

ROAD LESS TRAVELLED

Fri. 25th - Sun. 27th March 2022

CHIKE EMEMBO
OLORUNYEMI KOLAPO
DOOFAN KWAGHPOOL
OLUWOLE OLAWUYI
ADDIS CHINWE OKOLI
EZEKWESILI NNAEMEKANAM
KENAN PETER
OMONU SALISU
ILOANYA ONYEKACHUKWU



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A Catalogue of Exhibition
Agama Art Publishing & Agency
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PUBLISHER

Agama Art Publishing & Agency

PRINTER

Most Higher than Media,
Abuja, Nigeria

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Content

Foreword: Susa Rodríguez-Garrido	01
About: Nordic Hotels Abuja Agama Art Publishing & Agency	02
Contact:	04
Artists: Chike Emembo Olorunyemi Kolapo Doofan Kwaghool Oluwole Olawuyi Addis Chinwe Okoli Ezekwesili Nnaemeka Nnam Kenan Peter Omonu Salisu Iloanya Onyekachukwu	05

Foreword



The Nordic Hotel Abuja and Agama Art Publishing & Agency have joined forces to present the *Road Less Travelled* exhibition, which consists of nine talented Nigerian artists.

The exhibition will be from 25th to 27th March 2022 and will be exhibiting an eclectic set of pieces from these artists in the wonderful setting that is the Nordic Hotel.

The main idea of this exhibition is to showcase Abuja based talent and to give a voice to current and emerging artists.

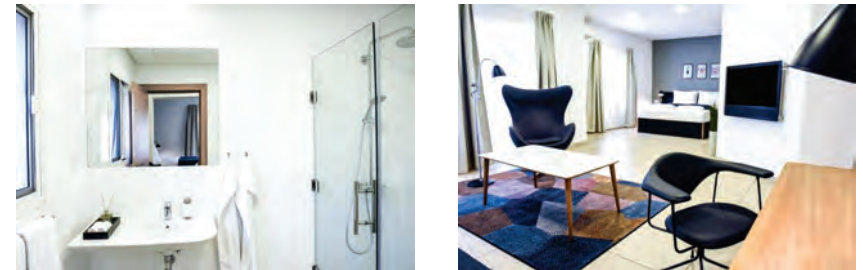
The theme that has been explored is *Road Less Travelled* and as a phrase it means a choice made in one's life that is unconventional, a choice that leads one in a different direction than, perhaps, most people.

The artists are expressing their choice of individuality and leadership through this theme. They want to show that there is a way of acting independently, freeing themselves from conformity from others, who choose to take "the road more often travelled", the safer choice or the most known one.

Enjoy the view!



Susa Rodríguez-Garrido



Our Purpose

Our intention is to represent artists through exhibitions, events, talks, etc. and to create books, e-Books and catalogues that enhance and promote the huge African art talent in order to bring them to all audiences.

We want to use art as a social weapon to bring awareness about difficult topics. We want to discuss and explore themes such as child abuse, war, slavery, drugs, rape, misogyny, etc. We want to capture people's attention with these subjects, stories and ideas that have a massive impact on their lives and dreams. It is essential to listen carefully to how human beings today interpret their voices, especially through art.

We want to publish books, e-Books and catalogues about the current established artists that we work with and the new ones that we have trained and encouraged. Our purpose is also to celebrate and publish young and long established African artists that have never been recorded in order to create an art legacy.

Contact

If you would like to:

- organise an exhibition or art event,
- hire one of the artists for a seminar, talk, presentation or party,
- have your artwork assessed and valued,
- purchase artwork.

Please contact me:

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Chike EMEMBO

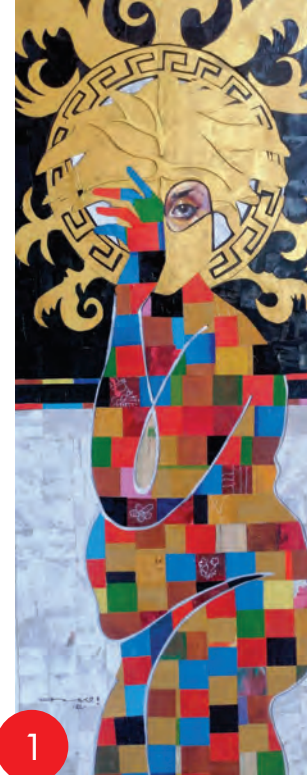


Chike Emembo is an Abuja based fine artist with Christianity and faith as his preferred genre. He started his training in 1998 enrolling in Nwafor Orizu College of Education Nsugbe, majoring in Sculpture and Graphics. He has a BA in Education from the University of Nigeria Nsukka. Since 2007, he started producing and exhibiting only

works of art that are specifically based on the Christian faith. These themes revolve around Christ, the Bible and the Church and are intended to encourage and strengthen the faith of the viewers.

