## Aki Dwa

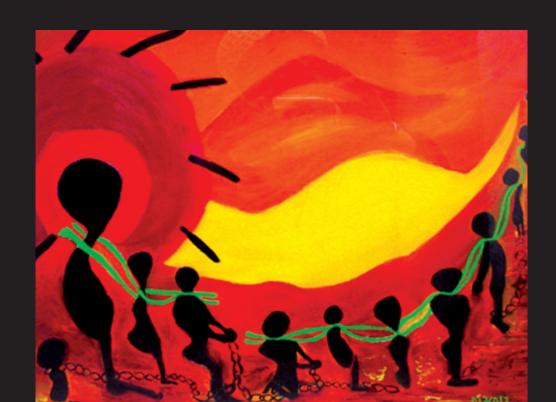


Celebrating 15 years

"As a woman I have no country.

As a woman my country is the whole world".

Virginia Wolf





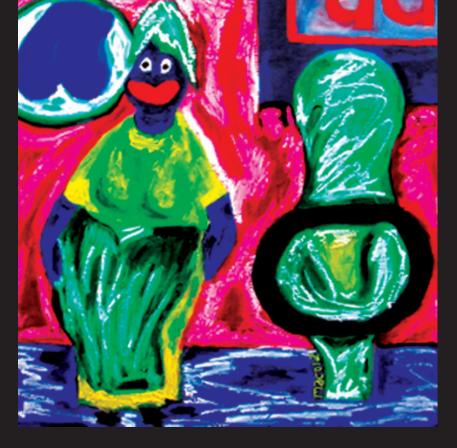
"African women in general need to know that it's ok for them to be the way they are - to see the way they are as a strength, and to be liberated from fear and from silence".

Wangari Maathai

"The double jeopardy of being black and female in a racist and sexist society may well make one less afraid of the sanctions against success. A non-subservient black woman is by definition a transgressive - she is the ultimate outsider".

Mamphele Ramphele





"It's so clear that you have to cherish everyone. I think that's what I get from these older black women that every sould is to be cherished, that every flower is to bloom".

**Alice Walker** 

"For what is done or learned by one class of women becomes, by virtue of their common womanood, the property of all women".

**Elizabeth Blackwell** 





"We recognise that women world wide, in rich and poor countries, face discrimination and inequality, in particular African women have gender specific needs that need to be represented in a safe environment, therefore African women need to be empowered to speak for themselves".

Salome Mbugua



Akina Dada wa Africa (AkiDwa) means African sisterhood in Swahili. AkiDwa is a national network of African women living in Ireland which aims to empower and provide a platform for change on issues affecting their lives.

AkiDwa was established in August 2001 by seven African women living in Ireland. It is a voluntary organisation and a representative body for all African women living here irrespective of their national/ethnic background, tradition/religion, socio-economic or legal status.

AkiDwa's work focuses on development and human rights issues from a gender perspective.

AkiDwA 9c Lower Abbey Street, Dublin Central Mission, Dublin 1. Tel (00 353) 1 814 8582. Email: akidwa@eircom.net or info@akidwa.ie Website: www.akidwa.ie

Sponsored by:



88 Capel Street, Dublin 1. Tel (00 353) 1 873 0042. Email: refugee@iol.ie Website: www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie