

Carolina Rito response to AFRI

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While the structures of coloniality resist obliteration, collectives of makers and thinkers pave laborious ways for new forms, content and affects of a decolonial paradigm to emerge. The threads of the “new” paradigm extend way back, to before definitions. They emerged in the first movements against occupation, exploitation and extraction of the European colonial project. It is a process of continuous untangling of the liberation, inscribed in the braids, the bodies, the songs, the poetry, the food, the names, the soil, the imagination. Today, African Fashion Research Institute Collective continues the process of unweaving and reweaving, questioning and problematising, cutting and refusing. The categories of the post-colony high and low are interrogated and the collective’s making brings about the forms of the longed-for future without forgetting the continuities of the “(past-)now-here”.