

THE
MASI GLOCAL
C H A N G E M A K E R
COMIC COLLECTION



Contents

Foreword	1
Yolanda Dyantyi's story	2
Lusi Mahote's story	9
Henry Nakashima's story	15
Thabo Thindi's story	20
Djiff Djimeli's story	27
Acknowledgements	33

Foreword

by Babalo Goba and Sabrina Tschiche

The Glocal Changemaker Imbizo Comic collection is a series of manga-style comics that showcase the stories of activists from the Global South who are taking action against global injustices such as gender inequality, forced migration, land rights, and racism. The collection highlights the voices of activists from Brazil, South Africa, and Cameroon, offering fair and comprehensive perspectives on how global challenges show up in their local contexts and the different solutions and tools that are being used by these activists to take action.

Additionally, the comics aims to redefine the idea of a superhero as ordinary people who care about the world and want to see positive change; breaking free from the harmful and outdated hetero patriarchal image of agents of change as people (usually a man) with super powers, coming from elsewhere to save us.

It emphasizes that ordinary people, like you and I, regardless of gender, working together in community with each other, are changemakers.

We hope that these comics will inspire hope and action amongst young readers. Encouraging them to work with others and use their collective resources to create a fairer world for all.

Lastly, we hope that you will use this comic as a tool for envisioning a better world, envisioning yourself as an agent for that changed world and start mapping out a starting point for yourself.

In line with this, we would like to invite you to use the blank pages on this comic to reflect, mindmap and doodle about any lessons learnt or any new visions that may have been inspired by the stories. Enjoy!

STORY 1: Yolanda Dyantyi

A Journey of Feminist Activism and Solidarity

Yolanda's story depicts the courageous journey of a young feminist activist in South Africa, fighting against patriarchy, rape culture, and structural racism. It emphasises the importance of community, connection, and unlearning patriarchal norms, with the support of friends, allies, and communities. By integrating afro-futuristic elements and spirituality, the story highlights the sustaining power of ancestral wisdom and the interconnectedness of tradition and progress. Yolanda's struggles and triumphs underscore the need for support from people, family, friends, and community. The story sheds light on the urgent need to address high rates of femicide and violence in South Africa, while showcasing the strength, love, and healing that arise when individuals come together to create change. The story is inspired by the work done by Feminist activist Yolanda Dyantyi.

To learn more about her work scan the QR code.





IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE. THE CHAINS OF OPPRESSION WON'T HOLD US BACK.



THROUGH 'AFRICAN WOMXN'S VOICES UNLEASHED,' WE'LL AMPLIFY MARGINALIZED VOICES, CHALLENGE NORMS, AND FORGE A NEW PATH TOWARDS EQUALITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.

A Journey of Feminist Activism and Solidarity

HEY,
YOLANDA

THANK YOU
FOR SPEAKING UP
LAST WEEK. I CAN'T BELIEVE
THAT THE DISCIPLINARY
COMMITTEE OF THE SCHOOL
CHOSE TO IGNORE SUCH
OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE
AGAINST HIM.



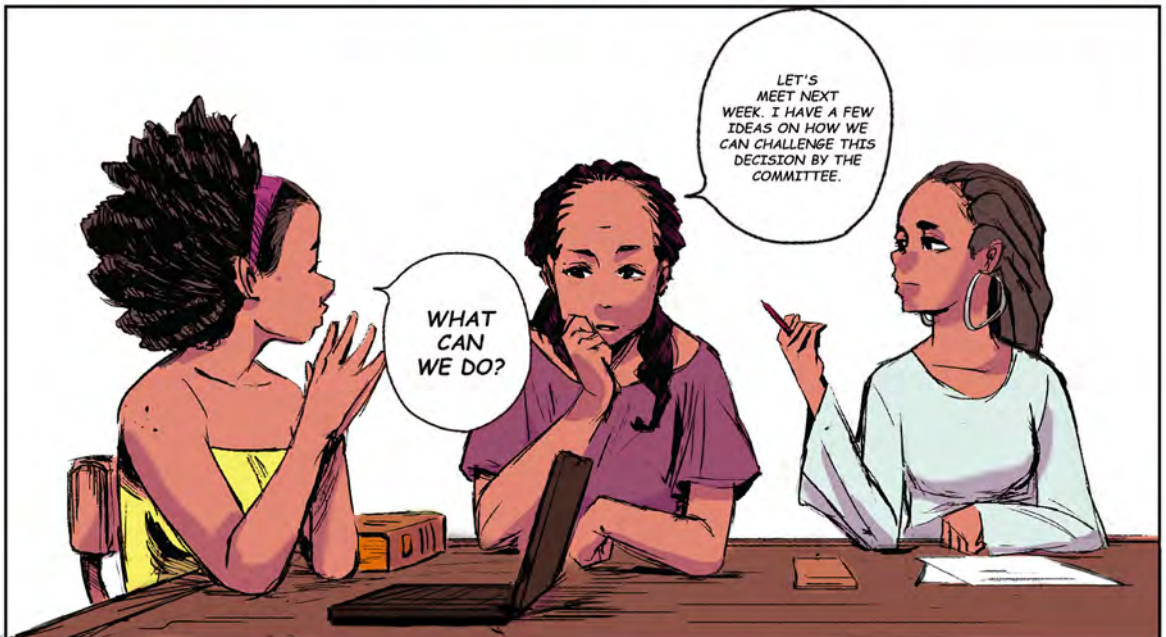
I HAD TO
SPEAK UP. BUT
I'M NOT SURPRISED
THAT THEY
IGNORED IT. IT
HAPPENS ALL THE
TIME. VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN
HAS BECOME A
NORM IN THE
COUNTRY.

THAT'S TRUE,
EVERY DAY ON
TV THERE ARE
STORIES OF
VIOLENCE OR
HARASSMENT.
IT'S CRAZY!



LET'S
MEET NEXT
WEEK. I HAVE A FEW
IDEAS ON HOW WE
CAN CHALLENGE THIS
DECISION BY THE
COMMITTEE.

WHAT
CAN
WE DO?



THE FOLLOWING WEEK

NO MORE SILENCE!
NO MORE VIOLENCE!



TOGETHER,
WE'LL CREATE A
WORLD WHERE
EVERYONE CAN
THRIVE!

WHERE
WOMXN AND
QUEER PEOPLE
ARE FREE FROM
VIOLENCE!



#IAM
WOMAN!

AMANDLA!
AMCHU!!!

