



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE
KENYA
CULTURAL CENTRE
INCORPORATING THE KENYA NATIONAL THEATRE

THE INAUGURAL EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY KENYAN ART IN LONDON



CATALOGUE

EXHIBITION AIMS: TO SUPPORT THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG UNDERREPRESENTED KENYAN VISUAL ARTISTS WHILE POSITIONING KENYA AS A GLOBAL CONTENDER IN CONTEMPORARY VISUAL ARTS.

Date: Wed 29 Nov – Wed 06 Dec 2023, 11.00 – 18.00

Private View: Tues 28th Nov 2023, 18.00– 21.00

Address: Bermondsey Project Space

183–185 Bermondsey Street ,London, SE1 3UW

EXHIBITION THEME: KENYAN ARTISTS - VISIONS & POSSIBILITIES

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Denis CHERUIYOT, Crisis in Meaning (2022)

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Brian KIMANI, Collaborative Effort (Sand Carriers), 2023



KENYA HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON

INAUGURAL KENYA ART EXHIBITION, 'EMERGING KENYAN ARTISTS: VISIONS & POSSIBILITIES', IN LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM



Amb. Manoah Esipisu, EBS
High Commissioner

We are delighted to extend our invitation to the First Kenya Art Exhibition in London, featuring the artistic contributions of over 30 young talents from Kenya and the diaspora community in London.

This inaugural art showcase is designed to bring to life the Talanta Hela initiative, which seeks to turn artists' work into a source of income by offering a platform to display their talents and innovations. The London exhibition will specifically highlight Visual Arts, a branch that, despite its contemporary nature, holds significant earning potential for artists but is often not fully grasped.

We eagerly anticipate your presence at the **Bermondsey Project Space**, located at **183-185 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UW**, starting from the 28th of November 2023 with a final showcase on Friday, 8th December 2023 at the Lancaster House as we commemorate 60th Anniversary through artistic expression. .

Kenya High Commission
November 20, 2023

About the Event & Hosts

Celebrating Emerging Kenyan Artists: Visions & Possibilities

Kenya Cultural Centre (KCC) together with the Kenya High Commission in London, United Kingdom, are proud to present the Inaugural Exhibition of Contemporary Kenyan Art in London, themed Kenyan Artists: Visions & Possibilities between the 28th of November to the 7th of December, 2023, at the Bermondsey Project Space, culminating in the Jamuhuri Day Celebrations at Lancaster House in St James on the 8th of December. The exhibition aims to support the professional development of young underrepresented Kenyan visual artists while positioning Kenya as a global contender in contemporary visual arts.

About Kenya High Commission in London, United Kingdom

The Kenya High Commission in London was established in 1963 to pursue Kenya's national interest in the United Kingdom. The diplomatic mission in London is also accredited to the International Maritime Organization and the Commonwealth of Nations. Kenya and the UK enjoy cordial relations, and the mission's mandate is to forge closer relations between the people of Kenya and the people of the United Kingdom in pursuit of deeper bilateral and multilateral cooperation in trade and investments, culture, science, and technology as well as other fields for mutual benefit.



KENYA HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON

Kenya High Commission

45 Portland Pl, Marylebone, London, UK W1B 1AS

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About Kenya Cultural Centre

Kenya Cultural Centre is a semi-autonomous government agency whose mission is to safeguard, promote, celebrate, and develop culture, arts, and creativity, its main goal is to serve as a Centre for Excellence in the promotion of Kenyan arts, culture, and creativity. Established under the Kenya Cultural Centre Act CAP 218, the Kenya Cultural Centre (KCC) is mandated among other things, to provide for the exhibition of works of art and crafts.



Kenya Cultural Centre

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www.kenyaculturalcentre.go.ke



Ms Kezhia Orege
UK Project Director

Hello!

As the UK Project Director for the Inaugural Kenyan Art Exhibition in London (IKAEL), it's my absolute pleasure to welcome you to this unique opportunity for young underrepresented Kenyan visual artists.

This Inaugural Kenyan Art Exhibition in London is an exceptional opening and platform for our young visual artists, who are known for their vibrant talent and boundless potential, to be the best they can in this world.

As an Art Dealer and Promoter based here in London, who is also a Committee Member of the Kenya Society, I am immensely proud to be part of this project and to play a role in nurturing these young artists working to make their mark in the international art industry. As well as providing the platform for these Kenyans talent to showcase their extraordinary works here in London, the event also aim at positioning our beloved country, Kenya, as a global contender in contemporary visual arts. And that's credit to the hard-working team at our Embassy here in London, in partnership with the Kenya Cultural Centre in Nairobi for putting together such a commendable, much-needed exhibition. Indeed, a massive thank you to both these institutions and special thanks to High Commissioner, Amb. Manoah Esipisu, EBS, for making this possible.

