

BUSINESS DAY WEEKENDER

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PR Powerhouse

Elizabeth Osho
Shares Journey
to Healing and
Joy in New
Book



LIFESTYLE

Grace, Grit, Glory- The unforgettable journey of late Onyeka Onwenu



FEATURE

Protests- What Nigerians are asking for

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Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results for the Second Quarter Ended June 30, 2024

The Board of Directors of Julius Berger Nigeria Plc hereby announces the following Unaudited Consolidated Financial Results for the Second Quarter ended June 30, 2024.

| | 2nd Quarter April - June 2024 N'000 | Year to Date Jan - June 2024 N'000 |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Revenue | 132,893,961 | 243,772,288 |
| Profit before tax | 8,392,652 | 25,141,471 |
| Taxation | (6,841,461) | (13,537,550) |
| Profit/(loss) after tax | 1,551,191 | 11,603,921 |

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July 30, 2024

For a more detailed Unaudited Results, please visit www.julius-berger.com



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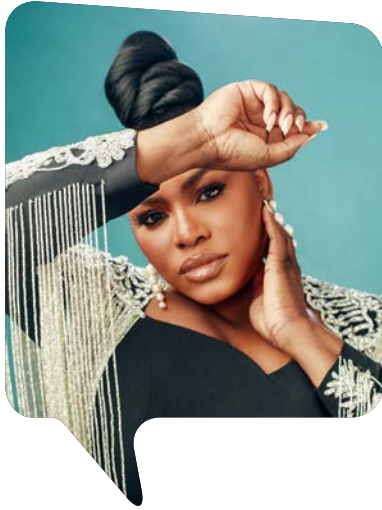
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A close-up portrait of Elizabeth Osho, a woman with dark hair styled in a bun, wearing a black dress with intricate silver lace and fringe details. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile, her hands are raised near her face, one touching her ear. The background is a solid teal color.

PR Powerhouse: Elizabeth Osho Shares Journey to Healing and Joy in New Book



Over the years, Elizabeth Osho, a PR expert and entrepreneur has been committed to crafting unique stories for numerous brands across diverse industries such as Disney, Martini, Unilever, Dussé, FilmHouse amongst others. She is a detailed strategist and a communications expert who is additionally the founder of So. MeSolutions, a communications company has helped such huge numbers of brands boost their possibilities. Liz is adept at working closely with her wide range of stakeholders to highlight their message and their value proposition and disseminate their messages through a wide range of platforms. She founded So.Me Solutions in 2016 and the company has been instrumental in bringing about change to the public relations approach within its client and portfolio base. In this interview with Weekender team, she speaks on her new book, 'Who Do You Think You Are' will empower readers to reclaim their identities and live authentically.

Kindly take us through your journey in the PR space and how has the experience been for you?

My career in Public Relations began in the bustling city of Lagos, Nigeria. Lagos is known for its vibrant culture and fast-paced business environment. It was the perfect place for me to hone my skills and gain a deep understanding of the industry. The early days were filled with learning and growth as I navigated the complexities of media relations, crisis management, and strategic communications.

One of the most significant turning points in my career was when I started working with high-profile clients and major brands. These experiences taught me the importance of adaptability and creativity. In PR, no two days are the same, and being able to think on your feet and come up with innovative solutions is crucial. I learned to manage expectations, build strong relationships with the media, and craft compelling narratives that resonate with diverse audiences. Another highlight of my journey has been expanding my client base to Washington D.C. This move opened up new opportunities and of course challenges, exposing me to a different market and a broader spectrum of clients. Working in an international context has enriched my perspective and deepened my understanding of global PR trends and strategies. Throughout my career, I've encountered both triumphs and trials. Each project, whether successful or challenging, has contributed to my growth and resilience. The dynamic nature of PR keeps me engaged and constantly learning. I find immense satisfaction in helping clients achieve their goals,

whether it's through launching a new product, managing a crisis, or building a brand's reputation. In essence, my journey in PR has been a blend of hard work, continuous learning, and a passion for storytelling. It's a field that demands dedication and creativity, and I've found it incredibly rewarding to see the impact of my work. As I continue to navigate this ever-evolving landscape, I remain excited about the possibilities and committed to delivering exceptional results for my clients.

As an entrepreneur committed to crafting unique stories for numerous brands across diverse industries such as Disney, Martini, Unilever, Dussé, FilmHouse, what are the factors you take into consideration when crafting these stories such that the approach deployed is suitable to the brand?

Ensuring consistency in the brand's voice and message across all channels is vital. When crafting unique stories for brands across diverse industries such as Disney, Martini, Unilever, Dussé, and FilmHouse, there are several key factors I consider to ensure that the approach is not only suitable but also impactful. We work hard at understanding the core identity and values of the brand. A brand's history and legacy provide a rich tapestry of elements to weave into stories.



Each brand has its own unique ethos and mission, which should be reflected in every story told. For example, Disney's stories often revolve around magic, imagination, and family, while Dussé, a premium cognac, emphasizes luxury, craftsmanship, and heritage. We work hard at staying abreast of market trends and cultural movements in crafting relevant and timely stories. Leveraging current events, societal shifts, and popular culture can make the content more engaging and relatable. For instance, when we work with FilmHouse, we ensure that we incorporate trending genres or popular film themes that can attract more viewers.

Knowing the target audience is essential for tailoring the message appropriately. Different demographics have varied preferences, behaviors, and expectations. Crafting a story that resonates with Disney's family-oriented audience differs significantly from creating content for Martini's sophisticated, adult consumers.

Disney, Martini, Unilever, Dussé and FilmHouse are top brands that own a reasonable market share in their respective markets. What are your direct and indirect roles in ensuring these brands continue to thrive in the marketplace?

We continue to bring fresh, innovative ideas to the table which keeps the brand stories exciting and engaging and as a ripple effect, the brands are top of mind in the market. We have good relationships with the media which we leverage, we also continue to put out stories which continue to engage the market. For instance, incorporating augmented reality experiences for a brand like Martini can elevate the storytelling experience.

We also work with brand advocates and influencers to amplify the brand's message. Selecting the right influencers who align with the brand's values and overseeing their engagement ensures authentic and effective promotion is crucial in PR.

What differentiates you from other PR agencies offering almost the same services to brands ?

What differentiates SoMe Solutions from other PR agencies is our tailored and strategic approach and deep understanding of both local and international markets. My career has spanned across various roles in technology recruitment, NGOs, entertainment, and media sectors, allowing me to develop a unique perspective on brand strategy, consumer behavior, and market trends. My main differentiators are the fact that I have diverse experience spanning nearly 20 years. Coming from a background in the media space, my network is vast and I bring a multifaceted approach to PR, understanding not just the creative but also the analytical and strategic aspects of brand positioning. Over the years, I have

learnt to develop and build strategic relationships. I have always been a researcher and this allows me to provide insights and strategic recommendations that align with my client's business goals and market positioning. Having lived and worked in England for twenty- one years, Nigeria for nine years and now The United States for four years - I have a global perspective. The fact that I have worked in different markets, including Nigeria and the UK and now the USA means I have a global outlook and can craft campaigns that resonate with diverse audiences while maintaining a local touch.

What are challenges facing the PR space today and what ways can these be addressed?

I've been in the PR space for over 8 years now. I've noticed that within Nigeria and globally challenges are quite similar. We have challenges such as the rapid evolution of digital media, which requires constant adaptation to new platforms and technologies. We always have to be on top of what's going on! At SoMe Solutions, we work with clients in different industries so we need to be well informed about the happenings in these industries. Misinformation and fake news are also concerns making it harder to manage reputations effectively. The economic situation in Nigeria and even globally causes uncertainties and budget constraints, as we always want to execute comprehensive and excellent PR campaigns. We're now building a team in the USA and the UK for clients based outside Nigeria. A major change we've faced is cultural differences, understanding new markets as we tailor each campaign messaging for diverse audiences.

It's a lot we deal with as PR strategists and even as an entrepreneur running a global business but everyday we keep pushing, learning and we continue to grow.

Let us talk about your new book, 'WhoDo You Think You Are?'

What informed the choice of the name of this book?

The title "Who Do You Think You Are?" stems from my personal journey of self-discovery and healing. Throughout my life, I've faced various challenges and traumas that shaped my identity and perceptions. This book is a reflection of the process I went through to confront and understand these experiences. The title encapsulates the central question I had to ask myself: "who am I really, beyond the traumas and challenges?" It's an invitation for readers to embark on their own journeys of self-exploration and healing.





What key message do you hope to pass across through this book ?

The key message I hope to convey through "Who Do You Think You Are?" is the power of self-awareness and healing. I want readers to understand that it's possible to confront and overcome traumas and challenges, no matter how difficult they may seem. By sharing my journey, I aim to inspire others to look within, face their past, and emerge stronger and more self-assured. Ultimately, the book is about empowering readers to reclaim their identities and live authentically.

Who are your target audience for this book and why ?

My target audience for "Who Do You Think You Are?" includes anyone who has faced personal challenges, trauma, or self-doubt and is seeking a path to healing and self-discovery. Anyone who has felt abandoned. This book is especially relevant for individuals navigating through a difficult journey, those going through significant life changes or seeking a fresh start. The book will

resonate well with trauma survivors, people who are experiencing trauma and are looking for inspiration and guidance to heal. The book is for anyone who wants to prioritize self-improvement and personal development to become more self-aware. The book is for Professionals and Entrepreneurs too. It is for those who want to understand how personal growth can impact their lives.

You said through this book that you hope to offer solace to those who have felt the sting of abandonment and the weight of adversity. How do you hope to achieve this?

I hope to achieve this first by continuing to share my personal stories and experiences with abandonment and adversity so anyone reading can find comfort in knowing they are not alone. My journey can serve as a testament to the possibility of healing and growth. The book provides practical tools that have helped me navigate my challenges. The content can empower readers to take actionable steps towards their own healing and self-discovery. I encourage readers to ask

themselves important questions and reflect on their own experiences. This self-reflection can help them understand their emotions and identify areas where they need healing, therapy or support. Through the narrative, and the fact that I'm still standing, thriving despite all I've been through mentally - I aim to inspire readers to believe in their capacity for resilience and transformation. Hearing how someone else has overcome similar struggles can instill hope.

Is this your first book ? Was it deliberate that you chose to launch the book at this time?

Yes, "Who Do You Think You Are?" is my first book. The decision to launch it at this time was indeed deliberate. I felt that I had reached a point in my journey where I had enough perspective and insight to share my experiences meaningfully. Additionally, I believe that the themes of healing, self-discovery, and overcoming adversity are particularly relevant in today's world, where many people are navigating personal and collective challenges. Launching the book now allows me to connect with readers who may be in need of encouragement and inspiration during these uncertain times.

How long did it take you to write the book and what were your major challenges in writing this book ?

