



Forme Feminée

an art exhibition

April 20th – 27th, 2019.

Curated by
Charlene C. Chikezie

Welcome to this year's "Forme Femineé" Art Exhibition

About **Forme** Femineé

Mirroring the importance of the female gender, Forme Feminee is a pedestal to present a sense of female inspired artistic creativity and offering to the discerning public.

- The theme seeks to re calibrate the traditional art methods that objectify the female form, by de emphasizing elemental sexuality but express its beauty and invalidates the ill-perceived notions, expectations of how femininity should be viewed.
- This analysis of the theological origins of the modern art stereotype, compels the artists and the public to review their expectations of the way the female form can be expressed without compromising its beauty nor its dignity. an opportunity to experience a synchorized display of art in more than one form.

Exhibition Summary

Forme Feminee represents works by indigenous artists. It shows a collection which explores the age long intricate relationship between art and the science of the feminine form as interpreted by the exhibiting artists.

In a time where gender equality is sought and fought for all over the world; Forme Femineé is designed not to dwell on that alone but take a step further in highlighting other forms in which the strength and perhaps weaknesses of femininity should be viewed and appreciated.

The theme also focuses on the aesthetics and artistic offerings of creativity from the artists. Forme Feminee pitches its tent on contrasting foundations of ultraconservative, liberal and radical notions of the significance and perceived value of femininity and it's representation through the arts

Exhibiting works from the following artists

Temmie Ovwasa

Shokunbi Noleem

Chinwe Chigbu

Adejumo Segun

Hafsat Sani Sami

Donald Onuoha

Magret Nze

Tony Gomez

Chidinma Nnoli

Shokunbi Noleem

Millicent Osumuo

Emmanuel Inua

Alice Obodom

Ibrahim Bamidele

Awarun Adeshope

Omotebi Olatunji

Tayo Akinnagbe

Onyegbu Cyril

Akanimoh Umoh

Adebesin Adedimuja

Foreword

Paying homage to the female form has long been the ethos for exalting natural beauty. Anything worthy of sentimental praise, be it for the sleekness of its physical proportions or the "maternal" comfort it guarantees have been imbued with feminine characterization and romanticized if only as a metaphor to chauvinism or the fabled unpredictability of women. Gender notwithstanding, visual artists defer instinctively to the alluring franchise of clean lines, curves, hues and a perpetual mystique recognisable or perceived as feminine. Quite often, the visual artist reserves a self-appointed right to objectify the feminine form, sometimes in optimistic solicitation of hope and other times as a warning knell of impending chaos.

The relevance of the artist as a storyteller or a saboteur of subjective reality is also innocuously enhanced by the not so innocent insights of the viewing public, which is why this exhibition is as much a salute to the intuition of creativity as it is a homily to the collective sensitivity of nature as a whole.

As would be deductible from the exhibition's title and theme, some of the featured works have been selected because they characteristically disable some of the cultural prejudices that befuddle our collective perception of taste and reality.

Notwithstanding the occasional deference to the socio-political arguments for gender equality and balance, curatorial preferences were inevitably tilted in favour of works that peel back our collective fascination with the female body language, without the pessimistic reservations of the moral prude or the fanatic self-effacing bias of the cultural anarchist.

Richmond Ogolo,
The Art and Antiques Barn,
Lagos.

Temmie Ovwasa

Temmie Ovwasa is a Visual Artist, Singer, Poet and multi instrumentalist currently signed to the record label, YBNL.

She believes that expression should never have boundaries or be viewed through the lens of sociopolitical norms and illusive cultural values.

She also believes that art knows no limit, should know no criticism and should only be bound by the laws of Empathy and Love.

Her art is inspired by the female form, usually women who do not fit into society's idea of what a beautiful woman should look like.

She likes to play around with backgrounds that give her subjects a sense of displacement, elements that should have no place together in society are usually merged into one puzzling piece of art.

Her Art and Music are heavily influenced by Feminism and Mental health awareness, and everything she does contains subliminal messages.

The women in her paintings are often hairless, because hair is strongly seen as a symbol of Femininity and she believes that removing that one thing, subconsciously shifts the focus of the observer and raises questions in their mind.