PROTECT
OUR
HUMAN
RIGHTS

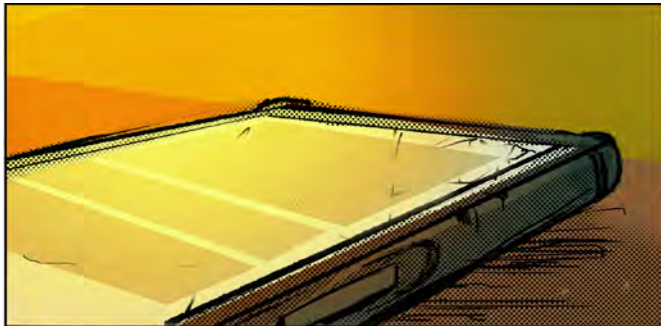
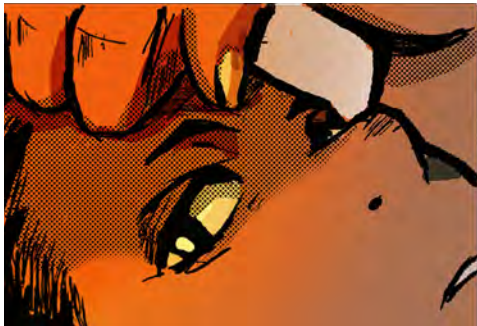
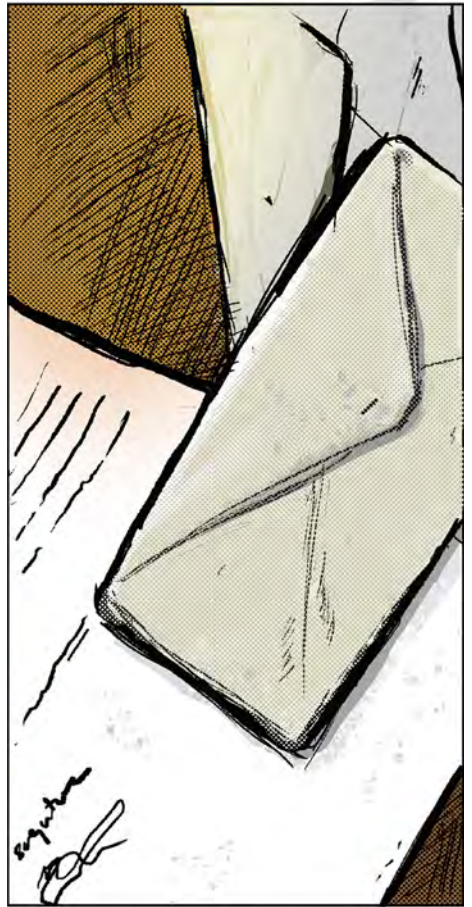
#RURReferenceList

YOU
CAN TRY
TO SILENCE
ME, BUT I
WON'T GIVE
UP. JUSTICE
WILL PREVAIL,
NO MATTER
THE ODDS.



LATER THAT DAY

I'M SO TIRED!
I HATE THIS!
I HATE THAT I'M
STRUGGLING THIS
MUCH! I HATE
THAT I HAVE TO
FIGHT FOR EVERY
SINGLE THING!



YOLANDA, HOW YOU'VE BEEN CALLING OUT THE INSTITUTION FOR ITS BIAS & INACTION INSPIRES US TO ALSO ACT. I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT WE'RE HERE TOGETHER WITH YOU.

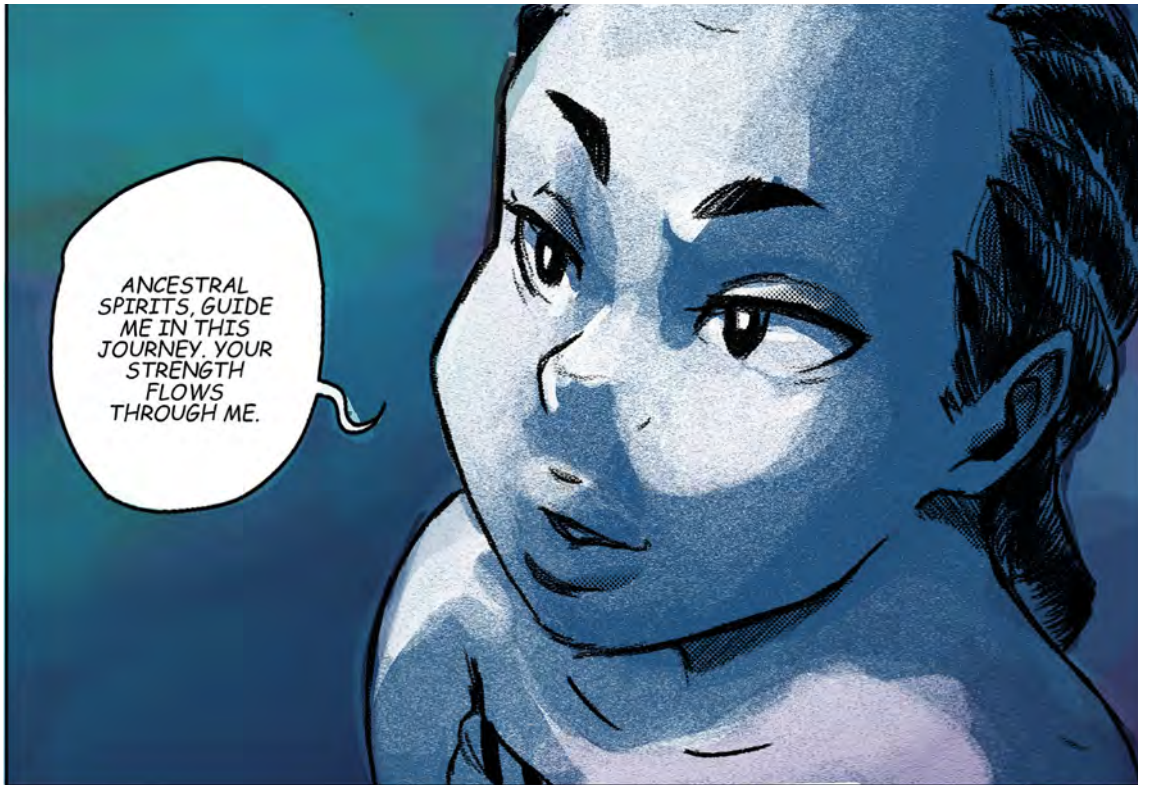
IT'S NOT EASY, IT'S HARD BUT I'M DOING MY BEST. IT TAKES A LOT OF EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL LABOUR AND SOMETIMES I GET TIRED. IT HELPS TO KNOW THERE ARE OTHERS WHO ARE FIGHTING TOO.

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING PLEASE LET ME KNOW. I'M HERE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE YOU. I'LL SEE YOU NEXT WEEK AT VARSITY. GOOD NIGHT.

01:53 AM



ANCESTRAL
SPIRITS, GUIDE
ME IN THIS
JOURNEY. YOUR
STRENGTH
FLOWS
THROUGH ME.



STORY 2: Lusi Mahote

Lwanda's Journey of Digital Activism

This story showcases the courageous and powerful journey of a multi-talented South African trans woman, artist, and changemaker who uses art as a medium to address and speak out about the social injustices faced by queer folks. Additionally, she utilises social media as a tool to foster connection, belonging, and a sense of community. The story aims to highlight that living openly as a trans person is an act of great courage, which is often made more difficult by discrimination and transphobia. It serves as a reminder of the work that still lies ahead in the fight for a more empathetic, loving, and inclusive world for all. Furthermore, it sheds light on the urgent need for safer spaces, both online and offline, where trans individuals can thrive, and be in solidarity with each other without fear of discrimination or the pressure of explaining.


To learn more about their work scan the QR code.




Lwanda's Journey of Digital Activism




HEY,
LWANDA




I HEARD ABOUT
THAT INCIDENT AT
THE CLINIC WITH
YOUR FRIEND. I'M
SO SORRY.
DID THEY GIVE
THEM HORMONES?



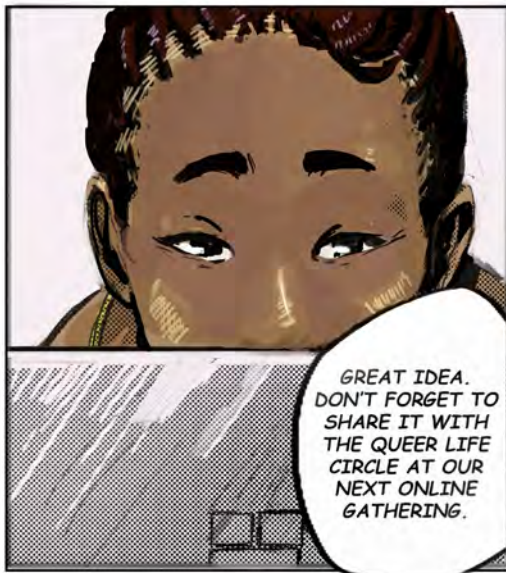
YEAH, THEY DID
BUT NOT WITHOUT
ARGUMENT OR
INSULT.
IT WAS SOOO
DISHEARTENING TO
EXPERIENCE. IF SHE
WAS ALONE IT
WOULD HAVE BEEN
WORSE



YEAH,
I CAN IMAGINE. THERE
HAS BEEN MINIMAL
INVESTMENT BY THE
GOVERNMENT WHEN IT
COMES TO TRAINING
NURSES AND CLINIC
STAFF ON GENDER AND
WORKING WITH TRANS
PEOPLE.



