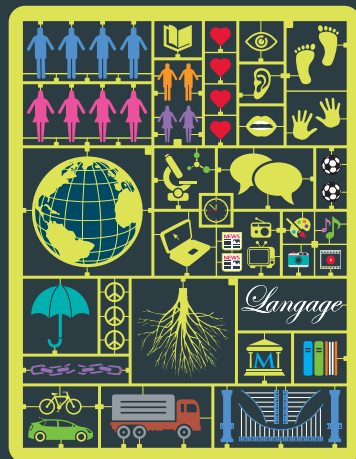


# Counterpoints: Cultural Riches: Losses and Gains

Placing the gains of development within everyone's reach: such is the dream of modernity. But at what cost? At the margins of this dream, a vanishing legacy...



Poster designed by David Min

Canadian scholar Wade Davis has travelled far and wide in search of this treasure. Explorer-in-residence at the National Geographic Society in Washington, Harvard graduate in anthropology, ethno-botany and biology, he has recently published, in the CBC Massey Lectures Series, *The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in Today's World*, an ardent appeal on behalf of the fragile, intangible heritage which it is our duty to preserve.

Ivorian poet and philosopher Tanella Boni, Doctor in Literature from the Sorbonne, tenured Professor at the University of Abidjan and research fellow (2011) at the Paris Institute of Advanced Studies, has worked extensively on the place of Africa in the globalization process, on issues of gender and women, on cultures and human rights. She is the author of numerous novels, poems and essays, such as *Que vivent les femmes d'Afrique ?*, a testimony on the life of African women today, published by Editions du Panama (new release by Editions Karthala, 2011).

As counterpoints, Tanella Boni and Wade Davis invite us to sharpen our vision of progress, of the future, of what we have lost and of what we stand to gain by safeguarding the wisdom of our forbearers. Is development "wise"? Can intangible wealth live with tangible progress?

This encounter is organized in partnership with publisher Albin Michel and the NGO Survival International, and is the second of the "Counterpoints" debates series, which was launched last 22 March with a session devoted to "creative industries, cultural diversity."

Debates will be moderated by ethnohistorian Joëlle Rostkowski from the École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, author inter alia of *Le Renouveau indien aux Etats-Unis, un siècle de reconquêtes* (Albin Michel, Préface de Scott Momaday, Artiste de l'UNESCO pour la paix). They will be held in English and French and interpretation will be provided in both languages.

Wednesday, 15 June 2011, 5pm to 7pm  
Room XI, UNESCO House  
7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007 PARIS

**Wade DAVIS**

Writer, ethnobotanist, National Geographic  
explorer in residence

**Tanella BONI**

Philosopher, writer, research fellow at the  
Paris Institute of Advanced Studies

Debate open to the floor

Moderated by

**Joëlle ROSTKOWSKI**

Ethno-historian at the Ecole des hautes études  
en sciences sociales (EHESS)

Free admittance with badge, this invitation, or ID  
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■ Albin Michel