

THE LEAP

STAY INFORMED, STAY CONNECTED!

Volume 1 Issue 1
May Edition

Welcome

CFG welcomes you to the launch of our first internal newsletter.

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The Naira has appreciated against the dollar.

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Our Corporate Finance Senior Associate has some tea for you.

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Diversification is key! Never put all your eggs in one basket.

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An Internal Publication by CFG Africa



EDITOR'S NOTE

By Seyi Ogunlere (Risk, Audit & Control)



Dear Colleagues,

I am thrilled to introduce you to the inaugural edition of our newsletter "The Loop". As the editor, it is my pleasure to bring you curated insights, thought-provoking articles, and updates on happenings and activities within and beyond our most esteemed organization.

The editorial team has poured their passion and expertise into crafting content that we hope will inform, inspire, and engage you. Irrespective of your expertise, be it a seasoned professional, an enthusiast, or simply curious about The Loop, we aim to provide valuable content that resonates with you.

This newsletter is not just about delivering information; it is also about building a community of like-minded individuals who share a common interest and a thirst for knowledge. We encourage you to share your thoughts, feedback, and ideas with us as we embark on this journey together.

Working in teams enables employees to be quicker and more effective in their work, as compared to people who work on projects in silos. Collaborating also makes employees more responsible, which goes a long way in raising their motivation levels, especially when working virtually.

At CFG Africa, we are committed to building a culture of collaboration and co-creation. On this maiden edition of The Loop, we have provided content covering areas on Organisational Culture, Global Market Insights, Financial Planning Strategies, Entertainment News, Movies and Book reviews and so much more.

Our ultimate goal is to continuously keep you in the Loop and ensure you do not miss out on happenings within and outside the organization

Here's to many more editions filled with enlightening content and enriching discussions.

Happy reading!



MISSION

Connecting markets, creating value, and promoting sustainability.



VISION

To be the most respected multi-asset investment and capital management business in Nigeria.



VALUES

Integrity, Customer Focus, Innovation, Resilience, Respect, Collaboration, Leadership

MEET THE TEAM



Seyi Ogunlere
Editor



Abimbola Adigun
*Executive Creative
Director/Designer*



Joy Ahaiwe
*Creative Director
& Writer*



Kofo Woghiren
Creative Director



Ivy Ojigbede
Writer



Abdulqadir Umar
Writer



Adedoyin Samo
*Writer & Editorial
Board Member*



Babajide Lawani
*Editorial
Board Member*



Akindele Ogundepo
*Editorial
Board Member*

PEOPLE & CULTURE

Hello everyone,

I am excited to introduce a cornerstone of our internal communication: the HR column.

For our first edition, we will delve into what sets CFG Africa apart and makes us truly exceptional—our vibrant and dynamic culture.

Picture this: In June 2023, at our very first strategy session as CFG Africa, something magical happened. Gathered in one room were the pioneers, the dreamers, the heart, and soul of our organization. We took a journey down memory lane, reflecting on our experiences from inception to the present day. With passion in our hearts and determination in our eyes, we embarked on a mission to dissect our strengths and weaknesses at CFG. It was a soul-searching endeavor, a collective introspection that laid bare the essence of who we are and what we stand for, and from that crucible of collaboration and creativity emerged our guiding lights: our Values, Vision, and Mission statements.

These were not handed down from above or concocted in the Managing Director's office; they were forged in the fires of our shared experiences, shaped by the aspirations and ideals of every individual present in that room. They are not just words on a page; they are the beating heart of our culture, the pillars upon which we build our future.

On today's edition, we lay emphasis on the essence of each of our values and how it fuels the organization's culture:

Integrity: At CFG Africa, integrity isn't just a buzzword; it is the golden thread woven into every decision, ensuring we always stay true to our word and principles.

Customer Focus: We are not just in the business of serving customers; we are in the business of delighting them. From the first hello to the final farewell, we are dedicated to going above and beyond to make their experience unforgettable.