Writing 'Who Do You Think You Are?' was a significant investment that took about two years to complete. The process involved several stages, from initial concept and outlining to writing, revising, and finalizing the manuscript. The major challenges I faced while writing the book included the emotional toll and having to relive past trauma. Revisiting and writing about personal traumas and challenges was emotionally difficult. It required a lot of vulnerability and introspection, which was difficult but also helped me heal. I started shortly after I had just given birth, so it was difficult balancing professional and personal life. Finding a consistent writing schedule amidst a busy career required discipline and sacrifice. I also had to ensure that I stayed true to my experiences and conveyed them authentically. I wanted the book to be genuine and relatable, which meant being honest about my vulnerabilities and struggles. The publishing process was also not a walk in the park. I had to edit and revise the manuscript over and over. The process was time-consuming and required significant effort. It was essential to convey my message effectively without losing the essence of my story.

What is the next big thing for Elizabeth Osho?

The next big thing for me is to keep living and keep impacting. I want to continue to expand my influence and impact in the PR and Communications industry. With So.Media Solutions established presence in Washington D.C. and a growing client base, I aim to further solidify my reputation as a leading PR expert. My Key initiatives include expanding our client base. I plan to take on more high-profile clients, both locally and internationally, to broaden our portfolio and impact. Writing another Book!! Lol . Once I've recovered from this one there's the possibility of writing one on maybe PR strategies and success stories, or parenting, who knows? It will be as the spirit leads once the time is right.

I enjoy speaking and I'd love to increase my presence at industry conferences and events. I love sharing my knowledge and network with other professionals. I want to continue growing while also creating impact and giving back.



Grace, Grit, Glory:

The unforgettable journey of late Onyeka Onwenu

CHIOMA ONUH



Onyeka Onwenu was more than just a name; she was a force of nature. Her life, which began on January 31, 1952, and ended on July 30, 2024, was an example of the strength that comes from dedication and passion.

From her humble beginnings in Arondizuogu, Imo State, Onwenu's journey was shaped by both triumphs and tragedies. Her father, D.K. Onwenu, was an educationist and politician whose untimely death in a car crash left her mother, Hope, to raise five children alone. Despite these early hardships, Onwenu pursued her education with determination, earning a BA in International Relations and Communication from Wellesley College and an MA in Media Studies from The New School for Social Research. Returning to Nigeria, Onwenu's career began at the

Nigerian Television Authority (NTA), where her work as a newsreader and reporter quickly made her a household name. Her groundbreaking documentary, 'Nigeria: A Squandering of Riches', brought international acclaim and spotlighted critical issues of corruption and environmental degradation in the Niger Delta.

In the music world, Onwenu's voice was a beacon of hope and inspiration. She started as a secular artist with albums like 'For the Love of You' and 'Endless Life', and then transitioned to gospel music in the 1990s. Her songs, often self-penned, tackled vital social issues such as HIV/AIDS, women's rights, and peace. Hits like "One Love" and "You and I" showcased her ability to blend poignant messages with captivating melodies.



Onwenu's talent wasn't confined to the music studio. She made a significant impact in Nollywood with memorable roles in films such as 'Nightmare', 'Widow's Cot', 'Chain Reaction', 'Government House', 'The Tyrant', 'Half of a Yellow Sun', and 'Lionheart'. Her performances earned her accolades, including an Africa Movie Academy Award for Best Actress in a Supporting Role.

Her commitment to social causes extended beyond her artistic endeavours. Onwenu was deeply involved in politics and activism, serving as the Chairperson of the Imo State Council for Arts and Culture and later as the Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer of the National Centre for Women Development. Her advocacy for women's rights and her fight against social injustices left an enduring impact.

Despite her public persona, Onwenu valued her privacy. She was a devoted mother to her two sons, Tijani Charles and Abraham, and often kept details of her personal life under wraps. Her desire for a simple, heartfelt burial, expressed in an opinion piece, reflected her disdain for the lavish displays of wealth often seen at Nigerian funerals.

On July 30, 2024, the world lost a legend. Onyeka Onwenu collapsed at a friend's birthday party and was confirmed dead at Reddington Hospital. Her passing marked the end of an era, but her legacy lives on.

As news of her death spread, tributes poured in from all over. Former President Goodluck Jonathan, musicians like Yemi Alade and 2Baba, and Nollywood stars such as Genevieve Nnaji and Richard Mofe-Damijo all paid homage to her immense influence on their lives and careers. Their heartfelt messages highlight the profound impact she had on Nigeria and beyond.

Onyeka Onwenu's life story is one of triumph over adversity. Her contributions to music, film, politics, and social activism have left an indelible mark, inspiring generations to come.



Meet 2 Nigerian sisters

sourcing and selling iconic, beauty pieces from around the world

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA





Edinyanga Okopide and Ito Okopide are two Nigerian sisters who source iconic and beauty pieces from around the world and sell them in Nigeria. Edinyanga manages the souvenir section in the store, while Ito, her sister, manages the hair section. Having worked in the travel industry for some time, Edinyanga realised that many Nigerians travel to different countries without interacting with the culture of the place. This made her set up a travel brand centred on getting Nigerians immersed with the culture of the place that they travelled to. An offshoot of that was how she and her sister founded Eami's Place, Souvenir store with several iconic pieces, giving Nigerians the experiences they would have felt if they travelled to the countries where the pieces are sold. In this interview with IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA, both sisters speak on the journey to founding the Eami's Place and their passion for sourcing pieces around the world.

Take us through your journey of sourcing iconic pieces which led you to opening a souvenir store?

I have always been in the travel industry. That is where I started off my career. I first founded a brand that was centred on cultural travel because I realise that a lot of times when Nigerians travel and they go to different countries, they don't interact with the culture of the place. They just want to go outside and shop. They go to the big malls and come back with designer pieces but there is no interaction with the culture of the place and even the food. You'll see Nigerians travelling with Egusi. I first founded a travel brand that was centered on getting Nigerians immersed with the culture of the place that they travelled to. An offshoot of that was how we founded the Souvenir store. It was still under the travel brand. It was a souvenir online store which was selling pieces from around the world. So I do travel and I have travel groups and when I travel with the groups, it will be easy to stock the store as well. A lot of our partners do come in from these countries and we do business with them. So, it was also easy for them to also bring down the pieces for us to stock in the souvenir store. Occasionally, we will go out for fairs and still get those pieces. And there was a good reception for those pieces and people that could not afford travel. Some may not have been to a country but like a piece or more from that country.

In the store, you sell the souvenirs while your sister focuses on hair. Is there a relationship between these beauty products and the souvenirs?

Beauty goes very well with lifestyle because even the souvenir pieces are also part of lifestyle and hair and beauty products are also sourced from outside the country, so those pieces are brought in from different parts of these countries. Most of the hairpieces are from Asia. So, it is the same feeling that you are getting something also that is from a different country whether it is hair, bag or fabric or anything that we source from these countries is also part of the souvenirs. So you have people say 'My hair is Brazilian,' 'My hair is Indian,' 'My hair is Vietnam', etc. You will always hear those countries attached to the hair and where they are coming from. The hair is from different countries in Asia.

Why the focus on Asian countries for human hair? They have really raw donor hair and their hair is really what works well especially with the humidity in Africa and Nigeria. The hair works well with the humidity here. So, they are able to donate their hair. They have a lot of hair and it is easy for them to cut off and package as well. The manpower and resources are there for them to put these hair in bundles and it just comes out easier for everybody as well. They are



also very sustainable. The practices for getting and sourcing for the hairs are very ethical. We work with countries in Asia where they have ethical practice for getting the hairs and sending them to us.

Would you say that what you are doing is saving Nigeria some foreign exchange?

If you look at the cost of a return air ticket to a country like South Africa; it is over N2 million and you have these pieces coming from these countries. You can still have a piece of these countries even without going there. We hope that people travel; I love to travel but before you can get to these countries with the forex and exchange rate, you can still have a piece.

Are you also considering stocking Nigerian local iconic products as well?

Yes, we are looking at this as well. We know we do have a problem with manpower and the time it takes for them to produce these items. Most of these items are handmade. In Nigeria, I love pieces from the north. The leather from the north is also really good but I don't know how to get to the north right now. There is still that sense of insecurity. But yes, in the near future, we will definitely stock pieces from Nigeria.

Interview with Ito Okopide

Briefly can you tell us about Eami's Place ?

We are celebrating the launch and opening of Eami's Place. Eami's Place is a souvenir store that stocks iconic pieces from around the world including Africa, Asia, Europe amongst others. We have been online before the launch of this physical store. Eami's Place is divided into the beauty and the souvenir sections. The current foreign exchange scarcity is affecting everyone just as it is affecting us but the good thing about us is that we travel to these places. My sister and I are passionate about travel and my sister also had a travel company. When we travel, we get these pieces and we bring them back. These pieces are very limited. There are few handpicked pieces that are very unique that we stock.

Why did you choose to get a physical store?

We needed a place where people can come in and feel and see physically what the pieces look like. Maybe touch them and experience the space first-hand.

Are your products for specific people and how affordable are the products?

Our target is everybody that loves unique items. We have items that cut across all audiences, depending on what



you like. We have gift boxes, we have wines from South Africa, vintage wines from 2017 and 2018 that make up our gift boxes. We have Arabic and European pieces and we have items from Asia as well.

What were they doing before this business?
Before this, I was doing a 9am to 5pm work in the Finance sector and simultaneously writing for travel. I studied English in university.

Why the passion for hair?

Hair is beauty and I have always loved ladies that look beautiful and my mum is somebody that always pushed me to look beautiful, feel beautiful and be beautiful and I believe that a woman's hair is the first point of call in her beauty.

What differentiates you from other hair selling brands?
Our unique wigs which are expertly styled by our stylists. So, we sit down and create designs that suit women. We have different wig styles that are unconventional.

How has the patronage been since you started?

We have people that have shown interest from the digital promotions we have been running. This is our first time launching the hair and beauty section and we are hoping it is going to go well. It has been a gradual process and we have some people who patronise us online.

As a result of the economic downturn, some people may be less willing to spend on luxury items. So would you say this is going to be a problem?

We are making sales already. So, I wouldn't say it is luxury. When people come in and they see something that they missed in a country they went to and they couldn't get or they wished they could have it and they really need it. Another is that people who are collectors would definitely be interested.

Protests: What Nigerians are asking for

CHIOMA ONUH



The protests sweeping across the country from August 1st are rooted in deep-seated frustrations with the government.

The movement, characterised by slogans such as "End Bad Governance", "Hunger in the land" "Tinubu Must Go," and many others, highlights several pressing issues.

According to media posts, protesters are rallying for electoral and anti-corruption reforms, and reduced electricity and fuel tariffs.

These demands reflect broader grievances over economic policies and perceived government inefficiencies.

Key demands gathered from displayed placards are grouped thus: Economic Relief: Protesters are calling for a reversal of recent economic policies, such as the removal of fuel subsidies, which have significantly increased fuel prices. They also demand the reduction of electricity tariffs, which have risen sharply, exacerbating the financial strain on households.

Educational Reforms: There is a strong push to revert tertiary education fees to their previous, more affordable levels. The rising cost of education is a major concern, particularly for young Nigerians who see it as a barrier to their future prospects.



Transparency and Accountability: Another critical demand is the public disclosure and reduction of the salaries and allowances of senators and members of the House of Representatives. Protesters argue that the high compensation of lawmakers is unjustified, especially in the face of widespread poverty and unemployment.

