

This talk is hosted by:



藝術學系  
Department of Fine Arts

**African Studies Programme**



SCHOOL OF  
**MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**  
FACULTY OF ARTS, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

# Anonymous Has a Name: African Master Carvers



Veranda Post from the Palace of the King of Ikere, 1910/14 Carved by  
Olowe of Ise (died 1938)  
Nigeria, Yoruba people  
Wood, pigment; h. 152.5 cm  
The Art Institute of Chicago, Major Acquisitions Centennial Fund,  
1984.550

Date: 20th September 2018

Time: 6:30pm

Venue: Run Run Shaw Tower 4.34  
Centennial Campus, HKU

When visiting an African art exhibition in Europe or the United States, works are generally ascribed to an unknown or unidentified artist or, more commonly, to a culture or people. The alleged anonymity of so-called traditional African artists is largely the result of the limited interest on the part of the mostly non-African collectors of the objects that today populate museums and collections around the world. Some earlier studies notwithstanding, interest in African artists and their training did unfortunately not start until the 1950s and '60s, and information about sculptors, their biography, and their methods remains very limited. This lecture will shed light on the careers and oeuvre of a number of artists from across sub-Saharan Africa who during their lifetime were locally recognized and even praised.



Speaker:

**Constantine PETRIDIS,**

Ph.D.

Chair and Curator of African Art

Department of Arts of Africa and the Americas

The Art Institute of Chicago

All are welcome. No registration required.