Innovation: In a world where change is the only constant, we thrive on pushing boundaries and thinking outside the box. At CFG Africa, innovation isn't just a goal; it is a way of life.

Resilience: Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, we embrace challenges head-on and emerge stronger than ever. Setbacks are merely steppingstones on the path to success.

Respect: We don't just tolerate diversity; we celebrate it. At CFG Africa, every voice is heard, every perspective is valued, and every individual is respected for who they are.

Collaboration: Alone, we can do great things, but together, we can achieve the extraordinary. Collaboration isn't just encouraged; it is ingrained in our DNA.

Leadership: Leadership isn't about titles or positions; it is about influence and impact. At CFG Africa, everyone is encouraged to lead, inspire, and make a difference.

With these values at our core, CFG Africa isn't just a company; it is a vibrant tapestry of passion, purpose, and endless possibilities. The culture at CFG is not something that simply exists—it is something we actively cultivate and nurture every day. By living our values of integrity, customer focus, innovation, resilience, respect, collaboration, and leadership, we not only define who we are as an organization but also shape the world around us.

Together, let us continue to embody these values in everything we do, creating a workplace where excellence thrives, and dreams become reality.

Till the next edition, where we keep you in 'The Loop' on how the Vision and Mission of CFG Africa fuels the organization's culture.

I remain yours truly.

Adedoyin Samo
Head, Corporate Services



QUIZ

Who was the first female Chartered stockbroker in Nigeria?

- a. Adaora Umeoji
- b. Elizabeth Ebi
- c. Abiola Adekoya

Which of the banks below is the first indigenous bank in Nigeria?

- a. Wema Bank
- b. Savannah Bank
- c. First Bank

What was the first attempt at a Merger & Acquisition in Nigeria?

- a. Access Bank and Diamond Bank
- b. United Nigeria Insurance Company Limited & United Life Insurance Company Limited
- c. Leventis Company Limited & Leventis Stores Limited

Who was the first female bank CEO in Nigeria?

- a. Halima Buba
- b. Cecilia Ibru
- c. Ireti Samuel-Ogbu

Which of the following is the most liquid asset?

- a. Cash
- b. Bonds
- c. Equities

Which of the stockbroking companies below was the first indigenous firm in Nigeria?

- a. Royal Guaranty & Trust Limited
- b. Financial Trust Company Limited
- c. FBNQuest

Who was the first Indigenous Governor of CBN?

- a. Alhaji Aliyu Mai Bornu
- b. Dr. Clement Nyong Isong
- c. Mallam Adamu Ciroma

What year was the Nigerian Securities and Exchange Commission formed?

- a. 1982
- b. 1979
- c. 1962



COMIC RELIEF



MARKET UPDATES

By Abdulqadir Umar (Fixed Income Trader)



LOCAL

Fixed Income & Money Markets: This year has been outstanding so far for money markets and fixed income instruments as the central bank pushes the economy into a higher interest rate environment to rein surging inflation and lure foreign investors with attractive returns on securities.

The Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) has been raised to a record high of 24.75% and yields on money market and fixed income instruments range between 15% - 25% depending on the investment type and tenor. This provides a good avenue for investors to earn better returns on their naira compared to recent years.

Equities: The equities market had a stellar performance last year with the All Share Index (ASI) rising by 45.9% driven by improved retail performance in the face of new economic policies such as subsidy removal and FX unification. However, the stock market started to trend lower in February as participants booked profits and yields in the money market / fixed income market improved. We expect the lull in the stock market to persist through Q2 as investors rotate to other asset classes.

FX: After reaching as high as \$/N1,900 in the parallel market in March, the naira has appreciated significantly against the dollar c.35% following interventions from the central bank and inflows from foreign investors which helped boost USD liquidity. The exchange rate remains a bone of contention amongst policy makers and economic participants given the country's dependence on imports. We expect the central bank to keep doing all within its power to keep exchange rate stable in the near term.

