

Eileen Julien & Oana Panaïté

Lessons and Life Lessons from an NEH Summer Institute

Weds., Nov. 2, 2016
4:30-5:30 pm
GA 2067

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
BLOOMINGTON

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This past summer, the speakers organized and lead an NEH Summer Institute on "Arts of Survival: Recasting Lives in African Cities," focusing on contemporary urban culture and arts in Accra, Lagos, Nairobi, New Orleans and Port-au-Prince, characterized by shared African roots and distinctive landscapes, histories and tragedies. They were two of five institute leaders who together selected twenty-one faculty and three graduate student participants from across the U.S., representing an impressively smart and diverse group with expertise across many fields. In this presentation, they will share their organizational, intellectual and emotional experience of this unique event that proved to be lively and enriching as well as contentious and provocative.

Eileen Julien is Director of the IU Institute for Advanced Study and Professor of Comparative Literature, French, and African studies. Her teaching and research focus on the literature and culture of Africa, the Americas and France in their interrelationships. She is co-editor (with Biodun Jeyifo) of *The Locations and Dislocations of African Literature: A Dialogue Between Humanities and Social Science Scholars* (645⁰) and is author of "The Extroverted African Novel" (*The Novel*, vol. I, Moretti, 2006), among other works.

Oana Panaïté is an Associate Professor of French and Director of Graduate Studies in French/Francophone Studies at IUB. She has published the monograph *Des littératures-mondes en français. Écritures singulières, poétiques transfrontalières dans la prose contemporaine* (2012), and edited a special issue of the journal *L'Esprit créateur* on "The Idea of Literature/La Pensée littéraire" (Fall 2014) as well as a volume entitled *Communautés de lecture: pour une approche dialogique des œuvres classiques et contemporaines* (2016).

**Arts of
Survival**
Recasting Lives in African Cities

