Adama Keïta (she / her / hers)
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Biography and research interests

Adama Keïta is an Indo-Guadeloupean, Martinican and Senegalese researcher, writer, educator, experimental movie maker and curator — raised in Iüanakaéra (Martinique) and based between Amsterdam (Netherlands) and Iüanakaéra (Martinique). She graduated with a Master's degree in Critical Studies at Sandberg Instituut with a distinction Award from Bekker La bastide Foundation. Her thesis research focused on her mother tongue : Martinican creole / *Palé Matinitjé* tracing how Martinican or *Palé Matinitjé* is rooted in the collective memory as a practice, manifesting a sense of dichotomy in the population and is deeply engaged in sonic/somatic practices in moments of political rebellion for a collective Martinician liberation. Her research approaches Martinican, or *Palé Matinitjé*, as a multi-layered practice that creates tools for liberation, enabling spatial re-appropriation, reclaiming Afro-Martinican presence, and emphasizing cultural representation. In her thesis, Martinican is explored as a tool for resistance in correlation with the concept of linguistic cannibalism.

She is interested and involved in education, literary and sonic practices in different forms. She finds nuances with her research practice with active involvement in collective/societal-driven projects. Keïta's work is mostly informed by Caribbean and African thinking, intersectional Afrocentric ideologies and non-westerns forms of pedagogy . She draws her curatorial practice; which blends research, historical phenomena with art and pedagogy; as a way to (re)claim black presence and narratives in (pre) modernity.

From a curatorial spectrum, she specializes in sound, film, and educational spaces. Also, when it comes to writing, her practice is at the intersections of surrealism and responsiveness. Her published writings include texts, monographs and essays for : Johanna Mirabel, Minia Biabiany, Mehdi Gorbuz, FRAC Auvergne, Imane Farès Gallery, Bakwa Magazines (...) . She's been Awarded for her various research-projects by Het Cultuur Fonds, Bekker La Bastide and AFK Amsterdam and in 2026 the Aimé Césaire Foundation. Since 2025, she's part of the Organizational International Committee of the Black Civilization Museum in Dakar (Senegal). In 2024, Adama Keïta was a guest teacher at the Fine Art School of Paris, and more specifically for Julien Creuzet's students.

She's currently writing her first novel, expressing on childhood abuse and matrophobia. She's also reflecting-writing a pamphlet on black women in friendship alongside Haitian author Evelyne Trouillot.

Adama Keïta is the Founder and one of the Curators of Programs of Nianiba . Nianiba is an (im)material space, functioning as an artistic and cultural-research lab. Grounded in Martinique (Caribbean), Nianiba's itinerant approach extends across borders with cultural-research projects in the Caribbean, Latin America and the African continent. Under Nianiba, Keïta is curating a multidisciplinary and liberatory program named SIANO, exploring the landscape of Caribbean sonorities in tribute to Eugène Mona. In July 2025, Nianiba

started a collaborative year-long project with Zambia Belonging, where family archives are explored in the context of home and as living and evolving materials. The project takes place between Martinique (Caribbean) and Lusaka (Zambia).

Her research interest are : somatic, sonic memory, gender roles and traditions in Africa and in the Caribbean, cannibalism in the context of language, manifestation of thinking through materiality, ecological revenge theory, spirituality, Caribbean and African orature and ideas, ecological craftsmanship, the concept of quietude and communion in shared spaces, food, Caribbean cultural phenomenona in (pre) modernity, noire pedagogy, alt/non/ un-schooling, colonial occupation in present society, Francophone Women's literature from West Africa and the Caribbean, dissident movement as a form of pedagogy, eco-criticism, Caribbean surrealism, Political liberation, (co) existence and love.

Education

2025 **Master of Arts in Critical Studies , at Sandberg Instituut (Amsterdam, Netherlands)**
Thesis : " Martinican creole / Palé Matinitjé: cannibalism, dichotomy and a collective vessel for a Martinican liberation rooted in sonic and somatic practices " .
Awarded for academic excellence by Bekker La Bastide Foundation.