GLOBAL

Equities: International equities have performed fairly with the U.S market leading the pack. Themes such as artificial intelligence, sustainability, and energy transition have rewarded companies positioned along these lines or who have found ways to incorporate these themes into their businesses with higher stock prices this year. Equities also got some support from lower treasury yields as most global central banks start to ease their monetary policy stance.

Currencies: The dollar has maintained dominance amongst major world currencies due to the strength of the U.S economy compared to other countries and flows received from investors seeking safe haven destinations for their funds in the face of global tensions. The dollar index (DXY) which measures the strength of the dollar against major currencies has increased by c.3.5% year to date. We expect the dollar to keep dominating global currencies on stickier inflation and economic strength in the U.S.

Commodities: Commodity prices have skyrocketed due the prolonged geo-political tensions in the middle east and the Russia-Ukraine war. Commodities such as oil and gold have risen by c.14% & 16% respectively. This increase has fuelled fears of global inflation staying high as supply of crucial commodities are adversely impacted by disruptions in the supply chain.

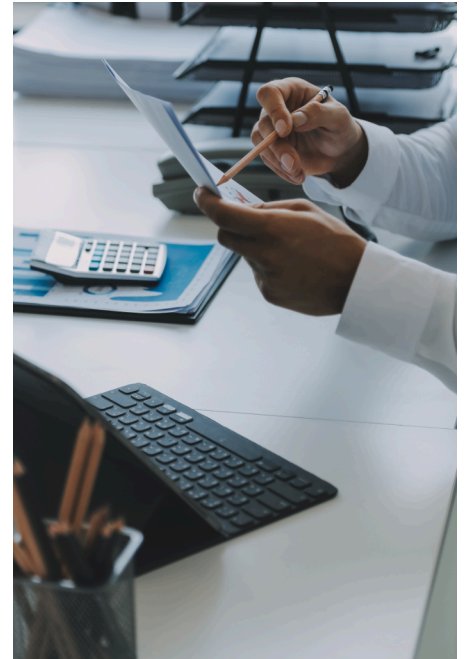
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

By Ivy Ojigbede (Head, Business Development)

Hello everyone!

It is such a delight to interact with you all via this platform, I am very excited and I look forward to future interactions and collaborations with you in this space.

My role as a Business Development Manager is to identify opportunities, build relationships, and create strategies to grow the company's business. I typically focus on finding new markets, partnerships, products, or services to expand the company's revenue and market presence.



WHAT IS FINANCIAL PLANNING?

Financial planning involves assessing your current financial situation, setting goals, and creating a strategy to achieve those goals. This process typically includes budgeting, saving, investing, managing debt, and planning for retirement or other long-term financial objectives. Individuals and businesses need to have a solid financial plan to ensure financial stability and achieve their financial aspirations.

Financial planning is crucial for several reasons:

Goal Achievement: It helps individuals and businesses define their financial goals and develop strategies to achieve them. It could be saving for retirement, buying a home, or expanding a business.

Budgeting and Spending Control: Financial planning allows for better control over spending by creating budgets tailored to individual or

business needs, ensuring that money is allocated wisely.

Saving and Investing: Financial planning encourages regular saving and investing, which can lead to the accumulation of wealth over time and provide financial security for the future.

Debt Management: It assists in managing debt effectively, including prioritizing debt repayment and minimizing interest costs.

Retirement Planning: It enables individuals to plan for retirement by estimating future expenses, determining retirement savings goals, and selecting appropriate retirement accounts and investment strategies.

Overall, financial planning provides a roadmap for financial success, helping individuals and businesses make informed decisions and achieve their financial objectives.

Before I go, I'll leave you with some nuggets that form part of financial planning, these are the mistakes to avoid as an investor:

There is no such thing as the right time, just as the NIKE catchphrase says.... Just do it!

Logic over emotions in the world of Finance, remember, it's a game of numbers!