Anti-Corruption Measures: The call for reforms extends to anti-corruption bodies like the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission

(EFCC), with demands for more effective measures to combat financial crimes and ensure accountability.

General Hardship: The protests are also fueled by the overall economic hardship facing many Nigerians. Inflation has driven up the cost of living, making basic necessities increasingly unaffordable for the average citizen.



The Nigerian government, anticipating the protests, has increased security measures. Police and other security forces are on high alert, with plans to mobilize personnel and deploy undercover agents for intelligence gathering. There are also reports of counter-protests by pro-government groups, which could potentially lead to clashes and further unrest.

Social media has played a pivotal role in organizing and spreading the word about the protests. Influential figures like Omoyele Sowore, a former presidential candidate, have used platforms like Twitter to mobilize support. His posts highlight a broader sentiment among Nigerians that significant change is necessary.

Flyers and posts with hashtags like #RevolutionNow and #EndBadGovernmentInNigeria2024 are circulating widely, reflecting a collective call for systemic reforms.

From what was gathered, the current protests are an expression of the widespread dissatisfaction with the current state of governance and economic management.

The requests for anti-corruption, educational, transparency, and economic alleviation highlight a desire for significant changes to raise the standard of living for all Nigerians.

Financial literacy: Vaughan bequeaths Abeokuta Grammar School with over 200 books

CHARLES OGWO



Bola Vaughan, an old student of Abeokuta Grammar School, who is a practicing chartered stockbroker, has donated over 200 books to her alma mater to encourage financial literacy among the teachers and students.

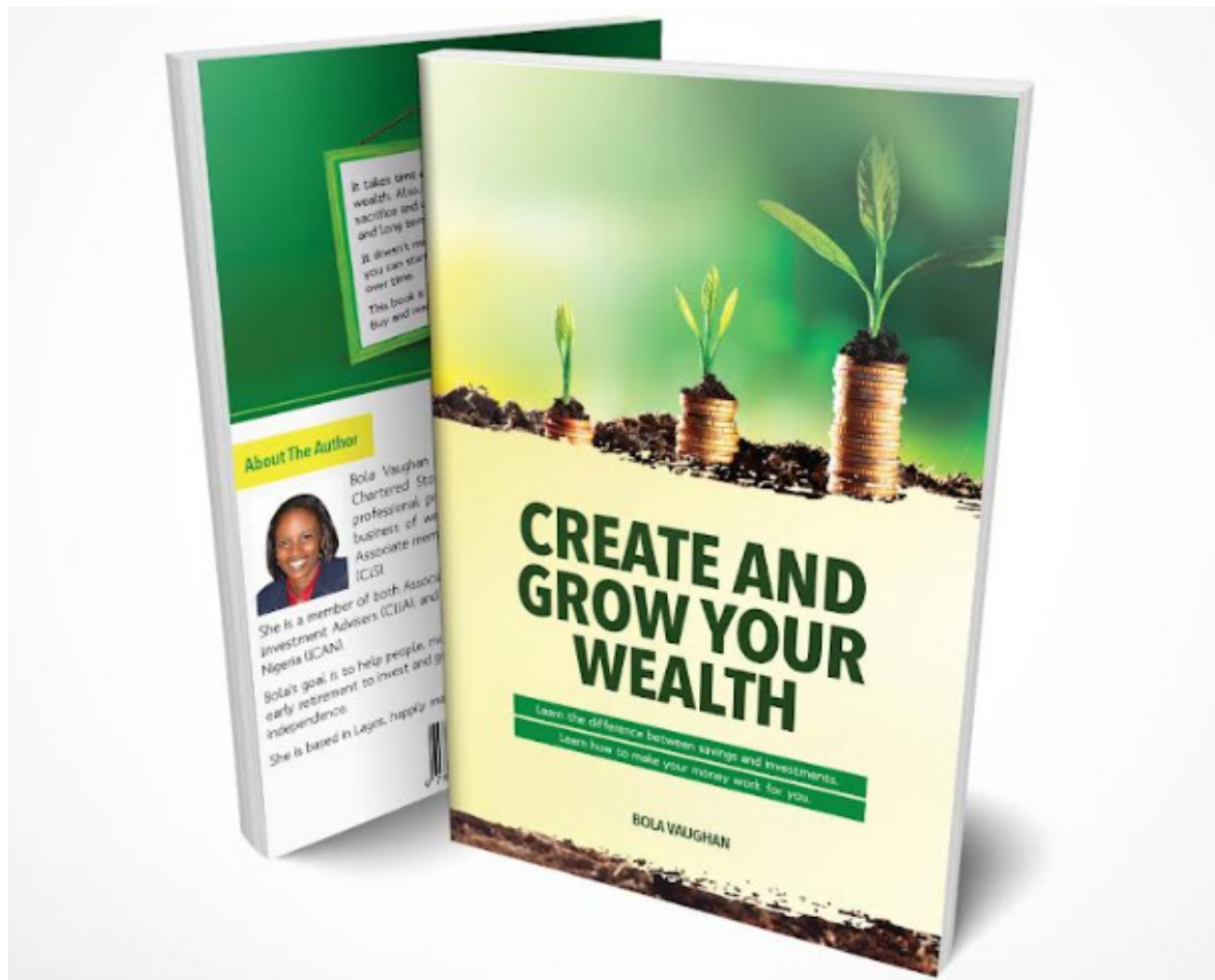
She donated the books during the Abeokuta Grammar School's 116th anniversary which brought together old students of the institution and other prominent leaders in the state.

Vaughan, who is a member of the AGSOBA 9197 Club, one of the four champion clubs that won the special awards said that she donated the books as a way of giving back to the community that shaped her career.

"I donated my book, 'Create and Grow Your Wealth' as my little way of giving back to the society that made me who I am today. Besides, I want to encourage financial literacy among the youngsters and the school community.

"The book is very helpful in preparing one on how to plan to create, grow, manage and sustain one's wealth through fixed income instruments and equities traded in the Nigerian capital market by availing oneself of the professional service and mentorship," she said.

The event which took place in one of Nigeria's oldest and foremost secondary schools, saw the author donate her autographed copies to the school and current members of staff through Sunday Oduntan,



the president general of Abeokuta Grammar School Old Boys Association (AGSOBA).

Also in attendance at the well-attended gala night of the 116th anniversary of Founder's Day held recently in the ancient city of Abeokuta, in Ogun State were Olawale Jiboku, the global administrative secretary of AGSOBA, Oludare Morakinyo, the senior school principal, and other old students.

The book, 'Create and grow your Wealth' was distributed to the school library, alumni library, and each teacher and member of staff of the whole school. The capital city of Abeokuta prides itself as the city with foremost schools like Abeokuta Grammar

School which has produced great Nigerian leaders and global icons, such as Wole Soyinka, a renowned professor, and Nobel Laureate, who is also a product of the same Abeokuta Grammar School, Abeokuta fondly called "AbeoGrams".

According to the author, the book is on how to create and grow one's wealth via regulated investments in the capital market.

Vaughan is a licensed dealing clerk and soon-to-be inducted Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Stockbrokers (CIS) this year. She is a graduate of the University of Ibadan (UI), Ibadan.

GRC FinCrime Awards, Summit 2024 to celebrate individuals, organisations' expertise in the sector

FRANCIS ONYEMACHI



The GRC & Financial Crime Prevention Awards has announced its plans for the 2024 awards ceremony and summit, set to recognise and celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations that have demonstrated outstanding expertise and leadership in GRC and financial crime prevention.

As it enters its fourth year, the GRC & Financial Crime Prevention Awards and Summit aims to celebrate and recognize exceptional expertise and leadership

in governance, risk management, compliance, and financial crime prevention.

The event is designed to inspire and educate attendees by providing a platform for sharing innovative strategies and best practices. It will also foster valuable networking opportunities, encouraging the exchange of ideas and collaboration among professionals from various industries.



Additionally, the summit seeks to raise awareness about the critical importance of implementing robust GRC frameworks and effective financial crime prevention measures.

By establishing benchmarks for excellence, the event will motivate others to achieve similar levels of success in these vital areas.

Voting will commence from August 1st to September 24th, 2024, with the event scheduled for November 8th, 2024, at Oriental Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos.

Foluso Amusa, convener and host of the GRC & Financial Crime Prevention Awards and Summit, stated: "We remain committed to recognizing and celebrating exceptional expertise, courage, and achievements in governance, risk management, compliance, and financial crime prevention.

"Our mission continues to champion effective best practices in GRC, alongside robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism measures within organizations in Nigeria.

"I eagerly anticipate celebrating the accomplishments of our winners and finalists and am excited about the ongoing impact of this initiative in promoting a culture of compliance, risk management, and governance excellence across Africa and beyond.

"This year, we will also recognize and celebrate organizations from new sectors, including Oil & Gas, Telecommunications, Public Sector, Health and Care, Legal, and Real Estate. These additions reflect our commitment to a comprehensive and innovative approach to integrated GRC and financial crime prevention."

CEO Olofix Streaming Global, Obio Julius commends Femi Branch for role in “House of Ga’a”

IFEOMA OKEKE-KORIEOCHA



Obio Julius, a media entrepreneur and the CEO of Olofix Streaming Global Limited, who attended the premiere of "House of Ga'a" in Lagos has commended the epic movie.

According to him, “The producer's impeccable casting choices resulted in flawless performances from the entire lineup. The lead

actor, Femi Branch, as Bashorun Ga'a, delivers an unbeatable performance, making one think he is the reincarnation of the historical Ga'a. This is a movie that captivates you to the point where you want to watch it repeatedly”.

On the film's conclusion, he said: “The film's conclusion suggests that none of Ga'a's last



remaining children will wage war on Oyo Ile again. History tells us that Ga'a's first son, Ojo Agubambaru, escaped to Bariba and later returned to claim the throne, only to be betrayed”.

The visionary entrepreneur also showered praises on the director of the film, Bolanle Austen -Peters.

He said:” We thank Bolanle Austen-Peters for giving us this great epic movie to enjoy. May God

give you the strength, resources, and focus to create more masterpieces”.

Set in the ancient 18th century Yoruba history, “House of Ga’a” tells the gripping tale of a power-hungry political figure, Ga’a, who orchestrates a brutal betrayal within the Oyo Empire. This cultural phenomenon, with its captivating storyline and stellar performances, has resonated deeply with audiences globally.

Meet Victor Tubotamuno, brain behind digital innovation helping parents, schools adopt remote learning

CHARLES OGWO





With a firm educational background and a degree in theatre arts from the University of Port Harcourt, Victor Tubotamuno laid the foundation of his career in event management which later metamorphosed into a tech startup. Fuelled by his revolutionary mindset in the tech sector, Tubotamuno established Earlybrite, a digital space to help parents and schools adapt to remote learning and keep students engaged. To further drive his digital revolution in Africa, he authored the book, “Digital Guardians”, meant to create a resource that empowers parents and teachers not just to become tech-savvy but proactive in safeguarding their children’s digital experiences. In this interview, Tubotamuno shares with BusinessDay his journey into the tech space. Excerpts:

How did you transition from theatre arts to technology?

