

EMMMANUEL MANU OPOKU
emmanuel.opokumanu@gmail.com
opokuarts.com
IG: @emmanuelmanuopokuart

EDUCATION

- 2021 **Master of Fine Art**, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2015 **Bachelor of Fine Art**, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- September 2021–
June 2022 **Adjunct Lecturer of Studio Arts**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Taught foundation sculpture Space Studio, Summer A, 2022: A project-based studio foundation course for spatial investigations where students explore methods for defining space, conceptualizing space, 3D digital fabrication and 3D design strategies
 - Taught Interdisciplinary Studio Art CORE Making and Meaning Spring 2022: Explored the creation of art in combination with non-art related research
 - Reviewed incoming freshmen portfolio
- Fall 2019 - June
2021 **Instructor of Record**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Taught foundation sculpture Shaping Space and Form, Summer A, 2021 and Fall 2020: Focused on contemporary art practices and investigated the co-shaping of form and space.
 - Taught foundation sculpture Gravity and Buoyancy, Spring 2020 and Fall 2019: A project-based studio focusing on objects that inflate or suspend and explore installation strategies
- August 2018 -
May 2021 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Materials and Methods, Advanced Sculpture, Spring 2021: Explored sculpture in expanded field and problems in sculptural form. Assisted Sean Miller
 - WARPlite, Interdisciplinary Studio Art, Summer B, 2020: Critical thinking, problem solving, and creative activity in collaboration and cross media artmaking. Assisted Moe Beitiks Megan
 - Making and Meaning, Interdisciplinary Studio Art, Summer B, 2019: Explored the creation of art in combination with non-art related research. Assisted Annemarie Furlong
 - Concept and Strategies, Advanced Sculpture, Fall 2018: Emphasis on sculptural materials such as mixed media, metal fabrication and casting. Assisted Sergio Vega
- October 2021 –
April 2022 **Gallery Director**, 4most gallery, Gainesville, FL
- Curated exhibitions during the 2021/2022 academic calendar
 - Supervised Interns

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- January - April 2019 **Gallery Assistant**, University Gallery, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Exhibition Installation
 - Opening Reception Preparation
- 2015 - 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, Department of Painting, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana
- Moderated painting students' seminar
 - Facilitated studio visits

AWARDS

- 2020
- **Harold Garde Studio Art Scholarship**, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
 - **Outstanding Student** - International Students Award, College of the Arts, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
 - **FACC Juried Exhibition Award**, College of the Arts Dean's Award, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2019
- **James J. Rizzi Scholarship**, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2021 - 2022 **Artist Residency Program**, Warphaus, University of Florida: Practicing art and managing the studio facility
- 2021 **Emerging Artists Membership**, Strata Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 2021 **Artist Talk** at The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- Presented my research to the Art Education class: Collections as Drawing
 - Presented my research to the Teaching Art in Higher Education students
- 2015 **Artist Talk** at Strata Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- **89 plus**, Nubuke Foundation, East Legon, Accra, Ghana
Juried by Hans Obrist Ulrich
- 2014 • **Vice President**, Association of Painting Department, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022
- **"Here and There,"** Strata Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
 - **"Dialectics of Memory,"** Larimer Art Center, Palatka, FL
 - **"Inseparable Entities,"** Fried Fruit Gallery, Wilmington, NC

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- 2020 • **“Language of Space,”** Freshasfruit Gallery, DeLand, FL
- 2019 • **“A Table of Content,”** Constance and Linton Grinter Gallery of International Art, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- **“Risen Compass,”** 4Most Gallery, Gainesville, FL

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 • **“The Medium is the Message – African Diaspora Story,”** Wilmington Community Art, Wilmington, NC
- **“The Medium is the Message – African Diaspora Story,”** Grizzly Grizzly Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
- 2021 • **“Generously Entangled,”** Tiger Strikes Asteroid Gallery, Greenville, SC
- **“The Medium is the Message” – The African Diaspora Story,”** Taylor Gallery, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- **“A Prologue,”** Strata Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- **“Through Black Eyes,”** Firehouse Gallery, Newberry, FL
- **“Untitled – MFA Thesis Exhibition,”** University Gallery, Gainesville, FL
- 2020 • **“Awaking Frequency,”** 4Most Gallery, Gainesville, Florida, Gainesville, FL
- **“Reitz Union Exhibition,”** Reitz Union Gallery, Gainesville, FL
- **“FACC Juried Exhibition,”** University Gallery, School of Art and Art History, Gainesville, FL
- 2019 • **Graduate Invitational Exhibition,”** 4Most Gallery, Gainesville, FL
- **“ART-SCIENCE,”** Gary R. Libby Gallery, School of Art and Art History University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
- 2016 • **“IF YOU LOVE ME,”** Kumasi Railway Loco-Shed, Kumasi, Ghana
- 2015 • **“The Gown Must Go Town,”** Museum of Science and Technology, Accra, Ghana
- **“Silence Between the Lines,”** Prime Motors Limited Warehouse, Kumasi, Ghana

COLLABORATION EXPERIENCE

- 2022 • **“Exquisite Moving Corpse,”** Emily Harvey Foundation, Venice, Italy
- **“Exquisite Moving Corpse,”** Experiments in the Cinema, Albuquerque New Mexico, USA. Curated by Chip Lord, Jack Massing and Sean Miller. Featured Artists: Sergio Vega, Ken Friedman, Mary Mattingly, Tea Mäkipää, Mel Chin, Hasan Elahi, Oliver Herring, Cyriaco Lopes, Emiko Omori, Mark Dion, Tony Oursler etc.

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<https://direct.mit.edu/afar/article-abstract/54/2/22/100726/Transforming-Art-from-Commodity-to-Gift-ka-ri-ka>.
- Abatemarco, Michael. “Emmanuel Manu Opoku at Strata Gallery.” Santa Fe New Mexican, May 6, 2022.
https://www.santafenewmexican.com/pasatiempo/art/exhibitionism/emmanuel-manu-opoku-at-strata-gallery/article_3b0cf208-c57d-11ec-b241-4b1568ff0fac.html.
- Murphy, Trisha. “Ghanaian Artist to Display Unique Style at Larimer Exhibit.” Palatka Daily News, Palatka, Florida, February 17, 2022. <https://www.palatkadailynews.com/local-news/ghanaian-artist-display-unique-style-larimer-exhibit>.
- Diallo, Aïcha. “Department of Now.” Contemporary And, July 4, 2017.
<https://contemporaryand.com/fr/magazines/past-present-and-future-about-art-in-kumasi/>
- “The Medium Is the Message: The African Diaspora Story.” Grizzly Grizzly, January 8, 2022.
<https://www.grizzlygrizzly.com/new-page-51>.
- “Person in the Mirror (2021) Acrylic on Canvas.” Passatiempo. PressReader.com - Digital Newspaper & Magazine subscriptions, May 6, 2022.
<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/pasatiempo/20220506/281784222674738>.