

**UCLA**

**Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies**

**Title**

African Mosaic

**Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2688x8tn>

**Journal**

Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies, 35(2)

**ISSN**

0041-5715

**Author**

Tesch, Cassandra

**Publication Date**

2009

**DOI**

10.5070/F7352009567

**Copyright Information**

Copyright 2009 by the author(s). All rights reserved unless otherwise indicated. Contact the author(s) for any necessary permissions. Learn more at <https://escholarship.org/terms>

Peer reviewed

## African Mosaic – the African Communal Poem

Africa is ••rich  
•complex•  
not a country•  
a massive continent•  
of elegant, lyrical and misrepresented  
•multitudes••

Africa is Africa•  
fetishized•  
romanticized•  
exaggerated  
•understated•  
provides world-class fascination•  
where i go when my dreams grow wings and take flight•

not defined in relation to other•  
mighty lion•  
elderly father•  
nurturing mother warrior

••Africa is fabulous  
generous magic  
is Somalia  
Benin•  
Burkina Faso•  
Cape Verde•  
Côte D'ivore•  
Gambia•  
Ghana•  
Guinea•  
Guinea-Bissau  
•Liberia  
•Mali•  
Mauritania  
•Niger  
•Nigeria•  
Saint Helena•  
Senegal  
•Sierra Leone•  
Togo••

Birthplace of humanity and civilization

the possession of no one •

Africa is

Swaziland

•South Africa •

Lesotho

•Namibia

•Botswana •

Madagascar •

Mauritius •

Reunion •

Mayotte •

Comoros •

Ceuta

•Melilla •

Madeira •

Canary Islands ••

Africa is Mother

•red earth

bearing the sanguid weight of intersecting histories •

beautiful Western Sahara •

Tunisia •

Sudan

•Morocco •

Libya •

Egypt

•Algeria ••

Africa is real and hard and lovely •

it is São Tomé e Príncipe •

Gabon •

Equatorial Guinea •

Democratic Republic of the Congo •

The Congo

•Chad •

Central African Republic •

Cameroon

•Angola ••

Africa is here

now •

is Zimbabwe •

Zambia •

Uganda •

Tanzania •  
Seychelles•  
Rwanda•  
Mozambique•  
Ethiopia•  
Malawi•  
Kenya•  
Eritrea•  
Djibouti•  
Burundi

•• Africa is 2000 languages spoken•  
by 1 billion individuals•••

Africa is the beginning•  
where sharp blue sky strikes•  
hard red earth and •bleeds  
deep dark red bissap •  
delicate baobab sapling white green•  
green that pushes to the sky  
•rolls over plains and holds life of every hue•  
green••

viva Africa viva