

About Samuel Nnorom

Samuel Nnorom (b. 1990, Abia, Nigeria) discovered his artistic talent at the age of 9 while assisting his father at his shoe workshop. He started drawing customers who visited the shop while also being influenced by his mother's tailoring workshop. From 2001 to 2008, he received art training at Johnny Art Production Studio, Jos, Nigeria. In 2018, he graduated from the University of Nigeria with a Master of Fine Arts (Sculpture). He belongs to the New Nsukka school of art.

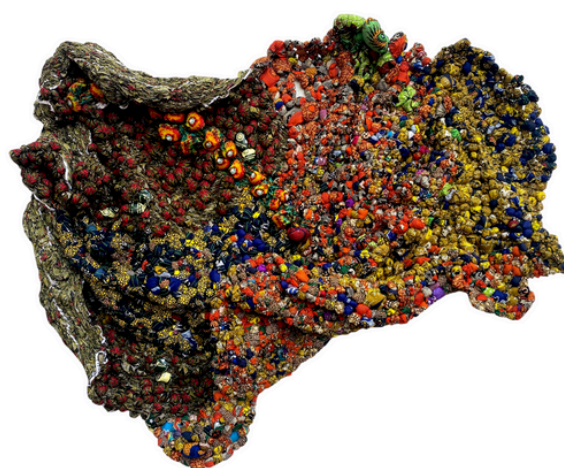
Nnorom's body of work is typically constructed from pieces of Ankara/African wax print fabric scraps collected from tailors or cast-off clothing from homes, along with discarded foam from furniture workshops that are wrapped and stitched into bubbles of various colours and sizes. Through actions like sewing, rolling, tying, stringing, and suspending, he poetically navigates the boundaries between textile, painting, and sculpture.

Nnorom's works has been recognised through various selected awards. He was the co-winner of the Ettore e Ines Fico Prize at Artissima 2023 in Italy. He was also selected as a finalist for the Craft Council and Brookfield Properties Award in the UK in 2023, First Global Prize Winner of the M&C Saatchi Group and Saatchi Gallery Art for Change Award in 2022, and first non-South African recipient of the Cassirer Welz Award in South Africa in 2021.

Solo exhibitions include an upcoming show at the Textile Museum of Canada (2024), Toronto, Canada; Saatchi Gallery in collaboration with Tiwani Contemporary (2024), London, UK; What Tomorrow Holds (2024), THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa; Interwoven Narratives (2024), Galerie Revel Paris, France; Emotional Catch (2023), Tiwani Contemporary, Lagos, Nigeria; Truth and Conspiracy (2023), Primo Marella Gallery, Milan, Italy; Points of Departures (2023), Galerie Art Mûr, Montreal, Canada; Politics of Clothes (2023), Mitochondria Gallery, Houston, USA; Politics of Fabrics (2023), an expository solo exhibition at The Guest Artists Space Foundation by Yinka Shonibare, Lagos, Nigeria; and Immigration and Integration (2023), The Art House, Wakefield, UK.

Residencies include Black Rock Senegal (2024), BISO International Biennial of Sculpture of Ouagadougou Burkina-Faso (2023), Guest Artists Space (GAS) by the Yinka Shonibare Foundation, Nigeria (2022–23), ROSL and Art House Residency, UK (2022), and Cassirer Welz Award and Bag Factory Residency, South Africa (2021).

Nnorom's works are found in collections including Taguchi Collection, Tokyo, Japan; Fondazione Marino Golinelli, Bologna, Italy; Ettore Fico Museum, Turin, Italy; Fondation Gandur pour l'Art, Geneva, Switzerland; Anthony Davis Collections, Los Angeles, USA; and several important private collections in Europe, Australia, North America, South America, and Africa.



