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Africa's artistic landscape is immensely fertile. It has emerged from its colonial past and is once again asserting its own identity. It is not confined to the continent itself, but has spread throughout the world through the work of those descended from the enforced migrations of the slave trade and those who have more recently left their homes in Africa to take their place on an international stage. This book brings together more than 60 of Africa's most creative contemporary artists. Drawn from across the African continent as well as from Europe, North America, the Caribbean and South America, the book illustrates the diversity and vitality of these artists. Their work leaps off the page with more than 350 colour images (many especially commissioned). In addition to painters, sculptors and photographers, there are a number of artists whose work embraces performance and installation. Many of the materials they use are as unorthodox as their imagery, with ready-made and found objects.

About the Author

Chris Spring is curator of the African galleries at the British Museum. A practising artist himself, he is the author of many books on Africa and its cultural heritage, including African Arms and Armour (1995), African Textile Design (1997), Africa: Arts and Cultures (2000) and Silk in Africa (2002).