

<<

cyclostyled.

The Eye, which originated in Ahmadu Bello, University, Zaria, in 1992, concentrates on the visual arts in present day Nigeria and is illustrated throughout with black and white plates.

Uso is produced by the National Gallery of Art in Lagos, a government parastatal. It commenced publication in 1995 and is the only art journal being produced in Nigeria to contain coloured reproductions although some of these lack clarity.

The most recent art journals to appear on the scene are *Glendora* (1995) and *Agufon* (1997).

Agufon is the brain-child of Bunmi Davies, a young architect based in Lagos. The maiden edition contains articles on art people, exhibition reviews and notices of cultural events including an article on Onikan, Lagos by Habiba Balogun. *Agufon* is illustrated throughout with black and white photographs and has a striking cover based on a geometric *adire* pattern.

Pat Oyedola, a writer and critic, lives in Ibadan.

Amos Tutuola remembered in Ibadan

THE Association of Nigerian Authors, on Saturday July 26, 1997 in Ibadan, held a literary session in honour of the recently deceased writer, one of the pioneers of modern African literature, Amos Tutuola. The event, a special version of the Association's monthly readings (which have become the focal point of the activities of its state chapters) took place at the Arts Theatre of the University of Ibadan, the venue of the world premiere of an adaptation of the writer's most famous novel, *The Palm-wine Drinkard*.

Tutuola died of a protracted Hypertension and diabetes on Sunday June 8, 1997 at Jordan



Amos Tutuola

Hospital, Ring Road, Ibadan. News of the death took time to spread, to the chagrin of the Ibadan literary and artistic societies and playwright Femi Osofisan expressed particular displeasure at the little interest that it generated in the Nigerian media.

Tutuola was born in 1920 in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. He was for many

years a staff of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), now Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria (FRCN), Ibadan and has lived in quiet retirement in Odo-Ona, an outstrip of Ibadan where he tended to a small supplies business. He also participated in frequent reading tours in Europe and America until he gave up travelling more than a decade ago with due consideration to his health (interview, *River Prawn Journal* 1988) to divide his hours between his writing and services at the Christ Apostolic Church, Odo-Ona where he was until his death an active member.

Readers at the Tutuola Memorial Session include Akin Ishola, the Yoruba writer and former Ife professor of African languages, the poet Niyi Osundare and playwright Wale Ogunyemi.

Handbook for African Writers in two Volumes

A completely revised and expanded second edition of *A Handbook for African Writers* first published in 1976 under the Hans Zell label, edited by James Gibbs, will be published in 1998 in two volumes. The new handbook is designed as a practical manual extending the coverage of the earlier, single-volume edition. Volume One focuses on issues confronting writers, with contributions from leading African writers and publishers. Volume Two

provides a wealth of practical guidance and information.

Contributors already include Dapo Adeniyi; Abiola Irele - writer, critic, editor and publisher; Taban Lo Liyong, Sudanese writer and poet; Gcina Mhlophe, South African children's writer and performance artist; Kole Omotoso - scholar, writer and critic; Tess Onwueme, Nigerian playwright; Niyi Osundare, poet and winner of the 1991 Noma Award; Yvonne Vera, Zimbabwean novelist and winner of the 1997 Com-

monwealth Writers Prize, Africa Region and further writers to be announced. Contributions about publishing include essays from Walter Bgoya and Paul Zeleza.

Volume Two addresses issues such as how to choose a publisher, relations with publishers, major publishing outlets within Africa, how publishing works, literary agents, self and vanity publishing, publishing and marketing of children's books, an author-friendly code of conduct, minimum terms agreement and a direc-

tory section that covers publishers, journals and magazines, prizes for African writers, writers groups and associations and an authors bookshelf.

The volumes are 256 pages each, a paperback gratis edition intended for distribution to writers groups and associations and a cased edition also.

The handbook is being published by the African Books Collective (ABC) in collaboration with the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation in Sweden.