

AFRICA

Journal of the International African Institute
Revue de l'Institut Africain International

Vol. 91 No. 1 January 2021

Harnessing the 'hustle'

Introduction

Tatiana Thieme, Meghan E. Ference and Naomi van Stapele

Matatu operators in Nairobi

Meghan E. Ference

Hustle economy in Mathare

Tatiana Thieme

Hustling, masculinities, economic uncertainty

Naomi van Stapele

Art and unemployment in Kisumu

Frederik Unseld

Hustling on the move

William Monteith with George Mirembe

Reviews of books: debating the 'hustle'

Socio-cultural meanings in Kenya

'Under construction' – China in Kenya

Wangui Kimari

Cultural text of refugee encampment

Hanno Brankamp

International African Institute Institut Africain International

Editors · Rédacteurs en chef

Julie Archambault, Maxim Bolt, Benjamin Soares and Asonzeh Ukah

Local Intellectuals Editor · Responsable de la rubrique lettrés locaux

Karin Barber

Reviews Editor · Rédactrice comptes-rendus

Elizabeth Hull

Editorial Advisory Board · Comité de Rédaction

Wale Adebani, Omolade Adunbi, Kojo Amanor, Erik Bähre, Leslie Bank, Thomas J. Bassett, Heike Becker, Joost Beuving, Keith Breckenridge, Filip De Boeck, Gregor Dobler, Harri Englund, Richard Fardon, Jude Fokwang, Eric Gable, Peter Geschiere, Jane I. Guyer, Danny Hoffman, Nancy Rose Hunt, Emma Hunter, Fred Nyongesa Ikanda, Deborah James, Marloes Janson, Ferdinand de Jong, Hélène Neveu Kringelbach, Brian Larkin, Murray Last, Laura Mann, Adeline Masquelier, Mike McGovern, Birgit Meyer, Kenda Mutongi, Insa Nolte, Mwenda Ntarangwi, G. Ugo Nwokeji, Ebenezer Obadare, George Otieno Ogola, Rogers Orock, Derek Peterson, David Pratten, Katrien Pype, Noah Salomon, AbdouMaliq Simone, Jonny Steinberg, Susan Reynolds Whyte

Officers · Membres du Bureau de l'IAI

Chair · Présidente

Alcinda Honwana

Vice-chair · Vice-présidente

Odile Goerg

Honorary fellow · Membre honoraire

Murray Last

Council · 2021 · Conseil

Fred Ahwireng-Obeng
Richard Banégas
Leslie Bank
Armando Cutolo
Filip De Boeck
Mamadou Diawara
Andreas Eckert

Peter Geschiere
Jan-Bart Gewald
Nancy Rose Hunt
Adam T. Jones
Ousmane Kane
Michael Lambek
Elísio Macamo

Birgit Meyer
Mauro Nobili
Michael Omóléwà
Benjamin Soares
Susan Reynolds Whyte
Zachary Wright

Trustees · Conseil d'Administration

Karin Barber
Ken Barlow
Philip Burnham, *Honorary Director · Directeur Honoraire*
Richard Fardon, *Chair of Trustees · Président du Conseil d'Administration*
Katherine Homewood
Deborah James
Mary Jay
Murray Last

Staff

William Burgess, *Secretary to the Honorary Director · Secrétaire du Directeur Honoraire*
Brian Johnson, *Treasurer · Trésorier*
Stephanie Kitchen, *Managing Editor · Directrice de la rédaction*

AFRICA

Vol. 91 No. 1 2021

Editors · Rédacteurs en chef

Julie Archambault, Maxim Bolt, Benjamin Soares and Asonzeh Ukah

Local Intellectuals Editor · Responsable de la rubrique lettrés locaux

Karin Barber

Reviews Editor · Rédactrice comptes-rendus

Elizabeth Hull

Harnessing the ‘hustle’

- Struggle, solidarities and narratives of work in Nairobi and beyond:
introduction
Tatiana Thieme, Meghan E. Ference and Naomi van Stapele 1
- ‘You will build me’: fiscal disobedience, reciprocity and the dangerous
negotiations of redistribution on Nairobi’s *matatu*
Meghan E. Ference 16
- ‘Youth are redrawing the map’: temporalities and terrains of the hustle
economy in Mathare, Nairobi
Tatiana Thieme 35
- Providing to belong: masculinities, hustling and economic uncertainty in
Nairobi ‘ghettos’
Naomi van Stapele 57
- Rhythms of the unemployed: making art and making do through spoken word
in Kisumu, Kenya
Frederik Unsel 77
- ‘We are taught to act’: hustling on the move in Kampala and Nairobi
William Monteith with George Mirembe 95
-

Journal of the International African Institute
Revue de l’Institut Africain International

© International African Institute 2021

Reviews of books: debating the ‘hustle’

Marco Di Nunzio, <i>The Act of Living: street life, marginality, and development in urban Ethiopia</i>	
Joost Beuving	113
Sarah Howard	114
Hannah J. Dawson	116
Caught in The Act of Living: socialities, history and positionality in an ethnography of Addis Ababa’s street life – a response	
Marco Di Nunzio	117
Mary Njeri Kinyanjui, <i>African Markets and the Utu-ubuntu Business Model: a perspective on economic informality in Nairobi</i>	
Alexis Malefakis	120
Lynsey Farrell	122
William Monteith	123
Response by the author	
Mary Njeri Kinyanjui	125
AbdouMaliq Simone, <i>Improvised Lives: rhythms of endurance in an urban South</i>	
David Pratten	127
Mwenda Ntarangwi	129
Rose Marie Beck	130
Is it hustling this world, or something else? Reflections on three engagements with Improvised Lives	
AbdouMaliq Simone	132

Socio-cultural meanings in Kenya

‘Under construction’: everyday anxieties and the proliferating social meanings of China in Kenya	
Wangui Kimari	135
‘Madmen, womanizers, and thieves’: moral disorder and the cultural text of refugee encampment in Kenya	
Hanno Brankamp	153