OUR RIGHTS
ARE PROTECTED BY
THE CONSTITUTION
BUT IN PRACTICE WE
DEAL WITH SO MUCH
IGNORANCE
AND UNNECESSARY
HATE.



THE NEXT DAY

...AS YOU BREATHE IN LISTEN TO YOURSELF, HOW DO YOU FEEL, WHAT THOUGHTS ARE IN YOUR HEAD...BREATHE OUT, IMAGINE THOSE THOUGHTS LEAVING YOUR BODY THROUGH YOUR BREATH.

GENTLY OPEN YOUR EYES AND COME BACK INTO SPACE.

HOW DO YOU FEEL? WHAT THOUGHTS ARE COMING TO MIND?



I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE STORY YOU SHARED ON YOUR BLOG AND WONDERING WHAT COULD BE DONE. WE'RE REJECTED AND RIDICULED WHEN SEEKING HELP FROM PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND IT'S NOT OKAY.



I THINK WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT THESE INJUSTICES BUT ALSO TO ALSO DO SOMETHING. LIKE WHAT YOU DID, LWANDA, THE LIST OF QUEER SAFE SPACES WOULD REALLY HELP ALL OUR QUEER SIBLINGS ON THIS SIDE FEEL A LOT SAFER.



AWARENESS IS KEY. WE CAN USE SOCIAL MEDIA AND WORKSHOPS TO REACH A BROADER AUDIENCE.



06



Story 3: Henry Mahler Nakashima

Beyond Borders of Exploitation: Hugo's Quest for Indigenous Justice in Brazil

The story of Hugo shines a light on the state sanctioned exploitation of indigenous land and people in many parts of Brazil. It draws a link between markers of development, namely industry and manufacturing, and the continued injustices faced by indigenous people. It zones in on the importance of education & awareness as tools for transformation and serves to unpack the importance of centering the voices of indigenous people in doing unbiased research on their stories & lives. Woven into this story are themes of reverence for life & nature in all its shapes and forms and themes of a deep love and commitment to justice. This story is inspired by the work of Activist, Historian and researcher Dr Henry Mahler Nakashima. For more Dr Henry Mahler follow the QR code.

To learn more about his work scan the QR code.



Beyond Borders of Exploitation: Hugo's Quest for Indigenous Justice in Brazil



HUGO,
WHAT DO YOU
DO AS A
HISTORIAN
AND
RESEARCHER?

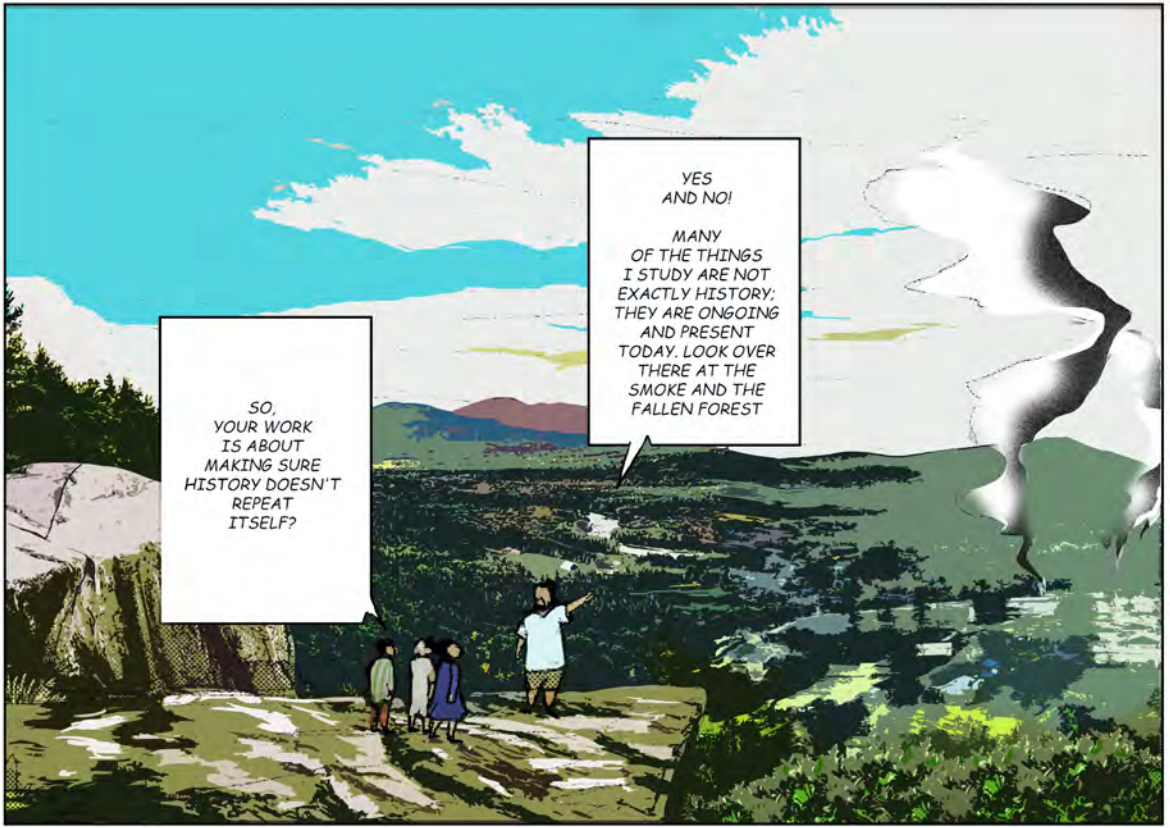
GREAT QUESTION!
AS A HISTORIAN
AND RESEARCHER, I
STUDY THE PAST
TO UNDERSTAND
HOW
COLONIALIST
STRUCTURES ARE
SHAPING OUR
WORLD.

THROUGH
RESEARCH, WE
UNCOVER ERASED &
SURPRESSED
STORIES, LIKE THE
STORY OF THE
WAIMIRI
ATROARI PEOPLE,
TO SHED LIGHT ON
THE INJUSTICES
THEY FACED.

BUT WHY IS IT
IMPORTANT TO
DO THE WORK
THAT YOU DO?



IT'S CRUCIAL
BECAUSE
ACKNOWLEDGING OUR
HISTORY, NO MATTER
HOW PAINFUL, HELPS
US UNDERSTAND
OPPRESSIVE
STRUCTURES &
SYSTEMS SO THAT
WE CAN WORK TO
HEAL AND BUILD A
MORE JUST & FAIR
SOCIETY.



SO,
YOUR WORK
IS ABOUT
MAKING SURE
HISTORY DOESN'T
REPEAT
ITSELF?

YES
AND NO!