In his paintings, priority is given to design, composition, drawing and texture, always seeking to outdo himself in every new piece. His recent body of work called *The Seraphim series* is an exploration seeking to understand angelic beings. He believes that angels are not only limited to celestial beings with wings but we can come across them everyday, we only have to 'open' our eyes to see them. That has informed the series with zippers, the zip is opening to reveal the ordinary person behind the wings. To buttress the point, the figures also have denims fitted into the composition, this he says gives it the modern contemporary feel. Beyond this angelic exploration, part of his recent works also includes the hearing of faith series. This shows various studies of people wearing headphones plugged into the Bible, he easily calls it faith comes by hearing. Nowadays, everyone is plugged into one device or another, what you listen to is either increasing or depleting your faith.

Chike enjoys producing artworks he feels strengthens faith whilst also offering great aesthetic appeal.



1

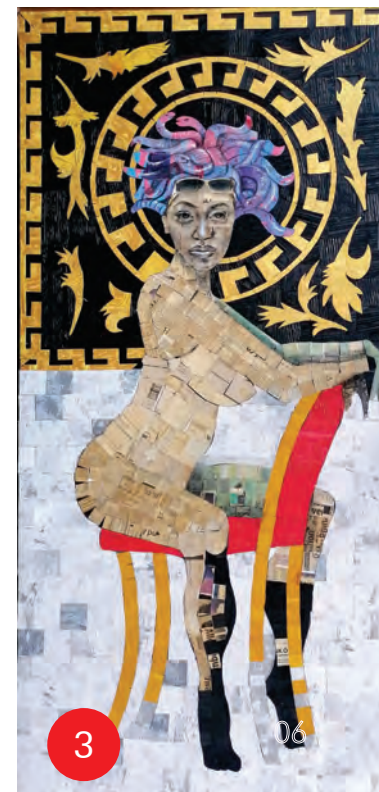


2

1
BATHSHEBA (Diptych)
Lust of the Eyes series
Mixed media
53.34cm x 137.16cm
2022

2
DAVID (Diptych)
Lust of The Eyes series
Mixed media
53.34cm x 137.16cm
2022

3
Lust of the Eyes series #3
Mixed media
76.2cm x 152.4cm
2022



3

Kolapo OLORUNYEMI



The work of Nigerian Artist Olorunyemi Kolapo is mainly on connections that human beings make or do not make through language, gestures, looks, expressions, physical placement, cultural values and more. The Abuja based self-taught artist marries art and science (physics) to investigate and illustrate emotions through portraiture, using oil and charcoal with the science knowledge he gained after graduating with BSc in Applied Physics at the university. He has participated in both local and international exhibitions and residency programmes like World Art Dubai, Art Expo New York, Last Image Show Tanzania, Malta-Nigeria Exchange Exhibition Malta and many more with four successful solo exhibitions (most recent one, *Beyond the Obvious*, in Spain).



▶
SELF CIRCLE
Oil on canvas
100cm x 100cm
2020



▶
SAFE
Oil on canvas
100cm x 120cm
2021



▶
SALVATION 1
Oil on canvas
90cm x 120cm
2019



Doofan **KWAGHHOOL**



Doofan was born in Kano State, Nigeria. She obtained her BA degree in Fine Arts from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria in 2012. She works predominantly in the media of painting. She also has a Nigerian Certificate in Education under the Fine and Applied Art department, in FCT College of Education, Zuba, Abuja, in 2008. As a result, she teaches art in schools, galleries and privately.

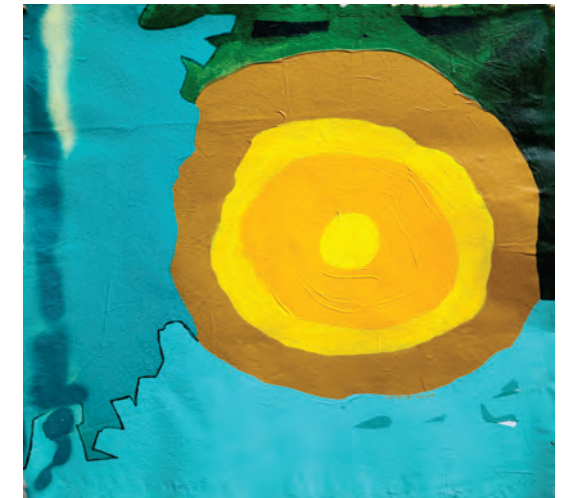
She is a lover of people and the environment; this quality moved her to practise public art, such as *Titled Signs and Meanings* (her fourth part public art project). She includes videos in her production and is the founder of Blueflames Art Studios.



