Je suis debout/I'm standing upright: Commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

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UWM, Milwaukee, Friends and Families
2019-2020
PARTICIPATIVE SOLIDARITY PHOTO MONTAGE

Je suis debout | I’m standing upright
with Bruce Clarke, Gaël Faye & The Upright Men Collective

“Being an upright woman or an upright man means rising up in dignity, refusing oblivion, being committed to stand against violence, looking History in the eye.” – Gaël Faye

The photo montage was assembled during the year following the 25th anniversary commemoration of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda
Collective Homage  2019 – 2020

Upholding the dignity of the survivors
Remembering the victims of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

LES HOMMES DEBOUT  THE UPRIGHT MEN

Bruce Clarke©2019 Collectif pour les hommes debout-Upright Men Collective [www.uprightmen.org]
April 2019 Commemoration Event,
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
COMMEMORATION
25th Anniversary of the Rwandan Genocide

Please join us for

a collective homage
To stand together with dignity
Honor the victims and survivors
And re-affirm our humanity

a discussion
about how understanding the warning signs of genocide
can prevent human rights atrocities in the world today

with Carine Kaneza Nantulya
Human Rights Watch Africa Advocacy Director, former transitional justice
and conflict resolution practitioner in Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda,
Sierra Leone, South Africa, and elsewhere

a film screening
Sometimes in April, director Raoul Peck (2005)
about the 1994 genocide in Rwanda that claimed the lives of over 800,000 people in just 100 days

April 8th, 2019 - UWM Curtin Hall 175 – 3243 N. Downer Ave., Milwaukee
5:00 pm Open doors
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Homage & Discussion
6:30 pm – 7 pm Light refreshments & “Standing Upright” a global solidarity project
7 pm - 9:30 pm Film

©2019 Collectif pour les hommes debout – Upright Men Collective. Bruce Clarke
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
COMMEMORATION
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RWANDAN GENOCIDE
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Monday April 8, 2019

PROGRAM

5:00 pm - Musical Excerpts from Rwanda 94 – Garrett List
   “La Veillée/The Vigil” [part. 1 & 2] - Ingoma drums & Ibyivugo, Amararo
   “Wagiyehe Mana y’Rwanda” - text & melody: Jean-Marie Muyango, arrangement: Garrett List

5:30 pm - Homage
   Opening
   Hope Anthem, Gaël Faye with Shanel & Samuel Kamanzi

   Les hommes debout || The upright men - April 2019, “Je suis ta mère / I am your mother...”
   © Bruce Clarke/Collectif pour les Hommes debout

   “THE SECOND RETURN” - Véronique Tadjo, L’ombre d’Imana. Voyages jusqu’au bout du
   Rwanda/The Shadow of Imana. Travels in the Heart of Rwanda, from the project RWANDA:
   ÉCRIRE PAR DEVOIR DE MÉMOIRE

   “La litanie des questions/The litany of questions” Rwanda 94 – melody: J.-M. Muyango, music:
   Garrett List

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   DISCUSSION AND Q&A
   Carine Kaneza Nantulya, Human Rights Watch Africa Advocacy Director

   UNDERSTANDING THE WARNING SIGNS OF GENOCIDE
   IN THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES IN THE WORLD TODAY

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   Lighting of Candles – Hope Anthem, Gaël Faye with Samuel Kamanzi

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6:30 pm - Participative Global Solidarity Photo-Project - I’m standing upright | Je suis debout
   Les hommes debout || The upright men Collective – Gaël Faye & Bruce Clarke

   ~~ Light refreshments ~~

7:00 pm - Film screening Sometimes in April (2005)
   Director Raoul Peck
Welcome everyone— bienvenue à tous et à toutes

April 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of the genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda that started on April 7, 1994.

The genocide of the Tutsi of Rwanda is a crime against humanity. As such, it concerns us all. It is part of our History, a part of each and every one of us.

During this year’s commemoration here in Milwaukee, we stand with the Project of the Upright Men Collective and pay homage to the victims and survivors to remember the tragedy, to fight against oblivion, to give presence to the women, men and children who disappeared during the 100 days of the genocide, giving human dignity to each human being who confronted the crime of all crimes: the denial of the right of existence of an entire human group.

