

PRESS RELEASE**25 October 2023****Performance / Video****7–10 und 14–17 December 2023****Humboldt Forum, Hall 2****BIKUTSI 3000. Africa's future is female**

With BIKUTSI 3000, the Cameroonian artist Blick Bassy presents a multi-media event between dance, music, show, video and decolonial narrative. Beginning with the division of the African continent by the colonial powers in 1884/85, the performance expands the story into the year 2050 and celebrates dance as an act of resistance.

Based on the tradition of Bikutsi, a traditional Cameroonian music and dance form, Blick Bassy creates an energetic and dense show – a feminist manifesto in which women are the driving force of social and global change. BIKUTSI 3000 is a powerful reflection on one's own identity, patriarchal power structures and productive ways to free oneself from perpetuating colonial structures.

The Cameroonian musician, writer and director originally staged BIKUTSI 3000 for the Musée Quai Branly in Paris, but his vision goes far beyond that. He wants to create an army of dancers that will carry the Bikutsi into the world. The Humboldt Forum is showing both a guest performance version of the piece with dancers from Cameroon (7 – 10 Dec.) as well as a new version that is being developed together with Afro-Diasporic dancers from Berlin (14 – 17 Dec.). The show has already been performed in Yaoundé, Douala, Perth and Cologne and is scheduled for further performances in Tanzania and Togo in 2024. With each new version, not only do new references, narratives and choreographic material flow into the evening, but an international network is also created that connects African and Afro-Diasporic dancers and their choreographic scenes with each other.

Blick Bassy has been dealing with the (pre-)colonial history of the African continent and its resistance movements in his music and books for years and was appointed co-director of the Remembrance Commission for the reappraisal of the French colonial period in Cameroon by French President Macron in spring 2023.

Events

7– 10 December 2023 (with dancers from Cameroon)

14– 17 Dezember 2023 (with dancers from Berlin)

7 p.m., Humboldt Forum (Hall 2)

Tickets: 12 Euro / reduced 6 Euro

Duration: ca. 65 min,

Language in the video: French with english and german subtitles

Tickets: humboldtforum.org

Blick Bassy is one of Cameroon's most innovative artists and was already a guest at the Humboldt Forum in 2021 as part of the DURCHLÜFTEN Festival. Even then, the idea of a collaboration arose. He writes and sings in his mother tongue Bassa and often draws his inspiration from childhood memories, which he processes in his music, dance, lyrics, performances and films. After very successful years with the Cameroonian band Macase, he launched his solo career as a musician in 2019. His album and book 1958 is a tribute to the Cameroonian independence fighter Ruben Um Nyobé, who was shot by French colonial troops that year. In 2016, he wrote his first novel, *Le Moabi Cinéma*, published by Gallimard and awarded the Grand Prix, which celebrates francophone authors from the continent. In spring 2023, he was appointed co-director of the Memory Commission for the reappraisal of the French colonial period in Cameroon by the French President Macron.

Youtube - BIKUTSI 3000: <https://youtu.be/gncpiNV5sIQ?si=II01SFBgkzCKCcta>

Website: <https://blickbassy.com/>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/blickbassy/

Cast

Artistic Director: Blick Bassy

Dancer/Choreographer Cameroon Version: Germaine Marie Louise Katia Eyi, Beatrice Annette Ntsoli Bouillong, Marie Philomène Celeste O'Konor, Isis Jobrelle Abanda.

Dancer/Choreographer Berlin Version: Lya Kifle, Duduzile Voigts, Doriane Mbenoun, Angela Katanga. Narrator in the Video: Hermine Yollo.

Production: BB enterprise / Likoda Prod

One building, four partners: This diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the BERLIN GLOBAL exhibition.

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