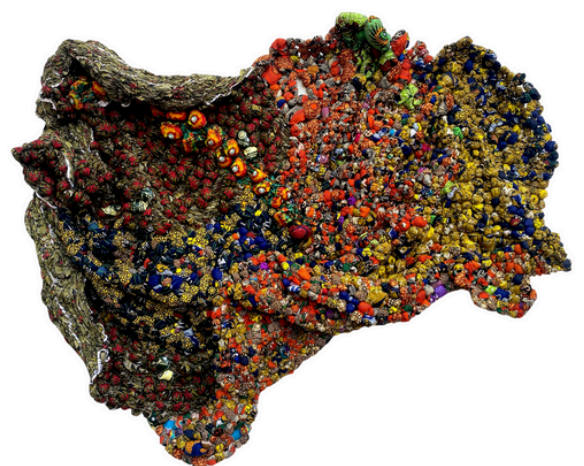


About Samuel Nnorom

Born in Nigeria in 1990, Samuel Nnorom is a multi-award-winning artist whose work poetically crosses tapestry-like sculpture and pre-loved Ankara wax fabric. Since early childhood, elements that now shape his contemporary practice have surrounded him: sketching portraits of customers who visited his father’s shoe shop and playing with colourful scraps from his mother’s tailoring workshop crystallised his artistic vocation. Self-proclaimed “custodian of material culture”, Nnorom draws upon materiality in a unique way, dedicating his art to textile recycling and a sociological reflection on the human condition.

Through sewing, tying and cutting, the rising artist creates intricate constellations of fabric-covered foam balls meticulously stitched together, evoking a metaphor for a “fabric of society” composed of closed social structures forming the bubbles in which our daily lives are wrapped in. Using Ankara textiles –whose origins are complex in the history of the continent, Nnorom explores its protean symbolism and reappropriates a contemporary fabric omnipresent in his community.

Currently living and working in Nsukka, Samuel Nnorom holds an MFA in sculpture from the University of Nigeria. He cumulates numerous workshops and residencies in England, South Africa, Burkina Faso, France, Senegal and Nigeria, including Kehinde Wiley’s Black Rock artist residency in 2023. Nnorom has had numerous solo shows, group shows and art fairs globally, as well as being commissioned several times for public works in his home country. He won the Africa prize 2021: Strauss & Co and Cassirer Welz Award, and a global prize for “Art for Change Award 2022” organised by M&C Saatchi Group, ex aequo the Ettore e Ines Fico Prize at the Artissima fair 2023 and 5 selected finalist for Craft Council and Brookfield Properties award UK 2023.



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

“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

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

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

2022

Recycle Matter, Alexis Gallery Lagos Nigeria
Matters of Essential, a Salon Show at Ko Artspace, Lagos Nigeria
Voices of Textile at Gallery Marion Chauvy, Paris France

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, UK

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

Art Fairs

2024

Primo Marella Gallery at 1-54 Marrakach, Morocco.
This is Not a White Cube Gallery at 1-54 Marrakach, Morocco
Primo Marella Gallery at Artgenève , Switzerland.

2023

Primo Marella Gallery at Artissima, Torino TO, Italy.
Tiwani Contemporary at ART X Lagos, Nigeria.
Art Mûr at Art Toronto 2023, Canada.
Bordeaux Art fair, Galerie Revel, Stand R+1 63, France.
MIART, Primo Marella Gallery, Booth A13, Milano Italy.
Collect Art Fair, Galerie Revel, London, UK.
London Art Fair, Koop Project, Stand P15 Encounters Platform, London United Kingdom.

2022

ArtxLagos, Tiwani Contemporary, Booth 3, Nigeria.
AKAA Art Fair, Galerie Chauvy booth A8, Paris France
Primo Marella Gallery at 1-54 London 2023, London

Museum Shows

2023

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

Biennial Shows

2024

Black Rock Pavallion, Dakar Biennial, Senegal

2023

BISO International Biennial of Sculpture of Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso.

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

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

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 UK

2022/2023

Global Prize winner, Art for Change, Saatchi Gallery London UK
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.