Commemorations seek to counter amnesia and bring awareness that genocides can still happen, can happen again.

Today we are fortunate to have Carine Kaneza Nantulya among us. She is currently Human Rights Watch - Africa Advocacy Director and she graciously accepted our invitation to return to UWM to speak about understanding the warning signs of genocide in preventing human rights atrocities in the world today.

With us also, through their songs, texts, films and paintings are:

– Franco-Rwandan Rapper and Author - Gaël Faye who, like Carine, grew up in Burundi living through the first years of a civil war that still continues there along ever-more menacing lines, witnessing the foreboding signs of the Rwandan genocide of the Tutsi, and then registering its devastating unfolding and consequences.

– Véronique Tadjo, a Franco-Ivorian artist, poet and writer, who participated in the FestAfrica project: Rwanda: Écrire par devoir de mémoire – Rwanda Writing out of Duty to Memory

– and the Haitian film director, Raoul Peck who, as the UWM Distinguished Lecture Series Speaker in 2018, spoke about James Baldwin and the racism that his film I Am Not Your Negro portrayed.

His film Sometimes in April which shows here at 7pm joins Bruce Clarke’s work. This South African artist who participated in the struggle to end apartheid, is with us with his larger than life paintings affirming that art is against forgetting, art stops the eyes of the world from looking elsewhere, art creates a bridge of solidarity between the victims and the world.

Today Bruce Clarke and Gaël Faye are in Rwanda and these Upright Persons are hanging there at the sites of the massacres creating a symbolic bridge between Milwaukee and the Tutsi of Rwanda, victims and survivors. The silhouettes give contours to these women, these children,
these men standing upright, and they restore their individuality and their humanity.

Let us open our homage with Gaël Faye in concert singing his *Hope Anthem* with Bruce Clarke’s portraits hanging on stage, accompanied with Rwandan traditional dance and music.

*Hope Anthem*
*in concert with Shanel & Samuel Kamanzi*
*Hommes debout – 28 juillet 2014*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CaFkHGCQd8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CaFkHGCQd8)

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**Pledge of remembrance**

Jennifer Vanderheyden and Bilugé Ntabala join us from Marquette University and will read the 2019 pledge of remembrance from Bruce Clarke and the Upright Men Collective. Jennifer Vanderheyden initiated a chapter of Step Up at Marquette University, a not-for-profit organisation that Rangira Bea Gallimore, a Rwandan, who lost her family in the massacres of the genocide, started to support the women survivors, the SurVivantes of the genocide in Rwanda.

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Nicole Palasz who is Program Coordinator with the Institute of World Affairs will read the passage that ends Véronique Tadjo’s *The Shadow of Imana - Travels in the Heart of Rwanda*.

“The Second Return”

Both this passage and the *Litany of questions* which follows and which is drawn from the score of the play *Rwanda 94* serve as introductions to some of the questions that Carine Kaneza Nantulya’s discussion raises.

**Litany of questions**

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**PRESENTATION-DISCUSSION and Q&A**
*with*
Carine Kaneza Nantulya

Thank you Carine for bringing and sharing your experiences and knowledge of these de-humanizing elements and activities that lead to violent atrocities and inhumanity, to crimes against humanity, all over the world, here as much as elsewhere. May we be active and vigilant and serve as memories for the future.
Lighting of candles

Please light your candle and we’ll close the commemoration on the 25th anniversary of the Genocide of Tutsi in Rwanda as we opened with Gaël Faye, and Samuel Kamanzi in a different rendering of *Hope Anthem*.

https://vimeo.com/32100340

Thank you all for sharing in the commemoration.

Please stay a while. Be in the moment, continue the discussion with Carine and enjoy some refreshments out in the hall.

Do watch the video: *Human Rights Watch: Rwanda 25 years*

If you would like to participate in the *Solidarity Photo Project*, Dina Wolf, who is K-16 Outreach Coordinator with the Institute of World Affairs, is standing by the table with her camera.

We are hoping to collect photos from across Milwaukee, of women, men and children, standing in a dignified manner, having written on a sign that they are holding up at chest height: *I am standing upright*, in their own language of expression. With these photos we wish to create a collage of solidarity, affirming the dignity and humanity of each and every person in our communities and across the world and acknowledge and honor the victims and Survivors of the Genocide of Tutsi in Rwanda.

