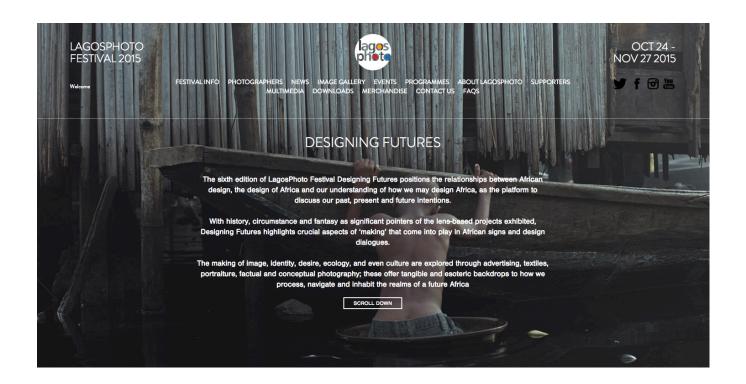
DILLON



2015 PHOTOGRAPHERS



PHOTOGRAPHER: ALICE SMEETS



PHOTOGRAPHER: ANDILE BUKA



PHOTOGRAPHER: ANDREA KEYEZUA



PHOTOGRAPHER: ANTOINE TEMPÉ & OMAR VICTOR DIOP



PHOTOGRAPHER: ÉMILIE RÉGNIER



PHOTOGRAPHER: BEN KREWINKEL



PHOTOGRAPHER: CHRIS SAUNDERS



PHOTOGRAPHER: DANIEL DONNELLY



PHOTOGRAPHER: DELPHINE GATINOIS



PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANCOIS BEAURAIN



PHOTOGRAPHER: FRANCOISE KNOETZE



PHOTOGRAPHER: GLORIA OYARZABAL

DILLON



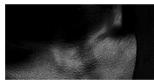
PHOTOGRAPHER:



PHOTOGRAPHER: JAMES OSTRER



PHOTOGRAPHER: JOANA CHOUMALI



PHOTOGRAPHER: KADARA ENYEASI



PHOTOGRAPHER: MAX PINCKERS & MICHIEL BURGER



PHOTOGRAPHER: MEHDI SEFRIOUI



PHOTOGRAPHER: NAMSA LEUBA



PHOTOGRAPHER: NAVIN KALA



PHOTOGRAPHER: NOBUKHO NQABA



PHOTOGRAPHER: OWISE ABUZAID



PHOTOGRAPHER: PATRICK SELEMANI



PHOTOGRAPHER: PATRICK WILLOCQ



PHOTOGRAPHER: ROBIN MADDOCK & BENEDICTE KURZEN



PHOTOGRAPHER: ROMARIC TISSERAND



PHOTOGRAPHER: VICENTE PAREDES



PHOTOGRAPHER: WILLIAM UKOH



PHOTOGRAPHER: ZOHRA OPOKU

CURATOR'S STATEMENT

I feel very tempted to start this introduction by giving the dictionary definition of the overarching theme behind this edition of LagosPhoto: Design. It would make sense and would help everyone, including me, to create a bit of order in the explosion of ideas and concepts the word undeniably carries. I will focus instead on other words I have just used, "order" and "explosion" as I understand they can define in a more complete way what my approach to design and specially "Design + Africa" will be like, and how I will try to present a wider understanding to the subject that, I hope, will go beyond the African wax fabric (that we all know, is made in Holland).

Let's get philosophical. Making a plan is designing your future, crossing your fingers, praying... a pony tail, a choreography, the shape of countries like Mali,

History (with capital letters). As I see it, any intention applied to reality obeys to a certain extent the principles of design and that just leads me to think that I could as easily curate a festival with "Everything" as a subject. But, the festival happens to be in Africa and then things get interesting again. We need to think therefore about what "intention" really means in Africa and what role genuine African "intention" has played in the rest of the world so perception of the whole continent. We can of course, go for the obvious aesthetic richness and undeniable survival creativity that is already acknowledged as part of the bunch of clichés we consume daily coming from Africa, but there is more. In fact, the same existence of a photography festival in Lagos responds to what I can see is a change in the pattern (design again) of the world's "order".

And here comes the "explosion" part. An explosive combination of facts has, in the last few years, placed Africa as a crucial reference and as an inspiration for cutting edge design and "coolness". Our poor confused brains process now with the same hash-tag, news and reports that show us smiling kids in slums next to jaw dropping concept stores and a fashion industry that has definitely lost any complex of exoticism. What is the role of design in all this? Well, As I see it, everything.

- Cristina De Middel, 2015 Curator