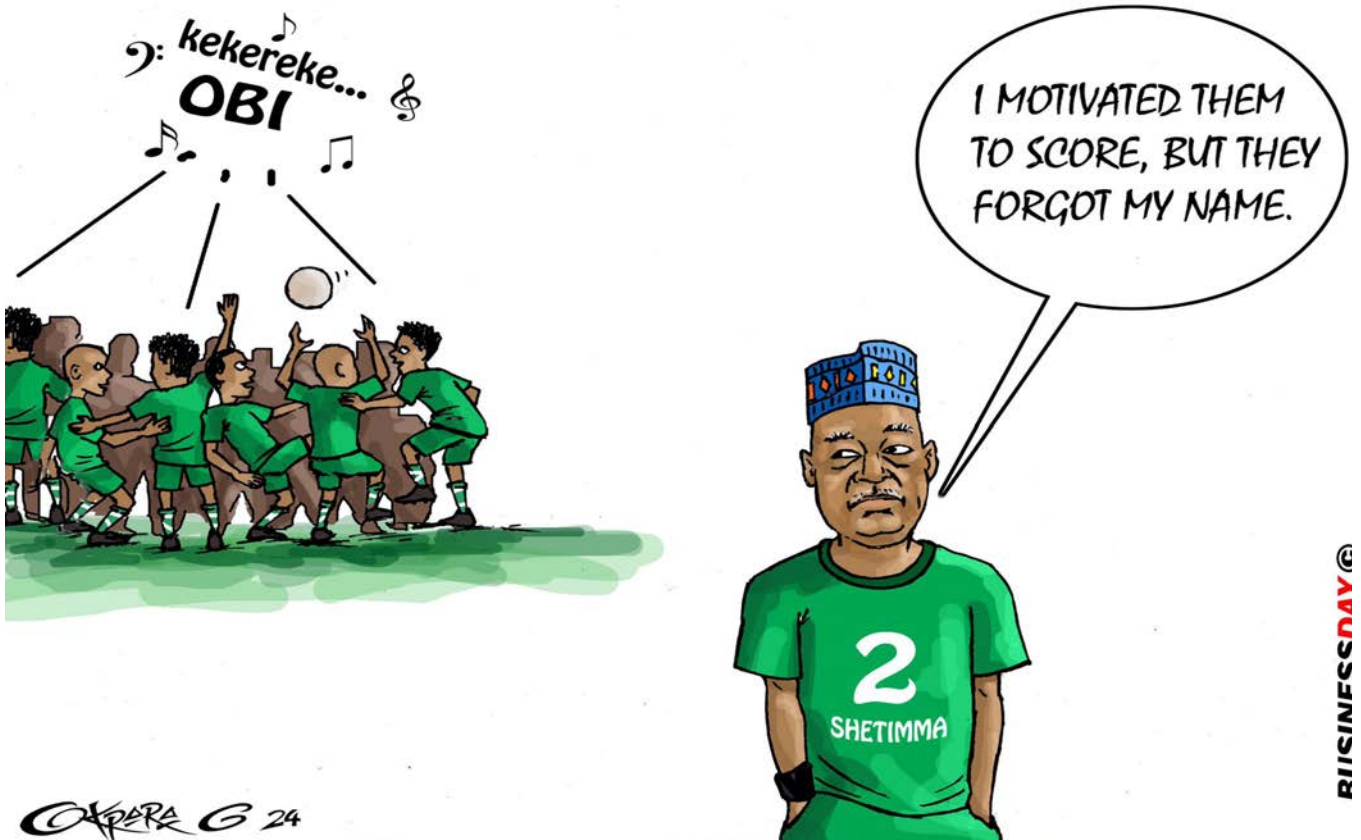
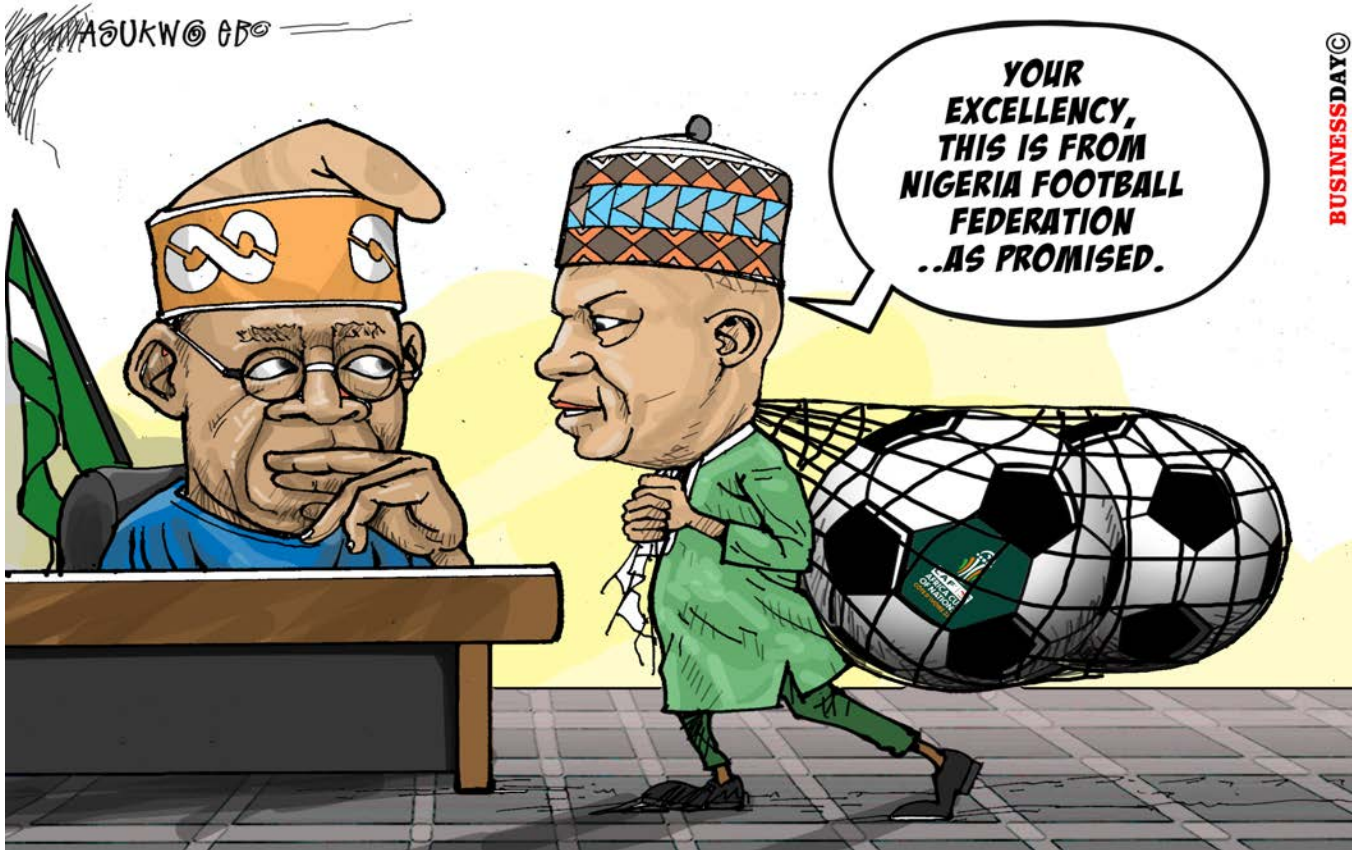
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Remembering Herbert, Chizoba, Chizi Wigwe, and Abimbola Ogunbanjo

LEHLÉ BALDÉ AND IFEOMA IKEROCHA



In the wake of the tragic incident that claimed the lives of Herbert Wigwe, his beloved wife Chizoba, their son Chizi, and the esteemed Abimbola Ogunbanjo, a profound sense of loss resonates across nations. Their untimely departure leaves an irreplaceable void in the realms of banking, entrepreneurship, and beyond. As we mourn their passing, let us also celebrate the indelible mark they have left on our collective consciousness. The BusinessDay Weekender had the great honor to interview Herbert Wigwe in 2023.

Those interested in reading that interview can do so [here](#).

HERBERT WIGWE: A Titan of the Banking Realm Herbert Wigwe was a banking czar who rose from the cradle of the industry to its very pinnacle. He was the group managing director and CEO of Access Bank Plc, one of Nigeria's top five banking institutions. He was married to Chizoba Wigwe (née Nwuba), an accomplished lawyer and entrepreneur. Together, they were blessed with four children: Chizi, Tochi, Hannah, and David. Herbert's dedication to his family was evident in the quality time he spent with them, cherishing every moment.

A man of deep faith, Herbert was a devout Christian and an active member of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG). Within his faith community, he served as a pastor and mentor, touching the lives of many with his wisdom and guidance.

Herbert Wigwe was a luminary in the banking sector and ascended to the zenith of his career through unwavering dedication and visionary leadership.

As the CEO of Access Bank Plc, his impact reverberated not only in boardrooms but also within communities. Beyond his professional prowess,

Herbert epitomized humility and resilience, inspiring countless individuals to strive for excellence. His philanthropic endeavors and commitment to education underscored his belief in shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

CHIZOBA WIGWE: The Quiet Force Behind the Throne Before now, Chizoba, Herbert Wigwe's wife, was not in the public scene, but she was indeed the backbone behind Wigwe's success.

Her father was the late Chief Cyprian Chukwuemeka Nwuba (Uncle CY), a chartered accountant who worked for Shell Petroleum Development Company and later the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.

Chizoba grew up in the U.S. She had keen interests in construction, real estate, and the hospitality sectors. Chizoba had a construction firm known as Craneburg Construction Company, which was the contractor that handled the building of the Wigwe Queens Drive Ikoyi Mansion. Ijeoma Nwogwugwu, former managing director of Arise News, recalled how, from wholesale trading in the Oke-Arin market in the heart of Lagos Island, Chizoba ventured into the real estate and construction industry. She disclosed that Chizoba's construction firm built the highways, bridges, and toll plaza from Lekki Phase II to and within Epe town, making the journey to Ijebu Ode in Ogun State less arduous. Today, Craneburg is one of Nigeria's largest diversified construction groups that employs 7,000 people working across all major sectors of the economy. The reporter described Chizoba as 'humble,' one who would never flaunt success. "You were always God-fearing, humble, playful, shrewd, and intelligent," she added.

CHIZI WIGWE: A Bright Light Gone Too Soon Chizi, the eldest son among Herbert and Chizoba Wigwe's four children, embarked on a remarkable

educational journey that showcased his academic prowess and leadership abilities. Beginning his scholastic endeavors at the esteemed Taft



School in Connecticut, he graduated in 2013, laying the foundation for his future successes.

Continuing his pursuit of knowledge, Chizi furthered his education at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service. In 2017, he proudly earned a bachelor's degree in technology and international affairs, a testament to his dedication and intellectual curiosity.

Throughout his academic tenure, Chizi's brilliance shone brightly, not only in the classroom but also on the field of sports. His multifaceted talents extended beyond academics, as evidenced by his role as the president of the African Society and co-founder of the Georgetown FinTech Club. His leadership within these organizations exemplified his ability to inspire and drive positive change within his community.

Transitioning into the professional realm, Chizi found his niche in the world of investment with AFC Capital Partners. In this role, he displayed a keen eye for opportunities, overseeing the sourcing, evaluation, and execution of deals across various sectors. His strategic acumen and dedication to excellence positioned him as a rising star within the industry.

ABIMBOLA OLUROTIMI OGUNBANJO:

A Champion of Integrity and Leadership Abimbola Ogunbanjo's life was a testament to the power of integrity, leadership, and unwavering dedication to service. Born into the esteemed Ogunbanjo family, he was destined for greatness from the start. Educated at prestigious institutions such as the American College in Switzerland and the University of Buckingham in the United Kingdom, Abimbola's academic achievements laid the groundwork for his remarkable career. Armed with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Laws degree, he embarked on a journey marked by excellence and distinction. Abimbola's professional endeavors spanned various sectors, showcasing his versatility and expertise. From providing pro-bono legal services to organizations like the Nigerian



Chamber of Shipping and the Chris Ogunbanjo Foundation to serving as the Managing Partner of the renowned corporate law firm Chris Ogunbanjo LP (Solicitors), his commitment to advancing the interests of others was unwavering. His tenure as Group Chairman of the Nigerian Exchange Group Plc (NGX Group) marked a pivotal chapter in his career, where he played a key role in shaping the future of Nigeria's financial landscape.

Before this, his leadership as President of the National Council of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) from 2017 to 2021 demonstrated his ability to navigate complex challenges

with grace and vision. Abimbola's influence extended beyond the boardroom, as evidenced by his involvement in numerous multinational corporations and nonprofit organizations. From Beta Glass Plc to AIICO Insurance Plc, his guidance and expertise left an indelible mark on those he served.