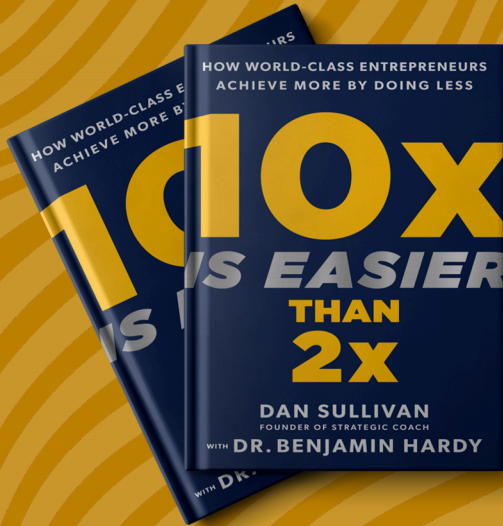
Diversification is key, remember 'never put all your eggs in one basket!'

Expecting unrealistic returns such as Ponzi schemes - no self-respecting asset manager would invest in unreliable asset classes.

No clear financial plan or goals - remember, he who fails to plan, plans to fail!

Till next time, always remember that the art is not in making money, but in keeping and growing it!!!!!!

BOOK REVIEW



10X IS EASIER THAN 2X

HOW WORLD-CLASS ENTREPRENEURS ACHIEVE MORE BY DOING LESS

BY DAN SULLIVAN & BENJAMIN HARDY



What is 10x Is Easier Than 2x about?

It presents a revolutionary concept that challenges conventional thinking, showing readers how aiming for 10x growth can be easier than settling for 2x.

This book outlines strategies for entrepreneurs to achieve exponential growth in the following ways:

Shift in Mindset: Embrace a mindset where aiming for 10x growth is not only achievable but easier than aiming for 2x growth.

Exponential Growth: Sullivan emphasizes that reaching 10x growth is significantly easier than settling for incremental 2x growth.

Strategic Planning: The book provides actionable strategies for entrepreneurs to implement, focusing on efficiency and effectiveness to achieve remarkable results with less effort

10x Is Easier Than 2x Review

10x Is Easier Than 2x by Dan Sullivan with Benjamin Hardy (2021) is a book that offers a refreshing perspective on achievement and success.

Here's why this book is worth reading:

It presents a revolutionary concept that challenges conventional thinking, showing readers how aiming for 10x growth can be easier than settling for 2x.

Backed by research and real-life examples, the book offers practical strategies and insights that can help individuals and businesses achieve extraordinary results.

With its engaging and thought-provoking content, the book keeps readers captivated, ensuring that the journey to greater success is anything but boring.

Who should read 10x Is Easier Than 2x?

Burned-out entrepreneurs and business leaders

High achievers wanting to take their personal and professional lives to the next level

Anyone seeking direction or motivation

About the Author

Dan Sullivan is the founder and president of The Strategic Coach Inc. Over the past 40 years, he and his team have worked with over 30,000 entrepreneurs, making Sullivan one of the most prolific coaches in the entrepreneurial field.

Dr. Benjamin Hardy is an organizational psychologist specializing in exponential growth and entrepreneurial leadership.

TEA WITH*Demilade***CORPORATE FINANCE & ADVISORY****Hello, please introduce yourself.**

My name is Oluwademilade. I work with the Corporate Finance & Transactions Advisory team at CFG Africa. We serve as strategic advisors to companies and public institutions on executing complex transactions like Capital Raises, Business Transformation and Restructuring, Public Sector Advisory among other things.

How long have you worked with CFG?

2 years.

How has it been working with CFG?

Working with CFG has been a journey of growth. Having transitioned from Audit & Assurance to Consulting, I love how my work at CFG directly impacts the growth and sustainability of each client. The diversity of industries, projects, "problems to solve" and the ultimate value we provide to each client is quite rewarding.

How would you describe the culture at CFG?

Generally, working at CFG is very fast paced. It's an environment that prioritizes learning and it's obvious in everything we do. There's also an evident

culture of growth, not just in knowledge but in the structure of our business and the type of value we provide to clients. I've been through a few transitions of the company and each new phase has been better than the last. I have learnt so much from the whole team and literally gleaned a lot of knowledge from Jide, Akin, Kunle and Tomisin particularly. Sometimes, I make actual notes of things I "caught" even if the lessons weren't expressly communicated.