A pivotal moment in my transition to technology occurred when I attended a tech event and met my co-founder for my first tech startup. Continuous learning and guidance from mentors in the digital space further fuelled my revolutionary mindset in the tech sector.

This journey ultimately led me to embrace entrepreneurship, driven by a passion for technology and innovation.

What inspired you to create Earlybrite?

The inspiration to create Earlybrite arose from the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Schools and parents were stranded, struggling to adapt to remote learning and keep students engaged. Seeing this, we decided to step in.

Our goal was to provide a solution that made learning accessible and engaging, ensuring that students could continue their education effectively despite the disruptions.

Hence, we developed Earlybrite, offering innovative and tech-focused educational resources to support schools and parents during these unprecedented times.

How has Earlybrite impacted society?

Earlybrite has significantly impacted society by revolutionising the approach to education, particularly in technology and programming. Since its inception, we have trained over 7,000 students across the continent, providing them with essential skills and knowledge to thrive in the digital age.

Our programmes have empowered young learners, enabling them to excel in their studies and pursue careers in technology, by fostering a love for learning and innovation. The platform has helped bridge the educational gap, offering high-quality, and accessible education to students who might otherwise have been left behind.

This widespread influence has transformed individual lives and contributed to the broader goal of developing a skilled and tech-savvy generation.

Impressive! Can you share any success stories or testimonials related to Earlybrite’s impact?

We’ve received heart-warming feedback from schools participating in our afterschool programmes and from parents involved in our digital parents’ forum.



For instance, Mater Ecclesais College in Epe- Lagos State shared with us that their students who were educated through Earlybrite's afterschool programmes, successfully identified and avoided a phishing email, showcasing their improved online safety skills.

Meanwhile, parents from the digital parents' forum reported significant progress in becoming tech-savvy, through the resources and guidance provided.

You are writing a book, can you tell us about the inspiration behind “Digital Guardians”?

“Digital Guardians” was born out of a deep concern for the safety and well-being of our children in the digital age. As parents and educators, we face the challenge of guiding young minds through a rapidly evolving online landscape. I wanted to create a resource that empowers parents and teachers not just to become tech-savvy but proactive in safeguarding their children's digital experiences.

That's commendable! How does “Digital Guardians” address this challenge?

The book provides practical guidance on digital citizenship. It covers topics like online privacy, cyberbullying, responsible social media use, and digital literacy.

By understanding these concepts, parents and educators can effectively monitor and guide their children's online activities. It's about fostering a healthy digital environment where children can explore, learn, and connect safely.

What impact do you envision for “Digital Guardians”?


The impact is twofold. First, it empowers parents and teachers to bridge the digital knowledge gap. They'll gain confidence in navigating social media platforms, recognising potential risks, and setting appropriate boundaries.

Second, it creates a ripple effect children who grow up with tech-savvy parents and educators will also adopt responsible digital habits. Ultimately, we are shaping a generation of informed, responsible digital citizens.

How do you plan to engage these audiences when the book is launched?

We would integrate with the Earlybrite ecosystem to continue reaching out to more schools and parents.

Additionally, we have a forum at Earlybrite called the Digital Parents Forum, a movement of tech-savvy parents dedicated to fostering digital literacy.



To further evangelise the message when the book is out, we will organise workshops and global book reading tours, ensuring widespread engagement and impact. Through these efforts, we aim to create a community of informed and responsible digital citizens.

What's next for Earlybrite?

Our journey continues with exciting new developments. We're expanding our content library, afterschool programmes, and global exchange initiatives while collaborating with schools and exploring partnerships with other organisations.

We're also broadening our reach to more countries and developing new edtech products to enhance the learning experience for students. Besides, we're building a talent factory to transform and nurture talent across Africa. Moreover, we are actively exploring opportunities to partner with government agencies to scale our initiatives. Collaborating with government bodies can help us reach a broader audience, integrate our programmes into national education systems, and leverage resources to enhance our impact.

Through networking, we aim to implement our digital literacy and education solutions on a larger scale, ensuring that more students, parents, and educators benefit from our programmes.

EXPERTS ADVOCATE CORE SKILLS TO BRIDGE THE EDUCATIONAL SUPPLY GAP IN NIGERIA

CHINWE MICHAEL



Industry experts in the educational sector have said professionals must acquire major core skills to bridge the educational supply gap in Nigeria.

“Leveraging technology is the most required skill to enable educators to carry out learning activities effectively,” Folashade Adefisayo, CEO, Leading Learning Limited said during her keynote speech at the Educational Supply Showcase Conference 2024.

According to her, educators no longer need to invest in physical equipment. Instead, they should embrace the power of technology as Nigeria is gaining global momentum.

During a panel discussion, Dori Chinedu-Okoro, founder and CEO of Evergreen Group, reinforced this perspective, stating that technology is crucial for content delivery.

“Every educator needs technology to power content as tech is the major driver of various contents,” she noted. Chinedu-Okoro also emphasised the importance of partnerships and collaborations in ensuring quality education for learners.

To maintain a competitive landscape for students on a global level, Chinedu-Okoro advised schools to revisit their curricula proactively rather than waiting for governmental updates. She also stressed the inclusion of communication skills in students’ agendas, highlighting the difference between knowledge acquisition and effective communication.

Addressing the human capital deficit and the current stage of Nigeria’s educational system, Emmanuel Tarfa, CEO and co-founder of Kryptr, identified talent shortage as a critical challenge.

“The biggest challenge is not strategy but talents, which poses a crisis in the educational sector. Major educators lack the 3Cs: comprehension, communication, and compassion, necessary to excel in their careers,” Tarfa explained.

Moses Egwuom, managing director of Goldenville Schools, pointed out issues hindering growth within the educational system. He noted that many educators suffer from low self-esteem, impacting their performance.

Egwuom advised parents to involve their children in voluntary services to help them acquire entrepreneurial skills and adapt to learning environments more effectively.

Egwuom also advised educators to focus on foundational skills despite the importance of technology. “Anything that enhances your mindset and intellectual capacity as an educator should be a priority. Dealing with students requires you to be mentally sound. For instance, using artificial intelligence tools and other Microsoft software can enhance your job as an educator,” he said.

For Njideka Nwabueze, group head of the education sector at Sterling Bank emphasised that Sterling takes education to heart, which is why the bank is highly recognised in the educational sector.

“So far, we have partnered with different brands to ensure that we serve not only students but also educators in various ways,” she said.

The conference, sponsored by SKLD Integrated Services and Sterling, was attended by various educational elites and students from far and wide. The event also featured various brands including M&G, Epson Express Centre, Canon, Marcel Hughes Schoolwear, HP, and Valuestek.

Unsatisfactory Dining Experiences:

A Constructive Approach

Dining out should be an enjoyable experience, but unfortunately, not every visit to a restaurant is a pleasant one. I have had my fair share of bad experiences and it happens all over the world and as a restaurant owner, I know that sometimes things go wrong. The issue is it's important to know how to handle these situations in a constructive manner.

Complain Immediately

If you're dissatisfied with your meal or the service you're receiving, speak up right away. Don't wait or be shy, if you complain too late it will look like an after thought. Politely notify your server or the manager about the issue so they have the opportunity to rectify the problem while you're still at the establishment. Many times, the business owners are not aware that you have had a bad experience, as some staff may behave badly even though they have been trained.

Don't Eat What You Don't Want to Pay For

If you've received a dish that doesn't meet your expectations, don't feel obligated to eat it. Always let your server know that you're not satisfied and would like a replacement or a refund. However, it's important to avoid the temptation of eating half the meal and then claiming you didn't enjoy it. This would lead to issues when you require a refund.

Escalate! Escalate! Escalate!

If the server's response is unsatisfactory or they fail to address the issue, don't hesitate to speak with the manager. Approach the situation calmly and explain your concerns, giving the establishment an opportunity to make amends. Many waiters and waitresses do not have the capacity to deal with things when they go wrong. Some are rude and panic when a customer gets angry, it's best to ask for a manager to express your dissatisfaction the moment you observe a server is unresponsive.

Provide Constructive Feedback. After your dining experience, consider leaving a review or feedback for the restaurant. Many establishments welcome honest and thoughtful comments, as it allows them to identify areas for improvement and enhance the overall customer experience. You can share your feedback through the restaurant's social media channels, online review platforms, or their own feedback forms privately. When you fill feedback forms, you help restaurants create positive experiences for you next time you come in.

I must confess that my favorite restaurant is my favorite just because of the way they handle my feedback. I keep going back because I know I will get the best experience and even if there is a mistake they will do their best to correct it.

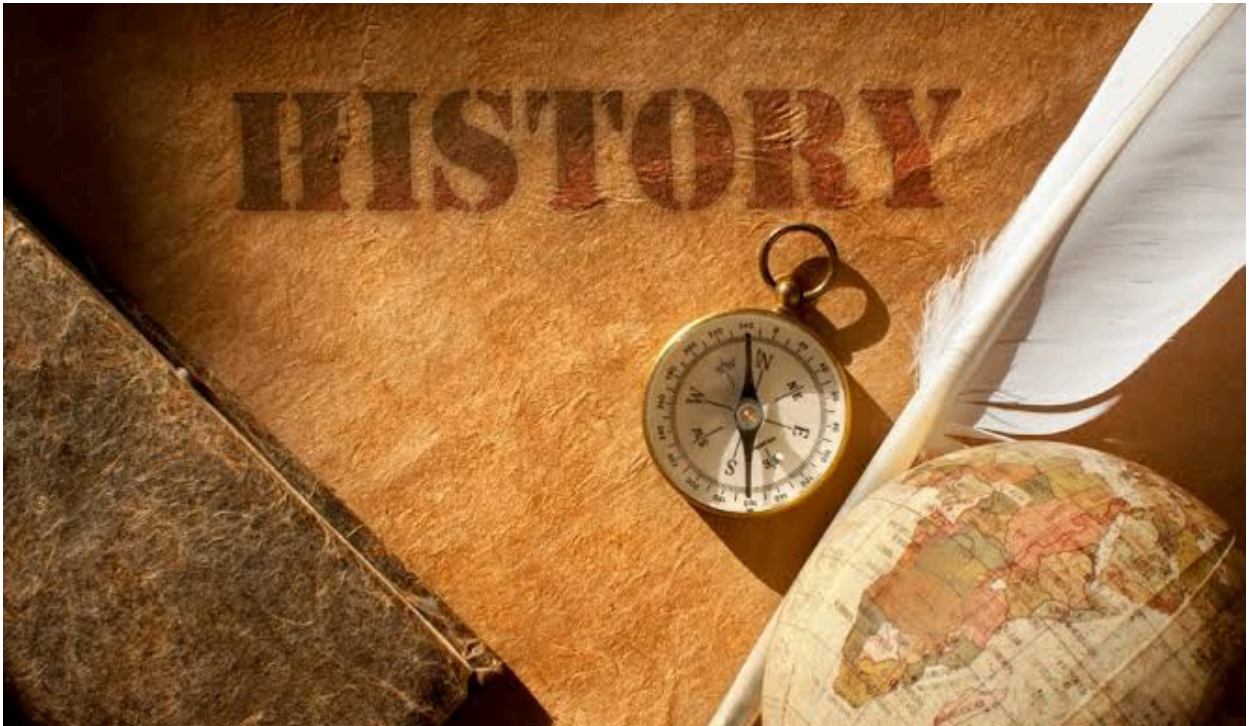
Remember, the goal is to address the issue in a respectful manner, not to seek retribution. By providing constructive feedback, you're not only ensuring your own satisfaction, but also contributing to the betterment of the restaurant and the dining experience for future customers. It's easy to destroy, but difficult to build, so customers can try to reach out to business owners for corrective measures.