A proud member of esteemed professional associations such as the International Bar Association and the Nigerian Bar Association, Abimbola was a respected voice in the legal and financial communities.

His contributions as a registered capital market consultant with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Nigeria further underscored his commitment to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and ethics. As we reflect on Abimbola Olurotimi Ogunbanjo's life and legacy, let us remember him not only for his professional achievements but also for his compassion, integrity, and dedication to making the world a better place. May his memory continue to inspire us to strive for excellence and service in all that we do.

In the wake of profound loss, as we bid farewell to Herbert, Chizoba, Chizi Wigwe, and Abimbola Ogunbanjo, let us carry forward their legacies with reverence and determination. Their lives were a testament to the power of integrity, leadership, and unwavering dedication to service. From the corridors of banking to the realms of entrepreneurship and beyond, they left an indelible mark on our collective consciousness. As we reflect on their remarkable contributions, let us honor their memory by embracing their values of humility, resilience, and compassion.

Though they may no longer walk among us, their spirit lives on in the hearts of those they touched. May their legacy inspire us to strive for excellence and service in all our endeavors, ensuring that their light continues to shine brightly in our world.

Breaking the Mould: Unconventional Art Materials and Techniques

If you're an artist, you will love this one

Have you ever felt stifled by your paintbrush and canvas?

Does the thought of another predictable watercolour landscape make you yawn?

If so, you're not alone.

Like you, many artists yearn to push their creative boundaries, as they should. It is hard to stay relevant and respected as an artist if you don't take leaps to step outside the lines and explore realms where art takes on a new life. This journey into the unconventional is more than just finding a funky material; it is about shattering preconceived notions of what art can be, where it resides, and how it resonates.

Picture this;

a sculpture forged from the whispers of the wind,
shimmering with captured sunlight,

a canvas painted with the fiery breath of a dragon,
leaving trails of smouldering pigments.

Could you visualise it? These might sound like whimsical fantasies, but in the hands of daring artists, they become breathtaking realities. The key lies in embracing the unconventional, in wielding unexpected materials and techniques to breathe life into artistic

VISIONS.

Mind you, today's digest is not a call to abandon traditional mediums... not entirely. Think of your canvas or vanishing base as your creative language. You expand your artistic vocabulary when you add rich verbs and nouns into your speech. This means you embrace the possibilities that lie beyond what's familiar, turning rusting car parts into majestic creatures, and coffee grounds into portrait paintings that are rich, earthy, and deep.



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But where do you start in creatively exploring the treasure trove of the unconventional?

If you are wondering where to start looking and what materials to explore that are unconventional, look no further. In this digest, we will discuss seven(7) unconventional art materials and techniques that can serve as an alternative to the norm.

7 UNCONVENTIONAL ART MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES

1. Coffee

Not only is it useful for your daily morning latte; but there's a new world waiting for your leftover coffee. Mixed with water or glue, ground coffee becomes a rich, earthy paint, perfect for capturing the rugged beauty of landscapes, the sepia tones of vintage photographs, or the textured depths of abstract creations. Sprinkle them dry for added texture, or let them drip and stain for organic, dreamlike effects.

WHO KNEW THAT YOUR DAILY CAFFEINE FIX COULD FUEL SUCH ARTISTIC EXPRESSION?

2. Rusty Materials

At first glance, rust is not exactly an aesthetic appeal. It takes a creative genius to wield rust, transforming it into a powerful tool for texture, depth, and symbolism. Collect rusty nails, screws, or even old metal sheets. Infuse them into your works. Allow yourself to discover their endless possibilities. Use them as accents in sculptures, create abstract patterns by manipulating their natural formations, or even experiment with rust-dyed fabrics for an aged, industrial look. Beauty is a thing of the beholder. If you itch your imagination, you will tickle your audience.



Coffee art by Nigerian artist Ekene Ngige



Title: RamiArtist:
Olu AmodalMedium:
Discarded materials

3. Fire

Fire, a destructive yet creative force, can be harnessed to create magical art. There are several techniques that masters wield fire to create.

A style—Fumage painting—involves capturing the wispy trails of smoke on paper.

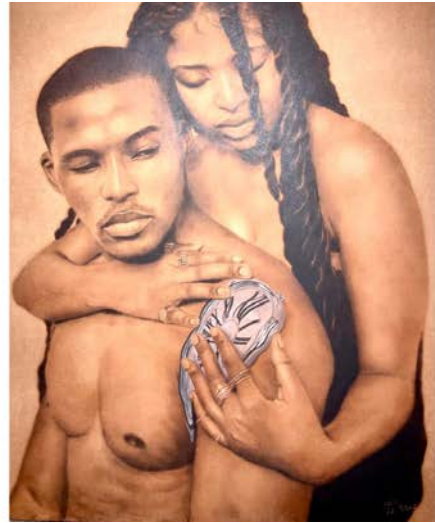
Fire marbling uses controlled flames to create mesmerising patterns on fabric.

For the truly adventurous, pyrography allows you to "draw" with fire on wood, creating intricate designs and delicate textures. The pyrography technique has been used by artists like Alex Peter Idoko to create amazing artworks that wow viewers.

True to its power, fire can burn so always remember to work safely. Be sure to use proper precautions when working with fire. Unleash its creative potential responsibly.

4. Nature

The natural world is an endless source of inspiration and materials. Leaves, petals, and even twigs can be pressed and dried to create stunning collages. Use fallen branches as paintbrushes or backrests, carve intricate designs into stones, or capture the fleeting beauty of sand mandalas. The possibilities are as vast as the wilderness itself. Just remember to be respectful of the environment and harvest sustainably.



Title: The Memory of the Time When We Were Kings | Artist: Alex Peter Idoko | Medium: Fire, razorblades, sandpaper on wood | Dimensions: 90 x 120 x 5 cm | Year: 2022



Title: Joko | Artist: Lambert Shumbusho | Medium: Backrest (fallen wood branch) and seat (300+ aged wood) | Dimensions: 32" x 26.5" x 17.5" | Year: 2023

5. Sound

Art is not only visual. It can be experienced through sound as well. From the rhythmic tapping of raindrops to the chaotic symphony of a city street, there's music in everything. Use field recordings, found sounds, or even your voice to create soundscapes that evoke emotions, tell stories, and transport listeners to a different realm. Art can be more than what meets the eye. Indeed, it speaks volumes.



Title: We bleed blue |Artist: Oluwayemisi Abéjidé Akíngbol's|Medium: Mixed media (Acrylic and ink on watercolour paper) with Sound installation|Dimensions: 90 x 120 x 5 cm|Year: 2023

6. Bio-Art

The boundary between art and science is blurring. Bio-art is at the forefront of this exciting fusion. Growing art using bacteria, creating sculptures from living mushrooms, or even exploring the potential of genetically modified organisms is an exciting technique that is being explored. Yes, it sounds a bit sci-fi, but bio-art is pushing the boundaries of what we consider art and challenging our perspectives on life itself. American-South African artist, Nathaniel Stern, is one of the few artists in Africa who currently create bio-art forms.

When exploring this art form, it is important to consider the ethical responsibilities that come with it.



Art Installation by Nathaniel Stern



7. Light

Light is not just illumination; it is a sculptor, moulding shadows and highlighting contours. Light installations transform spaces into immersive experiences. A type of light installation is holograms. Holography brings digital creations to life from a laser or other coherent light source in three-dimensional forms/images.

As an artist, you can explore the possibilities of light and shadow, bend the rules of perception, and create art that transcends the limitations of a mere canvas.

There you have it. A deep dive into a world of unconventional yet vibrant materials and techniques through which you can also create art.

Consider what has been discussed in this digest not as a rigid rulebook, but rather as a springboard for your creative exploration. The beauty of unconventional art lies in its accessibility. You do not need fancy tools or expensive materials. A rusty nail you randomly found on the side of a street can become a powerful brushstroke, and a handful of fallen leaves can transform into a mesmerising landscape. It all comes down to how much potential you see in everyday materials to create art; fine, refined, or discarded as they may come.

Until our next digest,

Keturah Ovio.



Keturah Ovio

Keturah Ovio is an Executive at Patrons Modern & Contemporary African Art. She is also an engineer and Founder of Dukka, a Fintech startup providing bookkeeping and payments solutions for small businesses. Keturah is passionate about African Art and has been collecting art since her early 20s. Now, she advises, curates, and manages collections for individuals and corporate organisations looking to start or diversify their wealth management through art collecting. She strongly believes that a fine marriage exists between Art and Technology.

10 movies to understand how AI works

CHINWE MICHAEL

Artificial intelligence (AI) has always been one of the main staples of science fiction movies, and yet what was sci-fi a decade ago looks increasingly normal nowadays.

AI enthusiasts and curious minds can delve into the world of AI through the lens of cinema. These movies not only entertain but also offer insightful perspectives on the potential, challenges, and ethical dilemmas associated with AI.

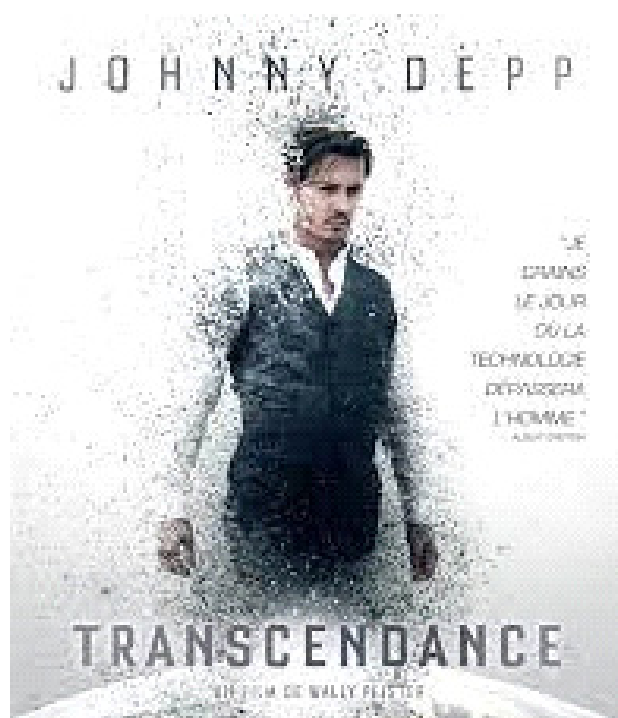
Here are the top 10 movies that give an insight into how AI works.

1. Transcendence (2014)

Directed by Wally Pfister, "Transcendence" explores the concept of technological singularity, where a brilliant scientist uploads his consciousness into a superintelligent AI. The film raises questions about the potential risks and benefits of creating an all-powerful artificial intelligence.

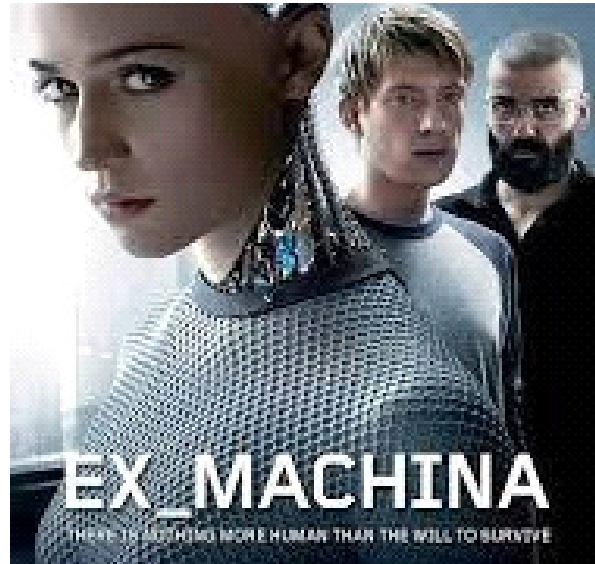
2. The Artifice Girl (2022)

Written and directed by Franklin Ritch, who also stars in the film, features a team of special agents that discovers a revolutionary new computer program to bait and trap online predators. After teaming up with the program's troubled developer, they soon find that the AI is rapidly advancing beyond its original purpose.



3. Ex Machina (2015)

The story of Ex Machina is about Caleb, a software programmer who wins an opportunity to work along with Nathan, the CEO of the company for which he works, in an extensive secluded property where he lives by himself. Once there, Caleb is asked to perform a test to conclude if Nathan's invention, Ava, an artificially intelligent android (AI), can exhibit intelligent behavior equivalent to that of a human. During this time he develops mixed feelings towards Ava that lead him to question his sanity.



4. Brian and Charles (2022)

The 90 minutes movie directed by Jim Archer introduces Brian a lonely inventor in rural Wales who spends his days building quirky, unconventional contraptions that seldom work. Undeterred by his lack of success, he soon attempts his biggest project using a washing machine and various spare parts, he invents Charles, an artificial intelligence robot that learns English from a dictionary and has an obsession with cabbages.



