



Lagos wouldn't be Lagos without The Jazzhole. The popular store selling books and vinyl has been providing stimulation in the Nigerian capital, which lies on the Atlantic coast, for almost 30 years. In the heart of the trendy Ikoyi neighborhood, the sandy yellow façade looks relatively unassuming, but behind it lies a glittering realm of literature and jazz. "We carry an incredible spread of books; a mix of old and new," says Tundun Tejuoso, who runs The Jazzhole together with her husband, Kunle Tejuoso. The shelves and tables are piled with Nigerian and international fiction, antiquarian treasures, and specialist publications. Coffee-table books, comics, and fashion magazines complete the section. The bestselling novel *Americanah* by the Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is prominently displayed alongside other popular titles, not least because it includes a particularly glowing mention of The Jazzhole.

Kunle Tejuoso opened The Jazzhole in 1991 as an offshoot of the independent Nigerian bookstore chain Glendora Books, which had been founded by his mother, Gbemisola Tejuoso, in 1975. "He grew up on books and had a strong passion for music from a young age," says Tundun Tejuoso. "He graduated with a master's in electrical engineering in New York and returned immediately to Lagos to Glendora in the late 1980s. He opened The Jazzhole a few years afterwards." Kunle Tejuoso's vision was to open a bookstore that would serve as a platform for contemporary culture, literature, and jazz from all over the world. Its character has always made the store different and very unlike the conventional bookstores in this part of the world; it might sound unconventional, but it has proven to be a huge success. The selection of books and range of vinyl dovetail brilliantly. Uncontested greats like Miles Davis and Bob Marley are ranged →

# BOOKS AND ALL THAT JAZZ

THE JAZZHOLE · LAGOS · NIGERIA

The unconventional blend of literature, jazz, and a café makes this independent bookstore a buzzing cultural hub



LEFT One of Tundun Tejuoso's employees helps out in the bookstore café, which opened in the early 2000s.

OPPOSITE The wooden shelves of The Jazzhole are stuffed with new and secondhand novels, non-fiction books, comics, and magazines.