



DIGNITY IN LABOUR:

From forest to Faculty



SUPPORTING TEAM

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24
NOV
2019

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Project Space For Contemporary Art

KWAME NKURUMAH
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 

DIGNITY IN LABOUR: From forest to Faculty

The idea of "dignity in labour" is the founding ethos of the Kumasi College of Technology (KCT [1952-1961]), the colonial progenitor of the present-day Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST (1961 to present)). The maxim was captured concisely in Dr. Ephraim Amu's memoirs and in the ayan poem below which was used as the school's drum call in the early days of KCT. It also recapitulates KNUST's appellation, "From Forest to Faculty", the title and subject of Charles Owusu's film documentary commissioned by the University in the 1970s.

Amope Nkwantia kōtoko,
Amope Nkwantia kotoko
Yeasi Kwae bibri ase
Ma na dan Kuropong
Okra be hwe
Yeasi nketekrakyē se
Yebetwe papa aba man mu

We have set foot in dense forest
And caused it to change into a large city
Attracting people to come and see
We are determined to strive
And bring all that is good into the country

The exhibition, "Dignity in Labour: From Forest to Faculty" is a palimpsest of three registers:

"REIGN OF GOLD"

The first register, "Reign of Gold", is a selection of photographs that commemorate 20 years of ascension to the Golden Stool by the current Asantehene Otumfuo Osei Tutu II. The photographs show the Asantehene in several cultural, ceremonial and official roles as King of Asante and Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology,

"TALES OF GOLD"

The second register, "Tales of Gold" is the Peggy Appiah Collection of Asante gold weights donated to the University between 2003 and 2005. The Collection was originally exhibited in the former KNUST Museum, which was inaugurated on 7th January 2005 located at Bungalow No.2, Ayeduaase Road, between the respective University and Bomso roundabouts.

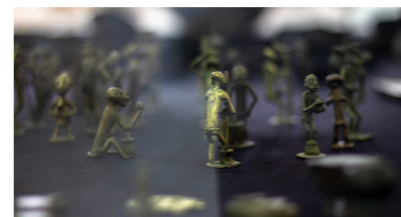
"HANDS OF GOLD"

The third register, "Hands of Gold", is a selection of work from the oeuvre of Ghanaian ceramic artist of note, Kingsley Kofi Broni (K. K. Broni). The works are on loan from K. K. Broni's Estate. These works form a huge wealth of pride for KNUST's Opoku Ware II Museum. K.K. Broni is an Alumnus of the Ceramics Section of the College of Art (now Faculty of Art). He developed a studio practice that was totally dedicated to working with his choice material, clay. He believed in the notion of "dignity in labour" and remained committed to this throughout his academic and artistic career. Having been so dedicated to his art, he deemed it very important not to sell off his works, but to store them up for posterity.

CURATORIAL DIRECTORS:

Edwin Bodjawah, kari'kachā seid'ou, George Ampratwum, Bernard Akoi-Jackson, blaxTAR-LINES KUMASI, Department of Painting and Sculpture

REIGN OF GOLD OTUMFUO NANA OSEI TUTU II



TALES OF GOLD PEGGY APPIAH COLLECTION

HANDS OF GOLD KINGSLEY KOFI BRONI COLLECTION