We have over 30 amazing, unique pieces of arts in this catalogue; I hope you enjoy meeting, reading, and learning about all the young Kenyan artists taking part in this exhibition and appreciate their outstanding works as much as we've enjoyed putting this excellent resource together!

Now, to all the artists taking part, as we look forward to the Jamhuri Day Celebrations at Lancaster House in St James on the 8th of December, this opportunity is a celebration of possibilities, a testament to your vision, and a tribute to your passion. So, I would like to wish you every success with it. May your passion continue to inspire, your talent continues to evolve, and your vision continues to transform the world of art. And when success come your way, remember this moment, this beginning, remember this Inaugural Kenyan Art Exhibition here in London that paved the way, and with that, remember to also lend a hand to those coming after you. Thank you for lifting the flag of Kenya high with your art!

Thank you!

Kezhia OREGÉ

UK Project Director – IKAEL

Art Dealer and Promoter @ www.okellooregeart.com

Committee Member @ www.kenyasociety.org



Participant Artists



Brian KIMANI



Melissa JOE



Quinter ACHIENG



Ron ENOCH



Cynthia NGUNJIRI



Denis CHERUIYOT



Sharon EKONGE



Brian LEIN



Simon MARUI



Chesta NYAMOSI



Clara CHEBET



Tedd MWANIKI



Anne ATIENO



Stephen OGALO



Clinton ODHIAMBO



Eugene KIMOTHO



Henry NYAGUDI



Mark MAGANGA

Brian KIMANI



Brian Kimani is a visual artist based at the Mukuru Art Collective in South B, Nairobi Kenya. He kicked off his art career in 2019, right after finishing his high school education. He approaches media widely, but his work is dominantly acrylics on canvas. His work is heavily influenced by the concept of transport and moving around different places since, as a child, he and his family were constantly on the move, due to his father's occupation as a police officer. Kimani paints in two lights, i.e. night and day lights. He shares his perspective on different physical spaces and how they appeal to him emotionally. He uses negative space and is keen on colour contrast light and shadow to bring out depth in his work. He also shares his commentary on sociopolitical issues, and he looks at how locomotives affect life. He has displayed his work both locally and internationally.

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Title: Collaborative Effort (Sand Carriers), 2023

Acrylic on canvas | Size: 80 x 80 cm | **Price:** £350

This artwork is a visual representation of one of three different means of transport in the same composition. The boda boda (motorbike used to carry passengers), the mkokoteni (handcart), and the matatu (public service bus). These three means of transport are typical to Nairobi, Kenya. The focus here, are the sand carriers probably on their way to a construction site, which is a common sight in Nairobi these days, given the city is constantly under construction. I have used the negative space technique (painting from dark to light) and I used the red as the background colour. I have painted around the trees in the background and in the shadow in the foreground to incorporate red as the colour of my shadows.

Title: Thika Boda Bodas, 2023

Acrylic on canvas | Size: 80 x 60 cm | **Price:** £300

In this artwork, I investigate the negative space technique more, using the dripping backgrounds and trying to maintain it in my shadows. The mood in this artwork is of cloudy weather with no intense light. Thematically, I investigate the boda bodas (public service bikes) and this artwork shows a rider on a bicycle. These bicycles known as Black mambas are bikes with a Colonial history in Kenya. They came from being given as rewards to Kings who collaborated with the colonizers to be a sign of poverty, thus the common saying "can't even afford a bicycle".

In some towns in Kenya these "black mambas" are used for public transportation and are the most affordable means of transport in countryside towns. These bikes are being quickly replaced with their counterpart, the motorized version, the motorcycle since the Kenyan government 2007 has cut all import duty on Motorcycles below 125cc.



Melissa JOE



Born and raised in Nairobi, Melissa Joe is a visual artist who is currently thriving in the digital art and illustration space. At the University of Nairobi, she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Design, with a Specialization in Illustration, as she keenly works towards venturing into the world of animation. Around age 12, she started out by producing realistic images out of pencil, under the guidance of her art teachers at school. Soon, she gave the acrylic painting a try and she ran with it for years. Most recently, upon joining the university, she has taken an interest in the creation of digital art and is exploring the medium. Melissa's inspiration comes heavily from the African continent - from the various patterns that hail from the different communities to the faces and physical features of the people of the land. These themes are evident in her art pieces. She is also fond of using an art style that deviates from realism, by choosing unusual color choices for her characters, and not blending the colors that make up her work, but instead opting for a vector style approach in her pieces. For years, her goal has been to penetrate the international art market; and the artist has put in the needed effort for this dream to become a reality.

