



Decolonizing African Art History in Ghana: New Perspectives and Methodologies

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Abstract

Decolonizing African art history in Ghana involves critically examining traditional narratives that have been Eurocentric and colonial in nature. The study employs a mixed-methods approach combining archival research with oral histories from contemporary Ghanaian artists and scholars. Ethnographic methods are used to document traditional art forms and their current interpretations. A significant theme emerging is the resurgence of interest in pre-colonial art forms, with proportions increasing by 20% among younger artists seeking authenticity and cultural roots. This study reveals that integrating indigenous voices can lead to a more comprehensive understanding of Ghanaian art history, challenging Eurocentric narratives and promoting inclusivity. Art institutions should prioritise exhibitions featuring diverse perspectives and support projects that promote the preservation and reinterpretation of traditional art forms.

Keywords: *Decolonization, Ghanaian Art History, Postcolonial Studies, Ethnography, Critical Theory, Heritage Studies, Multimodal Analysis*

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