MANY
OF THE THINGS
I STUDY ARE NOT
EXACTLY HISTORY;
THEY ARE ONGOING
AND PRESENT
TODAY. LOOK OVER
THERE AT THE
SMOKE AND THE
FALLEN FOREST

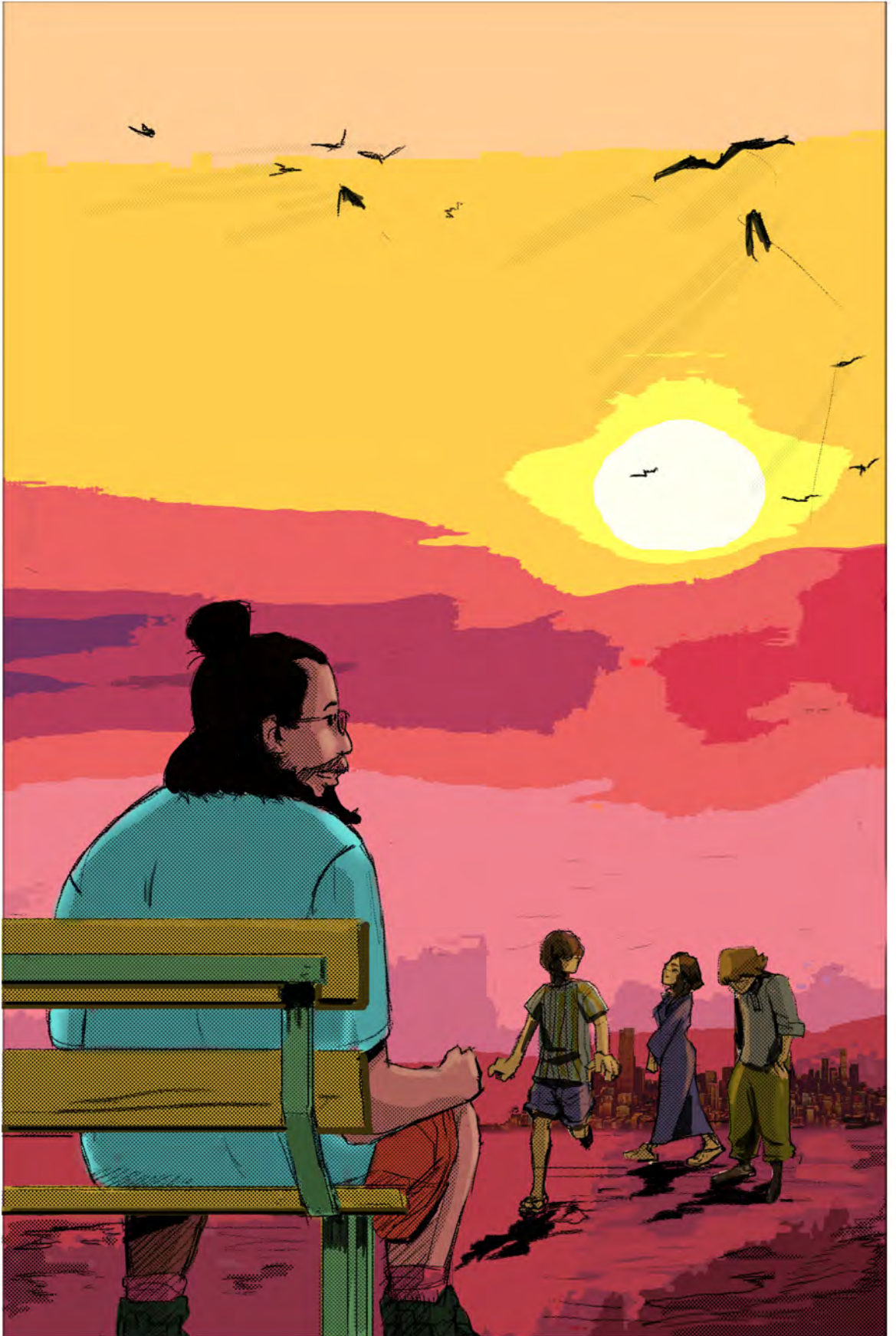


WHEN
WE UNCOVER THE
TRUTH, WE EMPOWER
MARGINALISED
COMMUNITIES, LIKE
THE WAIMIRI
ATROARI, TO
RECLAIM THEIR
IDENTITIES, THEIR
LAND, CULTURE AND
THUS DIGNITY AND
AT THE SAME HELP IN
SAVING OUR
ENVIRONMENT &
PLANET

YOU ALL PLAY A
CRUCIAL ROLE TOO.
BY LEARNING AND
UNDERSTANDING,
YOU BECOME
POWERFUL AGENTS
OF CHANGE.



I WANT TO
LEARN MORE
AND BE PART
OF MAKING
THINGS
RIGHT!



Story 4: Thabo Thindi

Black Faces in White? Space.

The story draws inspiration from photographer and filmmaker Thabo Thindi's work, specifically his project "Black Faces in White? Space." and sheds light on the impact of structural and systemic racism on the lives of black people in Germany, particularly those with migrant backgrounds. Through comic storytelling, the narrative amplifies Thabo Thindi's message, emphasizing how art can raise awareness and encourage critical introspection about global issues. It also highlights the power of art to affirm belonging and humanity for marginalized individuals. By weaving Thabo Thindi's theme into the narrative, the story illustrates that art can and should serve as a tool for illuminating societal challenges and inspiring the creation of a more inclusive and just world.

To learn more about his work scan the QR code.

