

# Call For Papers

*Conference*

*A Turn Toward Africa: Discursive Architectures*



Much of recent criticism and theory regarding Africa offers a transnational and decolonial context or approach. The plurality of this criticism and theory, however, tends to situate Africaness (*Africanidade*) within a western framework, thus viewing it with a western gaze. For instance, examinations on African identities in Europe and their contributions focus on those contributions within the context of a western host nation, like France, Italy, and Portugal. More than an effect of integration, this is one of othering that seeks to isolate and emplace a difference from the national character. It further ignores the diversity that is part of the multi-ethnic African dynamic. The objective of this conference is to invite scholarship on African contributions stemming from artists/writers/filmmakers/journalists in Africa or in conversation with Africa. Such a research design attempts to resituate African contribution within a principally African framework.

**LOCATION: The Simon H. Rifkind Center for the Humanities & the Arts  
At the City College of New York - CUNY**

**DATE:** October 24-25, 2024 (Thursday-Friday)

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** May 3, 2024 (200 words max)

**PLEASE SUBMIT ABSTRACTS TO:** [aturntowardafrica@gmail.com](mailto:aturntowardafrica@gmail.com)

This is an interdisciplinary conference, and we invite research papers in the following disciplines: The humanities, literature, art, journalism, music, the social sciences, linguistics, dialectology, history, education, and the digital humanities.

This conference will include undergraduate panels. Undergraduate students are encouraged to send abstracts as well as graduate students, and affiliated and independent scholars.

Conference organizers and chairs: Dr. Regina Castro McGowan (City College of New York, CUNY), Dr. Moussa Seck (University of Tennessee, Knoxville), and Dr. Jason M. Collins (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)