▶
KARANTENNA TVARE
Mixed media
60cm x 53cm
2022



▶
MESSAGE 1
Acrylic on canvas
90cm x 85cm
2021



◀
KARANTENNA TVARE 19
Mixed media
53cm x 45cm
2022

Oluwole OLAWUYI



Olawuyi Oluwole also known to most as Wole was born in 1989, in Kwara State. Wole began his art career at the age of nine, and is well known for primarily using the impasto technique with a painting knife to create most of his pieces.

Wole attended Baptist Primary School where he was coached of Mr Oladele. In secondary school, he won the NYSC award for best secondary student in sculpture. He studied Fine and Applied Art at Kwara State College of Education; he has been a full-time professional studio artist for the past eight years and is a member of (SNA) Society of Nigerian Artists, Abuja chapter. He has participated in a number of art competitions and exhibitions.



INNER STRENGTH
Acrylic on canvas
111.76cm x 139.7cm
2022



YOUNG HEART
Acrylic on canvas
111.76cm x 139.7cm
2022



STRENGTH
Acrylic on canvas
111.76cm x 139.7cm
2022



Addis CHINWE OKOLI



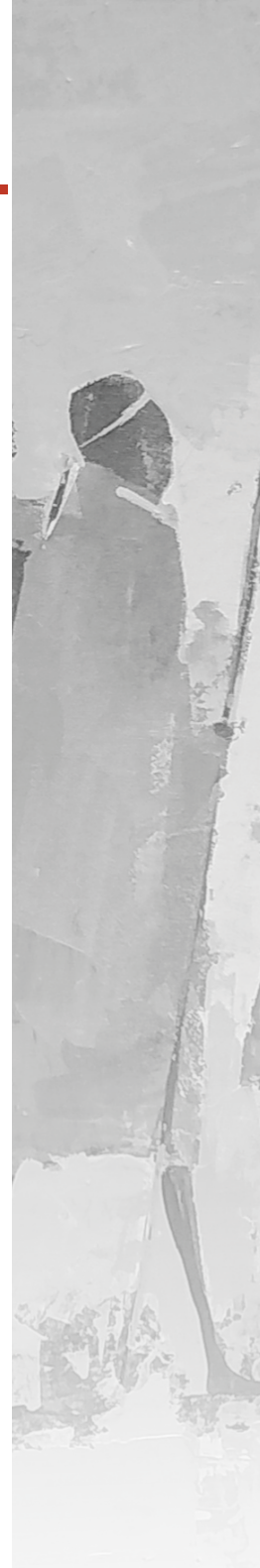
Addis is a graphic artist, fashion designer, painter and dance instructor. She is a graduate of the University of Nigeria and the University of Southampton where she obtained a BA in Graphic Design and a Masters in Fashion Design.

She is currently a staff member of the Cyprian Ekwensi Centre for Arts and Culture where she produces most of her paintings. Her works vary

from the use of colours that are subdued to very brilliant palettes. Being self-trained in painting has given her the opportunity to explore without boundaries.

She has participated in several local and international exhibitions. Her inspirations derive from music, poetry, her surroundings and herself.

MASSAI HUNTERS
Acrylic and paper
on canvas
53cm x 91cm
2021



HIDDEN
Acrylic and newspaper
on canvas
80cm x 80cm
2020



ABANDONED
Acrylic and newspaper
on canvas
70cm x 70cm
2019



Ezekwesili NNAEMEKA NNAM



Ezekwesili Nnaemeka Nnam is an abstract painter, sheet metal sculptor, upcycle artist, print maker and designer. The message of his ART is ABUNDANCE. He insists that we have abundant resources in everyone and in everything. We only need to find, exploit and use them. Ezekwesili works with several mediums including canvas,

wood, bottles, sheet metal aluminum, audio content, video content and discarded fashion waste. His work is primarily abstract, which allows him the leverage to present his ideas and extend meaning in his work. He loves to study origins, to audit root-ideas, uncover history and discuss the causes of things as we manage effects.

These causes, origins and ideas according to him, are found as seeds, blueprints, maps, foundations, sperms and eggs. His art admires and discusses the beauty in the cause of things, which are often small, sometimes insignificant, often occurs in secret, moves quietly and takes quite some time. He interrogates patterns, admires the power of foundations, their beauty and confidence evoking power. It is also about contributions, intimacy, teamwork and abundance. For him, the nitty-gritties and details are as powerful as the chaos or abundance they produce.

