

Fulbright Alumni Association of Ivory Coast



Veronique Tadjo

Poet, author, illustrator and painter from the Ivory Coast, Veronique Tadjo, grew up in Abidjan where she obtained a BA in English, and subsequently earned her doctorate from the Sorbonne, Paris, in African American literature and civilization. In 1983 she was a Fulbright research scholar at Howard University, Washington D.C., going on to lecture in the English department of the University of Abidjan until 1993 when she took up writing full time.

Veronique Tadjo has written and illustrated several books for young people and has facilitated workshops on literature for the youth of numerous African states. Three of her books for children have been published in eight dual language editions, and her latest two books have been translated into English.

In *As the Crow Flies* Tadjo flies over different lives and experiences – as a crow does – occasionally swooping down on one small detail or character, moving between relationships in search of truth.

Tadjo wrote *The Shadow of Imana: Travels in the Heart of Rwanda*, after she was invited, along with 9 other African writers, to visit Rwanda to bear witness to the genocide that took place in 1994. Faced with massacre sites, bereaved survivors, orphans, rape victims, and prisoners, *The Shadow of Imana* goes beyond reportage. Tadjo explores the spiritual legacy of the genocide, her prose alternating between raw and poetic, and uncovers a healing vitality and a commitment to forgiveness. Veronique Tadjo was a judge for The Caine Prize for African short story writing in 2000 and 2001, and in March 2003 was a facilitator in a writing workshop organized in CapeTown by the Caine Prize.

Publications:

Latérite (poetry), Hatier, Paris: 1984

Lord of the Dance: An African Retelling, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers, NY: 1988

A mi-chemin, L'Harmattan, Paris: 2000

A Vol d'Oiseau, L'Harmattan, Paris: 1992

Le Royaume Aveugle, L'Harmattan, Paris: 1992

Champs de Bataille et d'Amour, *Présence Africaine*, Paris & *Les Nouvelles Editions Ivoiriennes*, Abidjan: 1999

L'ombre d'Imana, Actes Sud, Paris: 2000

As the Crow Flies, Heinemann African Writers Series, 2001

The Shadow of Imana, Travels in the heart of Rwanda, Heinemann, 2002

Grandma Nana, Milet, 2000.

Mamy Wata And The Monster, Heinemann, 2001

Grain of Corn, Tuttle Pub: 2002