Morenike George – Taylor
President, Restaurants,
Cafes, Bars, Clubs Association
Founder, County Support Consulting

7 historical events that defy belief

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



History is filled with peculiar and often overlooked events that defy explanation and challenge our understanding of the past. These weird events offer a glimpse into the strange and often unsettling aspects of human behaviour and societal norms. They also remind us that history is not just a series of dates and facts.

Here are 7 weird historical events that defy belief

The Cadaver Synod – 897

The Cadaver Synod of 897 was a bizarre event in Rome where Pope Stephen VI put the corpse of his predecessor, Pope Formosus, on trial. After Formosus had been dead for seven months, his body was dug up, dressed in papal clothes, and placed in court. Stephen VI accused Formosus of breaking church

rules and having held multiple church positions illegally. At the end of the trial, Formosus was declared guilty, his papacy was annulled, and his body was mistreated.



The Dancing plague – 1518

The Dancing Plague or the Dance Epidemic of 1518, occurred in Strasbourg, Alsace (modern-day France) in the Holy Roman Empire. It began in July 1518 when a woman named Frau Troffea began dancing uncontrollably. Within days, dozens more joined her, and by August, up to 400 people were caught in the frenzy. This relentless dancing led to severe exhaustion, injuries, and reportedly even fatalities from strokes and heart attacks.



Physicians attributed the cause to "hot blood" and recommended more dancing as a cure. Theories about the cause range from stress-induced mass hysteria, as suggested by John Waller, to ergot poisoning and religious explanations. The outbreak began to subside in early September, after the dancers were sent to a mountain shrine to pray for absolution. The true cause of the Dancing Plague remains a mystery.

The Tulip Mania – 17th century

In the early 1600s, the Netherlands experienced one of the first recorded speculative bubbles known as Tulip Mania. At its peak, tulip bulbs were sold for extraordinarily high prices, sometimes costing more than a house. The market eventually crashed in 1637, leading to financial ruin for many investors. This event is often cited as an early example of market speculation gone awry. Today, "tulip mania" is used as a metaphor for any significant economic bubble where asset prices become detached from their true value.



The Great Stink – 1858

During the summer of 1858, the River Thames in London became overwhelmed with sewage, leading to the "Great Stink." The stench was so unbearable that it disrupted the daily lives of Londoners and even the workings of the British government. This crisis prompted the construction of an extensive sewer system designed by Joseph Bazalgette, which significantly improved the city's sanitation.



The Exploding pants epidemic – 1930s

In the 1930s, farmers in New Zealand experienced a strange phenomenon, their pants would spontaneously catch fire. This odd event was traced back to a herbicide called sodium chlorate, which they used to kill ragwort. The chemical residue on their clothing was highly flammable, leading to unexpected and dangerous combustions.





The Great Emu War – 1932

In Australia, a military operation was carried out against a large population of emus causing crop damage in Western Australia. The government deployed soldiers armed with machine guns in what came to be known as the Great Emu War. Despite their efforts, the emus proved surprisingly resilient, and the "war" ended in failure, with the emus largely unaffected.

The Tanganyika laughter epidemic – 1962

The Tanganyika laughter epidemic of 1962 was a mass psychogenic illness that began on January 30, 1962, at a girls' boarding school in Kashasha, near Lake Victoria in Tanganyika (now part of Tanzania). The outbreak started with three students and rapidly spread to 95 out of 159 pupils, with symptoms of uncontrollable laughter lasting from a few hours to 16 days. The epidemic eventually affected about 1,000 people across 14 schools and several villages. Symptoms included laughter, crying,

fainting, and respiratory issues. The phenomenon is thought to have been triggered by stress and anxiety, exacerbated by cultural and social pressures. The outbreak lasted for 18 months and subsided by mid-1963.



4 destinations you Would not be able to visit next year

ESTHER EMOEKPERE



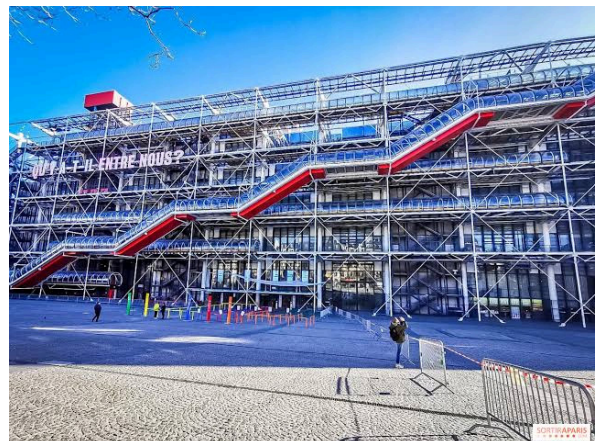
As the calendar slowly flips to 2025, certain tourist destinations will be closing their doors for substantial upgrades and transformations. This trend reflects a growing commitment to preserving cultural heritage, enhancing visitor experiences, and addressing environmental concerns.

Here are 4 destinations that will be closed next year

Center Pompidou, Paris

This museum, well-known for its vast collection of modern art and breathtaking architecture, will temporarily close its doors after the 2024 Paris

Olympics. Though visually stunning even in its sixth decade, the museum needs substantial modernization. The planned closure in 2025 will last for five years, with renovations aimed at modernising the building and enhancing the visitor experience, set to be completed by 2030.



Noma, Copenhagen, Denmark

Noma in Copenhagen, Denmark, founded by chef René Redzepi in 2003, has become an iconic destination for food enthusiasts. Known for its unconventional dishes, such as reindeer penis and duck brain, Noma has repeatedly secured the top spot on the World's 50 Best Restaurants list and earned three Michelin stars in 2021. Widely regarded as one of the most exclusive and sought-after dining experiences, reservations have always been a challenge to secure. However, Noma will close its doors as a restaurant in late 2024. The closure does not mark the end but a transformation, Noma will evolve into "Noma 3.0," a food lab and test kitchen, continuing its legacy of innovation in the culinary world.



El Molinón Stadium, Gijón, Spain

El Molinón Stadium in Gijón, Spain, is renowned as the country's oldest professional football field, rich in historical and cultural heritage. As one of the top attractions in Gijón, it offers visitors a glimpse into the past. However, the stadium is set to undergo extensive renovations in preparation for the 2030 FIFA World Cup, which will increase its seating capacity by 9,000 and modernise its infrastr



Bayeux Tapestry Museum, Normandy, France

The Bayeux Tapestry Museum in Normandy, France, is home to a nearly 70-metre-long and 50-centimetre-high tapestry that narrates the story of the Norman conquest of England in 1066 by William the Conqueror, Duke of Normandy. This museum is a cultural treasure, attracting countless visitors each year and contributing to Normandy's reputation as France's cultural and culinary capital, known for its well-preserved villages, fortification grounds, and other museums. However, the Bayeux Tapestry Museum is scheduled to close for renovations in September 2025 and will remain closed until spring 2027. The renovations aim to modernise and preserve the museum, ensuring that this historic masterpiece can be appreciated for generations to come.



Top 10 countries with the best work-life balance in 2024

CHISOM MICHAEL



As work pressures mount and the boundaries between personal and professional lives blur, work-life balance has become increasingly critical.

A Randstad report reveals that 57% of employees would reject jobs that harm their work-life balance.

Remote's Global Life-Work Balance Index 2024 evaluated the top 60 high-GDP countries, ranking them based on factors like sick leave policies, healthcare facilities, happiness, average working hours, inclusivity, and diversity.

Here are the top countries from the index known for their exemplary work-life balance.

New Zealand: Overall Index Score 80.76

New Zealand leads the Global Life-Work Balance Index 2024, boasting an impressive score of 80.76. The country's strong economy and comprehensive employee benefits contribute to this ranking. Workers enjoy 32 days of annual leave, an 80% sick pay rate, and a universal healthcare system funded by the government. These factors create an environment that prioritizes both productivity and personal well-being.

Ireland: Overall Index Score 77.89

Ireland ranks second with a score of 77.89, reflecting its commitment to employee welfare. The country

offers generous annual leave and robust healthcare services, ensuring that employees can maintain a healthy balance between work and personal life. Additionally, Ireland's inclusive work culture and emphasis on diversity contribute to its high ranking.

Belgium:

Overall Index Score 73.45

Belgium shares the third spot with Denmark, both scoring 73.45. Belgium is known for its well-structured work policies, including ample sick leave and comprehensive healthcare coverage. The country also places a strong emphasis on inclusivity and diversity, fostering a supportive work environment that promotes a healthy work-life balance.

Denmark:

Overall Index Score 73.45

Denmark, tied with Belgium, is celebrated for its employee-friendly policies and high happiness index. With 36 days of annual leave, 100% sick pay, and free healthcare and education, Denmark ensures that workers can enjoy a fulfilling life outside of work. The Danish culture strongly supports personal time, enhancing overall life satisfaction.

Canada:

Overall Index Score 72.75

Canada, with a score of 72.75, excels in providing a balanced work environment. The country's strong healthcare system, generous leave policies, and inclusive work culture contribute to its high ranking. Canadian employees benefit from supportive workplace practices that promote both professional success and personal well-being.

Germany:

Overall Index Score 71.84

Germany ranks sixth with a score of 71.84, known for its efficient work policies and robust social security system. Employees in Germany enjoy ample annual leave, comprehensive healthcare, and a strong focus on work-life balance. The country's emphasis on productivity without compromising personal time makes it a top contender in the index.

Finland:

Overall Index Score 71.55

Finland, scoring 71.55, is renowned for its progressive work policies and high levels of happiness. The country offers generous leave, a robust healthcare system, and a strong emphasis on education and inclusivity. Finnish culture prioritizes personal well-being, ensuring that employees can achieve a healthy balance between work and life.

Australia:

Overall Index Score 71.35

Australia, with a score of 71.35, stands out for its high minimum wage and comprehensive employee benefits. The country provides 100% paid sick leave, a strong public healthcare system, and generous annual leave. These factors, combined with a supportive work environment, make Australia a leader in promoting work-life balance.

Norway:

Overall Index Score 70.85

Norway scores 70.85, known for its high happiness levels and supportive work policies. Employees in Norway enjoy a standard workweek of 37.5 to 40 hours, with overtime compensated fairly. The country also offers 35 days of paid sick leave annually and a government-funded healthcare system, ensuring a healthy work-life balance.

Spain:

Overall Index Score 70.60

Spain, with a score of 70.60, rounds out the top ten. The country is famous for its generous leave policies and a standard 40-hour workweek. Spanish workers benefit from 36 days of annual leave and a strong emphasis on personal well-being. These factors contribute to Spain's high ranking in the Global Life-Work Balance Index 2024.