Ezekwesili's art is currently focused on the environment, waste management, upcycling and the message of the SDGs. He is the curator of UpcyclingX, a project that uses waste management education to contribute to a more sustainable world. He lives and works in Abuja, Nigeria, where he maintains a full-time studio.



IDENTITY 1
Acrylic on canvas
152.4cm x 152.4cm
2021



IDENTITY 2
Acrylic on canvas
152.4cm x 152.4cm
2021



IDENTITY 3
Acrylic on canvas
121.92cm x 121.92cm
2021



Kenan PETER



Kaynan Kayphas (Kenan Micheal Peter) is a surrealist ballpoint pen and oil artist from Kogi State, Nigeria. He is based in Abuja and his journey as an artist began since 2018. He uses character glyphs to reveal the truth and realities that governs the tripartite terrains of humanity. These realities have always been his daily experience and inspiration, influencing his works.

With his unique style, he participated in various art competitions and exhibitions, such as *The Life in My City* art competition, an exhibition that explored breast cancer with the aim of bringing more awareness to the audiences.



THE WATER AND THE SPIRIT 1
Oil on canvas ▲
90cm x 90cm
2020

CYBE SICKNESS
Oil on canvas ▼
95cm x 120cm
2021



▶
THE WATER AND THE SPIRIT 2
Oil on canvas
78cm x 96cm
2022



Omonu SALISU



Omonu is a dynamic and creative artist based in Abuja, Nigeria. He has typified abstract art with an artistic force that cuts across paintings. During his art career, he has learnt different creative styles and experimented with colours and shapes.

In 2018, He began to embrace the experimental nature of lines, shapes, figures and colours to form abstract/impressionistic pieces. Omonu uses colours to symbolise cultural emblems representing African society.

His most recent works are based on the origin of humanity containing African symbology. These symbols that appear in his work represent popular proverbs and maxims from West Africa. In this work, he also records historical events, expresses particular attitudes or behaviour related to depicted figures, or concepts uniquely related to abstract shapes.

He has participated in several group exhibitions and has organised exhibitions such as the Affordable Art Exhibition.



MISFIT 1
Acrylic on canvas
90cm x 120cm
2020



MISFIT 2
Acrylic on canvas
120cm x 120cm
2020



Iloanya **ONYEKACHUKWU**



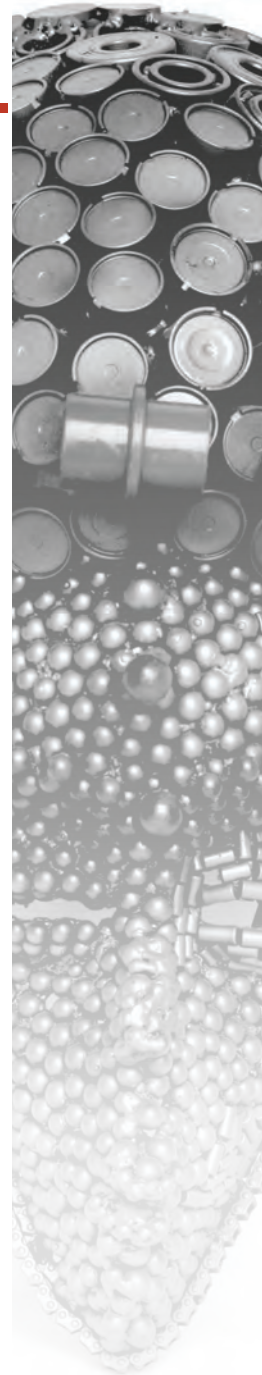
Onyekachukwu Anthony Iloanya, known as Onyeka, is a painter and a sculptor. He grew up in Onitsha, the commercial hub of Anambra State, Nigeria. There, he scavenged dump sites to recycle scraps into play toys. This act has turned to the artistic prowess of his works that he enjoys today by converting waste to aesthetic wealth.

His humble beginning easily points and helps his audience identify the message of hope in his works. This becomes obvious in the expression of the subject matters and in the vibrant choice of colours expressed in his paintings. In conveying his message of hope, he equally embellishes his sculptures composed of discarded metal scraps with relishing tones of colours.

In his artistic renditions, Onyeka often employs indirect method of metal scraps assemblage rather than the conventional direct method common among sculptors. Onyeka believes that we should all aim to achieve a healthier environment, with artists playing pivotal roles. He resides and practices his art in Abuja.



◀ **THE OBVIOUS**
Metal sculpture
63.5 x 20.32 x 43.18 (L x H x W) cms
2018



▶ **ENTANGLEMENT**
Metal sculpture
50.8 x 60.96 x 27.94 (L x H x W) cms
2017

ROCKY and RUGGED
Mixed media
96.52 x 50.8 x 40.64 (L x H x W) cms
2018 ▶