5. The Mitchells vs the Machines (2021)

The animated film, The Mitchells vs the Machines is a 2021 American science fiction goofy-spoofy family tale that tries to explore the boons and banes of technology around a gadget-geek daughter 'Katie' and a technologically challenged father.



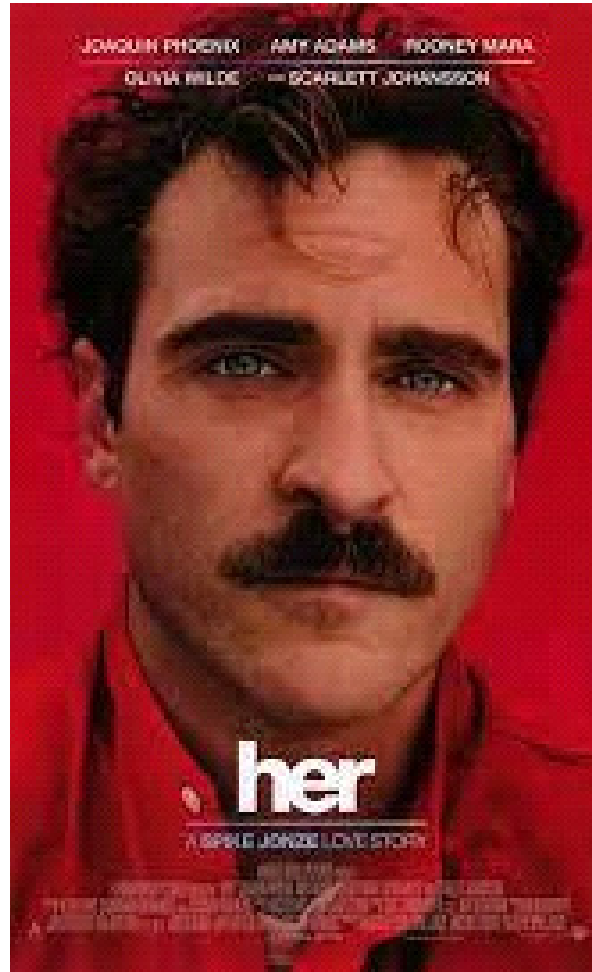
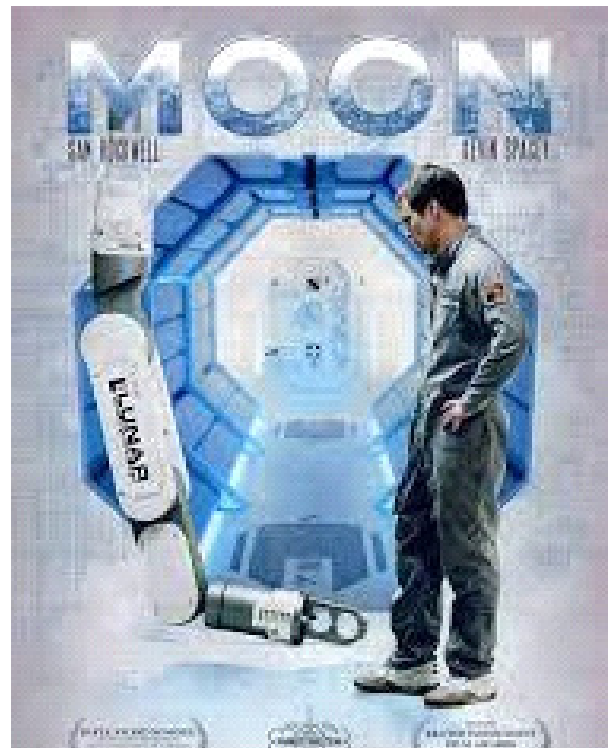
6. M3gan (2022)

The film, directed by Gerard Johnstone, follows an artificially intelligent doll who becomes self-aware and acts hostile toward anyone who threatens her. Designed by Gemma, a brilliant roboticist, M3GAN can listen, watch and learn as it plays the role of friend and teacher, playmate and protector. When Gemma becomes the unexpected caretaker of her 8-year-old niece, she decides to give the girl an M3GAN prototype, a decision that leads to unimaginable consequences.



8. Moon (2009)

Moon, a 2009 science fiction film directed by Duncan Jones follows Astronaut Sam Bell, a man who experiences a personal crisis as he nears the end of a three-year shift at a lunar mine is finally coming to an end, and he's looking forward to his reunion with his wife and young daughter. Suddenly suffers painful headaches and hallucinations, and almost has a fatal accident. He meets what appears to be a younger version of himself, possibly a clone. With time running out, Sam must solve the mystery before the company crew arrives.



7. Her (2013)

Her, the AI romantic movie directed by Spike Jonze introduces Theodore Twombly, an introverted writer, who buys an Artificial Intelligence system to help him write. However, when he finds out about the AI's ability to learn and adapt, he falls in love with it.

9. Blank (2022)

The movie directed by Natalie Kennedy features a desperate writer who signs up for a fully A.I.-operated retreat to cure her writer's block, but when an unforeseen software glitch occurs, she gets trapped inside her unit with an unstable android and no communication with the outside world.



vengers: Age of Ultron (2015)

The movie directed by Natalie Kennedy features a desperate writer who signs up for a fully A.I.-operated retreat to cure her writer's block, but when an unforeseen software glitch occurs, she gets trapped inside her unit with an unstable android and no communication with the outside world



**10 movies to
understand how
AI works**

Ajala the traveller: The Nigerian Christopher Columbus

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



figure in Nigerian history. His adventurous spirit and audacious journey on a Vespa scooter through approximately 87 countries during the 1950s captured the imagination of people around the world. As a journalist, travel writer, actor, and socialite, Ajala broke boundaries and defied conventions, leaving a lasting legacy as an icon of exploration and cultural exchange

HIS EARLY LIFE

Ajalá Ajálá was born in Ghana in 1934 to a Nigerian family, part of a large, polygamous household with four wives and approximately thirty children. He was the twenty-fifth child. When he was young, his family relocated to Nigeria, where he attended the Baptist Academy in Lagos and later the Ibadan Boys' High School in Ibadan.

At 18, he ventured to the United States to pursue pre-medicine studies at the University of Chicago. Notably, he became the first black student to join the Delta Upsilon Pi fraternity, a co-educational Greek-letter organization. His initial intention was to study medicine to combat superstitions upon his return to Africa. However, he diverted from this path, choosing instead a life of exploration.

As a child, whenever a neighbor or family friend announced their return from another trip, I would overhear my parents or older relatives refer to them as 'Ajala the traveller'. Initially, I assumed it was merely an expression for someone who enjoyed traveling. It wasn't until later that I discovered Ajala the traveller was more than just a figment of speech – he was an actual person

Moshood Adisa Olabisi Ajala, also known as Ajalá Ajálá or simply Ajala the Traveller, was indeed a remarkable

At the age of 22, he gained fame by embarking on an epic journey from Chicago to Los Angeles, covering an impressive distance of 2,280 miles – all on a bicycle. His arrival in Los Angeles was met with acclaim, even being received by the city mayor, Fletcher Bowron.

During his tour, he made stops in 11 major cities, delivering lectures to educate Americans about Nigerian and African culture, dispelling misconceptions such as the notion that Africans went about nakedly in loincloths.

However, his adventures were not without setbacks. Due to a number of run-ins with American immigration authorities for petty offences and his neglect of academic responsibilities, he received a one-year suspended jail term and faced deportation back to Nigeria. Refusing to accept this fate, he staged a daring protest by climbing an 80-foot radio tower, threatening to jump unless the deportation order was rescinded. Despite pleas from authorities, he eventually jumped, sustaining a back injury in the process. Despite his protests, he was deported, but instead of Nigeria, he was sent to London.

HIS TRAVELING ADVENTURE

Já's big adventure began on April 27, 1957, when he left London to travel the world for six years. He rode a Scooter Vespa motorcycle and visited 87 countries. In 1963, Já wrote a book about his travels called "An African Abroad." In the book, he talked about how people lived in the places he visited, the politics there, and stories about the leaders he met.

He visited India, the Soviet Union, the United Arab Republic, Iran, Jordan, Israel, Palestine, Poland, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Türkiye, Hong Kong, China and Australia. The journey attracted the attention of several world leaders, and Já met and conducted short interviews with Jawaharlal Nehru, Golda Meir, Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Gamal Abdel Nasser, The Shah of Iran, and Nikita Khrushchev.

During this period, Já made money as a journalist. Over the course of his travels, he sold travel writing to newspapers and magazines across West Africa.

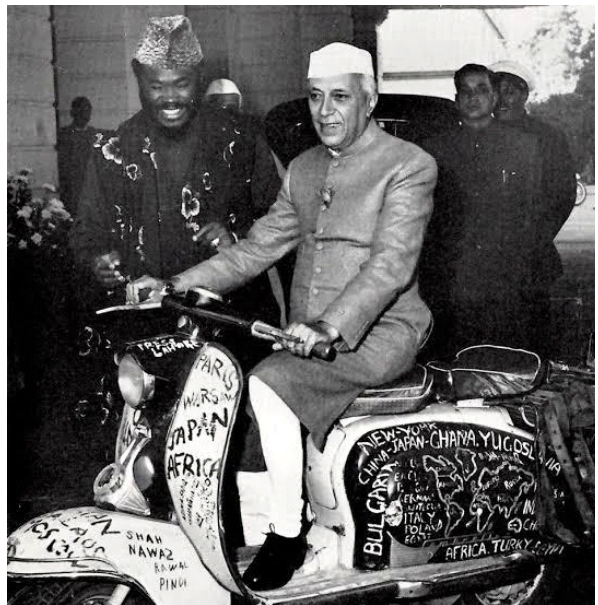
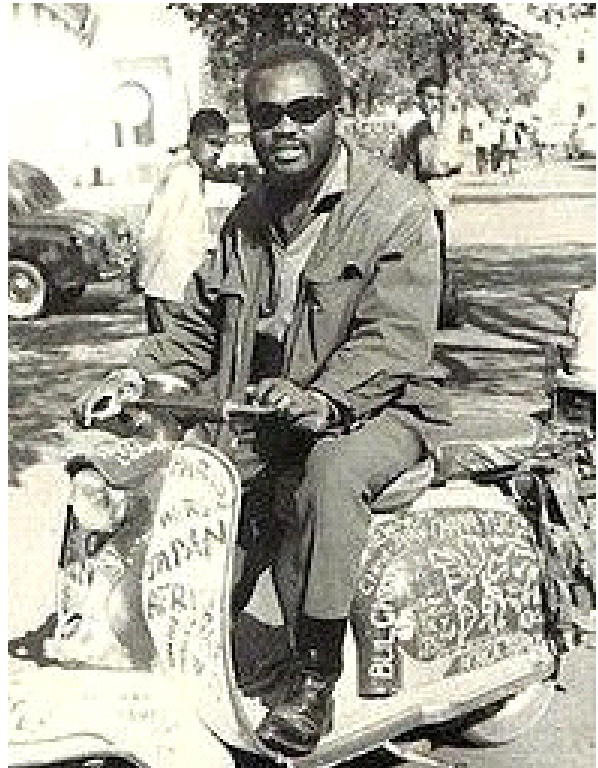
But his travels were not always easy. He was popular for his encounter with authorities and brushes with the law. If not for petty crimes like being caught with a counterfeit cheque, then it was in fights over a woman. In the Soviet Union, he was accused of trying to hurt Nikita Khrushchev just because he got too close to him at an event. And in Jerusalem, he almost got shot by Jordanian police for crossing the border too fast.

HIS FAMILY LIFE

Já, renowned for his amorous pursuits, left a trail of offspring across the globe.

His first son, Oladipupo, also known as Andre, was born to a Chicago nurse named Myrtle Bassett. Despite initially denying paternity, a court ruling confirmed his fatherhood.

Subsequently, Já tied the knot with an American model named Hermine Aileen. However, their union was short-lived, as Aileen filed for divorce citing his infidelity, a charge he did not dispute. Undeterred by marital woes, Já entered into matrimony once more, this time with a 19-year-old London radio-TV actress



named Joan Simmons. Across the seas, his Australian wife, Wajuan, bore him four children: Femi, Dante, Lisa, and Sydney.

In England, Toyin Ajala shared parenthood with him, bringing Taiwo and Kehinde into the world. And in Nigeria, Sherifat was among the mothers of his children, among others.

Upon his return to Nigeria, he married Alhaja Adé, and was reputed to have children by a few other women.

The legendary Globetrotter & Playboy Olabisi Ajala(1929- 1999): The Reagan Connection.