Nine most adventurous African countries in 2024

CHISOM MICHAEL



According to US News and World Report, here are the nine most adventurous African countries in 2024

Morocco

Morocco, where ancient traditions blend seamlessly with modern influences, tops the list of adventurous destinations. The vast Sahara Desert offers thrilling activities like dune bashing, camel trekking, and starlit camping. The Atlas Mountains challenge hikers and climbers with their rugged terrain and spectacular vistas. Cities like Marrakech and Fez enchant with their bustling souks, historic medinas, and vibrant street life. Morocco's coastal towns, such as Essaouira, provide excellent opportunities for windsurfing and kitesurfing.

Africa, with its diverse cultures, stunning landscapes, and rich history, continues to captivate travellers worldwide. Adventure, appealing to many, offers a chance to escape daily routines, relieve stress, and promote well-being.

Beyond thrill-seeking, it embodies daring, creativity, and forward-thinking, vital for nations aiming to reach their full potential.

Africa's top adventure destinations combine natural beauty, wildlife, cultural richness, and exciting activities, promising unforgettable experiences for hikers, wildlife enthusiasts, and history buffs alike.



Egypt

Egypt, synonymous with ancient civilisation and monumental wonders, is a treasure trove for adventurers. Exploring the Great Pyramids of Giza and cruising the Nile River offer a mix of history and natural beauty. Diving in the Red Sea, particularly in Sharm El-Sheikh and Hurghada, reveals a mesmerizing underwater world teeming with marine life and coral reefs. The Western Desert, with its vast expanses and unique rock formations, is perfect for desert safaris and exploring remote oases.



South Africa

South Africa's diverse landscapes and rich wildlife make it a premier adventure destination. Kruger National Park and other game reserves offer unforgettable safari experiences, where visitors can spot the Big Five. The country's coastline provides world-class surfing, particularly at Jeffreys Bay, and thrilling shark cage diving in Gansbaai. The Drakensberg Mountains attract hikers and climbers with their dramatic peaks and lush valleys. Cape Town's Table Mountain and the Garden Route add to the country's adventurous appeal.



Tunisia

With its blend of Mediterranean charm and Saharan allure, Tunisia offers various adventurous activities. The ancient ruins of Carthage and the medina of Tunis immerse visitors in the country's rich history. The Sahara Desert invites exploration, with options like sandboarding, quad biking, and camel trekking. Coastal towns such as Sousse and Hammamet provide excellent water sports opportunities, including scuba diving, windsurfing, and sailing.



Kenya

Kenya, the heart of African safari adventures, is renowned for its stunning landscapes and wildlife. The Maasai Mara National Reserve, known for the Great Migration, offers some of the best wildlife viewing in the world. Mount Kenya presents a formidable challenge for climbers, while the Great Rift Valley attracts hikers and bird watchers. Coastal areas like Diani Beach offer fantastic snorkelling, diving, and kite surfing. Kenya's diverse ecosystems and cultural richness make it a must-visit for any adventure enthusiast.



Cameroon

Cameroon, often called "Africa in Miniature," boasts many geographical features and cultures. The country's national parks, such as Waza and Korup, are havens for wildlife enthusiasts. Mount Cameroon, an active volcano, is a popular trekking destination offering spectacular views. The coastal region around Limbe offers opportunities for diving and exploring volcanic beaches. The diverse cultures and landscapes make Cameroon a hidden gem for adventurers.



Ghana

Ghana, known for its welcoming people and rich history, offers a variety of adventurous activities. Kakum National Park, with its canopy walkway, provides a unique perspective of the rainforest. The country's coastline, particularly around Cape Coast and Elmina, is dotted with historic forts and castles. Volta Region's mountains and waterfalls attract hikers and nature lovers. Ghana's vibrant culture, music, and festivals add an extra layer of excitement to any adventure.



Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe, home to one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, Victoria Falls, is an adventurer's paradise. The falls themselves offer thrilling activities such as white-water rafting, bungee jumping, and helicopter tours. Hwange and Mana Pools National Parks provide exceptional safari experiences. Lake Kariba, one of the world's largest man-made lakes, is perfect for fishing, boating, and wildlife viewing. Zimbabwe's varied landscapes and rich wildlife make it an exciting destination.



Algeria

Algeria, with its vast Sahara Desert and ancient Roman ruins, offers a unique blend of adventure and history. The Tassili n'Ajjer National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is famous for its prehistoric rock art and dramatic sandstone formations. The coastal city of Oran and the capital, Algiers, provide cultural and historical exploration opportunities. Adventurers can explore the Hoggar Mountains and the oasis town of Tamanrasset, experiencing the true essence of the desert.





Village or Hotel? Athletes divided over Paris 2024 Olympics accommodations

ANTHONY NLEBEM

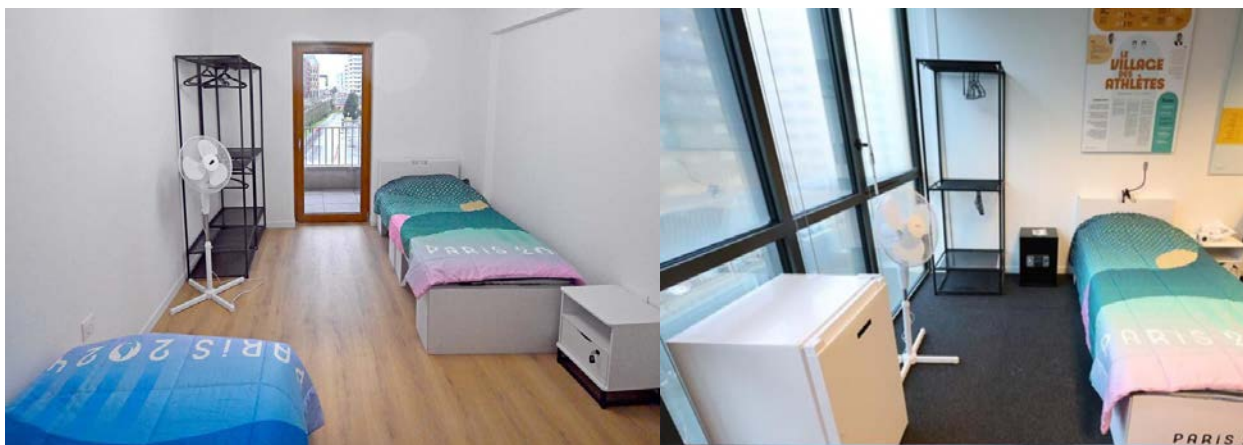
The debate over where to stay during the Paris 2024 Olympics is dividing athletes. While some embrace the Olympic spirit and opt for the village experience, others prioritize comfort and choose luxury hotels. The cardboard beds provided for athletes at the Paris Olympics have sparked a wave of creativity and ingenuity.

Tennis stars Rafael Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz are among those who have opted for the village, despite its less-than-glamorous accommodations. On the other hand, fellow tennis player Emma Navarro found the conditions too uncomfortable and sought refuge in a hotel.

The cardboard beds, designed for sustainability, have been a particular point of contention. Athletes like Tilly Kearns have used mattress toppers and extra pillows to improve their sleep quality.

"To live the full experience, you need to be in the village," Rafael Nadal told reporters on Monday after a straight-sets loss to long-time rival Novak Djokovic in men's singles. "We are used to staying in hotels or houses with more comfortable amenities than those in the village," he added.

"Playing Olympic Games without being in the village is like playing another event," said Nadal, who has



earned almost €130 million in career prize money and bolstered his wealth further through lucrative endorsements.

"It's only once every four years, and for me, it doesn't make sense to stay in a hotel; we stay in a hotel every single week," said Nadal. The 22-time Grand Slam champion and teammate Carlos Alcaraz, a three-time major winner and a village resident, is representing Spain in men's doubles.

The US basketball teams, known for their opulent lifestyle, have chosen to stay in five-star hotels, following a tradition established by the iconic 1992 Dream Team. As the Olympics progress, the debate over village life versus hotel luxury is likely to continue, with athletes weighing the pros and cons of each option.

Reigning US Open champion Coco Gauff, competing for the US in women's singles, doubles, and mixed doubles, said on Sunday that she decided to remain in the village despite an exodus by some teammates.

"I was going to move with some tennis athletes to our hotel, but I kept meeting all these amazing athletes staying in the village," said the 20-year-old, who has amassed €13 million in prize money so far, with additional earnings through sponsorships. "Rafa's staying in the village, so I was like, if he can do it, then I can do it."

"I stayed in there for three nights, I think, but I didn't sleep basically at all," Emma Navarro, Gauff's teammate, told People, referring to the Olympic Village. "I slept six hours, so I had to move out and go to the hotel."



Some athletes are leaving the Games Village in search of comfort. The Games Village for the Paris Olympics has been built in an area as big as 70 football pitches and can house 14,000 athletes and officials. While the majority of them are at the Village, a few athletes are shifting to their own arrangements for comfort, better logistics, and scheduling.

Tennis star Coco Gauff and water polo player Tilly Kearns are among those who have taken matters into their own hands to improve their sleeping conditions. Gauff secured a mattress topper from the archery team, while Kearns added a second pillow to her bed.

Despite the efforts to enhance comfort, the cardboard beds have proven to be a challenge for many athletes. The unconventional accommodations have led some to seek alternative sleeping arrangements, with several high-profile athletes opting to stay in luxury hotels instead of the Olympic Village.

Durant, a three-time gold medallist, told USA Today that he didn't get a say in the matter, as his nation's basketball team hasn't stayed in the village since 1992 when it was comprised of Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, and others. "I don't think we had a choice," Durant told the newspaper. "I haven't gotten into any [cardboard] beds since I've been doing this whole thing."

For those looking to decamp to one of Paris' finest establishments: Royal Monceau, which has counted Lady Gaga and Celine Dion as guests in the past week, has rooms this week for around €2,500, while Le Meurice has rooms for about €2,200.

While the Olympic Village is intended to foster a sense of camaraderie and shared experience, the reality of demanding athletic schedules and individual preferences has led to a diverse range of accommodations for the world's top athletes.



Meet Mary Hanna, the oldest Athlete at the Paris 2024 Olympics

ANTHONY NLEBEM

Australian equestrian Mary Hanna continues to defy expectations, making her historic seventh Olympic appearance at the age of 69 years, to become the oldest athlete to compete at the Games. Born in 1954, Mary Hanna's dedication to dressage has spanned decades, showcasing her perseverance and unwavering commitment to the sport, inspiring athletes of all ages.

A Historic Milestone

Paris 2024 marks a significant milestone for Hanna, making her one of the most experienced athletes in Olympic history. While the oldest competitor title belongs to Swedish shooter Oscar Swahn (72 years

at the 1920 Olympic Games), there's no upper age limit in the Olympics, allowing Hanna to showcase her talent on the world stage.

Early Life and Education

Hanna attended Macarthur State School in Victoria and later Presbyterian Ladies' College for high school. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and is married to Rob Hanna, Equestrian Australia's chef.