Raoul Peck’s film will screen here in this room at 7:00pm. It is a remarkable historical drama that recounts the 100 days of the Genocide in Rwanda and renders evident that the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda is our story, part of our History.

Also on Friday May 10th 2019, 5-11pm, please consider coming to the Alliance française of Milwaukee, to watch *Rwanda 94: une tentative de réparation symbolique envers les morts, à l’usage des vivants*.

Thank you for your part in the 25th commemoration of the genocide of Tutsi in Rwanda and in honoring with dignity the victims and survivors.
LES hommes debout

25è commémoration

Avril 2019

Je suis ta mère ou ton père, ta grand-mère ou ton grand-père, ta soeur ou ton frère, ta tante ou ton oncle, ou ton enfant disparu il y a 25 ans au Rwanda. Depuis longtemps maintenant je pleure et je crie en silence ma colère, ma détresse, ma vie brisée. Malgré l’horreur et l’indifférence, je suis toujours là, debout, attendant 25 ans après que les hommes me rendent ce qu’ils m’ont pris et ce qu’ils me doivent : ma dignité.

Chaque avril mon coeur saigne et chaque avril je me débats et je lutte pour que de tels crimes ne restent pas impunis, pour que de tels crimes ne se répètent pas. Chaque avril je me relève comme un flambeau d’espoir et chaque avril je me dresse comme un rempart contre l’oubli.

Chaque avril je suis le gardien de la mémoire des victimes du génocide des Tutsi du Rwanda.

Depuis plusieurs années, les Hommes debout poursuivent leur combat contre la déshumanisation, l’oubli et l’ignorance.
Le projet de Bruce Clarke et le Collectif pour les Hommes debout tente de redonner une image de résilience et de dignité aux rescapés, de réparation symbolique aux victimes du génocide des Tutsi.
Démarré en 2014, il a été vu dans une vingtaine de villes à travers le monde.

THE upright men

25th commemoration

April 2019

I am your mother, your father, your grandmother, your grandfather, your sister, your brother, your aunt or your uncle, your cousin, or your child who died 25 years ago in Rwanda. For so long, I have silently cried out my anger, my distress, my broken life. Despite the horror and indifference, I'm still standing upright, waiting for 25 years to get back what was taken from me and what is owed to me: my dignity.

Every April my heart bleeds and every April I struggle and I fight so that those crimes do not go unpunished, so that the crimes are not repeated. Every April I rise up as a torch of hope and every April I stand as a rampart against oblivion.

Every April I am the guardian of the memory of the victims of the Rwandan Tutsi genocide.

The Upright Men pursue their fight against dehumanisation, oblivion and ignorance. The project conceived by Bruce Clarke and the Collectif pour les Hommes debout attempts to give an image of resilience and of dignity to the survivors, to give symbolic reparation to the victims of the Tutsi genocide.
Initiated in 2014, it has been presented in some twenty cities around the world.
L’ombre d’Imana. 
Voyages jusqu’au bout du Rwanda

Véronique Tadjo

**LE DEUXIÈME RETOUR**

Je ne suis pas guérie du Rwanda. On n’exorcise pas le Rwanda. Le danger est toujours là, tapi dans les mémoires, tapi dans la brousse aux frontières du pays. La violence est encore là, de tous les côtés.

La mort et la cruauté.

La mort est naturelle. Elle est l’autre face de la vie. Il ne faut pas en avoir peur. Et pour s’approcher du Rwanda, il faut la mettre de côté. De toute façon, la mort n’est pas plus forte que la vie. La vie finit par reprendre le dessus.

La violence des hommes a fait la mort cruelle, hideuse. Monstre à tout jamais dans la mémoire du temps.


Comprendre. Notre humanité en danger. 1

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The Shadow of Imana. 
Travels in the Heart of Rwanda

Translated by Véronique Wakerley

**THE SECOND RETURN**

I have not recovered from Rwanda. Rwanda cannot be exorcised. Danger is ever-present, lurking in the memory, crouching in the bush in neighbouring countries. Violence is still there, on every side.

Death and cruelty.

