Jonkonnu

7 October 2021

Phyllis Galembo, Grange Hill, Jonkonnu Troupe, Jamaica, 1999. C-print on dibond.
Junkanoo: Bahamian term for Boxing Day masquerade

Jonkonnu: Jamaican term for Boxing Day masquerade

John Canoe: Same as above, plus name of early 18th-century slaver trader on Africa’s Gold Coast

John Coonah: Southern U.S. term for Christmas masquerade

gens inconnu: French for “masked people”

Jeunes cannuers: French for “young cane cutters”

Dzonko nu: Ewe term for “male sorcerer”
Maps of West Africa, c. 1600.
Jola peoples, Gambia, (left) Ejumba mask (for male initiations), documented in 1825. Wood, cloth; (right) Kankurang mask (for male initiation and social control), documented in 1825. Fibers & vegetal materials.
Map of the Southeast United States, Gulf of Mexico, & the Caribbean.
Gold-Coast SLAVES FOR SALE.
On TUESDAY the 16th instant,
On board the ship COMMERCE, Captain
Thomas Morton, directly from the GOLD-
COAST,
A CARGO of upwards of 200 prime SLAVES.
Fisher & Edwards.

Clockwise from Lower left:
Sugar cane cultivation,
Jamaica, 19th century.
Lithograph.

Broadside announcing a sale of slaves from the Gold-Coast, Charleston, South Carolina, 18th century.

Barbadoes Copper Penny, ca. 1780s-90s.

Broadside announcing a sale of Eboe slaves from Bonny, Nigeria, Montego-Bay, Jamaica, 1781.
Above & lower left: Jonkonnu masqueraders, Jamaica, 1950s.
Left & right: Jonkonnu masqueraders, Jamaica, 2000s.
Left & right: Junkanoo masqueraders, Nassau, Bahamas, 1940s-50s.