Of course, I have to highlight my team who are really amazing to work with. Our camaraderie and support for each other lightens the "workload" and gets us results faster.

What do you believe sets CFG apart from other organizations in the industry?

The intentional, unrelenting commitment to growth

Can you share any recent achievements or milestones that the company has accomplished, and how do they reflect the company's growth and impact?

Getting our Asset Management Licence certainly opened up many doors for CFG. Additionally, the restructuring within the company has significantly

impacted the operational efficiency of various teams and the types of transactions we have been able to execute.

In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges or opportunities facing the company in the current market landscape, and how is the company addressing them?

As an emerging institution, gaining the trust and confidence of prospect clients poses a challenge. However, it also provides an opportunity for us to provide innovative solutions that stand us out from the crowd.

Looking ahead, what do you see as the future trajectory and strategic priorities for CFG, and how do you envision your role in contributing to its success?

We are building the most respected multi-asset investment and capital management business in Nigeria and our priorities are clear- Thought-Leadership, Business Competence, Ruthless Origination & Execution across all our business units. Our focus on these will translate directly into all other quantitative goals, give us the reach we desire in Nigeria and across Africa



PUZZLES

THEME: CFG STAFF

O I O K O V Y Q S U I N C I Z I D V H H O Y D W Q
 P G H G S Z W T R C I K V M A I N D C I T N Q V T
 O W U N F H B I N R J D U O D B O I N P N J W O A
 J J J N H E H L O M O L A I M L M I U E P H S Q G
 B A I B S S D O S S B V D S I V A L G M F X D Q V
 V D T G A I J I Y U L G E I T F I F R I S D X W Z
 H T X D B E J E I U M S O L O L D H I N O Q P P U
 Z D U R D E D I O K S D B I R I N O Y E S H O L A
 P M M A H L D E D N I R A L U W O U D N E L E L N
 Y K C N A K F E M P N V K B T U S O G U N D E P O
 T K C W G B G Q R A M U I I A O L S O I F A I R S
 S L A G E O R G E X O M Z M F H I A D R D W H N M
 L N A V Z N L R S O O L A W I A W M Q O U A R L E
 I T F M C R X Q K Y R D A M W R N O W A Q U H I O
 T W N E I F A E A J G E O T X X H S G J F A Q B V
 F C I N D K D B T U Y C L C U P E W Z P A B F O Q
 H H J A R E A C A F A E P W X N U X Q V I T G V Q
 F L O V L T W N T J K Z M G B S J Z N G C I H O Z
 A N W E R J O M R N O Q U H Z Q P I W I H E O E O
 L S N J B Y U Y M A R A D M O R O N W I Y A N S A
 H L O M F N Z Q A B O K Q O E G M M Q I H M A I M
 V T H T X A Q D B B A L J K K P R Y K J R G H R A
 R B L T E J W P R T E E T N H N Q R R E I I O U Z
 N N L M P I F Q X Q T D F G U W U B K E A M T W D
 J K M O Q S T H G H W S A H D O L W J W O N J V S

ABAYOMI
 ADEBAYO
 ADEJOORIN
 ADEOBA
 ADIGUN
 AIHIA
 BADMUS
 ELENDU

GEORGE
 IFATUROTI
 IMOISILI
 IWUAGWU
 IWUOHA
 LAMIKANRA
 LARINDE
 LAWANI

MORONWIYAN
 MUDASHIRU
 NWOJI
 OGUNDEPO
 OGUNSIJI
 OJIGBEDE
 OKEDELE
 OKOI

OLATUNJI
 OSAGIE
 OYESHOLA
 SAMO
 UMAR
 WILSONDIAMOND

PAST EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

By Joy Ahaiwe (Social Media & Community Manager)

At CFG Africa, International Women's Day (IWD) was more than just a celebration; it was a reaffirmation of our commitment to gender equality and empowerment. With the theme "Invest in Women; Accelerate Progress," our office came together to honour the remarkable contributions of women worldwide and reflect on ways to advance gender equality in our workplace and beyond.