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Title: Frida or Fiona?, 2023

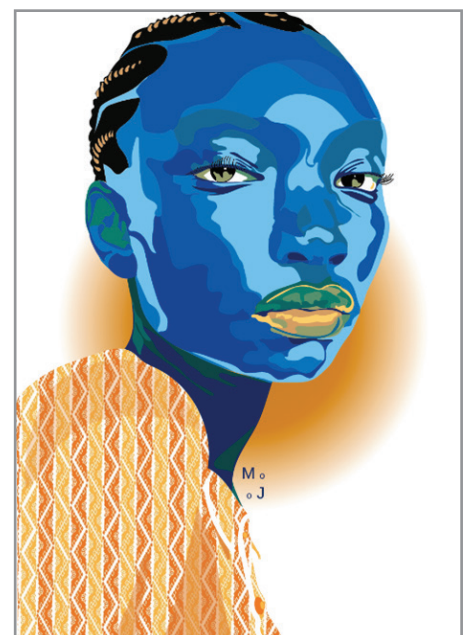
Digital Print on Satin | Size: 59.4 x 84.1 cm | **Price:** £216

Her scrunched reminds me of Frida Kahlo in her classic flower crown. My friend says she looks like Princess Fiona from Shrek. I'm pretty sure it's because of the green colour choice I made for her. Her skin is however meant to be a representation of the camouflage military uniform, to portray her as a soldier in God's army, hence the verse quoted beside her halo.

Title: Black Barbie, 2023

Digital Print on Satin | Size: 59.4 x 84.1 cm | **Price:** £216

Barbie is all about motivating girls to become whoever they want to be, so I thought I'd create my version of a doll I would have treasured as a little girl. She's African, with African features, in conrows, rocking an African print outfit (pattern designed by me).

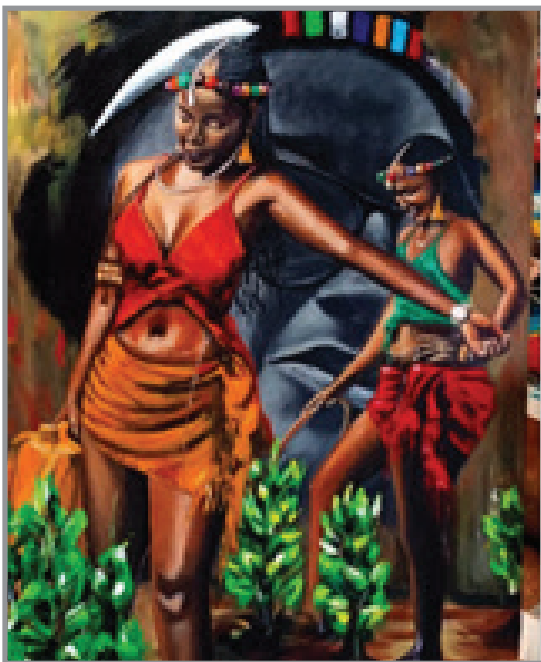


Quinter ACHIENG



Achieng, an award-winning artist and driving force behind Art for Change weaves human crises into canvas narratives. Drawing inspiration from diverse cultural influences, Achieng uniquely blends traditional techniques and postmodern elements to create impactful Renaissance-style works challenging societal norms. She is a master storyteller who employs art to convey powerful messages. Her commitment to transformative initiatives is evident in Art for Change, a movement that goes beyond creativity. Achieng's visionary leadership has earned her prestigious awards, including Edutainment Founder of the Year 2021 and Impact Organization of the Year 2023. Rooted in the belief that art, community development, and sustainability intersect profoundly, Art for Change, under Achieng's guidance, empowers youth, especially young mothers and fathers, through collaboration with creatives nationwide. Join Achieng on a journey where art becomes a catalyst for positive change, echoing the transformative power witnessed in the recent Art for Change tour in Mandera, Northern Kenya. Each stroke on canvas tells a story of impact, breathing into the Mission of Art for Change: Transforming Lives Through Creativity.

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Title: Fikile's Legacy - Nurturing the Earth, 2023

Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 28 x 37 in | **Price:** £950

This piece pays tribute to environmental activist, Fikile Ntashangase, embroiled in a South African land dispute.