Death is natural. It is the other side of life and we should not be afraid of it. And if you want to come closer to Rwanda, you must put it aside. Besides, death is not stronger than life, for life always regains the upper hand in the end.

It is human violence that has made death cruel, hideous. An eternal monster in the memory of time.

We need to understand, to analyse the mechanisms of hatred, the words that create division, the deeds that put the seal on treason, the actions that unleash terror.

We need to understand. Our humanity is in peril. 1

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1. p. 133. Éditions Actes Sud, 2000
1. p. 188. Reissued by Waveland Press, Inc., 2015
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Une tentative de réparation symbolique envers les morts, à l’usage des vivants</td>
<td>An attempt at symbolic reparation to the dead, for use by the living</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**La litanie des questions – The litany of questions**

Ecoutez-les, soyez sur vos gardes
Regardez-les, mais méfiez-vous
Ces appareils qui propagent l’information
Ce sont eux qui infectent les coeurs
Et souillent les esprits

These machines which spread information
They infect our hearts
And pollute our minds

Une hyène rusée se met à beugler
à la manière d’une vache
Nous sommes dans leur tanière
S’il vous plaît, soyez vigilants

A cunning hyena starts to bellow
Like a cow
We are in their lair
Please be on your guard

Nous n’avons pas eu de funérailles
comme il est de coutume.
Nous avons été dépecés et jetés
dans des fosses communes.
Nos cadavres jetés à travers le pays.
Chiens et vautours les dévorèrent,
Puis ils les laissèrent les os exposés au soleil

We had no funerals
as is the custom.
We were cut up and thrown
into common graves.
Our corpses were scattered throughout the country.
Dogs and vultures devoured them
Then left the bones to bleach in the sun.

1. Qui cherche la vérité dit les ombres
Qui réclame justice n’accepte aucun pardon

1. He who seeks the truth speaks shadows
He who seeks justice accepts no pardon.

2. Tant de morts, tant de chagrins, tant de familles
tant de familles exterminées
et il faudrait oublier?
Le feu est éteint, c’est vrai,
mais pour combien de temps ?
Le feu est éteint, c’est vrai, mais pas la peur
et que dire du feu à l’intérieur ?

2. So many deaths, so much grief,
so many families exterminated
and we are supposed to forget?
It’s true the fire is out
but for how long?
the fire is out, true, but not the fear
and what about the fire within?

3. La voie de la réconciliation
ne conduit pas à l’oubli.
Que l’on cueille nos os dans les marais
sur les flancs des collines
dans les fosses communes
Que l’on plante nos noms sur une croix

3. The path of reconciliation
does not lead to forgetting.
May our bones be picked from the marshes
from the hillsides
and from the common graves
May our names be written on a cross
4. Nous sommes ce million de cris suspendus au dessus des collines du Rwanda. 
Nous sommes ce nuage accusateur. 
Nous attendons de vous réparation. 
Pour nous, les morts et pour tous les survivants. 
pour tous les Rwandais, 
pour tous les hommes de la Terre.

4. We are the million of cries suspended above the hills of Rwanda. 
We are this cloud of accusation. 
We expect reparations from you, 
For us, the dead and for all who survived 
For all the Rwandans, 
and for all men on earth.

5. A travers nous, 
l'humanité vous regarde tristement 
Qu'attendez-vous ? 
Nous ne sommes pas en paix 
Nous ne sommes pas en paix 
Nous ne sommes pas en paix 
Nous ne sommes pas en paix 
Qui cherche la vérité dit les ombres 
Qui réclame justice n'accepte aucun pardon.

5. Through us, 
humanity looks sadly at you 
What are you waiting for? 
We are not at peace 
We are not at peace 
We are not at peace 
We are not at peace 
He who seeks the truth speaks shadows 
He who seeks justice accepts no pardon.

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Musical excerpts

La Veillée – The Vigil [part. 1 & 2] - Ingoma drums & Ibyivugo, Amararo

Wagiyehe Mana y’Rwanda - text & melody: Jean-Marie Muyango, arrangement: Garrett List

La Cantate de Bisesero – The Bisesero Cantate - music : Garrett List
Prologue
L’exode vers Bisesero / The exodus towards Bisesero
La résistance / The resistance

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Rwanda 94
A four-year collaboration between Western and Rwandan artists, meeting survivors, developing material in Rwanda and in Belgium, presented first as a work in progress at the Avignon Festival in 1999, and premiered in Liège and Brussels, Belgium in 2000. Initiated by Groupov, an “experimental Centre for Active Culture”, based in Liège, that researches the “question of truth”.

