

FRIDMAN GALLERY

WURA-NATASHA OGUNJI

Born in St. Louis, Missouri, 1970. Lives and works in Lagos, Nigeria.

www.fridmangallery.com/wuranatashaogunji

Awards & Honors

- 2018 Artist-Curator, *sempre, nunca*, for *Affective Affinities*, 33rd São Paulo Bienal.
- 2015 Creation Fund Project Commission, National Performance Network, New Orleans.
- 2014 Commission *DISGUISE: Masks and Global African Art*, Seattle Art Museum.
Selected Performer, The Hemispheric Institute, *Encuentro: Manifest: Choreographing Social Movements in the Americas*, Montreal, Quebec.
- 2013 Artist-in-Residence, Institute for Performing Justice, The Center for Women's & Gender Studies, Embrey Critical Human Rights Initiative, The University of Texas, Austin.
- 2012 Fellowship Recipient, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, New York.

Selected Exhibitions

- 2020 The Armory Show, Presents section, Fridman Gallery, New York, NY. March 4–8.
- 2019 *you are so loved and lovely*, with ruby onyinyechi amanze, Fridman Gallery, New York, NY.
September 8–October 12.
City Prince/sses, Palais de Tokyo, curated by Hugo Vitrani. June 21–September 9.
- 2018 *Affective Affinities*, 33rd São Paulo Bienal, curated by Gabriel Pérez-Barreiro.
September 7–December 9.
A Slice through the World': Contemporary Artists Drawings, curated by Stephanie Straine, Modern Art Oxford. June 16–September 9.
- 2017 *Every Mask I Ever Loved*, solo exhibition curated by Eva Barois De Caevel, ifa-Galerie, Berlin. September 29–January 14, 2018.
- 2016 *Forming in the pupil of an eye*, Kochi-Muziris Biennale, curated by Sudarshan Shetty.
December 12–March 29, 2017
Visions Into Infinite Archives, curated by Black Salt Collective, SOMARTS, San Francisco.
January 14–February 10.
DISGUISE: Masks and Global African Art, Commissioned installation, curated by Pam McClusky and Erika Dalya Massaquoi, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle. June 18–August 7, 2015. The Fowler Museum, October 18, 2015–March 13, 2016. Brooklyn Museum, April–September 2016.
- 2015 *Magic*, Omenka Gallery, Lagos. October 3–24.
Statues Also Love, 50Golborne, London. June 11–July 18.
No Such Place: Contemporary African Artists in America, curated by Dexter Wimberly and Larry Ossei-Mensah, Edward Tyler Nahem Fine Art, New York. February 26–April 3.

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Selected Performances

- 2019 *Twin: a drawing + performance*, with ruby onyinyechi amanze, Frieze Art Fair, May 3.
- 2018 *Days of Being Free*, created in collaboration with Nicole Vlado as part of 33rd São Paulo Bienal.
If I loved you, Cape Town Art Fair. February 19.
- 2017 *Computer Blue*, performance with Taiwo Aiyedogbon, Lagos Biennial, Federal Railway Compound, Lagos. October 21.
If I loved you, Art X Lagos.
If I loved you, Red Hook Labs, New York.
The Kissing Mask, *If I loved you*, and *Sweep* in conjunction with exhibition *Every Mask I Ever Loved*, curated by Eva Barois de Caebel, ifa-Galerie, Berlin.
beauty, poolside, in conjunction with *Expansion of Time*, curated by SMO Contemporary Art, Temple Muse, Lagos.
- 2016 *There are many ways to fall into the sea*, CAT Cologne. Artivism Conference. April 9.
The Kissing Mask, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebaek, Denmark. May 6, 7.
- 2015 *The Kissing Mask*, The Fowler Museum, UCLA, October 17. Presented as part of *DISGUISE: Masks and Global African Art*.
Drawing-Performance with ruby onyinyechi amanze, Omenka Gallery as part of Magic exhibition.
The Kissing Mask, Seattle Art Museum, June 19. Presented as part of *DISGUISE: Masks and Global African Art*.
And Fight, London. June 12. Performance with Mary Ononokpono in conjunction with *Statues Also Love*.
- 2014 *Queen Sweep* and Elizabeth Olowu's *Journeying, Whose Centenary?*, Igun Street, Benin City, Nigeria. Curated by Inês Valle. December 6–7.
A tortoise walks majestically on window ledges, Künstlerhaus Mousonturm, Frankfurt. Directed by Storm Janes van Rensburg. Presented as part of *Afropean Mimicry & Mockery*, Curated by Martin Baasch. November 14–15.
Can't I just decide to fly?, Live Art Festival, Gordon Institute of Performing and Creative Arts, Cape Town. August 27–September 6.
Sweep and Paint Like a Man!, Call & Response, Antioch College, Dayton, Ohio. July–August.
Sweep, *The Hemispheric Institute*, Montreal. June 24.
- 2013 *twin*, performance drawing with ruby onyinyechi amanze, MoCADA, Brooklyn, NY. Oct 26.