Dressage Career

Hanna is an equestrian dressage competitor who has been coached by Kyra Kyrklund and Clemens Dierks. Currently, she trains under Patrik Kittel, with her primary base in Gisborne, Victoria, Australia.



Olympic Journey

Her Olympic journey began at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games with her horse Mosaic, where she finished twenty-fourth in the individual event. She continued to compete in Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 with Limbo, London 2012 with Sancette, Rio 2016 with Boogie Woogie, and Tokyo 2020. Notably, she was the oldest Australian equestrian competitor at the 2012 Olympic Games.

Team Achievements

While individual podium finishes have not come her way, she's achieved a team sixth-place ranking in 2000 and a ninth-place team finish in 2012. In 2016, at 61, she became Australia's oldest Olympian, surpassing fellow equestrian Bill Roycroft.

Continued Excellence

Beyond the Olympics, Hanna's competition record is impressive. She finished third at the 2011 CDI3 Grand Prix in Biarritz, France, and has consistently placed in the top rankings at various Grand Prix events across Europe. She qualified for the 2014 FEI World Cup Dressage Final in Lyon, France, finishing 15th, also competed at the 2014 World Equestrian Games in Normandy, where she finished 10th in team dressage and 29th in individual dressage.

Recent Competitions

In 2016, Hanna qualified once again for the World Cup finals in Gothenburg, Sweden, finishing 15th. Later that



year, she competed in the Rio Olympics, placing ninth in the team and thirty-ninth in the individual dressage competitions. At 61, she became the oldest Australian athlete ever to compete at the Olympics, surpassing fellow equestrian and multiple medallist Bill Roycroft.

Legacy and Inspiration

Hanna's legacy in equestrian dressage is one of resilience, passion, and exceptional talent. As she continues to compete at the highest level, she remains an inspiration to athletes of all ages worldwide. Stay tuned to see if Hanna adds another chapter to her already legendary career at the Paris Olympics!



The Olympic rings: Origin and meaning

ESTHER EMOEKPERE

The Olympic Games are a global celebration of athletic excellence, unity, and sportsmanship. Central to this grand event is one of the most recognisable symbols in the world: the Olympic rings. These five interlocking rings, each of a different colour, represent the unity and diversity of the Olympic Movement.

The Olympic rings were created by Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games. In 1913, de Coubertin introduced the rings as the emblem for the Olympic Movement. His inspiration for the design stemmed from the ancient Olympic Games, which emphasised unity and the spirit of competition.

The Olympic rings consist of five interlocking rings coloured blue, yellow, black, green, and red on a white background. Each ring is distinct yet interconnected, symbolising the unity and friendship among the world's continents and athletes. De Coubertin chose these colours because, together with the white background, they incorporate the colours of all the national flags existing in the world at that time, highlighting the inclusive nature of the Games. Upon its initial introduction, Coubertin stated in the August 1913 edition of *Olympique*:

"... the six colours [including the flag's white background] combined in this way reproduce the colours of every country without exception. The blue and yellow of Sweden, the blue and white of Greece,



the tricolour flags of France, the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, Belgium, Italy and Hungary, and the yellow and red of Spain are included, as are the innovative flags of Brazil and Australia, and those of ancient Japan and modern China. This, truly, is an international emblem."

The five rings represent the five inhabited continents of the world: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. Contrary to common belief, the colours of the rings do not correspond to specific continents. Instead, the entire symbol represents the gathering of athletes from around the world in a spirit of friendly competition.

The Olympic rings have become synonymous with the values of Olympism: excellence, friendship, and respect. They are a ubiquitous feature of the Games,

appearing on flags, medals, posters, and venues, symbolising the unifying power of sport. During the Games, the rings remind us of the shared humanity and the collective pursuit of excellence that define the event.

The Olympic rings are more than just a symbol; they are a testament to the enduring legacy of the Olympic Movement. From their inception by Pierre de Coubertin to their present-day significance, the rings encapsulate the essence of the Games: bringing people together from all corners of the globe in a celebration of athletic prowess, unity, and peace. As the world gathers to witness the Olympics, the rings serve as a poignant reminder of the power of sport to bridge divides and foster a sense of global togetherness.

ART INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN AUGUST 2024

Events • Trends • Investment Opportunities

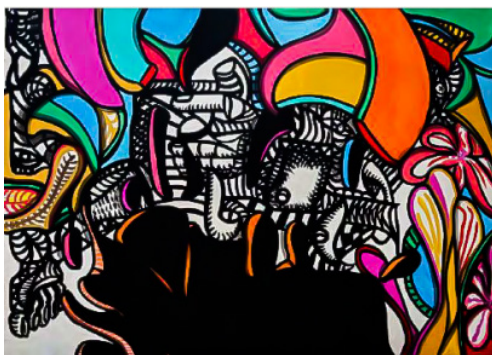


The art world is currently experiencing a dynamic revival, with Africa emerging as a key hub of cultural and financial significance. The African art market's rich heritage, burgeoning talent, and increasing global recognition make it an enticing prospect for discerning investors seeking both unique and potentially lucrative opportunities.

Art is no longer just about beauty; it's a strategic investment that offers diversification, the potential for significant returns, and the satisfaction of owning a piece of history. The African art market stands out for its vibrancy, authenticity, and untapped potential. With an array of art fairs, auctions, and online platforms now spotlighting African art, investors have unparalleled access to a diverse range of works.

In this digest, we highlight key trends, opportunities, and considerations for art investment in Africa this August. Understanding these aspects will position investors to capitalise on the sector's growth.

FROM THE COLLECTION: TOP PICKS OF THE WEEK



Title: Corruption of Eden
Artist: Dipo Doherty
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Dimensions: 72 X 52 in | 183 x 122 cm
Available on Request



Title: In Awe of Creation
Artist: Sam Ebohon
Medium: Oil on canvas
Dimensions: 60 x 30 in | 152 x 76 cm
Available on Request

This digest is brought to you by Patrons MCAA. Think African art, think Patrons. Patrons is Africa's leading art advisory and dealership firm that helps private and corporate art collectors diversify their wealth through art collection, appraisal, packaging & transportation, storage, insurance, maintenance, and restoration. Purchase inquiry? Reach out: art@patronsmcaa.com



Title: Neo Hieroglyphics (Soul Mates) 2
Artist: Emmanuel Dudu
Medium: Oil on canvas
Dimensions: 18 x 16 in | 46 x 41 cm
Available on Request



Title: Untitled
Artist: Fidel N. Oyiogu
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Dimensions: 35 x 45 in | 89 x 114 cm
Available on Request

August 2024 Art Events and Trends

This month of August promises to be an exciting month for art investors who focus on African art. Here are key events and trends that are likely to shape the market.

1. Art Fairs and Auctions

□ Venice Biennale: The 60th edition, organised by Adriano Pedrosa, showcases a record number of African countries—12 in total. Already running, it opened its doors on April 20th and will run until November 24th, 2024. This exhibition highlights the growing presence of African artists on the global stage.

□ Anyi Di Atọ Ibi, Toyin Ojih Odutola: This exhibition features Odutola's latest works, including a debut animation film that adds depth to her exploration of identity and belonging. It opened on June 7th, it will continue until September 1st, 2024, at Kunsthalle Basel.

2. Emerging Artists to Watch

□ Samuel Blankson (Ghana): Known as themanyphacedgod, Blankson's work blends figurative art with social commentary, addressing themes from post-colonialism to socio-economics.

□ Toyin Ojih Odutola (Nigeria): Recognized globally for her large-scale portraits exploring race, class, and identity, Odutola's work has broken through contemporary African art's traditional boundaries.

□ Kudzanai-Violet Hwami (Zimbabwe): Based in London, she is celebrated for her vibrant figurative paintings that reflect on African identity and memory amidst political and social changes.

3. Art Advisory Services

□ Engaging an art advisor can enhance your investment strategy by providing expert insights, portfolio diversification, and acquisition facilitation. Patrons MCAA offers exceptional advisory services tailored to your artistic and investment needs. Explore more at www.patronsmcaa.com.

□ Pssst! Have you checked out our new website? Visit www.patronsmcaa.com. Let us know what you think about our website upgrade!

Identifying Investment Opportunities

1. Contemporary African Art

With significant growth and high demand, investing in contemporary African art can offer substantial returns.

The hack is to focus on artists with strong visions and expanding international reputes.

2. Post Modern African Art

Post modern works by pioneering artists are gaining significant traction and can be lucrative investments.

3. Photography

African photography is an emerging market, capturing the continent's essence with unique cultural perspectives only a lens can entrap.

4. Textiles and Sculpture

Traditional African textiles and sculptures are increasingly valued, reflecting their aesthetic and cultural significance.

August 2024 offers a rich landscape for art investors. The African art market's growing global interest, diverse talent, and cultural depth make it an appealing choice.

Building an art collection is a journey, and long-term appreciation is often the key to maximising returns. Whether you're an experienced collector or new to the art world, now is an opportune time to explore and invest in African art.

Did any piece recommended from our collection today catch your fancy? Let's discuss acquisition opportunities with you: art@patronsmcaa.com.

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.

LET'S TALK ABOUT BRAND ASSOCIATION

FEYISITAN IJIMAKINWA



Brand association refers to the connections consumers make between a brand and certain qualities, feelings, or characteristics. It's like the mental image people have when they think about a particular brand. When you hear the name of a brand, your mind links it to specific things—maybe quality, trust, or a certain lifestyle. These connections can be intentional, like when a brand shows itself as innovative or reliable, or they can develop naturally through customer experiences. Brand association is crucial because it shapes how we see and feel about a brand, influencing our choices when we buy things.

Importance of brand association

Brand association is incredibly important for businesses, influencing how consumers perceive and choose one brand over another. Here are some key reasons why brand association matters:

1. **Getting noticed and standing out:** Brand association helps your brand get noticed. When people can link specific qualities or characteristics with your brand, it becomes easy to recognise. This is especially important in a market where there are many options. Having unique associations makes your brand stand out from the competition.

2. **Building trust and keeping customers:** Positive brand associations build trust. When people consistently connect your brand with good experiences, reliability or quality, they are more likely to trust your products or services. Trust is the key to keeping customers.

3. **Shaping how people see your brand:** Brand association influences how people see your brand. If your brand is linked with innovation, caring for people and the environment or affordability, it affects what people think.

4. **Being ahead of competition:** Strong brand associations give you an advantage. In a market where products or services seem similar, a brand with clear and good associations is more likely to be chosen. People prefer a brand that they link with positive things, even if there are similar options.

5. **Creating emotional bonds:** Brand association is not just about features; it's about emotions. When people emotionally connect with a brand, it becomes more than just a product—it becomes a part of their lifestyle. Emotional connections make people stick with a brand for a long time because they feel a deeper attachment.