The musical score by Garrett List evolved in dialogue with Rwandan musicians and Jean-Marie Muyango as well as Groupov’s artistic director Jacques Delcuvellerie. It is the result of Garrett List’s research into the organic relationship between words and music, the meeting of Western and world musical traditions and practices, and for Rwanda 94 the melodic counterpoint and oral tradition of improvisation in Rwandan music.
25 ans après - RWANDA - 25 years after
LE GÉNOCIDE DES TUTSI - THE TUTSI GENOCIDE

Pour la mémoire et la dignité des victimes du génocide des Tutsi au Rwanda
In memory and for the dignity of the victims of the genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

**PARTICIPATIVE SOLIDARITY PHOTO PROJECT**
UWM, Milwaukee, with Friends and Families
with
**THE UPRIGHT MEN COLLECTIVE || COLLECTIF POUR LES HOMMES DEBOUT**
Bruce Clarke & Gaël Faye

*Je suis debout | I’m standing upright*

Take a photo of yourself, from head to foot, standing in a dignified posture, holding a paper on which you have written in your own language “I’m standing upright”.

“Being an upright woman or an upright man means rising up in dignity, refusing oblivion, being committed to stand against violence, looking History in the eye.” – Gaël Faye

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**LES HOMMES DEBOUT - THE UPRIGHT MEN**

Projet d’art contemporain - BRUCE CLARKE - Contemporary art project
©2019 Collectif pour les hommes debout - Upright Men Collective [www.uprightmen.org]
**Participative Solidarity Photo-Project**

*UWM, Milwaukee, Friends and Families*

with

Bruce Clarke & Gaël Faye

**Je suis debout | I’m standing upright**

Please write:  

**I am standing upright**

in your language of expression on a piece of paper  

Then standing in a dignified manner  

with your sign at chest height,  

take a photo of yourself, from head to foot, in memory, honor and solidarity  

with the victims and survivors  

of the 1994 genocide of Tutsi in Rwanda.

The Milwaukee photo montage was assembled during the year (2019-2020) following the commemoration of  

the 25th anniversary of the genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda.

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**BRUCE CLARKE**  
©2019 Collectif pour les hommes debout - Upright Men Collective [www.uprightmen.org]
Collective Homage 2019 – 2020

Upholding the dignity of the survivors
Remembering the victims of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

Collective Homage 2019 – 2020

Upholding the dignity of the survivors
Remembering the victims of the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda

LES HOMMES DEBOUT

THE UPRIGHT MEN
I AM STANDING UPRIGHT
Je suis debout
Rwanda 94

*une tentative de réparation symbolique envers les morts, à l’usage des vivants*

an endeavor of symbolic reparation for the dead, to be used by the living

**Film screening:** Friday May 10, 2019 -- 5-11pm (with 2 intermissions)

At the Alliance française of Milwaukee

Free & Open to the Public – come when & as long as you wish

Together with *Les Hommes debout || Upright Men* Collective Project

Bruce Clarke & Gaël Faye

*Rwanda 94* was developed with the survivors and victims of the 1994 genocide of Tutsi in Rwanda and created in Belgium by Groupov. First performed in 2000 in Liège, the film records the 6 hour theater performance in 2005, with its live witness accounts, conference, spoken and sung choirs, musical compositions, projections of images and reports, and theatrical fiction with actors, masks and puppets.

**Authors:** Marie-France Collard, Jacques Delcuvellerie, Dorcy Rugamba, Yolande Mukagasana, Jean-Marie Piemme, Mathias Simons with the writing collaboration of Tharcisse Kalisa Rugano.

**Stage Direction:** Jacques Delcuvellerie in assoc. with Mathias Simons.

**Composition & musical direction:** Garrett List

Film (655’): M.-F. Collard & Patrick Czapinski, Groupov; co-prod.: Parallèles Prods & RTBF-La Deux (2013).


