

'OKHAI OJEIKERE

HEADGEARS

A photo exhibition at  Goethe Institut Lagos

Headgears

Ojeikere's life long concern was the structural portraits of female hairstyles. In 1996, Goethe-Institut Lagos presented these photographs in an exhibition; in the meantime this series of his works have been published on the German market by the Zurich-based publisher Scalco (2000). We will now present another series of his works, **Headgears**. Ojeikere's way of taking shots shows great affinity to two German photographers, **Bernd and Hilla Becker**. As we had part of their work on the walls last October (while Ojeikere's book on Hairstyles was on display), this time it will be the other way round: Ojeikere's photographs will be on the walls while the 'Photos by Books' collection will be displayed.

Coming from Europe - and this is the approach of the German Cultural Center - Ojeikere's photographs identify **Headgears** as artistic sculptures. In his words: *Hairstyles and Headgears are a form of art, I photograph them everyday in the street, at work, at parties etc.*

About the Artist:

Okhai Ojeikere belongs to the older generation of photographers in Nigeria, born in 1930 in Ovhionu-Emai in Edo State, he developed interest in photography at an early age and this led to his coming to Lagos to search for a job as a photographer. Having gained experience as a darkroom technician with the Federal Ministry of Information for two years, he later took up a job as a studio photographer with the first African Television Station. Today his archive can be seen as a living memory of Nigerias last 50 years, sth. that can hardly be overestimated for a country that has limited access to his own history. Goethe-Institut Lagos is committed to present more of his works to the public.

DATE
February 19 -
March 4, 2005

MAIDEN OPENING
February 19, 2005 - 5pm
OTHER DAYS
9am - 5pm daily [except Sunday]

VENUE
10, Ozuomba Mbadiwe Ave.
Opp. 1004 Flats
Victoria Island - Lagos

Please note: In connection with this exhibition there will be a roundtable on the Aesthetics of Photography. Time: Wednesday, February 23rd, 4 p.m. prompt