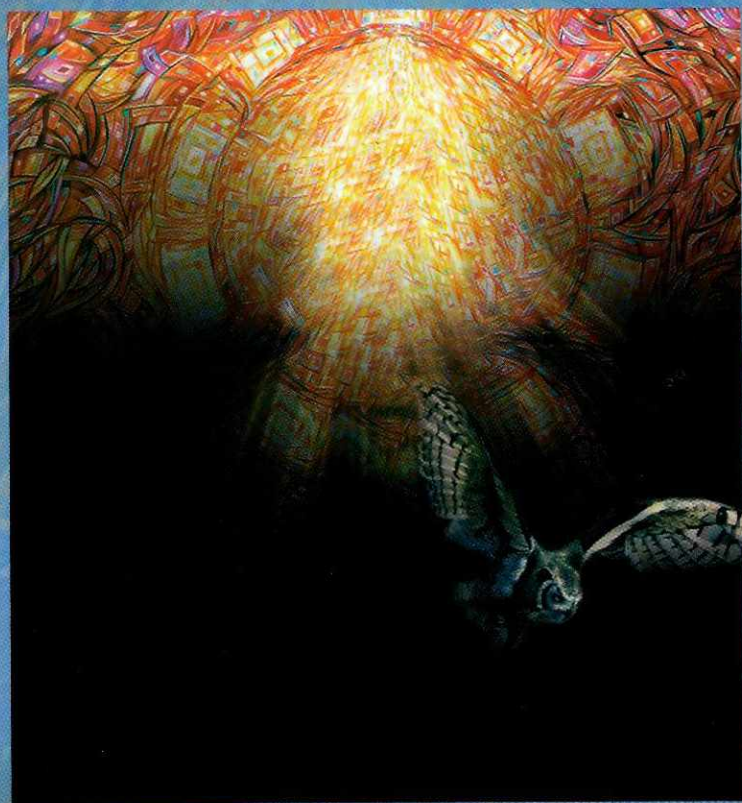


Ahmed Yerima

COLLECTED PLAYS

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AGUDUA
OWIWI



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When the baale of Akoda town demands for a sacrifice from the strangers of Ijebu-Jesha, Agudua, the bastard prince to Ibeku, is chosen as the sacrificial lamb. This warrior who has courageously fought to survive many attempts on his life must now willingly give it up. On his journey to the big bush, where he is to be sacrificed along with a two-day-old baby boy, he must choose between the gods who have failed him and the one they call 'Jesu'.

Agudua is captivating and awash in conflicts between the age-old African traditional worship and Christianity. It captures the inferiority of one and the supremacy of the other.

The death of Iya Agba Fadelola, the head of the night owls, leaves a trail of revelations in its wake. With each revelation comes suspicions and mounting tension in the group. Not all is as it appears and it quickly becomes obvious that the united front presented by the witches against Oba Idele and the rest of the world is a façade.

With themes of mistrust, betrayal and loyalty, *Owiwi* is a perfect portrayal of the belief that the owl is evil and bad. It is also a portrayal of culture clash, between old, fetish practices and the Christian religion.

Director, actor, playwright and scholar, Ahmed Yerima is a former Director-General of the National Theatre and National Troupe of Nigeria. His other works include *Gender Politics: Women's Writings and Films in Northern Nigeria* (co-edited with Saheedat Aliyu); *Discourse on Tragedy* (Gurara, 2009); *Critical Perspectives on Dance in Nigeria* (co-edited with Bakare Ojo-Rasaki and Arnold Udoka); *Modern Nigerian Theatre: The Geoffrey Axworthy Years, 1956-1967*; *Basic Techniques in Playwriting*; *Theatre and Democracy in Nigeria* (co-edited with Ayo Akinwale); *Orisa Ibeji*; *Heart of Stone*; *Tafida & Other Plays*; *Three Plays*; *Igatibi*; *No Pennies for Mama*; *Mu'adhin's Call*, *Ajagunmale*, *Little Drops*; *The Ife Quartet*; *Mojagbe*; *Tuti*; *Akuabata*; *The Wives*; *Aetu*; *Erelu-Kuti*; *Idemili*; *Hard Ground* (winner, The Nigeria Prize for Literature, 2006 and winner, ANA/NDDC J.P. Clark drama prize, 2006); *Ameh Oboni the Great*; *The Limam & Ade Ire*; *The Angel and Other Plays*; *Otaelo*; *The Lottery Ticket*; *Yemoja*; *Dry Leaves on Ukan Trees*; *The Sisters*; *The Sick People*; *Attahiru*; *The Trials of Oba Ovonramwen*; *Kaffir's Last Game*; *The Bishop and the Soul*; and *The Silent Gods*.

DRAMA

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