Artist Talks

- 2018 *Twenty Vignettes: On snails, still lifes and home-cooked meals*, Eva Barois de Caebel, Wura-Natasha Ogunji and Charlotte Yonga, Lagos Photo at The Treehouse, Ikoyi. October 28.
- Drawing-Performance*, Live Art Network Africa, University of Capetown.

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Art Beyond the Horizon: Rethinking the Meridian of Politics and Aesthetics, with Jonas Tinius curated by Alex Flynn, Pivô, São Paulo.

- 2017 Artist Talk, with N'goné Fall, Art X Lagos Art Fair.
- Artist + Curator Talk, Wura-Natasha Ogunji and Eva Barois de Caevel, as part of *Untie to Tie* curated by Alya Sebti, ifa-Galerie, Berlin.
- 2015 *Spaces of Displacement: Negotiations of Migration and Refugeeism in Mass Media and Visual Arts*, Artist Talk as part of Goethe Institute Symposium, Lagos.
- DISGUISE: Masks and Global African Art*. The Fowler Museum, UCLA.
- 2014 *Performance Art: The Presence of Women in Public Space*, University of Lagos.
- 2013 *Six Draughtsmen*, Artist Talk with ruby onyinyechi amanze, Temitayo Ogunbiyi and Odun Orimolade, MoCADA, Brooklyn, NY.
- Black Radical Imagination*, Panel Discussion with Cauleen Smith, Robert Pruitt, Amir George, Art League of Houston.
- Performance Art in Lagos, Nigeria*, Artist Talk, Center for Arts of Africa & its Diasporas, University of Texas, Austin.
- 2012 *Performance Art in Africa*, Panel Discussion with Jelili Atiku, Bernard Akoi-Jackson, Valérie Oka, Bisi Silva. Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos.
- Performance Art: An Introduction*, Lecture, Yaba Technical College, Lagos.
- Glenn Ligon: America*, Gallery Talk, The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

Education

- 1998 San Jose State University, Master of Fine Arts, Photography
- 1992 Stanford University, Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology

Publications

amanze, ruby onyinyechi and Wura-Natasha Ogunji, *you are so loved and lovely*. New York: Fridman Gallery, 2019.

Selected Press

[Interview with Richard Bright](#). INTERALIA MAGAZINE, March 2020.

amanze, ruby onyinyechi and Wura-Natasha Ogunji. [“just a note: artist to artist.”](#) *BOMB Magazine*, August, 23, 2019.

Ogunji, Wura-Natasha. [“The Treehouse Lagos.”](#) *Something We Africans Got*, Issue #5. Anna-Alix Koffi, December 3, 2018.

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Meiji, Dele. [“Art And Life: Freefall and Futures.”](#) *The Africa Report*, No. 105, November, 2018.

“Fatherland: A Discussion with Wura-Natasha Ogunji and Eva Barois de Caebel,” *Woman Paper*, Marrakech #1, 2018.

[Interview with Theresa Sigmund in conjunction with the exhibition, *Every Mask I Ever Loved* at ifa-Galerie.](#) *Contemporary And*, Berlin, 2017.

Allyn Gaestel, [“Nigerian-American artist Wura-Natasha Ogunji stops traffic with Strut - her latest street performance in Lagos.”](#) *NATAAL*, 2016.

amanze, ruby onyinyechi and Wura-Natasha Ogunji. [“Paper As Body.”](#) *Contemporary And*, January 19, 2016.

Interview with Aïcha Daïllo. [“If I Don't Show It, Nobody Will.”](#) *Contemporary And*, Print Edition no. 3, 2015.