Title: Essence of Empowerment, 2023
Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 18 x 28 in | **Price:** £750

The Essence of Empowerment encapsulates black is beautiful, celebrating an African woman's beauty and strength through handmade beads and majestic afro hair.



Ron ENOCH



Ron Enoch Luke was born in 1994 in Nairobi. In 2014, he graduated from Kenyatta University with a Diploma in Fine Art and Design. In his paintings, he mixes realism and super-realism to throw a new perspective on the elements of daily life - wildlife, nature, passions, happiness, culture, and social relations - which he says, "Show hope, and are beautiful and delighting." Ron interned at the Nairobi National Museum Art Gallery in 2014. The same year, he won 3rd prize at the Room for Giants exhibition

at the Museum. Ron has participated in several group shows, including at the Kobo Trust (2018), Nairobi National Museum (2018), JAMA Festival (2015), Kenya Arts Diary 2019, Art for Polio Exhibition 2022, and at several Manjano Exhibitions at Village Market. Ron has sold his artwork widely in Kenya, done commissions for private and public institutions in Kenya and South Africa, and is currently a resident artist at the Karen Country and Golf Club.

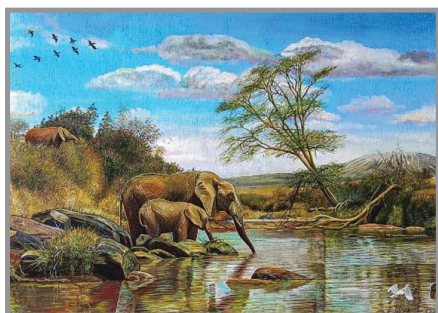
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Title: Rhythms of the Desert, 2022

Medium: Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 100 x 140 cm | **Price: £3,200**

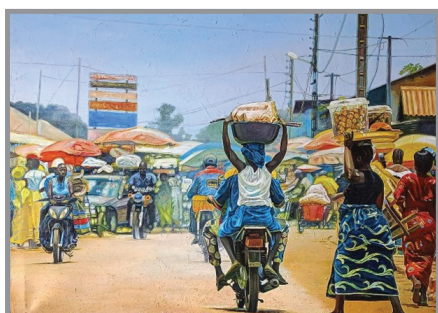
Kenya is a basket of heritage and cultures, the Turkana tribe being one of the most admirable tribes we have- based in the Northern part of Kenya where it is hot and humid and the weather is generally harsh. But despite this, the Turkana people journey on with song and dance, draped in their beautiful skin tones and colorful beaded ornaments- oh what a beauty!



Title: My Mother and I Drinking, 2023

Medium: Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 60 x 80 cm | **Price: £450**

On one of my road trips to Samburu, I had great memories of the landscapes that were so scenic. One of those I hold dear is wildlife- I saw a majestic mother elephant with her calf drinking from a stream, and behold I got inspired to create this masterpiece to share that beauty with the world.



Title: Market Day, 2023

Medium: Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 80 x 100 cm | **Price: £1,200**

Thursday is usually a market day in the village of Khwisero, where I was born and raised. I enjoy the sounds, the smell, and generally the aura in the air with hardworking men and women pushing through the tough economic times to make a living.

Cynthia NGUNJIRI



Cynthia Nyakiro Ngunjiri, is a contemporary artist who lives and works in Nairobi. She attained a bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Design from Kenyatta University in 2022. After completing high school, she pursued a degree in architecture, before changing course and following her passion in the visual arts. Through her work, she explores the relationships between the natural environment, human interactions, and the metaphysical. Guided by intuition, she merges different media such as recycled paper,

x-rays, magazine cut-outs, ink, bleach, scrap metal, dried plants, and photography, in a practice genuinely inspired by history and her environment.

"What intrigues me most is the different textures on the various objects I collect and how they look and feel with passing time. Through my art, I can go inward, explore worlds unknown to me, to better understand myself and find connections with others."

Nyakiro's work is layered, and rarely touches on one topic; rather the intersection of multiple axes that inform human existence. She has displayed her artwork in various venues in Nairobi such as The National Museums of Kenya, Kioko Art Gallery, and Ardhi Gallery, as well as the Saatchi Gallery and Turner Contemporary in the UK..

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Title: Cosmic Nomad, 2018

Medium: Magazine cut out, ink, old architectural plans on board

Size: 20.6 x 25.8 cm | **Price:** £ 520

Cosmic Nomad comes from a place of searching the spiritual consciousness, trying to understand the inner workings of the mind in its endless depths.

Title: Happy Life, 2023

Magazine cut-out, barbed wire and, dried flowers on watercolor paper

Size: 14.7 x 20.8 cm | **Price:** £ 450

In this piece, Nyakiro follows her intuition through contrasting textures, meditating upon the development of character, personal freedom, and destiny.



Denis CHERUIYOT



My name is Denis Cheruiyot, and I am 25 years old. I live in Kericho, Kenya. The nature of my artwork is of the contemporary type using acrylic-based paint with a background in Graphic Design. I started drawing at an early age, throughout my childhood, taking drawing and design classes in high school. I later took a deep dive in the field of art, back in 2019 at the onset of Covid. The whole lockdown situation seemed to have made it favourable for growth. Come 2021, I met a great teacher named Kennedy Odhiambo, who was willing to 'show me the way'. I also got a lot of support from the ones close to me, relatives, and most of my Mother. She did her part of raising us well, all while doing it alone. Such experiences seemed to be an inspiration, a reason to create more. Another inspiration was when a friend I met, being a client, told me that one of my paintings reminded him of a childhood experience he had. It was like a rude awakening that made me question, why? I saw the connection; it was like talking to someone without saying a word. I took a turn to also show what I saw, to tell a story about us all. I take an approach to understanding the day-to-day life experiences, the lessons, and the struggles. The natural human condition..

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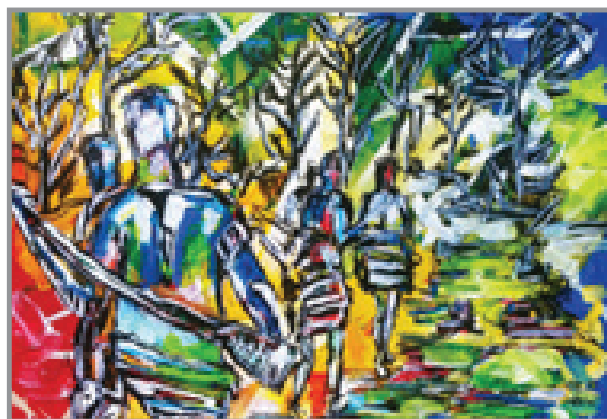
Crisis in Meaning, 2022 | Acrylics on Canvas
Size: 52 x 57 cm | **Price: £2,200**



Tales of a Culture, 2023 | Acrylics on Canvas
Size: 64 by 86 cm | **Price: £3,500**



Old Town, 2023 | Acrylics on Canvas
Size: 49 x 52 cm | **Price: £1,250**



Journey of Life, 2022 | Acrylics on Canvas
Size: 36 x 34 cm | **Price: £1,000**

Sharon EKONGE



Sharon, b 2000, is currently based at the Kuona Arts Centre in Nairobi where she continuously experiments with new media to advance her practice. In her latest paintings, she plays around with hybrid figures to reflect narratives on identity, the human condition, and societal landscapes through an isolated perspective. She questions the relationship of humans and animals; and their shared behavioral patterns and experiences. Her subjects lend themselves to the bodies of humans merging and juxtaposing these two worlds in a humorous style. She employs this method in her creation to provoke reflection and contemplation on the human experience and how it relates to the world around us. She explores the question of how we perceive ourselves about both the human and non-human world and whether we cross these boundaries. Through her work, she highlights the limitations of human perception and invites people to consider other ways of viewing the world.

Contact: +254 794 898667 | shakeru.sk@gmail.com | IG: sha.gekon | Kuona Arts Centre, Studio 14



Title: Where You End, I Begin, 2023

Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 67 x 50cm | **Price:** £530

A surrealist depiction of a couple; their legs distorted to fit into each other alluding to close attachment. Sharon explores her personal experiences through the lens of animals inviting the audience to question their perception of themselves in both the human and non-human world.

Title: Self Portrait; The Artist's Stance, 2022

Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 35 x 40cm | **Price:** £200

A symbolic depiction of the self by the artist, introducing themselves from an alienated point of view by using a penguin-human hybrid. The artist seeks to capture their state of unbelonging and outwardness as well as their disregard for materialism.



Brian LEIN



Brian LEIN lives and works in Nakuru, Kenya as a painter and an interior designer. Former student and graduate of Buruburu Institute of Fine Art. His paintings bring together colours and scenery to create calmness inspired by day-to-day objects and landscapes. His interest in furniture, woodwork, paintings, and continuous exploration of colours comes with a very pleasing way of telling a story and bringing forth emotions and substantial joy.

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Contemporary rush-hour painting

Title: Budge, 2023

Acrylics on Canvas | Size: 72 x 102 cm

Price: £3,240



Contemporary painting of the new green gold.

Title: Radiant Flux, 2023 | Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 50 x 60 cm | **Price:** £854



Contemporary painting of love which is not certain.

Title: Mixed Feelings, 2022 | Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 46 x 61 cm | **Price:** £420

Simon MARUI



Simon Marui, a 25-year-old self-taught artist, was born in Lamu, Kenya, has an inspiring backstory of resilience and determination. Having grown up in an Anidan orphanage, Simon was raised by a single parent, along with one sibling. It was during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019 that he discovered a passion for painting. Despite the hardships, Coach Satan recognized Simon's potential and generously provided a space to serve as a studio. Simon's art reflects the emotional journey of his life, intertwining themes of perseverance, hope, and the beauty found within adversity. Through his work, Simon aims to convey a message of strength and the transformative power of art in healing and self-expression.

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Title: Lamu Culture, 2023

Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 80 x 60 cm

Price: £350

Title: Blossom of Garden, 2023

Mixed Media on Canvas

Size: 78 x 69 cm

Price: £450



Chesta NYAMOSI



Chesta Nyamosi is a self-taught artist based in Kibera, Nairobi, who mainly works with acrylics on canvas. His style of art is realism which he refers to as 'stroke face', He ventured into art at the young age of nine years, where he used to do sketches from comic books. As he grew older so did his passion for visual arts. After completing Primary School, he was introduced to the Uweza Foundation where he learned how to paint. It was fun trying something new and working with different mediums. He found it interesting and therefore had the urge to learn more about the arts scene, getting more inspiration from artists on social media platforms. According to Chesta, Art to him is a talent, something that comes from deep within, something he believes he was born to do, a purpose that he is now pursuing as a profession.

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Title: Reign, 2023

Acrylic on Canvas

Size: 90 x 80 cm

Price: £460

Title: Sunflower, 2021

Acrylic on Canvas

Size: 60 x 50 cm

Price: £460



Clara CHEBET



I am Clara Chebet a visual artist based in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County. I attended the Buruburu Institute of Fine Arts. I have exhibited in various local trade fairs and most notably The East African Trade Fair in Kampala, Uganda. My works depict people and their cultures culled from history. I don't have an art style yet, because I like to explore and experiment with multiple art styles and mediums. My favorite form of medium is charcoal on recycled papers notably papyrus paper and Banana fibre paper.

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Facebook: Arts Che.



Title: Scars Of Love

Medium: Charcoal pencil on recycled papyrus paper

Size: 50.3 x 36.6cm

Price: £300

During the Hamar people's cultural rites, their women are whipped by men to demonstrate their love and a sense of honour. During such rites, his family members the mother and his sister have to show their support for his transition from being a boy to a man by being part of the whole process. They're whipped resulting in everlasting life scars. To them, the scars demonstrate a woman's capacity for love, and if they fall on hard times later in life, it allows them to call on those who whipped them for help.

Title: Necklaces Of Wealth

Medium: Charcoal pencil on banana fibre paper

Size: 50.3 x 36.6cm

Price: £300

The numerous necklaces worn by the Nyagatom women are an indication of their social status. Girls begin receiving their first necklace from their fathers at a tender age and add more and more with every important life event. The beaded jewellery is highly valued and believed to be a symbol of wealth in their society. The beads have great significance, symbolizing their heritage. The beaded ornaments are to make them attractive to suitors, the more the beads the more dowry the girl's parents will fetch.



Tedd MWANIKI



Based in Kenya, Tedd Mwaniki (age 19), is a young artist born in Nairobi, Kenya. He started doing art when he was young and he is greatly motivated and inspired by his brother Lee Gitahi who is also an artist. He is currently studying Fine art and design at Kenyatta University. As a young African artist, he is inspired by the rich cultural heritage and diverse experiences of his continent. His art is a reflection of the vibrancy and resilience of Africa, as well as its complexities and contradictions, for example, doing artwork that involves things that happen in Kenya. He draws on a range of mediums, including painting, pencil, and charcoal drawings because they are easy to use in making a work of art. The inspiration for his mediums is the vibrancy and beauty that comes with the amount of detail achieved, to explore themes such as identity, belonging, and cultural expression. As a member of the next generation of African artists, he is committed to pushing boundaries and making his mark on the global art scene. He recently participated in an art exhibition at Rosslyn Riviera Mall.

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Title: Boda Boda Man, 2023

Medium: Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 63 x 63 cm

Price: £350

Title: Boda Boda Man, 2023

Medium: Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 63 x 63 cm

Price: £350



Anne ATIENO



Anne Atieno, a 23-year-old self-taught artist from Nairobi, discovered her passion for art in 2018 after high school. Using charcoal and pencils, she creates realistic drawings that go beyond personal expression, inspiring fellow artists to embrace their talents and pursue their creative dreams. Anne's story is one of resilience and dedication, proving that talent and passion can break any barriers in the art world.

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Realism pencil drawing of an eye

Title: No Emotion, 2021

Medium: Charcoal and graphite pencil on ivory paper

Size: 42 x 30 cm

Price: £200



Stephen OGALO



Based in the bustling city of Nairobi, Stephen Ogalo alias Sogallo is a multidisciplinary self-taught visual artist and founder of an art collective, 'Afro Renaissance' that seeks to re-imagine the African narrative through art. His art invites viewers to a space of introspection, as the visual tales and inspiration from ancient petroglyph writings mesh with their current understanding. He has taken part in numerous group and solo exhibitions since 2017 in Nairobi, Kilifi, and South Sudan, and combined with his other

skills in photography, videography, digital arts, and painting, undertaken various projects in collaboration with other artists to do murals, street art, AR installations, photos, and video series.

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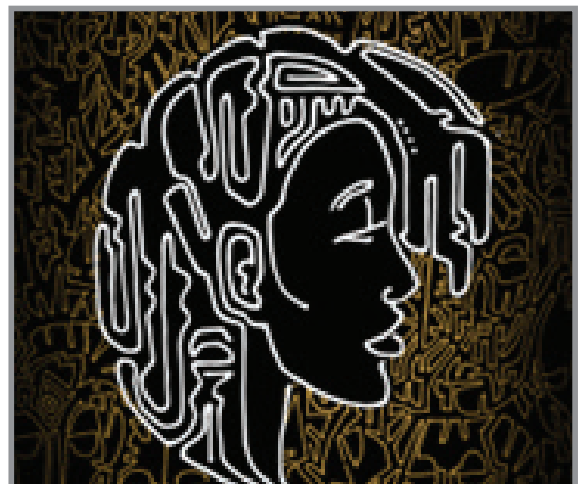
Title: High Priestess, 2022

Acrylics on Canvas

Size: 60 x 80 cm

Price: £300

The High Priestess is depicted with her eyes closed, a powerful metaphor for inner vision and deep introspection, signifying her connection to the hidden realms of intuition and mysticism. It is an exploration of the uncharted territories of the mind, inviting viewers to contemplate the profound mysteries and wisdom that lie within.



Clinton ODHIAMBO



Popularly known as Clinton Artisto, Clinton is a self-taught composite realism artist from Kibera, Nairobi, whose work generally investigates and portrays the beauty of struggle faced by common people especially women in their daily lives. He uses women as a symbol of strength and hope for the future. His motivation comes from people around him and their environment, memories, photographs and sometimes conceptualizing his ideas from dreams and imagination. His main inspiration has always been hope for a

better tomorrow. He uses acrylic paint as a medium to portray his subjects realistically while he also uses color according to the mood, he wants to support the story of his subjects. Born in 1997 in Asembo, Kenya, Clinton moved with his parents to Kibera slums in Nairobi to look for greener pastures. He joined Kibera primary school and later started painting while in class seven to pay for his school fees. He has been featured in several group exhibitions including; the Hamptons Fine Art Fair, NY Catwalk, Kenya Art Dairy 2019, The International School of Kenya FOTA Art Show, and the affordable show by the Nairobi National Museums of Kenya.

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Title: Letter to my EX, 2023

Acrylic on canvas.

Size: 100 x 80 cm

Price: £400

*Nothing lasts forever, from the world within series. I love it when the viewer interprets the work (THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO LOOK AT THIS PAINTING). "Loneliness is not cured by human company. Loneliness is cured by contact with reality, by understanding that we don't need people."
— ANTHONY DE MELLO*



Eugene KIMOTHO



Eugene Kimotho was born in 1993 in Nairobi, and currently lives in Eastland's area, Nairobi, where he is practicing and exploring more of his art styles and techniques. Kimotho is a self-taught artist particularly working with Acrylic and oil paints and he gets his artistic inspiration from his day-to-day life events, human behavior, culture, and nature. His use of vivid colors merged with layers of brush strokes, patterns, and lines puts a rhythmic composition that conveys feelings of whimsy with elements of surprise.