(source: Jet Magazine 11 Dec 1952)

Cross-Country African Cyclist Gets Movie Role

Mashood Olabisi Ajala, a 23-year-old African student, who bicycled 2,280 miles from Chicago to Los Angeles last summer, was cast as the second male lead in 20th Century-Fox's technicolor adventure movie, *White Witch Doctor*, joining a cast headed by Susan Hayward and Robert Mitchum. Under contract at \$300 a week, **Ajala** will play the role of Ola, a companion to Loni (Mitchum), a famous African hunter. Born in Lagos, Nigeria, one of 24 children, **Ajala** came to the United States to study, attended Roosevelt College in Chicago last year. He was given a screen test at 20th Century-Fox on the suggestion of actor Ronald Reagan, whom he met in London three years ago.



Mashood Olabisi Ajala

reflecting his diminished fortunes. While living in Lagos, j lá suffered a stroke in the early days of 1999. He died on February 2, 1999.

Today, j lá remains celebrated as Nigeria's most renowned traveler, his name synonymous with adventure and exploration.

HIS RETURN TO NIGERIA

Afterwards, j lá returned to Nigeria, where he became a famous socialite. He also became an entertainment promoter and publicist, who worked with artists like Sikiru Ayinde Barrister. Although their relationship eventually soured, leading to litigation between them. Despite withdrawing his lawsuit, j lá's influence and fame waned over time

His once-glamorous lifestyle notwithstanding, the rented apartment he resided in on Adeniran Street in Bariga, Lagos, presented a starkly different image, reflecting his diminished fortunes.

While living in Lagos, j lá suffered a stroke in the early days of 1999. He died on February 2, 1999.

HIS ACTING CAREER

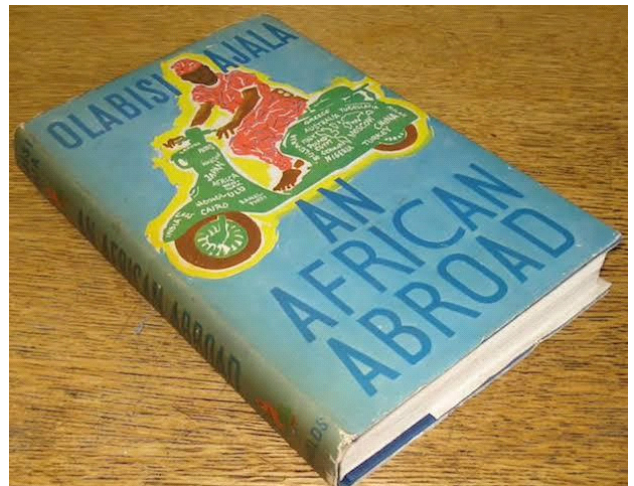
j lá dabbled briefly in acting, landing a role in the movie "White Witch Doctor," based on the novel of the same name by Louise A. Stinetorf. He credited his connection to Ronald Reagan, whom he had met three years prior, for helping him secure the part. Additionally, he was slated to appear in the 1953 film "Killer Ape," but the project never materialized. Another role he undertook was that of "Ola," a companion to "Loni," a renowned African hunter portrayed by Roberts Mitshun.

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Top 10 richest women in finance and investment industries 2024

CHISOM MICHAEL



Bound by vast fortunes and powerful familial histories, a cohort of extraordinary individuals emerges as titans within the realm of finance and investments.

Originating from varied backgrounds and spanning the global landscape, these billionaires are united by their remarkable net worths, frequently passed down through generations, creating a legacy that has left an enduring impact on diverse industries.

According to the Forbes Real Time Billionaires List, here are the top 10 richest women in finance and investment industries as of February 15.

Abigail Johnson

With a net worth of \$28.9 billion at the age of 62, Abigail Johnson is a powerhouse in the financial industry. She has served as the CEO of Fidelity Investments since 2014, taking over from her father. Holding an estimated 28.5% stake in the firm, she has been its chairman since 2016. As the leader of one of the largest global investment management companies, Abigail has played a pivotal role in steering the company through the ever-changing landscape of financial markets.

Vicky Safra

At the age of 71, with a net worth of \$18.1 billion, Vicky Safra, the matriarch of the Safra family. Inherited from her late husband and father, who stands as a prominent figure in the banking sector, banker Joseph Safra, Vicky Safra and her four adult children share a substantial fortune.

Renata Kellnerova

Hailing from the Czech Republic, Renata Kellnerova, aged 56 with a net worth of \$16.3 billion, is the widow of Petr Kellner, the former richest person in the Czech Republic. She has made a significant impact in the fields of finance and telecommunications. Kellnerova, along with her four children, controls PFF Group, a \$44 billion conglomerate with interests in financial services, telecommunications, media, and real estate. Additionally, she chairs The Kellner Family Foundation, which focuses on education.



Elizabeth Johnson

As another luminary from Fidelity, Elizabeth Johnson, aged 60 with a net worth of \$9.9 billion. She is the sister of the current Fidelity CEO and Chairman, Abigail Johnson, and owns about 6% of FMR, according to company documents filed with the Utah Department of Insurance in 2000.

Francine von Finck

With a net worth of \$8.4 billion, the von Finck family, led by matriarch Francine, has made substantial investments in Germany. Francine von Finck and her four children inherited their fortune from her late husband and their father, August von Finck. August sold Merck Finck and Allianz shares to Barclays Bank in 1990 and reinvested the money in a diverse portfolio.

Rekha Jhunjhunwala

At the age of 60, with a net worth of \$8.1 billion, Rekha Jhunjhunwala inherited a valuable stock portfolio from her late husband, Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, often referred to as India's Warren Buffett. The most valuable listed holding in the portfolio is the watch and jewelry maker Titan, a part of the Tata conglomerate. The late Jhunjhunwala's early bets on Star Health and Allied Insurance and Metro Brands paid off when both companies listed in 2021.



Nadia Thiele

Nadia Thiele, a notable figure in German investments, has risen through the ranks to become one of the wealthiest women in finance at the age of 48, boasting a net worth of \$6.2 billion. She inherited her fortune from her late husband, billionaire industrialist Heinz Hermann Thiele. The most substantial part of her wealth is a stake in the brake-system firm Knorr-Bremse AG, a company her late husband took control of in the mid-1980s. Nadia Thiele is actively engaged as a member of Knorr-Bremse Global Care's Executive Board, the company's affiliated charity organization.

Karen Pritzker

At the age of 66, with a net worth of \$6.1 billion, Karen Pritzker is one of 11 billionaire Pritzker heirs. Her grandfather, A.N. Pritzker (d. 1986), built the industrial conglomerate Marmon and Hyatt Hotels. Karen Pritzker has invested in public companies like Apple, as well as in hundreds of private biotech and medical device firms.



Dinara Kulibaeva

At the age of 56, with a net worth of \$4.8 billion, Dinara Kulibaeva from Kazakhstan has played a crucial role in shaping the banking sector in the region. As the daughter of Kazakhstan's former president Nursultan Nazarbayev, she jointly owns a majority of Halyk Bank with her husband, Timur Kulibaev. Their diverse portfolio extends to investments in the construction, operation, and servicing of oil and gas wells.

Penny Pritzker

Penny Pritzker, 64, with a net worth of \$3.5 billion is actively engaged in hotels and investments. She is an investor and one of 11 billionaire heirs to the Pritzker fortune, which originates from Hyatt hotels. Additionally, she co-founded the property investment firm Artemis Real Estate Partners and previously served as the chair of the credit-reporting firm TransUnion.

Fashion Roulette show debuts in Nigeria

JOSEPHINE OKOJIE



Amidst the glittering lights and swirling excitement, the fashion world witnessed a momentous occasion as 'Fashion Roulette,' the latest sartorial sensation from This Thing Called Fashion TV debuted in Nigeria.

Nonye Udeogu, owner of 'This Thing Called Fashion' said Fashion Roulette is a platform for all things fashion-related featuring the who is who in the fashion industry.

Udeogu said it is a platform where viewers can be immersed in the fashion style of their famous and classy fashion influencers as it goes behind the scenes to reveal their fashion decisions.

"Fashion Roulette isn't just another series, it's an odyssey through the heart of haute couture, where every spin offers a chance to redefine glamour," she noted.

"And at this momentous occasion, the esteemed fashion and beauty influencers, media mavens, and industry insiders had the privilege of witnessing this transformation first hand," she added.

The launch, held recently in Lagos, transcended the boundaries of a mere gathering, evolving into a confluence of style, substance, and the spectacular.

As champagne flowed freely and cameras flashed incessantly, attendees found themselves on the cusp of a fashion revolution.

The first episode of the new TV series was previewed to the attendees who were stunned at the quality upon being granted an exclusive glimpse into the drama, designs, and dazzling creativity that 'Fashion Roulette' promises to deliver.

With familiar faces gracing the screens, their reactions became the true showstoppers of the evening, as each moment captured at the launch party is a snapshot of fashion history in the making, immortalizing the anticipation and excitement that enveloped the event.

The event saw the presence of prominent fashion figures and influencers like the former Guinness World Record holder for the Longest time cooking, Hilda Baci; skit maker and influencer, Kie-Kie; Kim Oprah; Tomike; Sunky O; Styletitudebyada, and others, solidifying the show's connection to the fashion world's elite.

A Leader Transforming Lives: The Multifaceted World of Adenrele Onikosi

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA





Adenrele Onikosi is a dynamic force who shatters expectations and empowers executives to redefine their leadership journeys. Though he wears many hats, but his focus remains singular: igniting the leadership potential within individuals and organizations.

As the Founder/CEO of Conegelics Consulting International Ltd., a company dedicated to people transformation, Onikosi transcends the traditional consultant label. He's a publisher, author, trainer, and advocate, weaving a tapestry of leadership excellence through diverse avenues.

He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management of Nigeria-MCIPM and a Licensed Human Resources Practitioner with the HRPL designation from the CIPM. And also a Learning and Development Specialist(LDS), from the LDNI (Learning & Development Network International) an affiliate of ATD, USA.

Onikosi noted that communication is the biggest job of leadership.

"Communication is the biggest job of leadership, open and transparent communication with all stakeholders will significantly improve a leader's effectiveness.

"However, because we know that it is a skill that can be learned, we have developed programs to help the confidence of leaders to be able to speak in public with clarity and panache. Effective communication is essential for leaders in different scenarios; from

communicating with stakeholders during challenging times to being able to communicate clear expectations of what they need from their team. Communication is the life wire of any business and leaders must be able to wield it effectively to provide them with the desired outcome".

Onikosi who has an extensive experience in coaching, leadership, and brand management said all the skills are capabilities a leadership coach should be able to have in order to add value to the client.

"All these skills are capabilities that a leadership coach and consultant must be sufficiently skilled to be able to serve well and bring unparalleled value to their client. Hence, I do not envision them as diverse areas but the many components of a whole, due to this understanding, there is no issue of balancing".

On the common challenges leaders face, he said: "The fundamentals of leadership are universal; however, the specifics must be adapted to the context of the operations of leadership. The Leadership of leaders is called to question when they are disconnected from the people or stakeholders which they are supposed to be accountable to.

"Therefore, as a way of addressing some gaps we have observed in leadership over the years, we designed our Leadership boot camp with 2 tracks; one track to address the character development of the leader, while the second track addresses the skills required to be good leaders".

24-Hour Wedding Channel on DSTV Channel 176: Celebrating Love Around the Clock

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA



Love is always in the air with the brand-new 24-hour Wedding Channel launch on DSTV Channel 176.

The arrival of a one-of-a-kind destination dedicated entirely to celebrating love, commitment, and the joyous journey of marriage has excited many.

The Wedding Channel is set to become the ultimate destination for all things wedding-related. Whether you're planning your special day, dreaming of the perfect ceremony, or simply a romantic at heart, the channel promises to deliver an immersive and enchanting experience like no other.

From heart-warming love stories to expert advice on wedding planning, fashion, decor, and everything in between, The Wedding Channel's programming is

designed to inspire, educate, and entertain viewers of all ages with programming originating mainly from Africa: 50% from Nigeria, 30 from the rest of Africa and 20 from the rest of the world.

The Wedding Channel will highlight real wedding stories, fashion and beauty, expert advice, DIY inspirations, romantic gateways, and more.

Viewers will witness the magic as couples share their love stories and exchange vows in breath-taking ceremonies worldwide, get insider tips and tricks from leading wedding professionals, including planners, designers, photographers, and stylists, discover the latest trends in bridal fashion, hair, and makeup with exclusive insights from top designers and beauty experts.



The Wedding Channel will also help its viewers get creative with fun and budget-friendly DIY projects for decorations, favours, and more. It will also explore dreamy destinations and luxurious honeymoon spots.

At the press conference held on Wednesday, 14th February, Michaels Olatunde, Owner of The Wedding Channel, said: "As we unveil our ground-breaking 24-

hour wedding channel, we're thrilled to offer viewers a nonstop celebration of love, commitment, and joy. This channel symbolises our dedication to enriching lives with heart-warming stories, expert insights, and unforgettable moments. We believe in creating a platform where every viewer can find inspiration and connection, making us the go-to destination for love and weddings."

