

**Announcement of the first European Women`s Conference of Capoeira Angola Eastern 2006 in Cologne/Germany**  
**Angoleiras em Colônia / AngoleiraSem Colônia**  
**Angoleiras in Cologne / Angoleiras without Colony**

Dear Angoleiras and Angoleiros,

With the increasing popularity of Capoeira Angola, groups and schools were founded in nearly all European countries. Besides those places, where capoeira Angola is taught, a great number of virtual networks was established, books and CD`s were published, lectures and conferences held. Often the preparations are made by women, who stayed in the background, while men lead and represent these activities. Although about half of the active Capoeiristas in Brasil and in Europe are women, in public discourse as well as in the leading positions of schools and groups almost only men are visible.

In recent years, several international conferences were held in the USA and Brasil in order to make visible the impact of women in Capoeira Angola, to make their voices heard and to help them to gain leading positions. **“Angoleiras em Colônia / AngoleiraSem Colônia”** is established in this spirit; it`s the first meeting of this kind in Europe. It is organized by the group “Chamada de Mandinga” with support from the Angoleira women network “RAM”.

**“Angoleiras em Colônia”**

Capoeira Angola Women`s Conference doesn`t mean separation; men as well as capoeiristas of different styles are welcome to participate.

Traditionally, Capoeira Angola is taught as a means of resistance against oppression and discrimination of any kind, thus uniting socially constructed antagonisms such as women-men, black-white, children-adults, rich-poor in pursuit of social change.

**“Angoleiras em Colônia / AngoleiraSem Colônia”** brings women to Cologne who have many years of experience in teaching Capoeira Angola. They will prepare, carry out and guide all trainings, lectures and symposia.

**“AngoleiraSem Colônia”**

The second part of the motto refers to a political debate which aims to increase understanding of the mechanisms leading to social and political discrimination, in this context marked as “colony”. We want to examine the various kinds of discrimination within the Capoeira Angola as well as in gender and ethnic relations. With the historical backdrop of colonisation we want to open a discussion about appropriation, exchange, competence and legitimacy. We ask ourselves what an emancipatory feminist movement here in Europe might look like, that:

- considers, that the genocides in Africa and Latin America caused by colonisation are European crimes, that still have great impact on living conditions in those societies.
- does not remain silent in the face of oppression and violence against women within as well as outside of Capoeira Angola.
- develops concepts and structures that enable us to break free from the pattern of defeater and defeated.

We are concerned with remembrance, substance, and reference.

The game of Capoeira Angola has been compared to a dialogue of bodies consisting of questions and answers. The dialogue ends, when no answers can be found anymore.

So, the questions have been asked. “**Angoleiras em Colônia / AngoleiraSem Colônia**” opens up the space to find answers; in Rodas, simultaneous trainings, discussions, lectures, symposia as well as through additional film material and a photo gallery. All women are invited to contribute to this process with their own photos.

Confirmed participants are:

Mestra **Janja** - Instituto Nzinga de Capoeira Angola (São Paulo/Brasil)

Mestra **Paulinha** - Instituto Nzinga de Capoeira Angola (Salvador/Brasil)

Contramestra **Cristina** - Grupo Ypiranga de Pastinha (Rio de Janeiro/ Brasil)

Trenel **Gege** - International Capoeira Angola Foundation /ICAF (Washington D.C./ USA)

Contramestra **Susy** - Grupo Vadição (Berlin/Germany)

**Chris** Colônia - Grupo Chamada de Mandinga (Cologne/Germany)

**Mãe Beata** - Ialorixá do Terreiro Ilê Omio Juaro (Rio de Janeiro/Brasil)

Mestre **Cobra Mansa** - International Capoeira Angola Foundation /ICAF (Salvador/ Brasil)

Mestre **Valmir Damasceno** - International Capoeira Angola Foundation /ICAF (Salvador/Brasil)

If you are interested in participating, please send a short mail to [zebrajedoens@web.de](mailto:zebrajedoens@web.de) . We need an approximate estimation of the number of participants in order to plan accordingly. We offer accommodation and food for everybody who applies trying to keep costs as low as possible. The conference can only take place as planned if we have received at least 100 applications by the end of the year. The upper limit of participants is 250. If you apply this year, the fee is only 70 €. We will send out invitations including an application form in November.

These texts also can be found on our website [www.chamadademandinga.de](http://www.chamadademandinga.de)  
Menu point: Frauentreffen/Announcement.