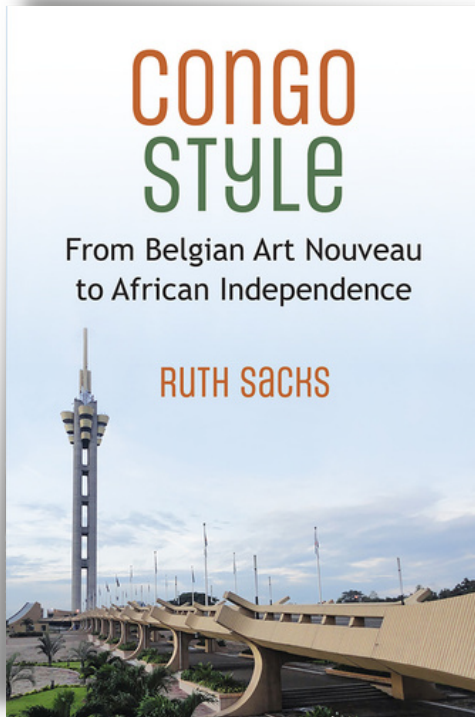




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CONGO STYLE

From Belgian Art Nouveau to African Independence

Ruth Sacks

Congo Style presents a postcolonial approach to discussing the visual culture of two now-notorious regimes: King Leopold II's Congo Colony and the state sites of Mobutu Sese Seko's totalitarian Zaïre. Readers are brought into the living remains of sites once made up of ambitious modernist architecture and art in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. From the total artworks of Art Nouveau to the aggrandizing sites of post-independence Kinshasa, *Congo Style* investigates the experiential qualities of man-made environments intended to entertain, delight, seduce and impress.

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Ruth Sacks is a Member of Faculty in the Visual Art Department at the University of Johannesburg.

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