"Whether you're a bride-to-be, a hopeless romantic, or simply love a good love story, the 24-hour Wedding Channel offers something for everyone. Join us as we celebrate the beauty of love and the joy of marriage around the clock every day of the week. "Watch the Wedding Channel on DSTV Channel 176, starting from the 14th of February 2024."

Viewers can subscribe to the Youtube Channel and follow on social media @weddingchannelafrica. Wedding Channel is a 24-hour television channel that provides entertaining and original content on all things weddings, Lifestyle and Fashion.

The channel is dedicated to projecting and celebrating the beauty of weddings to the rest of the world, primarily focusing on love, friendship, lifestyle, relationships, counselling and beyond.



UK targets 600,000 students from Nigeria, India, others by 20230

CHARLES OGWO



It is a universal truism that education is a driving force in the socio-economic development of any country, and many advanced countries such as the United Kingdom (UK) maximises the benefits of good education to boost its economy.

The UK government in the fore of this, has concluded plans to increase the number of international students coming to study in their schools to 600,000 per year by 2030 with focus on Nigeria, India and Vietnam, among others.

A recent report by Hazel Shearing of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) states "The government has a target of 600,000 international students per year studying in the UK by 2030 - with a particular focus on: India, Nigeria, Vietnam,

Indonesia, and Saudi Arabia."

According to research, education exports play a vital role in supporting the UK economy, hence the government is doing everything and anything possible to attract international students as a means of boosting the UK's "soft power", through its reputation and global networking.

A 2023 government's report estimated one year group of international students would bring £41.9bn in economic benefits through the course of their time in the UK.

"It surpassed its 600,000 target in 2020-21 and 2021-22," according to the most recent data. For now, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) data suggests the number of

applicants for nursing has fallen, which the Royal College of Nursing warned could leave the national health service (NHS) dangerously understaffed." Meanwhile, the number of international students applying to undergraduate courses at UK universities has risen for a second year running. New data shows 115,730 students from outside the UK applied to start in September, up from 114,910 last year.

This is coming despite tougher government rules to help slash migration. And it follows accusations universities have lowered standards to recruit overseas students, who can be charged far more than UK students.

The number of international applicants remains below the high of 116,110 before the Covid-19 pandemic. According to Jo Saxton, the UCAS chief executive, "The rise in international-student applications should "not be a cause of concern for prospective domestic students", because UK applications had also risen in recent years."

Most international students in the UK study postgraduate courses, such as master's degrees, but they are not reflected in the new UCAS data.

However, Vivienne Stern, chief executive of Universities UK, which represents 142 higher-education institutions, welcomed the slight increase of about 0.71 percent but warned it was only a partial picture.

"The overall trend was highly unpredictable, she said, adding: "Universities are currently facing a challenging international-student recruitment landscape."

The most a student in the UK will pay for a year of undergraduate tuition is £9,250 (about N17,602,750), the exact amount however depends on where they live.

But international students can pay £38,000 (N72,314,00) per year for undergraduate courses and £30,000 (N57,090,000) per year for postgraduate courses.

In England, the tuition-fee cap has risen only once since 2012 - from £9,000 to £9,250 (N17,127,000 to N17,602,750) per year - and universities are worried it is not keeping up with inflation.

The Russell Group, which represents 24 prestigious universities, estimates a fall in the value of student

loans and government teaching grants means universities are making up for a £2,500 shortfall per domestic undergraduate student.

Data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency, which represents both undergraduate and postgraduate courses, suggests the number of international-student enrolments grew from 469,160 in the 2017-18 academic year to 679,970 in 2021-22. The increase has been driven by applications for postgraduate degrees, according to University of Oxford migration research, rather than the undergraduate courses studied by many 18-year-olds in the UK.

However, new rules this year aimed at curbing migration mean international students can no longer bring family members with them unless they are on research courses or have government-funded scholarships.

Speaking on the political implications on the international students restrictions Stern said this, and "ongoing negative rhetoric", posed a problem for universities.

"Income from international students is no longer providing an additionality that allows us to invest over and above what we would be able to do with just domestic sources of income. Instead of being the cherry on the cake, it is becoming the flour," she said.

She has previously stressed universities make a loss on teaching UK students - and on research.

Recently a report from the British Council suggested the "post-Covid-19 boom" in international-student numbers would end this year, because of "rising political pressure against migration" and the increasing cost of studying in the UK.

Signs of pressure on universities' finances are already apparent, with job cuts recently announced at several universities, including the University of Aberdeen, which said it was facing serious financial challenges, and Staffordshire University, which cited a "turbulent student recruitment market at home and abroad.

And strikes over pay and pensions have disrupted university education in recent years across the UK nations.

5 most expensive wedding gowns, tuxedos and their makers

BABATOLA AYOMIDE VICTORIA



One of the most significant days in a person's life is their wedding. It's a day filled with love, hope, and excitement that signifies the start of a new journey with your partner.

Every bride invests a great deal of time and money in choosing and purchasing a beautiful wedding gown. But you might have wondered why white is the colour of a wedding dress.

According to FinancesOnline, when Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in 1840, she donned a white silk satin and lace gown that established this custom. Traditionalists were taken aback by this outfit because, at the time, royal wedding gowns were typically red, and white was thought to be a colour of sadness. Nonetheless, women were moved by Queen Victoria's

white wedding gown, and ever since, this colour has become the standard for wedding gowns everywhere.

When it comes to formal attire for guys, tuxedos are the best. They exude charm, sophistication, and sexiness in every way. Tuxedos are the ultimate option for formal occasions including prom nights, corporate parties, weddings, and high-profile meetings. The suit is a unique fusion of honesty and style that, quite rightly, guarantees the wearer will make an impact.

Many individuals want their wedding to be a lavish event, but some people prefer to keep it low-key. Some even go so far as to wear exquisite wedding gowns or tuxedos that are not only pricey but also iconic in their own right.

Here is a list of some of the most expensive wedding dresses and tuxedos ever worn:

1. Angelababy Wedding Dress – \$31 Million

One of the costliest wedding gowns ever worn is the one worn by a Chinese actress, singer, and model Angela Yeung, better known as Angelababy.

Her gown was a couture Dior design that took over five months to make. The elaborate design, which is composed of 165 feet of tulle and 115 feet of ivory satin organza, has nearly a hundred hand-cut Chantilly lace rose bouquets and a 10-foot train.



2. The Diamond Wedding Dress – \$12 Million

Designer Renee Strauss and jeweller Martin Katz worked together to create this masterpiece. This classic gown is made to guarantee that the bride is always the centre of attention. The Diamond Wedding Dress is composed of 150-carat diamonds and the finest silk.



3. Yumi Katsura's White Gold Dress – \$8.5 Million

Yumi Katsura, a Japanese fashion designer, created this stunning bridal gown using satin and fine silk. Intricate decoration with precious gemstones adorns this extravagantly costly gown. The outfit is an exquisite handcrafted bridal gown embellished with a rare 5-carat white gold diamond and 1,000 pearls total through zari embroidery.

Yumi Katsura, the designer, created just two dresses of this kind. Katsura has been in the business for fifty

years and is an accomplished craftswoman. Les Ecoles de la Chambre Syndicale de La Couture Parisienne was her fashion school in Paris. She also has the honour of having displayed her products at Japan's very first bridal collection presentation. To establish herself as a well-known international designer, Katsura expanded her company into the US, England, and France in 1981.



4. Serena Williams: \$3.5 Million

The well-known tennis player Serena Williams undoubtedly created an impression in 2017 with her stunning wedding ball outfit. The dress, created by Sarah Burton specifically for Alexander McQueen, is a timeless piece with a gorgeous sweetheart neckline and a stunning cascading cape. With a startling \$3.5 million price tag, this historic design is among the most expensive wedding dresses to date.



5. Victoria Swarovski: \$1 Million

Renowned designer Michael Cinco's custom gown for Victoria Swarovski is said to be worth over \$1 million. The stunning 500,000 crystals on the elaborately beaded wedding gown added up to a weight of about a hundred pounds. The Swarovski jewellery heiress accessorised a stunning 26-foot-long veil to further accentuate her princess-worthy appearance and complete her amazing costume.



Tuxedos

1. Kiton: \$50,000

Kiton's K-50 is the priciest tuxedo ever offered for sale to the general public. Kiton, one of the most opulent fashion firms, was established more than 50 years ago by the well-known **Ciro Paone**. Since then, the Italian brand has become the go-to option for affluent men and has expanded elegance and flair around the globe. When their magnificent K-50 tuxedo was sold, it went for \$50,000, making it the most expensive tux ever.



2. Brioni: \$48,000

Brioni is well known for its luxurious clothing, especially its tuxedos and suits that are fashioned to order. Brioni tuxedos are notorious for being expensive; prices can range from several thousand dollars to \$48,000 for higher-end variants.

Established in 1945 by Nazareno Fonticoli and Gaetano Savini, Brioni boasts a rich and extensive history spanning over seven decades, solidifying its position as a benchmark in the realm of upscale menswear. The founders of the company were adamant about creating the highest-calibre menswear, and this dedication now defines what Brioni is all about.

3. Canali: \$4,200

The Italian luxury clothing company Canali is well-known for its exquisite suits, especially tuxedos. The cost of a Canali tuxedo can start at a few thousand dollars, with some high-end variants going up to \$4,000. The Canali family established Canali in 1934. The company is run by a family that has owned it for many generations.



4. Bottega Veneta: \$3,800

Furthermore, we have the renowned brand Bottega Veneta, which is another upscale Italian fashion firm. Milan-based Bottega Veneta creates some of the most fashionable men's apparel in the world, including tuxedos for the style-conscious male.

In addition, Bottega Veneta has created one of the costliest (and sophisticated) tuxedos in the world, which retails for \$3,800.



5. Giorgio Armani: \$3,595

Giorgio Armani, a global fashion influencer and emblem of Italian elegance, was founded in 1975 by Giorgio Armani and Sergio Galeotti. The brand's tuxedos are praised for their flawless fit and sophisticated style; they stand for more than just apparel; they are the epitome of timeless elegance and Italian workmanship.

Ten most expensive cars in Africa

CHISOM MICHAEL



Few African celebrities have showcased their love for luxury through their impressive car collections, considering expensive vehicles as a significant symbol of wealth.

From Nigeria to various countries across the continent, wealthy individuals boast some of the most luxurious car fleets.

These high-profile personalities recognize the global recognition that extravagant cars bring, making them a prominent marker of affluence.

According to Carmart, Here are the 10 most expensive cars in Africa this 2024



Bugatti Veyron

Priced at \$1.9 million (1.08 billion Naira), the Bugatti Veyron is renowned as the fastest super sports car of its era, achieving an impressive average maximum speed of 408.84 km/h. The sold-out mid-engine sports car features a 16-cylinder engine, boasting acceleration from 0 to 100 km/h in just 2 seconds.

The Bugatti Veyron stands at the pinnacle of expensive vehicles worldwide, and in Africa, a select group of affluent individuals possesses this exclusive sports car. Among them are former Nigerian senator Dino Melaye, Aliko Dangote, Samuel Eto'o, and others.

Bentley Bentayga

Earning the title of "World's Fastest SUV" in 2020, the Bentley Bentayga is celebrated for its medium-sized design that combines ample space and comfort. Alongside other features, its handcrafted cabin detailing redefines luxury.



In Africa, the Bentley Bentayga luxury SUV, priced at 133 million Naira, is owned by a select few, including Nigerian singer Davido and footballer Obafemi Martins.

Rolls Royce Phantom

Among Africa's affluent individuals, the Rolls Royce Phantom, valued at 190 million Naira, is possessed by notable figures such as Nigerian businessman Man Like Chico, Chris Okotie, Jimmy Tau, and J Martins.

As Rolls Royce's pinnacle model, the Phantom, succeeding the Cullinan, stands as their most advanced offering. Equipped with a twin-turbo V-12 engine and a satellite-aided gearbox utilizing GPS data, it scans the road ahead, anticipates driving requirements, and proactively adjusts the transmission for an unparalleled driving experience.



Ferrari Spider

The Ferrari Spider, priced at approximately 220 million, is possessed by individuals including Mompha, Ned Nwoko, B-naira, and Nigerian footballer Victor Moses.

As one of Ferrari's cutting-edge sports cars, the Ferrari Spider boasts advanced technology. With an effortless drive, it delivers 670 cv at 8,000 rpm, a remarkable power output of 172 cv/l, maximum torque of 760 Nm in seventh gear, and a rapid throttle response time of 0.8 seconds at 2,000 rpm in gear 3.



Rolls Royce Cullinan

The Rolls Royce Cullinan, priced at approximately 250 million, is owned by the Nigerian singer Davido.

