'Afro' in Contemporary Visual Arts

What are we heralding about in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Hispanic World when we refer to the term 'Afro'? Does it have the same connotations as in the realm of other Afro-Latin American communities?

Temporary Conclusions

- There are various representations of the term 'Afro', but it is often used to describe African-culture and aesthetics.
- The term 'Afro' is not limited to African territories but is also used in the diaspora to denote African cultural influences.
- The concept of 'Afro' is integral to the understanding of diversity and cultural exchange in contemporary society.

These representations reflect the dynamic nature of cultural identity and the fluidity of terms used to describe cultural influences.
Artistic Representation of 'Afro' in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Hispanic world within Globalization
Starting points

- Globalization as a dynamic of movement, interexchange, invention and re-invention of orders and (dis) orders

- Literature, music, visual arts and artistic practices are symbolic systems that set up dialogues with Culture
Artistic Representations

Race

Ethnicity
What are we currently talking about in artistic terms when we refer to afro in Latin America, the Caribbean and the Hispanic World
Interdisciplinary Approaches

Humanities
Social Sciences
Digital Humanities
Complexity Theory

Description + analysis + interpretation of images and narratives of 'afro'
Nationalistic Afro-Caribbean Images

- Fernando Ortiz
- Nicolas Guillen
- Alejo Carpentier
- Luis Pales Matos
- Lydia Cabrera
- Manuel Cabral

- Patriarchal Vision
- Rural Settings
- Exoticism
- Blackness and nation
- Racial representations
- Aesthetic innovations
Images from Trans-national musical Networks

Afro as:

- Youthful endeavors of resistance
- Blend of local and global
- Blend of tradition and newness
- Musical aesthetic innovations
'Afro' in Contemporary Visual Arts
'Afro' through Technology and Migration

- Afro emerges in contact with other cultural lines
- Artistic issue which has nothing to do with skin color
- Movable signifier

Ricardo Aleixo (Brazil)
Yvonne Truque (Colombia-Canada)
Donato Ndongo (Equatorial Guinea-Spain)
Temporary Conclusions

- There are artistic representations of afro instead of a unified artistic representation.
- These images and representations get together in complex networks where several temporal and cultural lines overlap with each other.
- Afro in the current stage of globalization refers to the emergence of several hybrid and ever-changing cultural systems and artistic images that have to do with intercultural communication.