

THK GALLERY

LULAMA WOLF | BIO

Lulama Wolf (b. 1993) is a visual artist who lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa.

At the intersection of Neo-Expressionism and Modern African Art, Wolf interrogates the pre-colonial African experience through the contemporary mind by using smearing, scraping, and deep pigment techniques that were used in vernacular architecture, and the patterns created largely by women to decorate traditional African homes.

History and the proof of life are the core concepts in her work. Where there has rarely prior been reference of life in black spirituality, she counters that narrative by creating two dimensional paintings to embody the simplicity and deep spiritual power of the native eye. Her motivation is both tender and protective of her imaginary world, and her symbolic view of how her world looks into an alternate universe. She is set on creating both a photographic and graphic experience, that morphs and shapeshifts into a higher dimensional plane.

"My work carries my spirit, before it carries a message. My intuition plays a vital role in the direction I go and then I compartmentalise with what I prioritise. I represent different parts of myself including abstraction, curiosity, mythology, spirituality and introspection. Blackness is vital in my work because it is created by a black woman despite the medium or language it speaks, it is vital because proof of existence is rare in the black community, information is shared but isn't sustained in ways that are knowledgeable to us right now. I express my yearning for answers and clarity in ways that make my blackness clear even when the work is abstract. My practice embodies subtlety in a form of texture and expression, a curious mix of ambiguity and curiosity. I experiment with different textures and moulds that are formed from the earth."

Wolf's works were exhibited at THK Gallery as part of the 2020-2021 group show *Reflect. Reimagine. Reset.* and in THK Gallery's most recent group show *Embodied Cognition*, in Spring 2022.

Lulama Wolf has also exhibited at a number of art fairs. In January 2021, THK Gallery exhibited Wolf at 1-54 Paris Online. In October 2021, THK Gallery presented Wolf at 1-54 London at Somerset House. Her works were further exhibited in November 2021 by THK Gallery at Art X Lagos Online.

In December 2021 she completed a residency at the Villa Fontaine in Antibes, France.

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

- *Africa Now: Contemporary Painters*, THK Cologne

2022

- *de.code*, THK Gallery, Cape Town
- *Investec Cape Town Art Fair*, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2021

- *Embodied Cognition*, THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- *ArtXLagos*, THK Gallery
- *Open City: Everything was beautiful and nothing hurt*, FNB Art Joburg, South Africa
- *1-54 London 2021*, THK Gallery
- *A Vernacular Homage to Architecture and Design*, Affinity Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
- *1-54 Paris*, THK Gallery
- *Nature of women*, Art She Says, New York
- *Ndoimadzi*, Botho Project Space, Johannesburg

2020

- *Reflect. Reimagine. Reset.*, THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- *Boulevard D'Aguillon, Undiscovered Canvas*, Antibes
- *Apartment Vol 2*, THEFOURTH, Cape Town

2018

- Her group exhibitions *Rendevous 2*, SMITH Gallery, Cape Town

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

- *The Right to Ease*, The Breeder Athens

RESIDENCIES

2021

- Villa Fontaine, Antibes, France

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COLLABORATIONS

2021

- Featured in *Introducing Black* campaign by Loro Piana:
Read the full piece [here](#).

PRESS

2021

- Featured in Glamour magazine, Spring Edition, South Africa:
Read the full piece: [here](#).
- Featured on *Artists to watch at this year's 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair*,
NewAfrican:
Read the full piece [here](#).
- Featured on Artnet's, five artist that the Artnet Gallery is looking out for:
Read the full piece [here](#).
- Interviewed by Daily Maverick:
Read the full piece [here](#).

PRIZES & AWARDS

2021

- Named as one of Business Day's Wanted21 Young and Vital Artists, South Africa
- Finalist of the Emergence Art Prize hosted by THK gallery (2020)