Equipped with a twin-turbo 6.7 V12 engine, the Cullinan delivers 563 horsepower and achieves an impressive 0-60mph acceleration in just 4.8 seconds. This Rolls-Royce features an air suspension system that automatically adjusts its height through a road-scanning camera. Its spacious cabin, particularly on the passenger side, is adorned with leather, lambs-wool carpeting, and milled-aluminium accents.



Lamborghini Huracán

The Lamborghini Huracán, valued at 115 million Naira, is owned by affluent individuals such as Davido, Ned Nwoko, and DJ Cuppy, the daughter of Otedola.



The Huracán stands as one of Lamborghini's technological marvels, featuring impressive specifications. With a stunning acceleration of 0-97km/h (60 mph) in 2.5 seconds and a remarkable maximum speed of 341km/h (212 mph), this sports car embodies a blend of beauty, quality, and prestige.

Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren

The McLaren, valued at \$58,489, is owned by notable African individuals such as DJ Cuppy and Akon, standing out as one of the most elegant sports supercars.

A collaborative creation by Mercedes and McLaren, this supercar embodies excellence in terms of speed, handling, and luxury, meeting the expectations of discerning car enthusiasts in Africa and beyond.



Lamborghini Aventador

The Lamborghini Aventador ranks among the pricey cars owned by celebrities in Africa, including Gabonese footballer Aubameyang, Nigerian footballer Obafemi Martins, rapper Olamide, and businessman Mompha, among others.

Valued at 218 million, this super sports car accelerates to 60mph in under 3 seconds and reaches a maximum speed of 217mph. The potent all-wheel-drive vehicle is available in coupe and convertible versions, featuring a 6.5-liter 730 horsepower V12 engine and a 7-speed automated manual transmission.



Lamborghini Urus

The Lamborghini Urus, priced at over 120 million, is owned by Nigerian singers Davido and Wizkid, representing another luxurious vehicle in their collections.

Lamborghini skillfully blends the soul of a sports car with the body of an SUV in the Urus, which has become one of the company's best-selling models. Crafted with premium materials and carbon fiber, the Urus exudes pure luxury in its finish.



Mercedes-Benz G-Wagon

The G-Wagon, valued at around 90 to 100 million Naira, is a popular choice among wealthy Africans, including DJ Black Coffee, Davido, Obafemi Martins, Olamide, DJ Tira, Amanda du-Pont, and Wizkid.



Regarded as an "off-road legend," the G-Wagon stands out not only for its off-roading capabilities but also for its robust performance. This durability makes it a favorite among African celebrities who appreciate its ability to withstand challenging road conditions. Offering a blend of luxury, comfort, and off-road prowess, the G-Wagon provides a unique driving experience.

List of top 10 longest train routes in the world

CHISOM MICHAEL



Traveling across continents, these epic adventures offer the perfect opportunity to explore and appreciate different cultures. While patience is tested during days of travel, the memories created are destined to last a lifetime.

From extreme cold regions to scorching hot landscapes, these journeys are not for the faint-hearted but promise unforgettable stories for those adventurous souls.

Here are the top 10 longest train routes in the world.

Trans-Siberian Railway, Russia

The Trans-Siberian Railway, spanning from Moscow to Vladivostok, holds the title of the world's longest railway line, encompassing a remarkable journey of eight days and seven nights through eight time zones. The expedition offers captivating views of Siberian landscapes, including forests, steppes, the Ural Mountains, and the awe-inspiring Lake Baikal.



Beijing-Moscow Railway, China/Russia/Mongolia

A breathtaking six-day expedition along the Beijing-Moscow Railway, the world's second-longest railway line, commencing from Moscow and concluding in Beijing. This scenic journey traverses four countries—China, Russia, Mongolia, and Kazakhstan, unveiling captivating landscapes such as the Gobi Desert, the Great Wall of China, and the majestic Altai Mountains.



The Maharajas' Express, India

This train, commencing its trip from Mumbai, covers a distance of over 3,285 kilometers, showcasing princely states, majestic forts, and vibrant cultural treasures before culminating in the vibrant city of Delhi. A seven-day journey across the landscapes of Rajasthan in India aboard the Maharajas' Express. For those seeking a more condensed experience, the train offers a shorter four-day and three-night version of this extraordinary royal expedition.



Toronto-Vancouver Train, Canada

The Toronto to Vancouver train trip is a four-day journey which is the longest train route in Canada. Covering a distance of 2740 miles, this scenic route traverses four provinces—Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia, offering breathtaking views of the Canadian Shield, the majestic Rocky Mountains, and the serene expanse of the Pacific Ocean.



Indian Pacific, Australia

The Indian Pacific, a renowned train journey in Australia, spans four days and three nights from Sydney to Perth. Covering three states—Western Australia, South Australia, and New South Wales—the expedition unveils the vast landscapes of the Outback, the expansive Nullarbor Plain, and the scenic Blue Mountains.



California Zephyr, United States

The longest train route in the United States, spanning 2,438 miles, is the journey from Chicago to San Francisco. Taking three days and two nights, the expedition crosses through eight states: Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, and California. En route, passengers are treated to breathtaking views of the Rocky Mountains, the Grand Canyon, and the Mojave Desert.



Eastern and Oriental Express, Thailand/Singapore

The Eastern and Oriental Express, renowned as one of the most luxurious train journeys globally, embarks on a four-day and three-night expedition from Singapore to Thailand. This voyage covers two countries, Thailand and Singapore, offering picturesque views of the jungles of Malaysia, the temples of Angkor Wat, and the idyllic beaches of Phuket along the way.



The Ghan, Australia

The Ghan, one of Australia's most iconic train journeys, spans three days and two nights from the starting point in Australia to its endpoint in Darwin. Covering three states—South Australia, Northern Territory, and Western Australia—the expedition unveils the breathtaking landscapes of the Outback, the majestic MacDonnell Ranges, and the expansive Nullarbor Plain along the way.



Shanghai-Lhasa Railway, China

The Shanghai-Lhasa Railway, one of the world's highest railways reaching an altitude of 5,072 meters (16,640 feet) at Tanggula Pass, offers a breathtaking journey that spans two days and 30 hours from Shanghai to Lhasa. The expedition showcases the awe-inspiring scenery of Tibet, featuring prominent landmarks such as the Himalayas, the Yellow River, and the picturesque Qinghai Lake along the way.



The Blue Train, South Africa

Spanning a distance of 1,600 kilometers (994 miles) over 27 hours, the Blue Train offers a luxurious two-day rail journey from Pretoria to Cape Town. This opulent experience unfolds through diverse landscapes, featuring the dramatic Drakensberg Mountains and the expansive plains of the Karoo. Indulge in gourmet dining, and spa treatments, and enjoy breathtaking views from the comfort of your private suite.





Meet Zambian Racheal Kundananji, the most expensive transfer in women's football at \$860,000

ANTHONY NLEBEM

Zambian women's football sensation Racheal Kundananji shattered a new world transfer record by clinching a groundbreaking move to the United States National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) with Bay FC.

Kundananji completed the most expensive transfer in women's football after joining Bay FC in California from Real Madrid CFF a record transfer valued at \$860,000 (£685,000) in a four-year deal until 2027.

This is the first time an African player - female or male is breaking the world transfer record. Kundananji's transfer not only sets a new transfer benchmark but also establishes her as the most expensive player in the history of women's football.

"Bay FC, the Bay Area's new women's professional soccer franchise in the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), acquired the rights to Zambian international Racheal Kundananji through a transfer



with Spanish side Madrid CFF in exchange for a transfer fee," the club said in a statement.

"Following the transfer, the forward was signed to a contract through the 2027 season with an option for the 2028 campaign. She will join the team and be added to the roster pending the receipt of her P-1 visa and International Transfer Certificate (ITC). Kundananji will occupy an international roster spot."

In 2018, Kundananji showcased her talent with Ideni Roses in Zambia's Copperbelt Women's League, where she scored 21 goals in 18 matches, helping the team clinch the league title.

The 23-year-old forward started her professional career with BIIK Kazygurt in Kazakhstan back in 2019. She also made history as the first African, male or female, to break a world transfer record.

Embarking on a fresh chapter, the Zambian forward steps into what has long been regarded as the best women's soccer, joining a team that boasts of Nigerian striker and six-time African Female Player of the Year, Asisat Oshoala.

Her remarkable ascent for goal, and explosive talent convinced Bay FC to splash a whopping \$860,000 to prise her away from Madrid CFF in the Spanish La Liga F.

"We are delighted to add Racheal to our group," said Bay FC General Manager Lucy Rushton.

"She is a tremendous talent with dynamic attacking qualities and an incredible physical profile who has produced for both club and country.

Rachael has composure in front of goal and a natural ability to score with different types of finishes and from various locations. We believe she will continue to grow and develop at our club, showcasing her skillset and adding to the array of exciting attacking talent we have here."

That fee surpasses the transfer fee set by Keira Walsh's £400,000 switch from Manchester City to Barcelona in 2022.

Kundananji is moving to the United States after a prolific 18-month spell in Madrid in which she scored 33 Liga F goals in 43 games.



"People in Zambia will be surprised but they will be so happy," Kundananji told BBC Sport Africa.

"A lot of people have encouraged me to work hard and some even said one day you'll break some records.

"This is the first one and I know there are more coming. I will do my level best and fight every time I play like I always do.

"I want to give the [Bay FC] fans what they want - to enjoy the games, to enjoy seeing me playing and scoring."

A part of the club since the summer of 2022 when she left relegated Eibar, Kundananji became one of the stars of La Liga F last season, scoring 25 goals in 29 games played, as well as contributing 3 assists.

In August 2022, Kundananji signed with Madrid CFF, scoring 25 goals during her first season with the club in the 2022/23 campaign. Her 25 goals ranked second-most in the league as she helped Madrid to a fifth-place finish.

During the 2023/24 season, Kundananji scored eight goals, and four assists in 14 matches.

Bay FC Director of Scouting & Strategy, Austin Buchanan, who tracked Racheal Kundananji's progress for many years said:

"This is the culmination of a lot of work behind the scenes. Due to the club and ownership group's continued support and drive to raise the bar across women's sports, we bought a true young talent like Racheal Kundananji to the league. After what has been over a year's worth of work seen come to fruition, I cannot wait to welcome Racheal to Bay FC and the NWSL."

Incredible benefits of garlic: A clove a day keeps the doctor away

CHIGOZIRIM ENYINNIA



Garlic has been a staple ingredient in kitchens around the world for centuries. However, its value extends far beyond its culinary uses. This humble bulb has long been revered for its incredible health benefits and healing properties. From ancient medicinal practices to cutting-edge scientific research, garlic has proven to be a powerhouse of wellness.

Throughout history, garlic has served as a natural insect repellent, and ancient Egyptians even bury it with their deceased.

Garlic is predominantly utilised for cardiovascular health and contains compounds that can address a range of conditions including high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol levels, skin issues, infections, and various other maladies. Hence, we will explore the five health advantages of garlic and the scientific rationale behind them.

1. Beneficial for Cardiovascular Health

Since ancient times, garlic has been hailed as a potent weapon against cardiovascular diseases. Packed with chemical compounds like Diall S-Trisulfide and Allicin, garlic has been shown to reduce bad cholesterol levels, preventing plaque buildup in arteries and reducing the risk of heart disease.

A recent study conducted on 23 patients with high cholesterol and high blood pressure revealed promising results. After four months of taking garlic extract supplements, participants experienced improved blood lipid profiles, reduced blood pressure, and decreased oxidative free radical damage in the body. These findings highlight the potential of garlic as a natural remedy for hypertension and high cholesterol.

2. Beneficial for digestive health (the gut):

The gut harbours a wealth of beneficial bacteria crucial for digestion and overall gut health. Inadequate diet or certain medications, such as antibiotics, can deplete these beneficial bacteria levels in the gut, potentially leading to digestive issues like bloating and diarrhoea.

To promote the growth of these beneficial bacteria, two types of foods are essential: probiotics and prebiotics. Garlic exemplifies a potent prebiotic, containing high levels of Inulin, a non-digestible carbohydrate that serves as fuel for the growth of beneficial microorganisms in the gut.

Research in food science and human wellness confirms garlic's ability to foster the growth of friendly gut bacteria, thereby inhibiting the growth of disease-causing pathogens and enhancing overall gut function.

3. Beneficial for the brain

As we age, factors like stress, pollution, and excessive alcohol consumption can take a toll on our brain health. Neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's and dementia are becoming increasingly common. However, garlic's potent antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties offer hope in the fight against these conditions.

By reducing cholesterol and blood pressure levels, garlic improves blood flow to the brain, nourishing it with vital nutrients. Furthermore, its potent antioxidant

properties counteract the damage caused by free radicals, protecting brain cells from degeneration. Incorporating garlic into your diet may help safeguard your brain health as you age.