2025 **Program on Liberation Ecology, Center for Pedagogies (under RE:ARC)**
Facilitated by Suzanne Pierre (Critical Ecology Lab)

2023 **BA in Art Market , at Institute of Higher Studies in Arts (Paris, France)**
Specialization : Contemporary art

Professional Employment

2025 **Researcher and Orientation Committee** — Black Civilisation Museum, Dakar (Senegal)
Hybrid, September 2025 - until now

2025 **Curator and Researcher** — The Black Archives, Amsterdam (NL)
Hybrid , August 2025 - December 2025

2024 **Visiting Professor** — Fine Arts School of Paris - Studio Julien Creuzet, Paris (FR)
On-site , April 2024 - June 2024

2023 **Researcher** — RE : ARC Institute , Danemark (CPH)
Hybrid , December 2023 - March 2024

2023 **Founder and Curator of Programs** — Nianiba
Hybrid , August 2023 until now

Awards, Grants and Residencies

2026 **Mondriaan Fonds Grant** —- October 2026
Awarded for critical research and investigation on Mati Wroko as a praxis in Suriname

2026 **Aimé Césaire Foundation Grant** —- September 2026
Recognized for excellence in critical research on Caribbean sonorities, funding the development of a forthcoming publication in 2027.

2025 **Het Cultuurfonds Gran**t —- November 2025
Awarded for critical research and investigation on the Nhaka practice in Zimbabwe

2025 **Bekker La Bastide Award** —- August 2025
Recognized for academic excellence

2025 **Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst Grant** —- March 2025
Recognized for excellence in critical research on Caribbean sonorities, funding the development of a forthcoming publication in 2027.

2024 **Writing-Research Trip at the Venice Biennale** —- November 2024
Upon the invitation of the Martinican Research and Art Center (C.R.A.A)

Curation

2025 Co-curator — Echoes of independence , Hybrid, The Black Archives — Aug-Nov

2025 Co- Curator with Sana Ginwalla , The memory of the walls
Experimental, multidisciplinary and itinerant program between martinique and zambia on family archives in the context of the home — July 2025

2024 *Weaving through sonorities* —- April 2024 at V.O Curations , London (UK)
Participating artists :

Minia Biabiany
Phoebe Collings - James
Candice Zogo
Tania Arancia Marie
Deanna Nelson - Mckie

2024 *Son an jounen an jénès Matnik* —- January 2024 , Paris (FR)
Sonic and somatic Performance

Manifested by Simone Lagrand, Manon Davis and Igo Drané

2023 Curator , SIANO
Experimental, multidisciplinary and itinerant program on caribbean sonorities
— August 2023 - until now

2023 *New Rhumba , A Jazz Rêverie* at Union Jeunesse Internationale , Paris (FR)
Manifesto on Jazz Music in tribute to Ahmad Jamal — June 2023
Additional materials for attendees loaned from the Pan-African library Tamery Sematawy

Talks, Lectures and Workshops

2026 Moderator , For Isis Labeau-Caberia lecture-performance " Chères Ancêtres"
at Tropiques Atrium in Martinique — May 2026

2025 Lecture " *Re-imagine a Fanonian Museum"* at Black Civilisation Museum
in Dakar (Sénégal) — December 2025

2025 Writing workshop for Ésansyèl, non-profit organization for young women athletes in
Guadeloupe — October 2025

2025 Lecture and Workshop ' *History of Her Voice '* at Kunstinstituut Melly , Rotterdam
(Netherlands) with Amanda T. McIntyre — June 2025

2025 Sonic Lecture ' *The Magmatic Woman '* at Felix Meritis
in Amsterdam (Netherlands) — April 2025

2025 Writing workshop drawn from ' What is Africa to me ' by Maryse Condé
For Read My World Festival 2025 preview event curated by Maboula Soumahoro and Lou
Mensah — April 2025

