

DRAMATURGY AND TRADITIONAL AFRICAN DISPLAYS

(Journal of Academics. Vol. 7 No. 2, 2012. ISSN: 1597-9083)

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Abstract

This paper focuses on the very fact that contrary to the negative assertion of some Western scholars and their African allies, there exist “drama in plenty” in traditional African festival displays. This undertaken is on the distinct traditional displays in Nigeria albeit Africa and their classifications, culminating in the origin of traditional African drama. More so, an in-depth treatment of the above shows the controversies and their resultant effects bedeviling this concept of “Traditional African Drama”. Furthermore, in an attempt to justify the augments that traditional African festivals and displays can be adjudged drama, are views alighted by African scholars of note. While the conclusion is but useful suggestions towards a barnstorming way out of this academic imbroglio, and a sustainable growth to douse the cocksure conceptions or aesthetic certainty of the European in the face of the 21st Century.

Keywords: Dramaturgy, Western Drama, Traditional Displays and African Aesthetics