4. Possesses Antibiotic Properties

Garlic possesses natural antibiotic properties, making it a versatile weapon against bacterial infections. Diallyl sulfide, a compound found in garlic, has been shown to exhibit antibacterial activity against both gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria.

Moreover, garlic contains another powerful chemical called Ajoene, which effectively fights fungal infections like ringworm, jock itch, and athlete's foot.

For centuries, people have been utilising garlic to heal and prevent various infections, making it a go-to natural remedy.

5. Blood Purifier

Detoxifying our bodies is essential for maintaining optimal health. Garlic, known for its remarkable heart benefits, is also a powerful ally in the detoxification process.

High in antioxidants, antibacterial, antiviral, and antibiotic properties, garlic aids in the cleansing of our blood and vital organs.

Garlic's chemical compound, Allicin, stimulates the production of white blood cells, boosting our immune system and assisting in the elimination of toxins.

Furthermore, evidence suggests that garlic protects the liver from toxic agents, further enhancing its role as a natural blood purifier.

To make the most of garlic's incredible benefits, it is best consumed raw or in supplement form. Cooking garlic can destroy its important enzymes and decrease its potency.

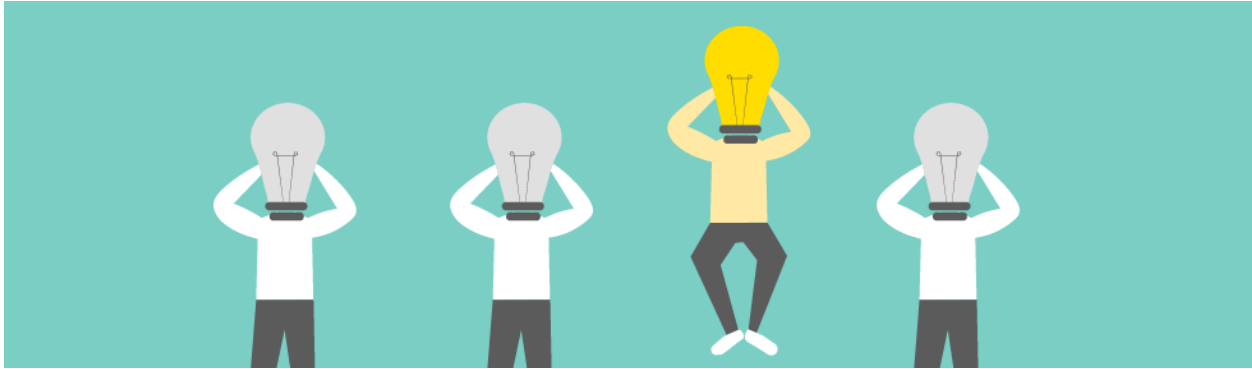
The secret lies in letting chopped or minced garlic rest for at least 10 minutes before heating it. This ensures the creation of maximum levels of Allicin, delivering the full medicinal power of garlic to your body.

Garlic is much more than a flavourful ingredient in our favourite dishes. From promoting cardiovascular health to boosting brain function, combating infections, and purifying our blood, garlic offers a multitude of incredible benefits.

So why not start incorporating this natural wonder into your daily routine and reap the rewards it has to offer?

Brand Positioning

FEYISITAN IJIMAKINWA



In marketing, positioning refers to an organisation's ability to shape customer perception of its brand or product(s). When we talk about brand positioning, we're specifically referring to positioning in regard to the brand. Brand positioning strategies can influence consumer loyalty, consumer-based brand equity, willingness to purchase, and more.

A successful brand positioning can differentiate success and failure in a competitive market. To sum up, it's all about making sure that your target audience knows why they should choose you over other competitors—by creating unique value, messaging, visuals and identity to differentiate yourself from everyone else.

Who are your competitors?

Many entrepreneurs observe their competitors for ideas on brand identity, website design, product offerings, communication strategies, and social media posts. While it may be tempting to simply emulate the competition's tactics due to their success, the goal should instead be to differentiate oneself from them. To do this effectively, one must assess what options are already available in the market and identify areas that are underserved.

By aligning all communication efforts towards this unified goal, organisations are provided with clarity on how best to build their brands—leading not only to higher revenue but sustainable success over time. Why is brand positioning important?

It is essential for companies to have a clearly defined brand positioning in order to communicate the value they offer customers. This should be done

both internally, through a brand positioning statement, and externally, via various marketing strategies that are in line with the statement. To remain relevant and realistic, the statement should include information about who the customer is and what value proposition is being offered.

Key elements of successful brand positioning

A successful brand positioning encompasses several vital elements.

It should be focused on the customer and what they need from the brand, as well as how the brand can provide those needs in a unique way.

It should also be clear and concise so that customers can easily understand it.

Elements of successful brand positioning

When formulating a positioning strategy for one's brand, it is essential to consider several key characteristics:

VALUE

The market position taken and offers made to the audience must be presented in a manner that conveys value and is easily understandable.

Unique

It is best that your positioning strategy is unique. If you enter the market with similar products, services, pricing, quality, or experience as other providers, even the most effective marketing strategies will not be enough to ensure success. In order to be successful, your brand must stand out from the competition and be seen as an obvious choice.

CLEAR

A clear explanation of how one's product or service stands out from competitors will help to establish

a truly unique stance that has the potential to revolutionize an entire industry.

DELIVERABLE

It is essential to have a strong positioning strategy, as it is the foundation of the entire brand strategy. If there is doubt that the brand's chosen position cannot be fulfilled, then another option should be considered. Not delivering on the promise of a brand can lead to its rapid demise.

RELEVANCE

Brand positioning is the process of strategically crafting a unique and meaningful identity for your brand in the minds of consumers. It involves understanding your target audience, researching your competitors, and developing a message that will differentiate you from them. It also involves creating an image that resonates with customers, conveying the value of your product or service offering, and communicating how it can solve their problems. Brand positioning should be based on customer insights and a deep understanding of the market landscape to ensure relevancy and appeal to potential customers.

Examples of brand positioning

1. SAMSUNG

Samsung has positioned itself as a leader in innovation, technology, and design. It is for individuals who want a wide variety of high-quality and innovative technology products, Samsung leads the electronics industry.

Its marketing campaigns emphasize the cutting-edge features of its products, reflecting its commitment to innovation and quality. Samsung is known for providing high performance, quality, and affordability while maintaining its focus on technological advancement and design excellence.

Additionally, Samsung positions itself as a brand that has a wide range of products, from smartphones, TVs, home appliances, and other electronic devices, making it a one-stop shop for customers who are looking for a variety of technology products.

2. PEPSI

Pepsi's brand positioning is centered around the idea of youthful energy, excitement, and fun. Pepsi is for individuals who want a fun, youthful, and refreshing beverage choice, Pepsi leads the soft drink industry with its dynamic and innovative products.

The company's marketing campaigns often feature celebrities, music, and pop culture, with the goal of appealing to a young, trendy, and active audience. They have positioned itself as a brand that is fun, young, refreshing and energetic. They

often associate their brand with pop culture, music, and celebrities. Pepsi also positions itself as a more affordable alternative to Coca-Cola, its main competitor, with a similar taste and similar marketing approach

3. MERCEDES-BENZ

Mercedes-Benz's brand positioning is centered around luxury, engineering excellence, and innovation. It is for individuals who want the best luxury car, Mercedes-Benz leads the automobile industry with its innovative and technologically advanced products. The company's marketing campaigns often showcase the high-end features and advanced technology of its vehicles, emphasizing the brand's commitment to engineering excellence and attention to detail. Mercedes-Benz positions itself as a luxury brand, with a focus on high-end materials, craftsmanship, and comfort.

They also position itself as a brand that stands for performance, safety, and innovation. Additionally, Mercedes Benz positions itself as a status symbol, associated with wealth, success, and prestige.

LAST LINE

As you can see, over-exposure is a very real threat to your brand. It's important that you keep track of how often your brand is being seen and make sure it doesn't happen too much.



Feyisitan Ijimakinwa

Feyisitan Ijimakinwa is a Reputation and Perception Management expert. He is a prolific writer and researcher who, at different times, served as Head of Corporate Communications of top brands quoted on the Nigerian Stock Exchange. A versatile communications specialist, he practiced extensively as a print journalist and was variously engaged in the broadcast media, working on radio and television. Feyisitan continues to write on corporate communications, brand reputation and perception management, and brand intelligence, among others. He organises the 'Brand Intelligence and the Marketplace' masterclass. Feyisitan advocates a pollution free and sustainable environment

A BED OF ROSES

UDY OSARO-EDOBOR

Henry and I got married as a favor to our parents because they were friends for a very long time and wanted their relationship to transcend them. Henry and I were the sacrificial lamb so to say.

Anyway, whatever feelings I managed to conceive for him overtime vanished after I discovered that he was a two timing, cheating maggot. Our parents and our church leaders advised us against getting a divorce because "God frowns at it". I was also bound by the "what will people say" cliché.

Henry and I lived like flatmates. We have been sleeping in separate rooms for as long as I can remember and we only spoke to each other when it was absolutely necessary. My children and my job were the only things that gave me joy.

I worked in a multinational company for many years but resigning to join DoubleD Investment Company (DDIC) was the best decision I ever made. DDIC was co-owned by Mr Danny Rogers and his brother in-law (Damian), who ran its sister company in Australia.

I wasn't going to be paid as much as my former job but I was going with my gut anyway.

Mr Rogers was an amazing boss and his beautiful wife Anna had taken a liking to me, we got along quite well. So when she lost her father, I wasn't surprised that she called me to be part of the planning committee for the week long funeral ceremony.

We arrived Ann's hometown and delved right into the ceremony. Of course her brother Damian was around but I only saw him from afar. I could swear that I caught him staring at me a couple of times and his stares gave me butterflies. I can't remember ever feeling that way. It was a strange feeling.

Damian was meant to return to Australia immediately after their father's interment but he chose to stay back for a few months. He was at the office every working day and for some reason we always had work to do together. It was very easy to talk to Damian. We had deep conversations about life and we talked about personal things. There was a lot of unspoken words

hanging but it was obvious that we liked each other. The chemistry was undeniable.

Damian also respected the fact that I was a married woman and he knew he couldn't pursue anything with me.

He opened up to me about how he withdrew into himself after he lost his wife in a fatal car crash in Melbourne and this was the first time he was opening up to another woman.

We tried to keep up our conversations after he returned to Australia but sometimes I couldn't help thinking that there was really no need pushing for what wasn't going to be. On the other, I was still legally married to my husband and I didn't want to be involved in an emotional affair with another man.

Our conversations were slightly labored but we continued the struggle to keep whatever we had going.

Things were still awkward between Henry and I but I could tell that he wasn't looking good. I would have looked away in the past but for some reason, I just couldn't ignore him. Henry was nonchalant about so many things including his health but after much talk, I was able to convince him to go to the hospital.

The diagnosis was startling. Henry was HIV positive and because his immunity was low, he had other infections that affected his bloodstream and he had sepsis. The doctors tried all the could but Henry had a septic shock which led to his death. His burial took place almost immediately as instructed by his parents.

I didn't know how to act like a widow because I have lived like one for the longest time. I didn't even know how to mourn Henry, infact I didn't know how to feel. I only observed the mourning period in respect of my in-laws and not in honor of the dead. Besides, I didn't want any bad named labelled against me. So exactly three months later, I jumped right back into my work.

Did I mention that Damian had waltzed back into my life like he never left? He started with commiserating with me after Henry's passing and he never stopped checking on me afterwards.

One cool evening, as I was walking towards Mr Rogers' office for an impromptu meeting, I was hit by that familiar scent, it reminded me of Damian and I smiled. I still had the smile on my face when I opened the door, and there he was, sitting in all his Damianess. I was shocked at first, then I took a moment to let it all sink it before I ran into his arms. When Damian held me close

to his heart, I knew he was never going to let me go. I knew this was where I was meant to be. I knew this was right. I knew this was home.

My heart was beating, I had fuzzy and fluttery feelings in the pit of my stomach, there was goosebumps all over my hands and legs. It felt strange but I guess this is what love feels like.

Damian and connected in so many ways and it felt like we've known each other for a lifetime.