Co-sponsored by the Institute of World Affairs & the Program in French, UWM & the Alliance française of Milwaukee
Hope Anthem Concert
L'Afrique, je l'ai en moi et je chante pour sa mémoire
Je suis humain, ni métisse, ni blanc, ni noir
Le Rwanda, je le pleure chaque 7 avril
Même si Hubert Védrine n'est pas de notre avis
Au fait vous savez, je suis franco-rwandais
Et une partie d moi-même a tué l'autre sans m le demander
Je veux être en paix avec moi-même, et cela à tout prix
J'ai des souvenirs couleurs d'Afrique de quand j'étais môme
De quand j'étais les pieds nus dans la latérite
J'ai dû quitter ce monde beau qui m'avait vu naître
J'ai débarqué un soir d'hiver à l'aéroport Charles-de-Gaulle
Victime des dommages collatéraux du discours de la Baule

Refrain - Jali
Ihorere Rwanda
Ihorere Rwanda
Amarira warize arahagije

Les mots comme des métaux, c'est mon fond, ma forme
Flow, métaphores, que je manie comme le feu, la forge
Ils ont partagé l'Afrique à l'équerre, à l'écart
Dans mon quart ou dans mon tiers de monde devenu ma terre
Je trop pleuré quand mon peuple a perdu la raison
Ce sont nos larmes qui ont rempli tous les Grands Lacs de la région
Soldat inconnu "Hasta siempre", Fred Rwigema
Ecoutez, nous ne sommes pas du même monde
Vous avez grandi en paix, nous revenons d'outre-tombe
Il fut long, très long, le chemin du retour
Les paroles ne servent à rien lorsqu'on épuise tous les retours
Reprendre ce que la vie n'offrait pas
Sous les tentes du HCR et des couloirs de l'OFPRA
A nous familles refugiees, decimées, decarminées
Dans des pays frontaliers, elles furent marginalises
J'en ai rêvé du pays de Gihanga
Des murmures de l'inanga et des poèmes de Rugamba
D'écouter la rumeur des collines le matin
Sur des reliefs jacardants de nos aurores de satin
J'en ai rêvé de ce retour au pays du lait du miel
Des boissons fermentées et de la bière d'hydromel
Nyabarongo ! Tu es l'encre de ma plume
Et les cornes de la vache sacrée sont mon croissant de lune !

Refrain - Jali
Ihorere Rwanda
Ihorere Rwanda
Amarira warize arahagije

Africa I have it in me and I sing for its memory
I am human, neither mixed, nor white, nor black
Rwanda, I cry for it every April 7th
Even if Hubert Védrine is not on our side
By the way, you know I am Franco-Rwandan
And one part of me killed the other without asking me
Rwanda and France gave me everything and took everything from me
I want to be in peace with myself, and that at all cost
I slam words, but I don't only have woes
I have colorful memories of Africa from when I was a kid
From when I was bare footed in the latérite
Africa drifting, I'm a sentinel in the security booth
Rain on the hot asphalt, a moist fragrance one senses
I had to leave this gorgeous world where I was born
I landed one winter evening at Ch-de-Gaulle airport
Victim of collateral damage from the Baule Speech

Refrain - Jali
Do not cry Rwanda
Do not cry Rwanda
You have cried enough tears

Words like metals, they are my content, my form
Flow, metaphors, that I shape like a furnace, a forge
They divided Africa with a set square, set apart
In my quarter or third world became my land
I cried too much when my people lost its reason
Our tears filled all the Great Lakes of the region
A homage to peace for those who perished in combat
Unknown soldier "Hasta siempre", Fred Rwigema
Listen we are not of the same world
You grew up in peace, we return from beyond the grave
It was long, very long, the journey back
Words are to no avail when one exhausts all returns
to take back what life did not offer
Under the [UN]HCR tents and in OFPRA's hallways
For us refugee families, decimated, uprooted
In countries bordering ours, they were marginalised
I have often dreamt of Gihanga's country
of the inanga's whispers and Rugamba's poems
of listening to the morning murmur of the hills
On the chatty hillsides of our satin dawns
I have often dreamt of the return to the land of milk of honey
Of fermented drinks and of honey mead
Nyabarongo! You are my pen's ink
And the horns of the sacred cow my crescent of moon!