Throughout the day, engaging conversations took place around the importance of investing in women's education,

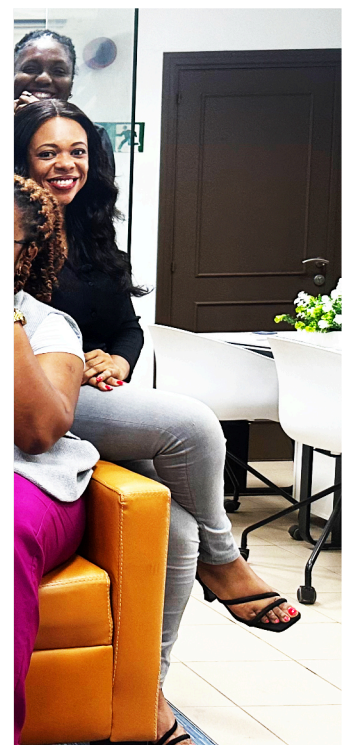
healthcare, and economic opportunities. Employees shared personal stories and insights, highlighting the transformative impact of supporting women's empowerment initiatives. These discussions sparked meaningful dialogue and inspired collective action towards creating a more inclusive and equitable society.

A highlight of the event was a thought-provoking session with renowned media personality, Ayo Mairo-Ese, who engaged in an insightful conversation with our CIO. Their discussion delved into the significance of

investing in women-led initiatives and the role of corporate leadership in driving gender-inclusive strategies. The conversation reinforced the importance of championing women's rights and opportunities.

As we concluded the day's festivities, we left with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment to continue advocating for gender equality in all aspects of our work and community.

International Women's Day served as a powerful reminder that by investing in women, we not only accelerate progress but also pave the way for a more just and prosperous future for all.



PAST EVENTS

CORONA SCHOOL FAMILY FUN DAY EVENT

By Joy Ahaiwe (Social Media & Community Manager)



Recently, we had the pleasure of sponsoring an event at Corona Schools, where we brought our vibrant presence to the forefront. Setting up our stand, we seized the opportunity to showcase our products and services, engaging with attendees and spreading the word about CFG Africa.

Amidst the buzz of excitement, we embarked on an enthusiastic marketing campaign, sharing

the unique offerings of CFG with all who visited our stand. From interactive demonstrations to personalized consultations, we made sure to connect with prospective clients and highlight the value we bring to their lives.

As a token of appreciation, we offered corporate gifts to attendees, fostering goodwill and leaving a lasting impression of our brand. The atmosphere was electric as we mingled with

educators, parents, and students alike, forging new relationships and strengthening existing ones.

The event was a kaleidoscope of colours and experiences, filled with laughter, camaraderie, and meaningful connections. At CFG, we pride ourselves on creating memorable moments and leaving a positive impact wherever we go.

CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL!

Congratulations

Happy Birthday to

Adejoorin Oluwademilade (April 6)

Ahmed Mudashiru (April 15)

Happy Wedding Anniversary to

Mosimiloluwa Olatunji (April 29)

Happy Married Life to

Oluchi Omokpo (April 6)

A big congratulations to our amazing team members who celebrated milestones last month. Here's to your achievements and many more successes ahead filled with love, laughter, and happiness.

TEMS

SET TO RELEASE DEBUT ALBUM, "BORN IN THE WILD"

Culled from PMNews Nigeria

Grammy-winning Nigerian singer Temilade Openiyi, also known as Tems, is set to release her debut album titled **'Born in the Wild'**.

The 'Damages' crooner announced the highly anticipated project via a post on her Instagram page.

While sharing a video, which seems to be an excerpt from the album's visuals, she said the project will be released in May.

She, however, did not provide a specific release date for the project.

"Born in the Wild. The Album. May 2024," she wrote.