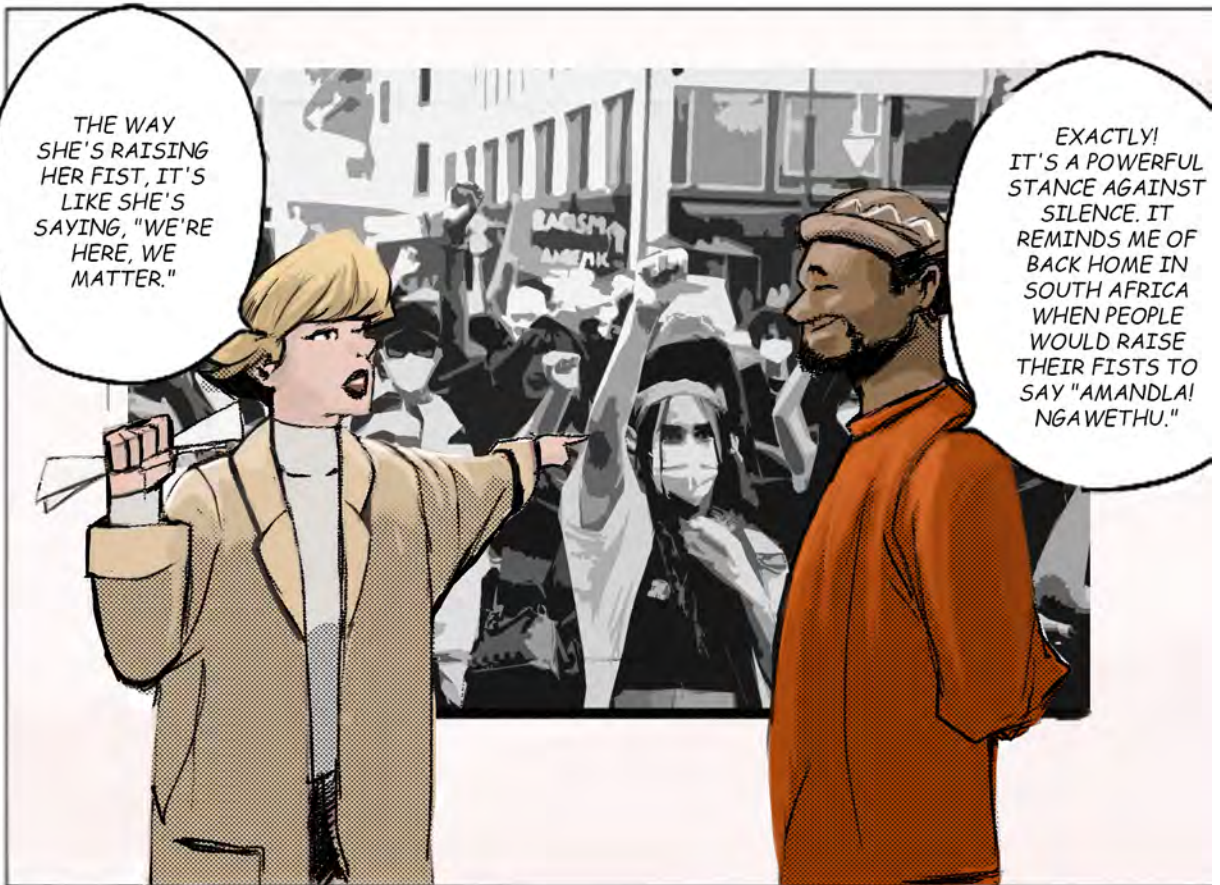


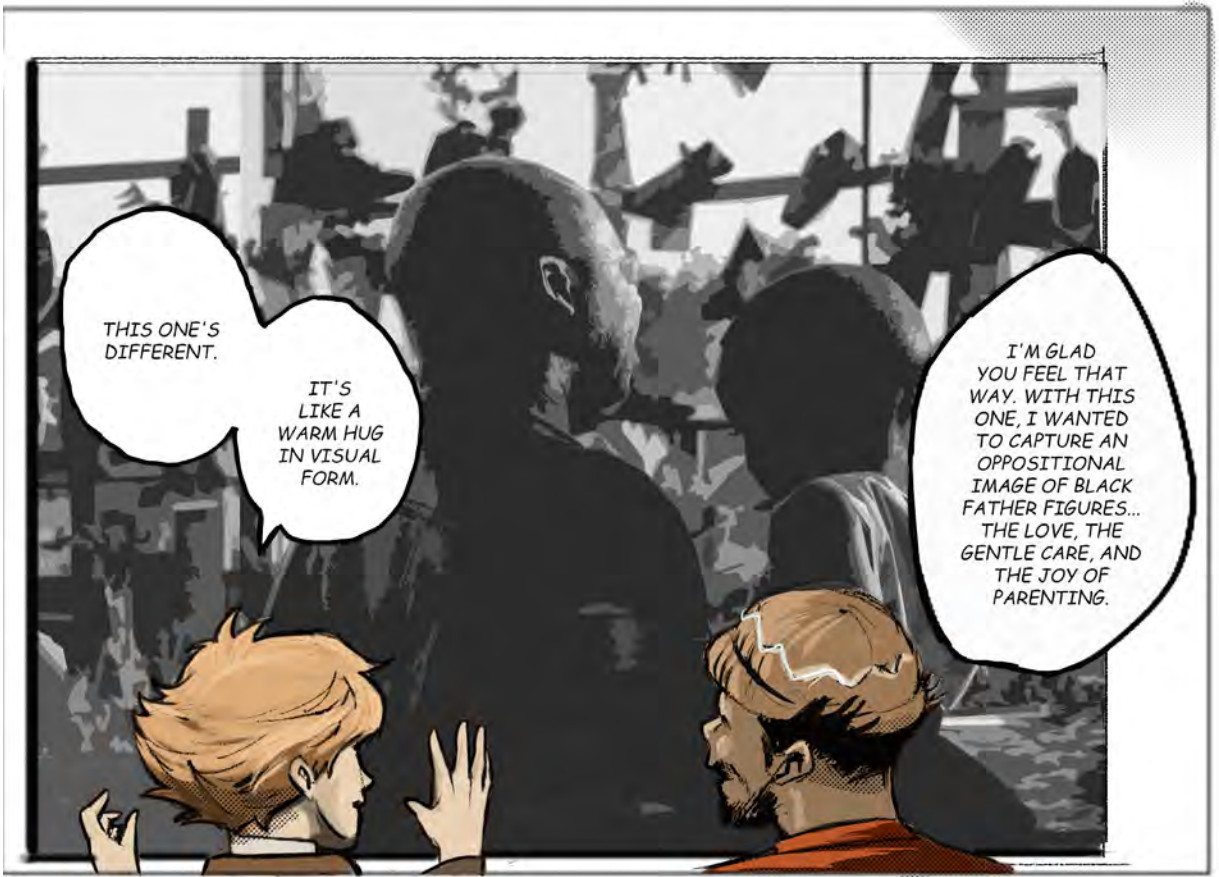
Black Faces in White? Space.



THIS PICTURE HITS HARD. REMINDS ME OF THE POWERFUL 2020 BLM PROTESTS.

THE INTENSITY IN HER EYES—CAPTURING THAT MOMENT WAS LIKE BOTTLING UP THE COLLECTIVE DETERMINATION OF THE CROWD.

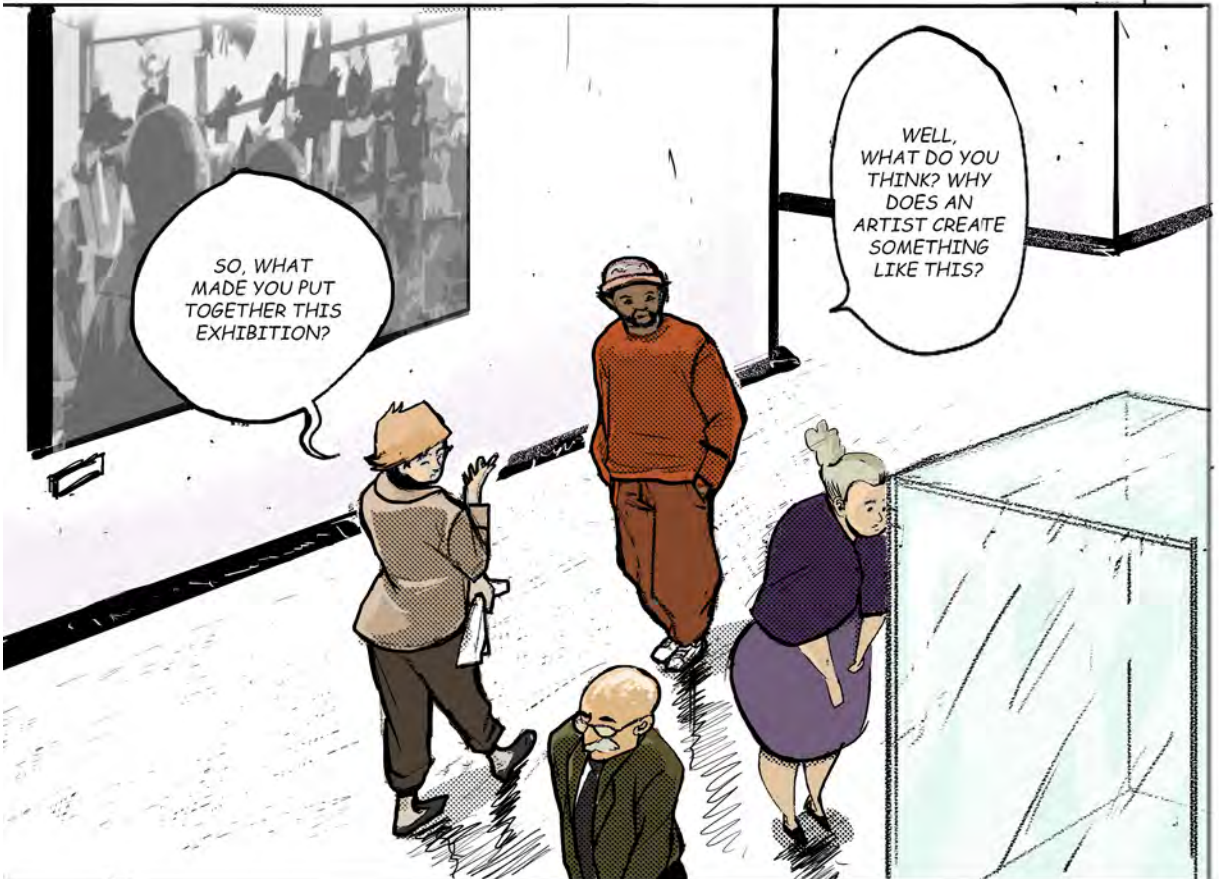




THIS ONE'S DIFFERENT.