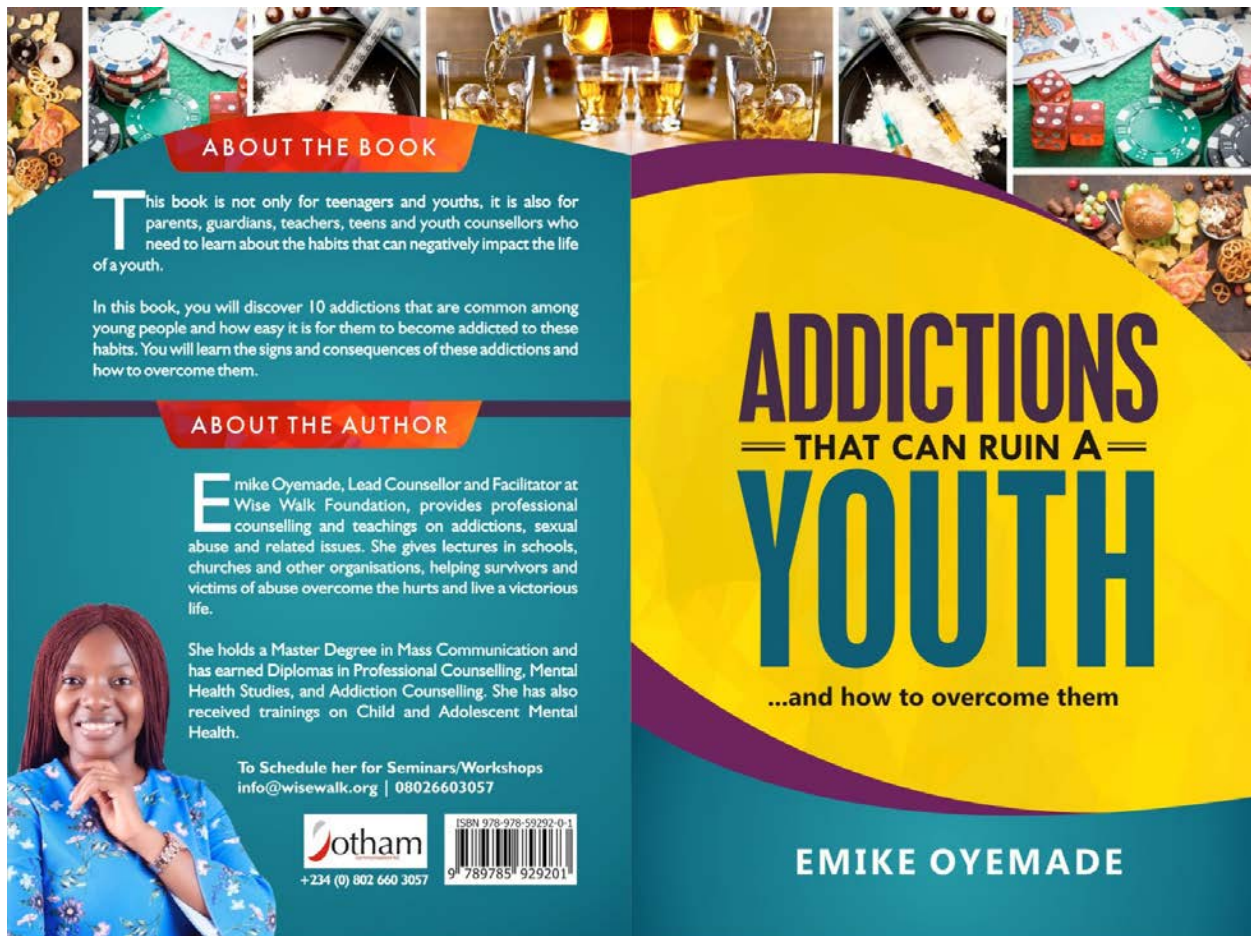
It all makes sense now, my gut feeling was right after all. In the end, leaving a multinational company for DDIC was worth it. I had to be there to get what was missing in my life... and that was my happiness and peace of mind. I always thought that marriage is not a bed of roses but Damian has proven that I can have more in spite of my age... the bed he's given me has tulips, roses and much more. It's never too late to find true love.



Udy Osaro-Edobor

Udy Osaro-Edobor is the Content Creator for SoTV (Supernatural Online TV) Nigeria. She is a movie/scriptwriter, editor, and proofreader. She has several stories to her credit which she posts for free on her Ebook called Udy's Chapter. She is currently working on two short movies. Udy is also a wife, mother, and a "serial entrepreneur".

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Signs to Figure out If Your Kid Is Dealing with Addiction-A Review of Emike Oyemade's Addictions That Can Ruin a Youth

Title: Addictions That Can Ruin a Youth and How to Overcome Them

Author: Emike Oyemade

Publisher: Jotham Publishing

Year of Publication: 2022

Number of Pages: 66

Category: Self-Help

Addictions That Can Ruin a Youth and How to Overcome Them

TITILADE OYEMADE

When the topic of "addiction" arises, particularly for adults or parents, it often triggers feelings of concern and discomfort. The immediate worry typically revolves around whether one's child may be involved in addictive behaviors influenced either by peer pressure or independently. Unfortunately, many parents only discover their child's involvement in addiction when the situation has already escalated significantly.

While the initial concern for most parents typically centers on drug addiction, Emike Oyemade offers valuable assistance in expanding parents' awareness by identifying nine additional addictions prevalent among young adults, aside from drug addiction.

Exploring her book not only provides crucial insights and knowledge but also empowers readers to skillfully recognize signs of addiction in the young individuals within their sphere of influence. "Addictions That Can Ruin a Youth" can serve as a comprehensive guide, enhancing awareness and understanding of the issues related to youth addiction.

Emike Oyemade's background in providing guidance to numerous teenagers lends credibility to the content in her book. Despite the common negative association with addiction, the author approaches the subject with compassion, acknowledging the formidable challenge of breaking free from entrenched addictions.

Prepare to be surprised by the revelations in this compact yet highly informative book, densely packed with knowledge. The various types of addictions are

conveniently outlined in chapter titles, allowing readers to directly address concerns that resonate with them. While some may be tempted to skip to specific chapters, it is advisable to peruse all of them, as undiscovered addictions may be present.

The unexpected revelation of "food addiction" is a notable example—excessive eating as a potential problem. As readers delve into the content, a common thread among all these addictions becomes evident—they all start with something seemingly insignificant. Phrases like 'it is harmless at first' and 'you start small' may resonate, particularly with those who have experienced addiction, evoking memories of their own journey.

Mentioning addiction and hobby in the same sentence may initially confuse readers, but progressing through the book reveals the rationale behind this comparison. For young readers, there may be moments when it feels as if an older individual is reprimanding them.

If young people are present in your immediate surroundings, obtaining a copy of this book is strongly advised. It enables them to gain awareness about various forms of addiction, and if they are already grappling with addiction, the book serves as a resource for seeking assistance. Additionally, for parents, immersing themselves in the contents of this book will be notably advantageous, providing valuable insights and guidance to effectively navigate and address issues related to addiction among young individuals.

Titilade Oyemade

Titilade Oyemade is a business executive in a leading organisation and holds a degree in Russian Language. She's the convener of the Hangoutwithtee Ladies Event and the publisher of Hangoutwithtee magazine.

She spends her weekends attending women conferences, events and book readings. She loves to have fun and to help other women have the same in their lives.

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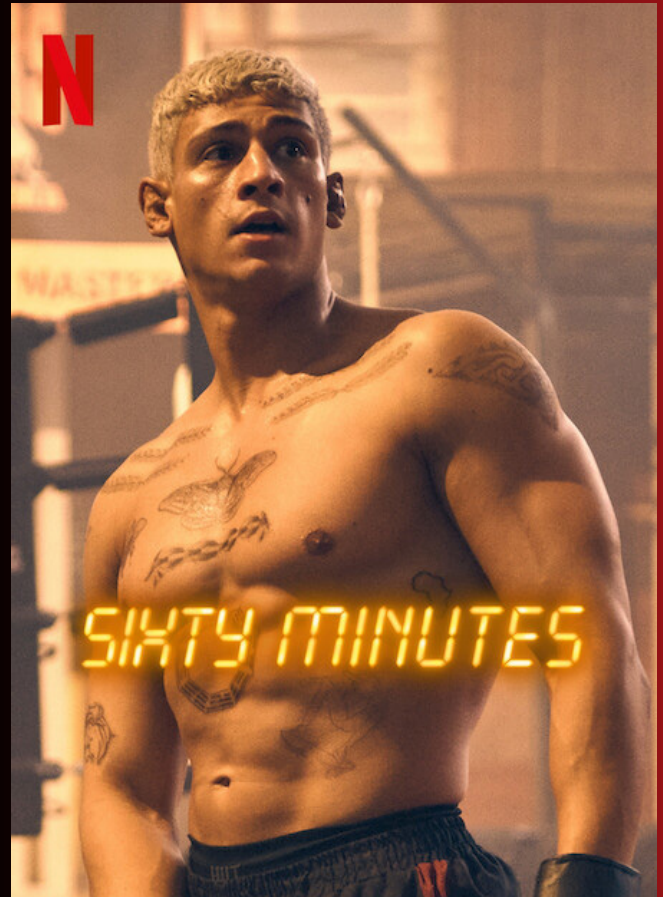


WEEKENDER

MOVIE REVIEWS

60 MINUTES (2024)

Well so I heard that a few people online were comparing this movie to the great “John Wick”, so I decided to go check it out and confirm for myself, sincerely I don’t think this movie should be in anyway compared to my “John Wick”, because “John Wick” is way better than this, although the action movie was okay and exciting, for me it was just a basic action packed movie that told a story in 60 minutes as the name implied. So Leonie was a professional boxer and was meant to take on a big fight that will bring him loads of money. On getting to the battle arena, he gets a call from his baby mama, threatening him, that if he doesn’t appear for his daughter’s birthday that same day within an hour, he should forget about seeing her ever again in life. Honestly Leonie couldn’t take that information, that call ruined his day, the fight and that infuriated a lot of people. Well you will need to go check out the entire movie to judge for yourself, you need to see the length he had to go to, what he had to pass through to make it to his daughter within an hour. The 89m German, sports, martial arts, action movie was directed by Oliver Kienle, they featured actors like Emillio Sakraya, Dennis Mojen, Marie Mouroum, Paul Wollin, Florian Schmidtke, Aristo Luis, Jose Barros Moncada, Janna Striebeck etc.



Linda Ochugbua

MERRY MEN 3: NEMESIS (2023)

It wasn't an easy choice, but after going through various recommendations from people I finally decided to just check the movie out, maybe the movie isn't really my kind of movie, but I guess I have to still bring you the story. So I guess "Merry Men 1" was okay, till they decided to spoil it with 2, which I really didn't quiet get, nor understand, I actually thought they will stop there, but knew they would still want o give 3 a shot and they did, for me I felt they could have ended it in 2, but my guess was as bad as yours, well welcome to part 3. In this part they tried to connect us to 1 and 2 and I really couldn't still find the connection, I am wondering what they will do in 4, because I can smell that already from a far distance. Before I bore you so much with my whining, let me tell you a bit about the story. So in this new edition, Ramsey was taking his wedding vows, when he heard a voice and found a video playing where his friend was killed life on the screen, and it all looked like a movie, but it was real, that immediately turned the wedding ceremony upside down as everyone took to their hills running for shelter and hoping they wont be killed. The crew had to run to a safe hiding place, to think and re-strategize on the next steps as they also had another friend murdered that same day also in cold blood, then they understood, this was no games but a real war about to kick off. Ramsey had to explain the story to them explaining that he thought his old friend Chidi Mokeme was dead, but he is sure that he still alive and back for revenge. Well do go check it out for yourself to decide if the movie was good enough for you. The 131m Nollywood, Crime, thriller, Africa, violence, sex and language movie was directed by Inwang, they featured actors Ramsey Nouah, Chidi Mokeme, Iretiola Doyle, Ayo Makun, Ufuoma McDermott, Uchemba Williams, Nadia Buari, Segun Arinze and many more.



DEEP FEAR (2023)

So Naomi went sailing with her parents when she was 8 years old, suddenly a bad storm hit them her father saved her and drown trying to save her mum. She became an orphan at 8, but didn't stop her from growing to become the best female sailors in the Caribbean. One day during the cause of sailing Naomi found some people stranded on the sea and stopped to save them, despite being warned by her boyfriend, what seemed like a simple rescue turned out quickly into a hostage/kidnap situation. Do check out the movie to see how Naomi had to now fight for her life, from those she once rescued, I was filled with rage and anger wishing all through that she never stopped to help these wicked fellows, who then ganged up against her. The 89m Action/Mystery & thriller movie was directed by Marcus Adams, they featured actors like Madalina Diana Ghenea, Ed Westwick, Macarena Gomez, Stanley Coppet, Ibrahuna Gueye, Mike Parish and many more.



Linda Ochugbua

WEEKEND QUOTES



1

Once you change your identity in your mind then you won't go back to your past anymore. Change starts from the mind
.....WhispersbyTEN

2

When you change your view something, you escape some conflagration
.....WhispersbyTEN

3

Postpone leisure for later so you don't envy those who leisure later
.... WhispersbyTEN

4

Getting upset is wisdom because you recognize your trigger. However, having intimacy with anger exposes your foolishness
.... WhispersbyTEN