2025 Sonic Lecture ' *C'est Elle '* at Imane Farès Gallery, Paris (France)
For Minia biabiany solo exhibition ' Le Ciel aux Yeux Racines ' — January 2025

2024 Sonic Lecture ' *Sogolon Kondé'* at De Ateliers, Amsterdam (Netherlands)
Part of an ongoing curatorial - research project on gender role, orality and west african
woman figures — June 2024

2024 Guest Teacher — (Non) Somatic Language at Beaux-Arts of Paris
Atelier Julien Creuzet – April 2024
Invited by Christophe Chassol and Julien Creuzet

2024 Speaker with Henrique Paris , Drawing a curatorial discourse from Stuart Hall thinking

at V.O Curations (london, UK) — April 2024
In conjunction to the group show " weaving through sonorities" , additional materials for attendees loaned from Iniva (Stuart Hall's Library) , under Nianiba

2024 Guest Teacher with *Christophe Chassol* — Sonic Infrastructure in artistic practices at Beaux-Arts de Paris , *Atelier Julien Creuzet* – April 2024
Invited by Christophe Chassol and Julien Creuzet

2024 Guest Lecturer , Tending : the necessity act to curate your own body of work
Part of " Photo - Lab " A program at destination to emergent image makers
at FOAM Museum — April 2024

2024 Moderator , Black Femininity at METRO54 — January 2024

2024 Poetry reading , *DLO* at Stichting Perdu — January 2024

2023 Speaker with Olukemi Lijadu , Mother tongue as a social-political tool
at Gerrit Rietveld Academie — November 2023

2023 Speaker with Jade Bassien - Capsa , The spirit of Marronage in Caribbean Sonorities
at V.O Curations — November 2023
Part of the educational program SIANO on caribbean sonorities, under Nianiba

2023 Moderator , The narrative of slavery and colonialism in the imagination of Eugène Mona by Researcher and Historian Valérie - Ann Edmond - Mariette , Paris (France)
October 2023

2022 Poetry reading and workshop , The art of vulnerability , at Soho House Brixton
April 2022

Publications, Essays and Poems

2026 Essay, ~~À l'heure~~ où le tyran quiquivi chante,, For Lucas Erin's exhibition " at Espace Projet at the Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts de Lausanne (MCBA), Switzerland.

2026 Essay and Poem, The *Poet Bamboo*, For Bakwa Magazines #12 : The Lost Manuscript and Other Meditations, Editor-in-Chief : Dzekashu Macviban

2025 Text and Poem, *Ésotérique*, For Mehdi Gorbuz's exhibition "Bluesky rising waters our childhood memories" at Château de La Colle Noire – prize *la Colle Noire* initiated and supported by DIOR

2025 Essay and Poem, *La poésie de la Tactique* , For Johanna Mirabel's first monograph commissioned by FRAC Auvergne Clermont-Ferrand (France)

2025 Publication, *Lapo Tanbou,* Available at Lakou Sankofa (Martinique)

San Serriffe (Amsterdam) ICA Bookstore (London) and After8 Bookstore (Paris) and Hopscotch (Berlin)

2025 Text , *C'est Elle*, For Minia Biabiany solo exhibition " Le ciel aux yeux racines "
Galerie Imane Farès, Paris (France)

2024 Publication, *Poetic Aspects of (un) learning - Edition 1 : Sonic Infrastructure*
Available at San Serriffe (Amsterdam) ICA Bookstore (London)
and Tamery Sematawy (Paris)

2024 Essay, *Pre - 1902 : The lived life of Afro-Martinican before the eruption of volcano Pelée*
Part of the annual publication entitled Preposition (Sandberg Instituut) of Critical Studies
Available at San Serriffe (Amsterdam)

2023 Essay, *Slang and Tongue* , Sandberg Instituut Journal

Interviews, Radios and Medias

2024 Host , Program SIANO , for RINSE France

2022 *Interview* , Contribuer à l'urgence de l'inclusivité dans l'industrie artistique
France - Antilles Martinique

2021 *Interview* , Radio Martinique la 1ère