The announcement comes a few hours after she teased one of the songs from the album at the 2024 Coachella.

Tems gained global recognition in 2020, courtesy of her collaboration with Wizkid on the song 'Essence.'

She has since established herself as a fan favourite in the Nigerian music industry, earning several awards and accolades.

In February, the songstress won her first-ever Grammy award.

She bagged the 'Best Melodic Rap Performance' category for her role in 'Wait for U', the 2022 hit song by Future featuring Drake.

Last year, Tems released 'Me & U' — a track she wrote while "conversing with God".

Tems, also etched her name in history at the 2024 Billboard Women In Music Event, following her selection as the recipient of the Breakthrough Award at this year's Women In Music Awards ceremony.

Tems' achievement marks a significant milestone as she becomes the first Nigerian to receive such recognition.

The 2024 Billboard Women In Music Event took place at the YouTube Theater in Inglewood, California on March 6, 2024.



MOVIES TO WATCH



REBEL MOON – PART TWO: THE SCARGIVER: (2024 Action/Sci-fi)

The sequel to the “Rebel Moon - Part One: A Child of Fire”. Zack Snyder’s continues his storytelling of this epic space opera spectacle. The film takes place on the moon of Veldt where Kora and the crew of warriors venture to help the farmers to defend and fight for their home against the Motherworld.

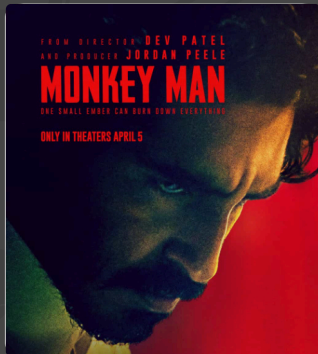
Where to watch: **NETFLIX**



WHAT JENNIFER DID: (Crime Documentary, 2024)

The film recounts the horrific events that unfolded on November 8, 2010, during a home invasion orchestrated by an estranged daughter. What Jennifer Did, released (April 10), examines how Pan went from a star pianist as a child to her conviction for first-degree murder, based on incriminating text messages and interviews with detectives involved in the case

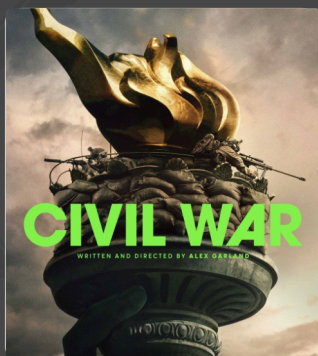
Where to watch: **NETFLIX**



MONKEY MAN: (2024 Action/Thriller)

Monkey Man stars Patel as young man who ekes out a meager living in an underground fight club where, night after night, wearing a gorilla mask, he is beaten bloody by more popular fighters for cash. The action scenes dazzle and the narrative pace is flawlessly maintained. Echoes of John Wick, yet stands distinct with its own motives.

Where to watch: **CINEMA**



CIVIL WAR: (2024 Action/War)

In a dystopian future America, following a team of military-embedded journalists as they travel across the United States during a rapidly escalating Second American Civil War, which has engulfed the nation, and a race against time to reach DC before rebel factions descend upon the White House.

Where to watch: **CINEMA**



AJOSEPO (2024 Nollywood Drama)

Ajosepo is a story that delves into the lives of Dapo and Tani, a young couple preparing for their wedding. As their families gather in a luxurious hotel, festivities soon gives way to turmoil as long-held secrets, family tensions, and unexpected revelations threaten to tear them apart. Ajosepo will make you laugh uncontrollably.

Where to watch: **CINEMA**

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN MAY

Happy Birthday

- 01** Chisom Chris-Nwoji
- 13** Kofoworola Woghiren
- 19** Ivy Ojigbede
- 26** Abimbola Adigun





www.cfgafrica.com



info@cfgafrica.com



4th Floor, KPMG Plaza, Bishop
Aboyade Cole Street, Victoria
Island, Lagos



+234 813 661 1422
01-8870020



[cfg_africa](#)



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