

Studios Kabako Wins 2014 Curry Stone Design Prize

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Public performance in Kisangani. Image © Studios Kabako

Studios Kabako, a Congolese performance and theater studio founded by Faustin Linyekula in 2001, has won the 2014 Curry Stone Design Prize, a \$100,000 annual award that honors practitioners who use design to address critical social needs and strengthen communities. Studios Kabako was selected for establishing a series of cultural programs and urban interventions within the city of Kisangani as a way to help communities deal with the aftermath of civil war through dance and the arts. A video about Studios Kabako, after the break.

“Studios Kabako presents art not as a form of entertainment but as a form of political empowerment. The studio uses different tools—among these, dance, theater, and music—to help local communities imagine an alternative to the hardships of daily life, and understand that they can have a hand in creating a better future.”

Starting October 21, through November 1 (2014), Studios Kabako will be on tour in the US. You can find more information about Studios Kabako and their selection on the Curry Stone Design Prize website.