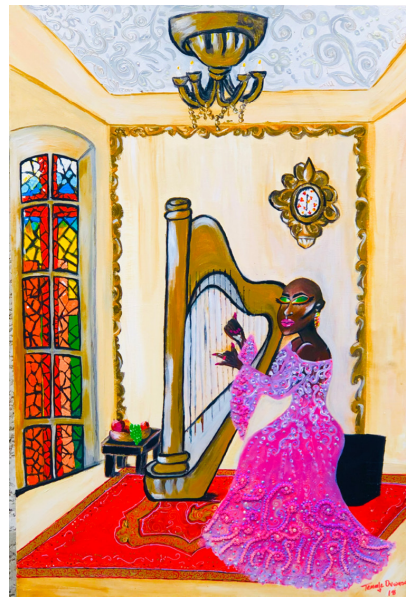
There are also a few religious elements in play which she incorporates to challenge Religious dogma which rids women of their autonomy.

Most importantly, Temmie Ovwasa is a human being, still questioning, constantly questioning and asking questions through her art, sharing her darkness and light; One piece at a time.

Her Works



1) Title: Bloom
Size: 16" by 20"
Medium: Mixed Media
2018.



3) Title: Raine
Size: 24"x36"
Medium: Mixed Media
Temmie Owasa
2018



2) Title: Faceless
Size: 16" by 20"
Medium: Mixed Media
2018.



4) Title: On a shayo level
Size: 36"x24"
Medium: Mixed Media
Temmie Owasa
2018



5) Title: No strings attached
Size: 24"x36"
Medium: Mixed Media
Temmie Owasa
2018

Chinwe Chigbu

Chinwe Chigbu is a contemporary cross-disciplinary artist.

She works between photography, painting, drawing, collage and African textile design/art .

Her works are conceptual and abstract as She explores and reevaluate the theme of identity in terms of ethnicity , gender and humanity.

Chinwe's draws her inspiration from African Art, history, culture and the universe (life).

Her works have been exhibited at the Revolving Art Incubator ; a joint exhibition with William Ifeanyi Moore titled "Uncensored ", a fusion of poetry and conceptual photography in 2017.

Chinwe Chigbu (Afrocentrics) is a self-taught artist, currently based and working in Lagos, Nigeria while exploring the world.

Artist Statement

Project Title : Muse

The body of work seeks to re-examine the socio-political structures and conditions that surround the African female sexuality and physicality in present day.

The artist uses her own identity (conceptual self- portraits) to explore the concept of femininity and sensuality subtly reevaluating the issue of erasure of the feminine gender.

Muse uses monochromatic self-portraits of the female body to inquire about all the ways women have been conditioned to feel inauthentic about themselves; to reclaim the body ,experience, and self.

Her Works



1) My Own
Muse (1 of
6)



2) The Subject
I Know Best (1
of 5)



3). The Subject
I Am Knowing
Better (1 of 4)

Tayo Akinragbe

Tayo Akinragbe is a self-taught artist who hails from Ondo state, Nigeria. Born on 28th August 1993, he graduated from the University of Lagos, Akoka, where he studied Mathematics Education. Tayo's art explores the realms of figurative female forms, capturing the uniqueness of different moments which he uses to express different themes. Halfway between realism and illustration, and with an undeniable mastery of the technique, Tayo's work draws viewers to reflect on the female gender, what it means, and what it takes to be feminine.

His Works



1) Title: See
Beyond the
Ordinary'

Size: 25.5 by
35.5 inches

Medium:
Graphite,
charcoal, pencil
color and
newspaper



2) Title:
Pulchritude

Size: 20 by 22
inches

Medium:
Graphite and
Charcoal

Omotebi Olatunji

Born in Lagos, Nigeria in 1997.. A self-taught artist who has a definite way of applying universality and futurism to contemporary art, and how this has influenced my life, I describe as 'monumental'. I do not have a 'defined' motivating factor but I tend to tap into frequencies whenever I try to create and believe my work could in one way motivate one as well. I am a lover of life, Art, Feng shui, and positive vibrations.

My philosophy is based on 'thoughts and reactions' as a universal language. I see life as a depiction of energy forms, frequencies and vibrations. Through these, I make art and try to bring consciousness into understanding them. Life depends on how one 'thinks' of it and with the right mindstate, art can only beautify one's view on it. Life is only a mere 'visual' and we can make it beautiful.

