

# IN THIS ISSUE OF POSITION AWR 3

WHAT HAVE WE THIS MONTH?

Some of the main features:



## THE BIG LITERATURE FIGHTS OF THE 1980'S.

The decade of the 80's was replete with pivotal contests of literary ideas and ideals, waged not only within the confines of Universities and Colleges but extended their sparring grounds to the public domain through the newspapers. The beauty of most of these was that friends famously

rattled the sabre against their own friends. They also featured teeth-greeted rivals, all for which Nigeria's literary culture and history remain greatly enriched. A succession of reviews cover some of these famous battles.

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## **ANANSE'S WELLSPRING OF STORIES.**

Ghana's generations of artists continue to take oxygen from Nkrumah's primordial vision for the post-colonial African state, particularly in the realm of culture, through the performing and fine arts, and literature. From the distinctive and stirring stories of the early independence years to fecund poetry, novels and dramatic enactments that endure to this day in spite of undulating fortunes in the national economy. Our reviewer reports delightfully how new writing currently flows through innovative new media into open rivers dredged by an ever-expanding Ghanaian diaspora.



## **A THEATRE FOR EVERYONE IN OUAGADOUGOU.**

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso plays host to an annual festival of the theatre fashioned as a veritable theatre of the people. Sited in the city heartland and open to the street without a box office, townspeople, urchins and strays are all welcome as patrons and critics offering on-the-spot feedback. Recurrent themes in 2023 include domestic conflict, women's rights and the scourge of religious terror in the country's northern frontier.



## **ART AND PERFORMANCE IN GRAHAMSTOWN.**

Very rarely does one platform serve as a melting for all the various arms of creativity as South Africa's National Arts Festival. Grahamstown Festival was born in the midst of the nation's worst social and political upheaval and in a region famous as one of the critical hotspots. Today it continues as a national and regional monument celebrating peace and racial harmony. A ground where the rallying ideologies are artistic freedom and mutual understanding.

## **GELEDE COMES TO TOWN.**

Gelede, a primordial Yoruba helmet mask, which revered womanhood for contributing to social cohesion and sustenance recently staged a comeback in broad daylight. She danced her way through a Lagos mainland district to her new domain within a College exhibition hall. The curator of the exhibition Odun Orimolade thinks Gelede provides an opportunity to introspect and reconsider some of the signs of history.



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