

LEBOHANG KGANYE

Two Stories of (Hi)Stories, 2023, Photography, Installation.



VERSION: MARCH 2024

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Two Stories of (Hi)Stories, 2023, Photography, Installation.



Time Needed to Hand over Power, 2023

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Lebohang Kganye makes reference to Christraud Geary's essay 'On the Savannah: Marie Pauline Thorbecke' published in the Art Journal in 1990 titled 'Depictions of the Dispossessed.' She is not interested in centering colonial protagonists. Rather, she slips into all the roles herself and uses existing images and narratives to implicate lesser-known subjectivities.

In this new series that accompanies the film installation *A Burden Consumed in Sips* (2023), six scenes are set in lit diorama boxes, in which the artist assembles historical photographs by Marie Pauline Thorbecke from the museum's archive with epi-

sodes of Cameroonian history related to the the Kingdom of Bamum, founded in 1394. These become the backdrop to the artist's performance of various significant protagonists in a contested 'master' narrative.

In this way, she deconstructs the colonial context of the archival images and situates their meaning in a contemporary interrogation of the authorship of historical narratives in the contemporary. The "two stories of (hi)stories" are thus complemented by a reimagined perspective — her own.

Kganye will continue to expand on her research by further problematising the mythologising gaze of Marie Pauline Thorbecke. She does so by introducing oral accounts of the story of the Kingdom of Bamum, gathered during her 13-day journey, as well as literature by Cameroonian authors Idrissou Njoya and Nji Arouna Nchouwet Ndassa, was key to counter the gaze of Western historians that have written on the German Colonial Period in 1880s Cameroon.

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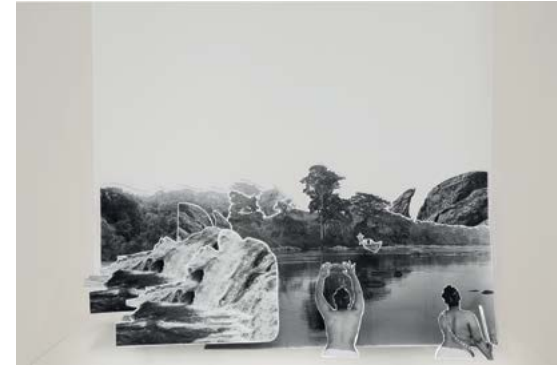
Two Stories of (Hi)Stories, 2023, Photography, Installation.



A Secret Return, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



After Eating, Leave the Table, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



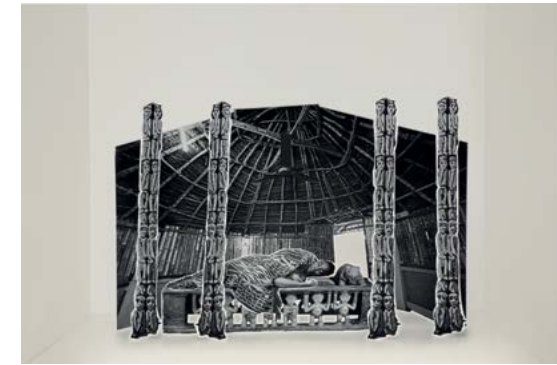
Let me Cross First, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



Set Foot on Stone of Country, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



Time Needed to Hand over Power, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



Under the Impulse of a Dream, 2023
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP