

PERFORMANCE-LECTURE

**UNINTENDED ARTISTIC
RESEARCH ON MEMORY,
MASCULINITY, AND
AFRICAN BEAUTY:
THE CASE OF SERURUBELE**

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What does it mean to re-evaluate ideas of beauty in Africa? Using performance as a research methodology and the idea of *serurubele* ("butterfly" in Sesotho and Setswana) as a heuristic device, this performance-lecture explored the value that critically engaging with people's relationships with butterflies, butterfly-games, songs, and memories holds in the context of decolonial, African-centred scholarship. Could interrogating the idea of butterflies, as well as the tenderness that comes with black African men's memories of butterflies, offer a more nuanced perspective of black masculinity and gender identity?





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