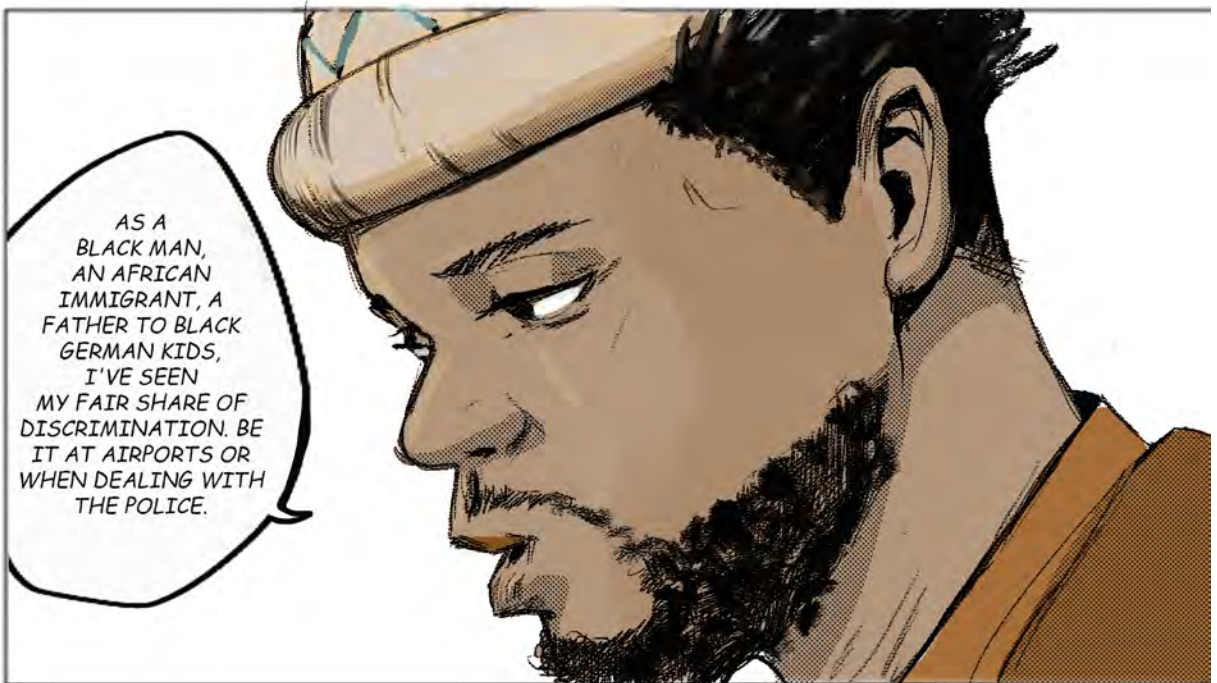
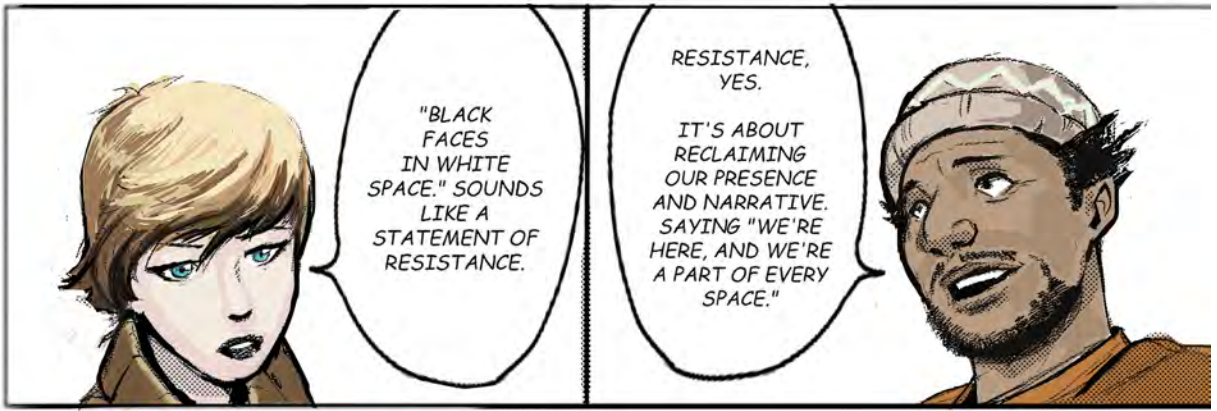
IT'S LIKE A WARM HUG IN VISUAL FORM.

I'M GLAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY. WITH THIS ONE, I WANTED TO CAPTURE AN OPPOSITIONAL IMAGE OF BLACK FATHER FIGURES... THE LOVE, THE GENTLE CARE, AND THE JOY OF PARENTING.



SO, WHAT MADE YOU PUT TOGETHER THIS EXHIBITION?

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK? WHY DOES AN ARTIST CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THIS?





MY
PICTURE
?
WHY?



ART,
YOU SEE, IS A
MIRROR. IT
REFLECTS OUR
STRUGGLES, OUR
JOYS, OUR HOPES.
IT CAPTURES OUR
IMAGINATION AND
THROUGH THAT
HAS THE POWER
TO EFFECT
CHANGE.

Story 5: Djiff Djimeli

The Forgotten Migrants.