Samuel Nnorom, All Things Working Together, 2024

CV

Education

2017 - 2018

M.F.A. in Sculpture, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

2015

B.A.Ed in Sculpture, University of Jos, Nigeria, Nigeria

2008

West African Examination Council, Infant Jesus Academy, Rukuba Road, Jos, Nigeria

2002

First Primary School Leaving Certificate, Assemblies of God Private School, Jos, Nigeria

2001 – 2008

Johnny Art production Studio, Jos, Nigeria

Solo Exhibitions

2024

'Multitude or Minority', Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Art Cologne, THK Gallery, Cologne, Germany

'What Tomorrow Holds', THK Gallery Cape Town, South Africa

'Interwoven Narratives', Galerie Revel, Paris, France

2023

'Emotional Catch', Tiwani Contemporary, Lagos, Nigeria

'Truth and Conspiracy', Primo Marella Gallery, Milano, Italy

'Points of Departure', Galerie Art Mûr 5826, rue St-Hubert Montréal, (Québec) Canada

'Politics of Clothes', The Mitochondria Gallery, Houston Texas, United States of America

'Politics of Fabrics', an Expository solo exhibition, The Guest Artist Space, Yinka Shonibare Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria

'Immigration and Integration', The Art House, Wakefield United Kingdom

2013

'Contemporary Renaissance', FAA Departmental Gallery (October 9-11), Plateau, Nigeria

Group Exhibitions

2024

Primo Marella Gallery, 1-54 Marrakach, Morocco

This is Not a White Cube Gallery, 1-54 Marrakach, Morocco

Primo Marella Gallery at Artgenève, Switzerland

Black Rock Pavallion, Dakar Biennial, Senegal

2023

'Unusual Materials And Forms For A New Aesthetic, Primo Marella Gallery

Beyond Boundaries, This Is Not A White Cube

'At Once, Then Again: Selections from Practice', Rele Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

'Undiscovered', 5 artist show, Thought Pyramids, Lagos, Nigeria

International Royal Oversea League Art exhibition, London, United Kingdom

Tiwani Contemporary, viewing room show, London, United Kingdom

'Dark Matters', Kate-Ferri Project, New York, United States of America

Primo Marella Gallery, Artissima, Torino TO, Italy

Tiwani Contemporary, ART X Lagos, Nigeria

Art Mûr at Art Toronto 2023, Canada

Bordeaux Art fair, Galerie Revel, Stand R+1 63, France

BISO International Biennial of Sculpture of Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso

MIART, Primo Marella Gallery, Booth A13, Milano Italy
 Collect Art Fair, Galerie Revel, London, United Kingdom
 London Art Fair, Koop Project, Stand P15 Encounters Platform, London United Kingdom
 International contemporary art exhibition "Paragone: What's with mediums today?", The Water Museum - EPAL, at the Depósito da Patriarcal and at the Cape Verde Cultural Centre, Portugal

2022

'Recycle Matter', Alexis Gallery Lagos Nigeria
 'Matters of Essential', a Salon Show at Ko Artspace, Lagos Nigeria
 'Voices of Textile', Gallery Marion Chauvy, Paris France
 ArtxLagos, Tiwani Contemporary, Booth 3, Nigeria
 AKAA Art Fair, Galerie Chauvy booth A8, Paris France
 Primo Marella Gallery at 1-54 London 2023, London

2021

'Wielding Power', joint exhibition, Gallery At The Landmark, Lagos
 Rele Art Foundation, Exhibition of Young Contemporary Artists, Ekiti State

2019

'Best work', Enugu zone, Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria
 United States International Institute for Creative Development Exhibition, 4 Oguda Close
 Maitama Abuja, Nigeria
 One Environment Hybrid Art Exhibition, Ceddi plaza Abuja, Nigeria

2018

Life in My City Art Festival 2018, Top 100, Enugu, Nigeria

2017

Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria
 Union Bank Art Challenge Exhibition, Lagos, Nigeria

2016

African Art Resource Centre, art exhibition, National Museum Onikan Lagos, Nigeria
 Spanish Art Competition, Thought Pyramid Art Center Abuja, Nigeria
 Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu Nigeria

2015

6th National Visual Art Competition (Theme: National Security and Stable Power Supply) Abuja, Nigeria

2014

Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria

2013

Splendid Art Exhibition, Faculty of law, lecture hall university of Jos, Plateau, Nigeria
 Puscat Art Competition, 2nd Prize Winner. Plateau Nigeria
 Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria

2014

African Art Resource Center (AARC), Art for Life, Lagos, Nigeria

2012

4th National Visual Art Competition, Nigeria Gallery of Art (Theme: National Security), Abuja Nigeria

2010

3rd National Visual Art Competition, Nigeria Gallery of Art, Tertiary Category; (Theme: Electoral Reform as Ethics for Good Governance), Abuja Nigeria

Institutional & Private Collections

2023

Ettore Fico Museum, Torino, Italy
Fondation Gandur pour l'Art, Geneva, Switzerland
DS_Artcollection, United Kingdom

Several important private collections in the; Europe, Australia, North America, South America and Africa

Residencies

2024

Black Rock Senegal

2023

BISO Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso

2022/2023

Gas Artist Space (GAS) Yinka Shonibare Foundation Residency, Nigeria

2022

ROSL and Art House Residency, London

Prizes and Awards

2023

ex aequo the Ettore e Ines Fico Prize at the Artissima fair, Italy
5 selected finalists for Craft Council and Brookfield Properties award United Kingdom

2022/2023

Global Prize winner, Art for Change, Saatchi Gallery London United Kingdom
shortlisted for Cultural & Artistic Responses To Environmental Change mentorship grant, Prince Claus Fund

2022

Strauss & Co and Cassirer Welz Award, South Africa

2016/2017/2019

Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria

2019

First prize, Leatherworks, Icreate Africa, Landmark Centre Oniru Lagos, Nigeria

2018

NNPC and Chevron Art Teachers Certificate of Achievement, Lagos, Nigeria

2017

NNPC and Chevron Art Teacher's Certificate of Achievement, Lagos, Nigeria
Life in My City Art Festival, Enugu, Nigeria
Top 50 prize, Union Bank Art Challenge, Lagos, Nigeria

2012

First Prize Winner, Tertiary Category, 4th National Visual Art Competition, Nigeria Gallery of Art (Theme: National Security), Abuja Nigeria.

2010

Third Prize National Visual Art Competition, 3rd National Visual Art Competition, Nigeria Gallery of Art, Tertiary Category; (Theme: Electoral Reform as Ethics for Good Governance), Abuja Nigeria.

Public works & Commissions

2020

Late Prof. Dora Akunyili, 9.1 feet, concrete sculpture, Anambra State

2019

Late Prof. Chinua Achebe, 4.2 feet, concrete bust Sculpture, University of Nigeria, Nsukka

2013

Berom Victory, 30 feet, concrete sculpture, Barkin Ladi, Plateau State

Press

Yale university, interview, By Brainard Carey, February 7, 2023

Playing with Ankara Fabric: Samuel Nnorom's textile incantations of truth, conspiracy and identity, July 23, 2023.

'From Discards to Coveted': The Changing Status of Fabrics

Five artists to look out for at London's Collect contemporary craft fair

Bubbles Of Delight Samuel Nnorom'S Social Fabric - Selvedge Magazine Uk, February 21, 2023

Nigerian artist Nnorom inspired by African print wax fabrics

Nigerian artist Samuel Nnorom named overall winner of international Art for Change Prize

Nigerian textile artist Samuel Nnorom wins global art prize for his Covid-19 inspired piece After the Pandemic

Nigerian sculptor Samuel Nnorom wins the Stephan Welz Cassirer fine art award

Samuel Nnorom wins Cassirer Welz Award

Samuel Nnorom wins the Stephan Welz Cassirer Fine Art Award

Samuel Nnorom: Points of Departure

Samuel Nnorom