Types of brand association

1. **Product attributes:** This is all about what makes the product unique. If you think of a phone brand, for example, it could be about how long the battery lasts or how cool the new features are. Basically, it's linking the brand to the special stuff the product can do or has.
2. **Emotional associations:** Brands want you to feel something when you think about them. Like, when you think of a certain fast-food brand, they might want you to feel happy or excited. So, connecting a brand with certain emotions is a way to make you feel a certain way when you use or talk about that brand.
3. **Cultural symbols:** This is like connecting a brand to things that are important in a particular culture. Let's say a brand uses a symbol that people of a certain culture really love. That connection helps the brand become part of the culture and feel familiar to people there. Life beer uses Igbo cultural symbols and practices to win a good share of the Southeastern Nigeria market.
4. **User imagery:** Imagine a brand showing pictures of people who use their products. It creates an image in your mind about who the typical user of that brand is. It's like saying, "See, people like you use our stuff, so you should too." This association is about the kind of people associated with a brand.
5. **Brand personality:** Brands want you to think of them almost like a person. If a brand is always friendly and helpful in their messages, they're trying to have a personality of being a good friend. On the other hand, some brands want to be seen as sophisticated or stylish. Assigning human-like traits helps people connect with the brand on a personal level.

How are brand associations developed? Building brand associations is like telling a story about a brand.

1. **Getting the Message Out:** Brands use ads, social media and other ways to talk about themselves. These messages focus on what makes the brand special – it could be how reliable a product is, how much fun it is to use, or how it improves your life. These messages lay the groundwork for brand associations.

2. **Real experiences:** Ever had a great time with a product or service? That adds to what you think about the brand. When a brand lives up to its promises, it creates good associations.

3. **What people say:** What others say about a brand matter. Positive reviews and recommendations from friends, family, or online influencers add to brand associations. When people hear good things about a brand, it builds a positive image.

4. **Looks matter:** Logos, colors, and other visual things are important as they get linked to the brand in your mind. Having a consistent and memorable look helps build strong brand associations. Take MTN for example. In spite of different tweaks and changes to its logo, it has retained, and remained synonymous with yellow as brand colour.

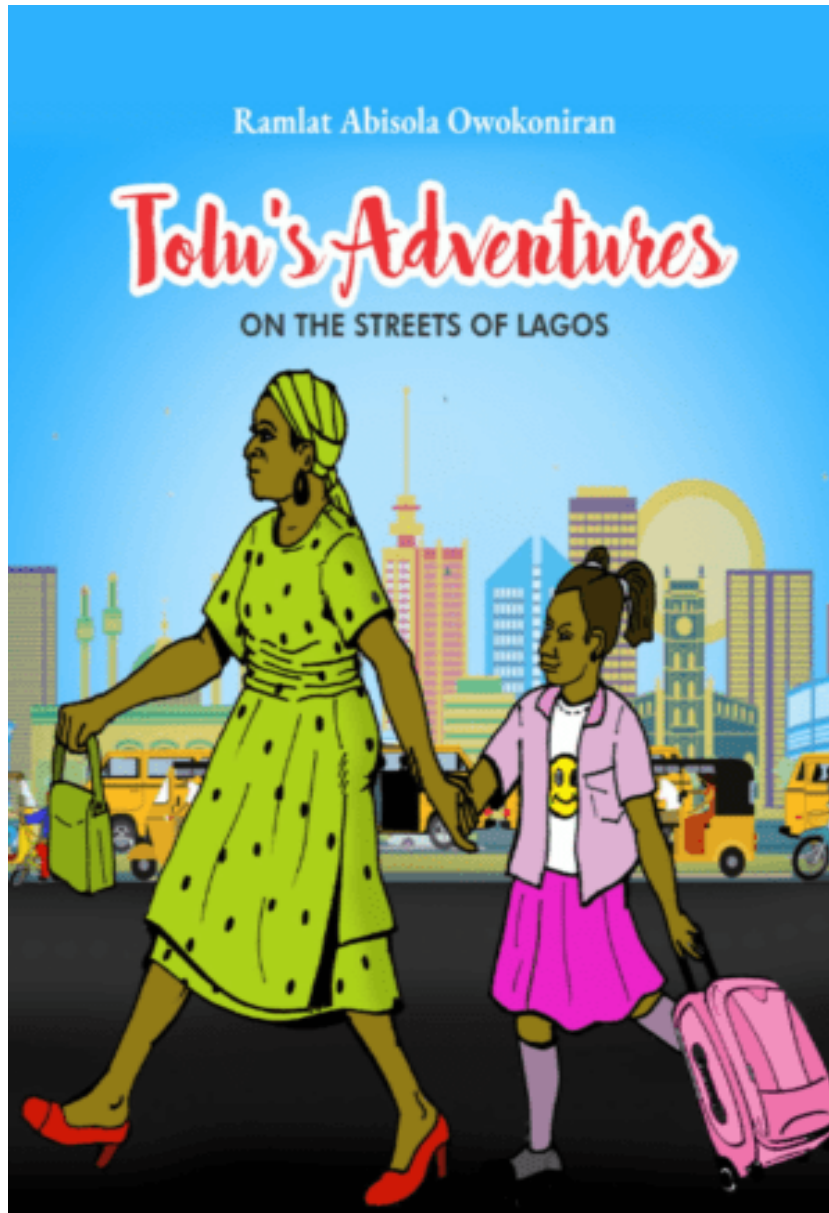
LAST LINE

So, building brand associations happens through the messages a brand sends, the experiences it gives, what people say about it, how it looks, and how it fits into what's happening in culture. It's about telling a story about the brand that people can connect with and remember.



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



Journey Through Lagos-A Review of Ramlat Abisola Owokoniran's Tolu's Adventures on the Streets of Lagos

Title: Tolu's Adventures on the Streets of Lagos
Author: Ramlat Abisola Owokoniran
Year of Publication: 2022
Number of Pages: 62
Category: Children's Book

Tolu's Adventures on the Streets of Lagos

TITILADE OYEMADE

The first thing you notice in Ramlat Abisola Owokoniran's book *Tolu's Adventures on the Streets of Lagos* is the length of the stories. This could either excite a child or serve as a distraction. Nevertheless, few children's books focus on the city of Lagos, making this one a valuable resource for teaching children about the city.

The author guides readers on a journey through the chaos of Lagos, which she aptly calls adventures. If you're patient enough, you'll reach the end alongside her. Unlike most children's books, the 14 stories in this book cannot be read in a single sitting. However, the captivating narratives keep readers engaged throughout, revealing the book's informative nature.

While the chapter titles suggest that each chapter contains a different story, all the stories are centered on the characters introduced in the first chapter. They are interconnected and intertwined, creating a cohesive narrative. The familiar and relatable characters make it easy for young readers to see themselves in the story. The author describes some of the silly mistakes children make, helping readers realize that they are not alone in their errors, as these are common experiences shared by other kids as well.

The stories in this book may seem exaggerated to children not born in Lagos, Nigeria, but those familiar with the environment will smile as they read, recognizing the authenticity and charm of the experiences described. The infusion of Yoruba language in her stories makes this book not only enjoyable but also an excellent tool for enhancing language learning, enriching the narrative and providing readers with an immersive cultural experience.

Readers might start to feel stressed as they accompany the author on this journey, encountering plenty of trouble along the way. As the story unfolds, you may find yourself imagining the challenges faced by the main character and developing a deep sense of empathy for her. As the main character in the book keeps a diary, it might inspire young readers to start their own diaries, documenting their adventures and anything else that interests them. This can encourage creativity and self-expression. The main character is observant and pays close attention to her environment, making her a role model that readers might want to emulate.

Amidst the chaos of Lagos depicted in the stories, the author subtly embeds valuable lessons, rewarding attentive readers. Additionally, the presence of stories within stories in some chapters will delight those who have a deep love for storytelling. Some of the stories are hilarious, while others are sad, and some leave a lasting message in the hearts of the readers. The writing is not that simple to read, but it offers kids a chance to learn new words and expand their vocabulary. After reading one of the author's long stories, readers might take a long break before moving on to the next due to the story's length.

For future work, the author could enhance the experience with more illustrations, as the current balance leans heavily toward text, which might bore some young readers. Using larger fonts and considering a series format, where each chapter could be expanded into its own book, could also make the stories more engaging and accessible for children.

Tolu's Adventures on the Streets of Lagos is suitable not only for children but also for young adults, offering a captivating and educational glimpse into life in Lagos.

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

REST IN PEACE (2024)

I Just couldn't understand why he returned, for me he should have just remained under cover, but no he wanted to resurface, that didn't go well with me, but I guess my opinion doesn't matter. So Sergio Daan was married to his pretty wife they had 2 kids a girl and boy, they threw a lavished birthday party for their daughter, everyone was in attendance, they eat, drank and had a good time, little did his family members know that he was going bankrupt. His business was crumbling and he was struggling to raise his head above water, Sergio had till Monday to pay the debt which he owed and was in millions, but on his way to see his business partner who he owed loads of money, a tragedy occurred that changed his life trajectory forever. Well, you will need to check the movie to see if the tragedy was in his favour or not. The 90min thriller, drama movie was directed by Sebastian Borensztein, they featured actors like Lali Gonzalez, Joaquin Furriel, Griselda Sicilliani, Gabriel Goity, Luciano Borges, Liz Burnette, Ernesto Rowe etc.



NON NEGOTIABLE (2024)

Alan Binder was the best hostage negotiator in his country "Mexico", he was good at what he does, and he was always successful in all his cases. One faithful day some bad guys kidnapped the president and held him hostage, the bad guys specifically asked for Alan, and he made it clear that he would only speak to Alan, the situation get dicey and complicated when he finds out that his wife was also kidnapped in the same apartment, the major question was how on earth did his wife get to the scene at the same time and on the same day. The situation became personal and emotional for him, as he became determined and desperate to do anything in ensuring that his wife and the president got out alive, do check out the movie to see if all the hostages made it out alive, I could wait for the total revelation at the end. The 87m action, comedy, thriller was directed by Juan Taratuto, they featured actors like Tato Alexander, Mauricio Ochmann, Fernande Borchess, Leonardo Ortizgris, Claudetter Maille, Geraldine Zinat.



LATE NIGHT (2019)

Molly Patel was a young, happy, vibrant young lady who worked in a chemical factory, until she applied for a fantastic job that will allow her work with her Emma Katherine, who she had always had a crush on for ages since she was little, molly was a lovable and adorable lady, she wanted to blend in easily and make her all male team members love her, but that was a ridiculous task to embark on. When Molly joined she wanted to make her team members see her as an asset, but they all mocked her and looked down on her. The honest truth was that her articles were very creative, innovative, new but provocative, and the team didn't want to change the norm, as they preferred to remain in their old comfort zone, despite the Tv show rating dropping weekly. You would need to check out the entire movie to witness how she pleaded in, if she lasted on the job and how she managed her new perfect boss. The comedy, drama movie was directed by Nisha Ganatra, they featured actors like Emma Thompson, Mindy Kaling, Luke Slawttry, Amy Ryan, Seth Meyers, Bill Maher, Paul Walter Hauser and many more.



Linda Ochugbua

WEEKEND QUOTES



1

Going means creating a room for something. Going is not always bad. However, It could be tough.....WhispersbyTEN

3

Walking in the rain doesn't wet your brain. It's reading that wets your brain

.... WhispersbyTEN

2

By the way, it just got better; Don't announce negativity anymore

...WhispersbyTEN

4

Everyday, life becomes obvious that we run on privileges no matter our effort

.... WhispersbyTEN