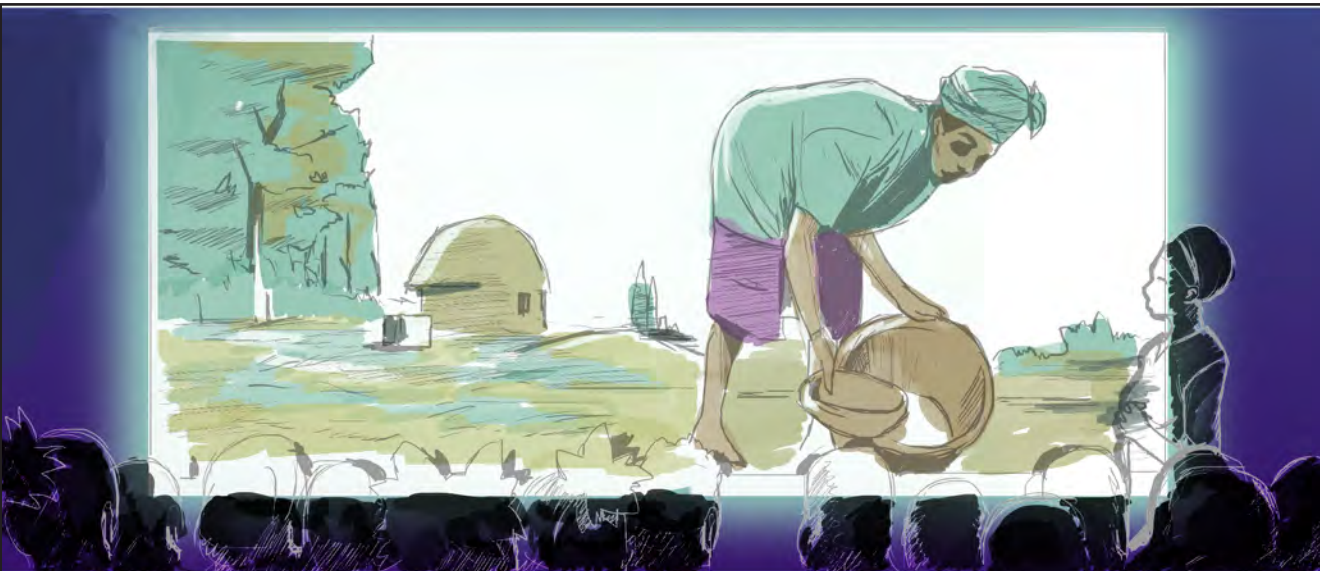
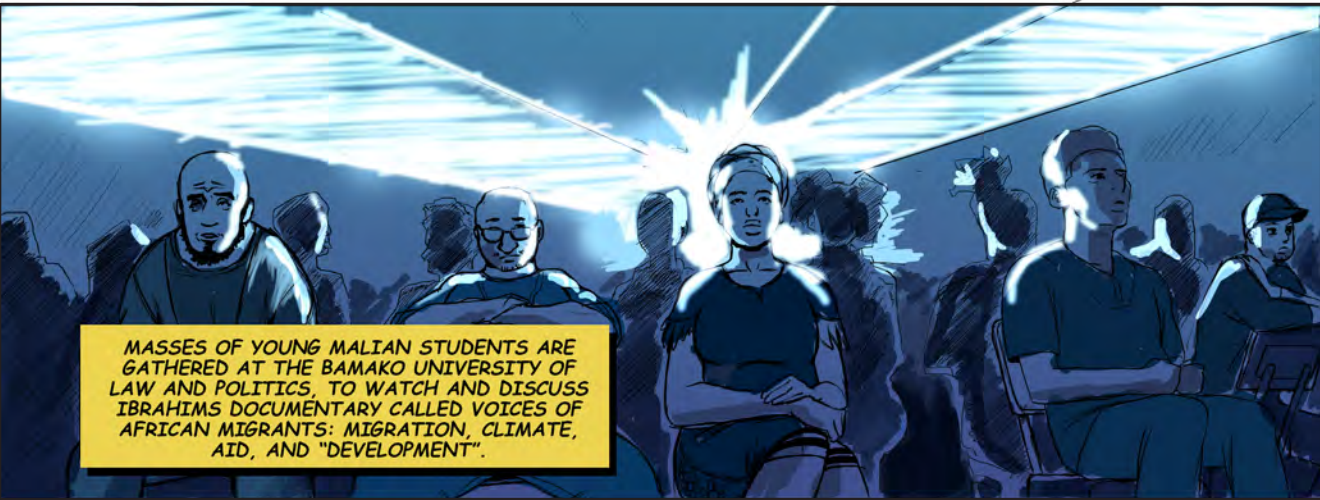
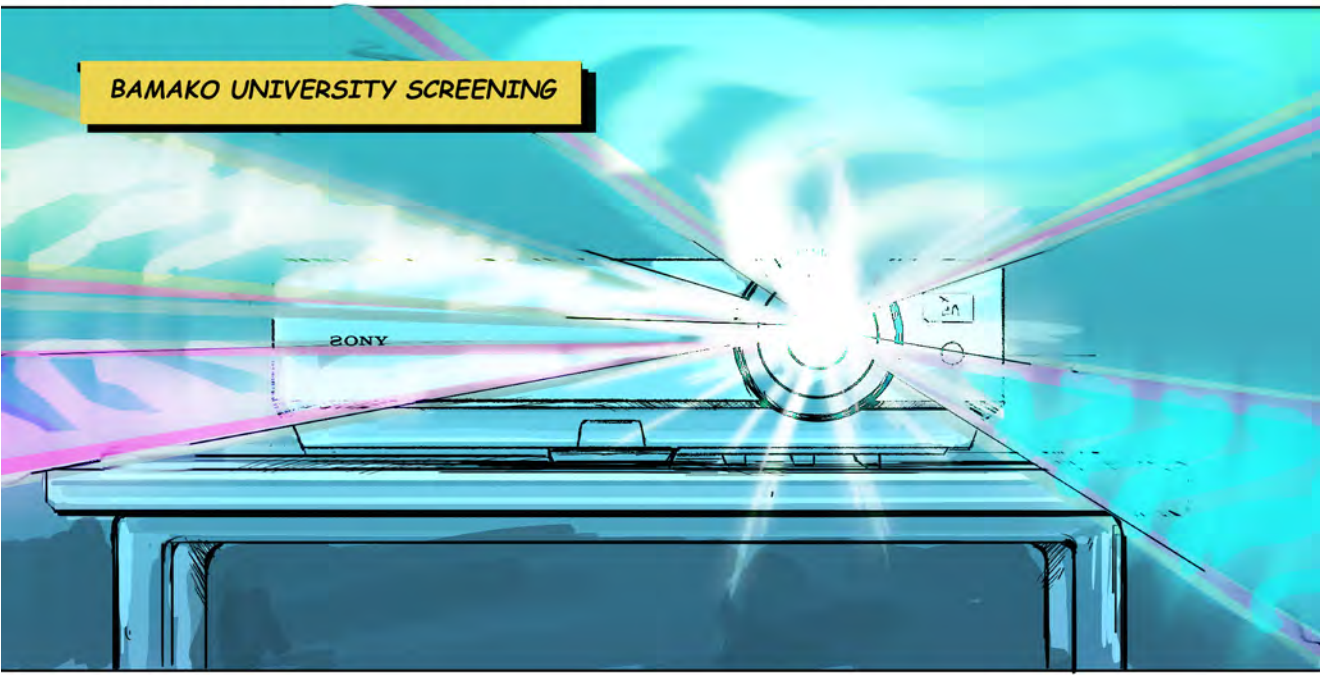
This story is inspired by the work of Cameroonian activists and film maker Djiff Djimeli who uses film as a medium for raising consciousness about the impact of climate change & European policies on migration in West African countries such as Mali. Through film he offers counter hegemonic perspectives on migration and emphasises that migration/movement is an integral part of the human experience therefore attempts to subvert & control this movement are an infringement of the humanity of those who migrate. The story also explores themes of community, transparency & solidarity as gateways to solutions to the bigger political issues faced by many in the global community.

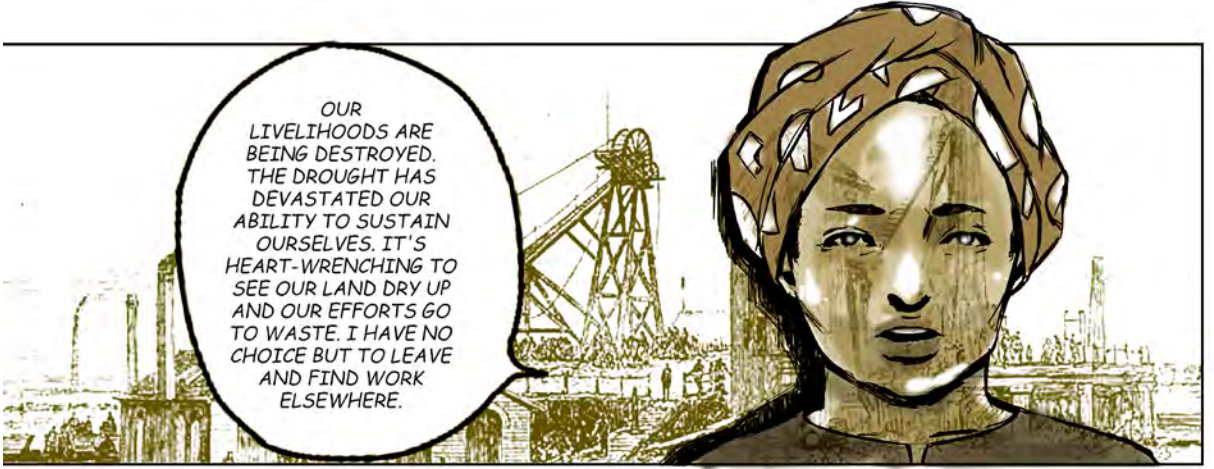
To learn more about his work scan the QR code.



The Forgotten Migrants

BAMAKO UNIVERSITY SCREENING





OUR LIVELIHOODS ARE BEING DESTROYED. THE DROUGHT HAS DEVASTATED OUR ABILITY TO SUSTAIN OURSELVES. IT'S HEART-WRENCHING TO SEE OUR LAND DRY UP AND OUR EFFORTS GO TO WASTE. I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE AND FIND WORK ELSEWHERE.



