



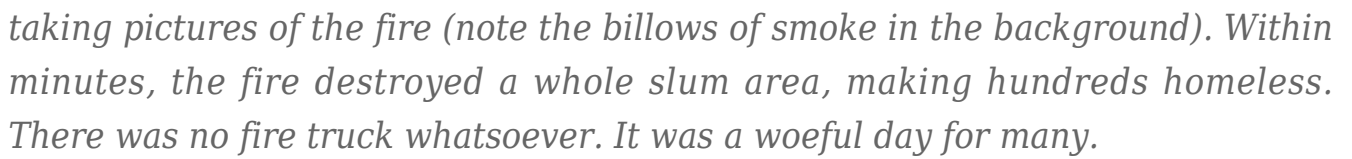
# “EUEW WEH”: Accra station woe

written by Michael Stasik

April, 2017



*EUEW WEH - German for 'your woe', reads the car inscription on the bonnet. An unwitting meaning, residue of the former German fire truck, which had FEUERWEHR written on it. Apparently, the first and last letter ('F' and 'R') went missing in the course of its transformation into a tropicalized Ghanaian passenger bus. The picture, too, was captured unwittingly. I was documenting some of the shop interiors at my main field site, a central bus station in Ghana's capital Accra. And I therefore had my camera at hand when all of a sudden people began rushing towards the nearby railway tracks, where a large fire broke out. The car then passed through my camera frame while I was*



## Call for contributions: \*Bus Stations in Africa\*

While building upon the scattered body of works on African bus stations, in this collection of articles we want to put the ‘interactive space’ of the station at the centre of attention. We invite Africanist researchers from all disciplinary backgrounds to present their approaches to the significance, multifunctionality and diversity of what Polly Hill (1984: 215) has suggestively termed ‘peoples’ airport[s]’ in Africa. We welcome historical and contemporary perspectives on bus stations in both urban and rural settings. Contributions should be grounded in thick empirical descriptions and address the bus station space from one or several



of the following angles: the prominence of stations as somewhat infamous places of work, trade, travel, commuting, loiter and crime; their perhaps more hidden quality as sites of dwelling, refuge, conviviality, rumours and everyday cultural production; their critical role in African (auto)mobilities, road regimes and infrastructures; and/or their intricate relation to changing dynamics of (urban) governance, (de)regulation, privatisation and the political economy at large.

**If interested, please send a 500-word abstract to Michael Stasik ([michael.stasik@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:michael.stasik@uni-bayreuth.de)) and Sidy Cissokho ([sidy.cissokho@ed.ac.uk](mailto:sidy.cissokho@ed.ac.uk)) by May 1, 2017. Please forward this call to all those who might be interested, and feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.**