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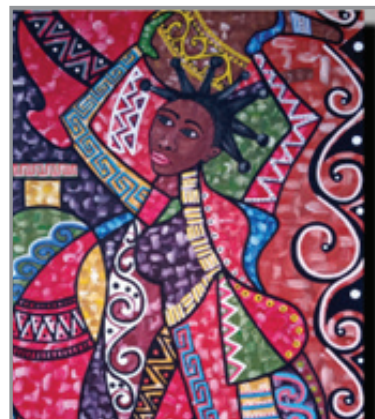
Title: *The Pot Dancer*, 2021

Acrylic on canvas.

Size: 70 x 100 cm

Price: £1,500

It represents our African culture and how our women used to do their fetching with some musical notes and dancing to motivate and encourage themselves in their daily livelihoods.



Henry NYAGUDI



I was born on the 21st of January 1991. I discovered my ability to draw at the age of 3 but did not have a chance to study art until I was 20 years old, at the University. I am a graduate with a BA in Design from the University of Nairobi. I have been experimenting with colors to arrive at a technique that allows me to manipulate creativity. I pick on culture to communicate my designs. Maasai is a Kenyan brand that I am applying currently for, I am not in a hurry, I will systematically transverse other cultures. I prefer; that my audience interpret my art freely.

Basic definition of my style is contemporary African. I work from Nairobi.

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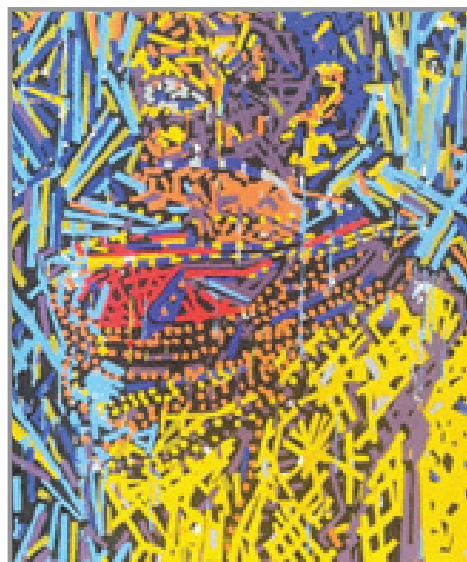
Title: *Energy Maasai*, 2023

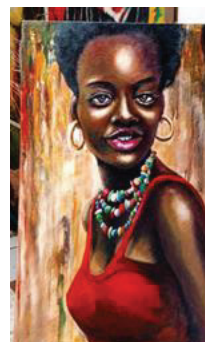
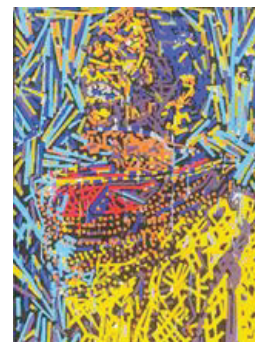
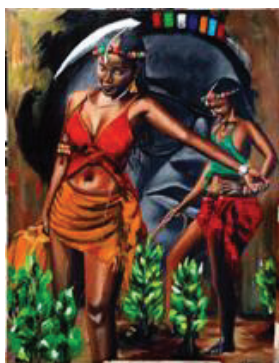
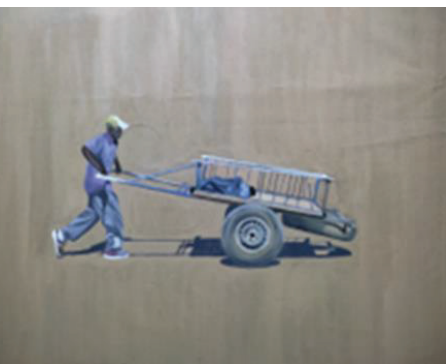
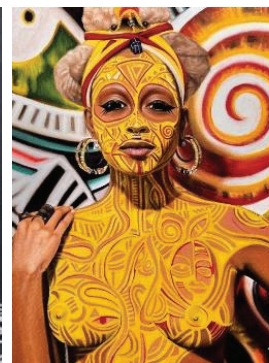
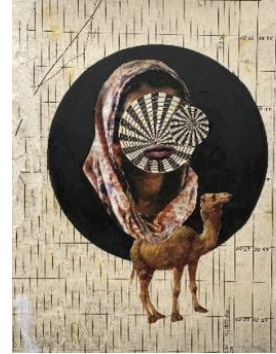
Acrylic on canvas

Size: 75 x 53 cm

Price: £642

This painting was inspired by the Maasai Culture-dancing is a communal activity in Maasai when they are celebrating, and Maasai women are popularly seen to wear beaded necklaces.







THE INAUGURAL EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY KENYAN ART IN LONDON



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