IBRAHIM

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING EVERYONE... UNDERSTANDING THE DEEPER CAUSES OF FORCED MIGRATION & THE INJUSTICE FACED BY PEOPLE IN OUR REGION AS THEY SEEK A BETTER LIFE FOR THEMSELVES ELSEWHERE



COULD YOU ELABORATE ON THAT, IBRAHIM?



AS WE'VE SEEN IN THE DOCUMENTARY, PEOPLE IN OUR REGION MIGRATE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS BUT MOST ARE FORCED TO MIGRATE BECAUSE OF UNBEARABLE CLIMATE CONDITIONS, ECONOMIC REASONS ETC YET WE FIND THAT THIS HUMAN RIGHT, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, IS BEING UNDERMINED BY THE EU AND BY LEADERS OF GOVERNMENT IN OUR REGION.

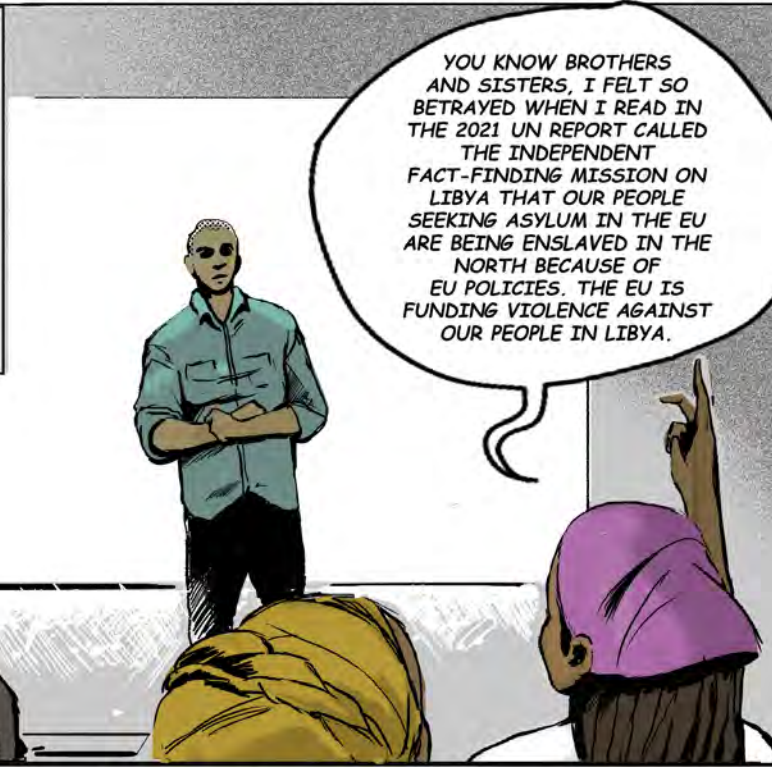
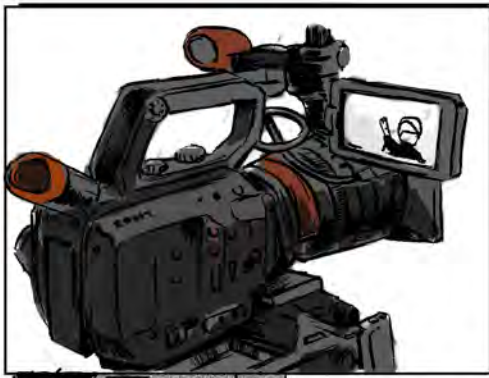


TRUE, IBRAHIM. WE ARE STRUGGLING TO ACCESS BASIC NEEDS LIKE WATER DURING THIS DROUGHT BUT COMPANIES DIGGING FOR URANIUM IN OUR SOIL FACE NO SUCH STRUGGLE; WATER FOR THEM IS ABUNDANT.



YEAH, MIGRATION IS MADE HARD FOR OUR PEOPLE WHO SEEK BETTER CONDITIONS, YET THE URANIUM UNDERNEATH OUR SOIL THAT POWERS NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANTS IN MANY EU COUNTRIES HAS NO DIFFICULTIES CROSSING BORDERS.





YOU KNOW BROTHERS AND SISTERS, I FELT SO BETRAYED WHEN I READ IN THE 2021 UN REPORT CALLED THE INDEPENDENT FACT-FINDING MISSION ON LIBYA THAT OUR PEOPLE SEEKING ASYLUM IN THE EU ARE BEING ENSLAVED IN THE NORTH BECAUSE OF EU POLICIES. THE EU IS FUNDING VIOLENCE AGAINST OUR PEOPLE IN LIBYA.



AND THIS TALK ABOUT AID IS ANOTHER ISSUE. THE MONEY GOES TO THEIR NGOS LED BY THEIR PEOPLE, WHO TELL US WHAT OUR PROBLEMS ARE AND HOW TO SOLVE THEM. THEY DO NOT SPEAK OF THE POLICIES THAT INCENTIVISE THE BRUTAL TREATMENT OF AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS & ASYLUM SEEKERS NOR DO THEY SPEAK ABOUT THEIR COMPANIES WHO ARE EXPLOITING OUR LAND & RESOURCES MAKING LIFE DIFFICULT FOR US.



YOU KNOW IBRAHIM, I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR CREATING THIS DOCUMENTARY AND FOR MAKING PEOPLE AWARE OF THESE INJUSTICES.

YES, ME TOO, IBRAHIM. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL SHARE THE FILM WITH PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD SO THAT THEY CAN KNOW THESE EVIL THINGS THAT ARE BEING DONE. I WILL ALSO DO MY PART HERE AND GO BACK TO WHERE I LEAVE AND TELL THEM WHAT I HAVE LEARNT.



Acknowledgements

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our generous funders for their unwavering support in bringing the Glocal Changemaker Imbizo Comic collection to life. Without their commitment to our vision, this series, documenting our 2023 Glocal Changemaker Imbizo seminars would not have been possible.

Additionally we extend our heartfelt appreciation to Archive Amabali Wethu for their invaluable contribution in bringing the Glocal Changemaker Imbizo Comic collection to life through their animation expertise.

Finally we extend our deepest gratitude to all the changemakers whose stories and work inspired the creation of this collection. May the justice they so deeply yearn and work towards be achieved in their lifetime.

We are grateful to the Masifunde team for the labour of love that produced this great work. And also offer a very special thank you to Babalo, Sabrina and Johanna who worked tirelessly to make this work possible.

For more on Masifunde visit www.masifunde.de or www.masifunde.org



Gefördert durch ENGAGEMENT GLOBAL
mit Mitteln des



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung



ARCHIVE
AMABALI
WETHU

The Masi Glocal Changemaker Comic Collection

The Masi Glocal Changemaker Comic Collection weaves together fictional tales inspired by real circumstances confronted by changemakers and activists from the Global South. These remarkable individuals work in community with others towards the transformation of their respective communities and were featured at our Glocal Changemaker Imbizo. The comic anthology draws upon the stories shared during these gatherings to foster awareness about structural and systemic injustices relate to gender, global warming and climate change, Immigration, racism; and concurrently, provides tangible exemplars of actionable change.

Moreover, nestled within its pages is a quest to redefine the archetype of the hero. No longer confined to myth, these heroes are ordinary individuals whose guiding principles are love for justice, a profound reverence for all of life, and an unwavering dedication to the liberation of all of humanity. They're individuals impelled to action within a community of like-minded souls, staunchly opposing injustices that have regrettably seeped into the very fabric of mainstream acceptance.

In essence, The Masi Glocal Changemaker Comic Collection is a homage to those who illuminate a path towards a more equitable world, and a clarion call for all to embrace the potential for change that resides within us.

masifunde

masifunde

LEARNER DEVELOPMENT

QM Moabit Ost

