Carole U. Karemera

Artistic Director Ishyo Arts Centre - Rwanda

Co-founder and executive director of Ishyo Arts Centre Many cultural festivals African Cultural Policy Network National Institute of Museums of Rwanda UNESCO African Arts



Carole Karemera holds a Master in Drama and Music (Jazz) from The Conservatoire Royal de Musique de Mons (Belgium) and has performed in internationally acclaimed theater, dance and film productions such as "Sometimes in April" directed by Raoul Peck, "Sound of sand" directed by Marion Hansel, "Rwanda 94" & "Anathem" directed by Jacques Delcuvellerie, "Jaz"by Koffi Kwahulé, "Scratching the inner fields" by Wim Vandekeybus, "Battlefield" directed by Peter Brook etc.

She is the co-founder and Executive Director of Ishyo Arts Centre, one the most dynamic cultural organisations based in Kigali, involved in advocacy, capacity-building and promotion of the creative sector in Rwanda.

She is the producer of Kina Festival (International Performing Arts Festival for Youth) and co-producer of Kigali Up music festival and Isaano Arts festival. She is also an arts manager, an activist supporting freedom of creative expression and is a member of the steering committee of the African Cultural Policy Network.

She is a former board member of the National Institute of Museums of Rwanda, the former Director of the Pan African Dance Festival and Deputy Secretary General of Arterial Network. She is currently a board member of the prestigious Rwandan Academy of Language and Culture, of ARTEJ/ASSITEJ Rwanda (International Association for Youth and Theater).

Her work includes international artistic collaborations for Transmedia creation dedicated to young audience with Nova Villa - Méli-môme (France), Helios theater - Hellwach festival (Germany) and Théâtre du Papyrus; Street theater creation with Uz et coutumes company (France), and transborder creative projects with female artists with Théâtre de la Poudrerie (France).

She's currently conducting the mapping and a cross-sectorial analysis for the Unesco's project "Strengthening the creative industries in Rwanda". She also develops an extensive work related to "Arts & Memory" and is co-leading a network for the promotion and diffusion of African and Caribbean literature called "LITTAFCAR.

Her last productions include "Mboka" (music-theater play), "My little hill" (music and puppet theatre for young audience), "We call it love" and "Our house".