IG: @Tebidod_

His Works



WIVES OF TWO WORLDS'

-Acrylic on canvas

-24" x 20"

Women were created for a reason, men for another. We (society) often times, put our women in very unlikely situations, sometimes making them feel unloved or unnoticed. 'It's a man's world': this is a phrase we have formulated in recent years and taking it upon

ourselves to influence 'powerful beings' like our mothers, sisters and daughters think they are not good enough or need to 'act accordingly' to be 'accepted'. Thus, this project depicting how our 'Queens' trying to serve both worlds (theirs and that which they wish to fit in); but you know, it's their world we all come from. We are all of this world. This world we have made cruel for 'those' who deserve the most.



'A QUEEN BIRTHED KINGS'

-Graphite on laid paper.

-25" x 18"

A Queen distressed, brought up by a goddess, even when the world refused to recognize the monarchy, she learnt and taught how we are all dignified kingships even though she wasn't raised in a palace with sweet wine, grapes and maidens, she satisfied, sweetened and served her children. she doesn't know how she passed through

ugly life times, but she assured herself she would make her seeds grow beautifully and blossom under her care. She is sunshine, providing kings she bore as children every bit of happiness and made them shine on to the world. she is the king advisory, successor to the sun above. Ayaba ti ni fi ade sori omo <The Queen that crowned her own>



'MY QUEEN ,MY FURY'

-Acrylic on canvas

-36" x 23"

This depiction is of whom I call 'QUEEN'. She's my half,both of my sides when I have nowhere to turn.and when I do,I turn to her for the guidance of her love. Our lives aren't the same but we live the same way the other would. she's my sane when I'm insane,my carousel of emotions and mine alone. I was raised by ONE,and now she is the one for me,with whom I'll raise tiny ONES.Flames in her eyes I dont take lightly so I always ask how she's feeling.she's the calm,she's my storm.My Queen.

Nnoli Chidinma

Nnoli Chidinma (b 1998, Enugu) is an artist based in Lagos, Nigeria. Deeply fascinated by nature and the female form, Chidinma uses an array of mediums (oils, ink and acrylics) to explore topics challenging the cultural conditioning of women. Nnoli creates sensual works inspired by personal emotions and experiences. With influences of feminism, She explores elements of beauty, power, identity and sexuality. She earned her BA in painting from the University of Benin, Benin city Nigeria.

Her Works



TITLE: My name is purple

DIMENSION: 16*20inches

MEDIUM: oil on canvas

YEAR: 2019



TITLE: Bloom (A temple of scars yet, I bloom)

DIMENSION: 24*30 inches

MEDIUM: Oil on Canvas

YEAR: 2019



TITLE: What gives?

DIMENSION: 24*30
inches

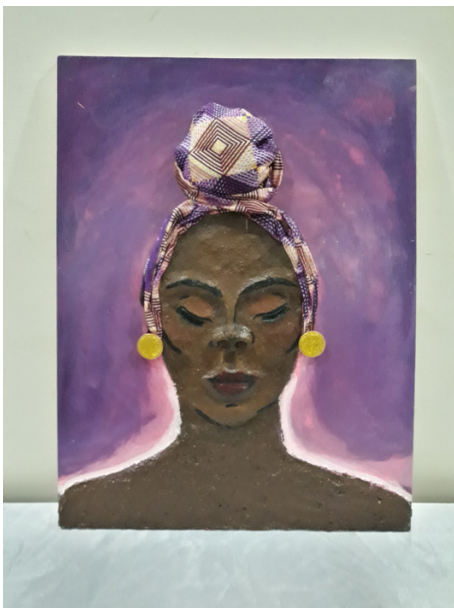
MEDIUM: Oil on canvas

YEAR: 2018

Magret C. Nze

Magret C. Nze is a contemporary and traditional artist, expressing herself through her art. Using mediums such as paper, pencils, wood, acrylics, oil paints, fabric and technology her art is inspired by what she identifies with as a woman, her environment and emotions. Moving forward she hopes to move to bigger surfaces incorporating unconventional objects and means to express her art .

Her Works



Title: From Within

Medium: paper
mache, acrylic
paint, ankara,
button on plywood

Measurement:
32.5"*18"



Title: Basking in
the Sun

Medium: acrylic
paint on wood

Measurement:
32.5" * 18"

Akanimoh Umoh

Akanimoh Umoh's thematic process revolves around his personal engagements with self, society and the world at large. He aims to bring to fore the various subtle emotive complexities that both unify and smudge the interpersonal relationships that plague mankind. While still evolving, he is unabashedly content with his deep love for figurative art and uses watercolor, acrylic, sanguine pastels and charcoal as his primary media of communicating his thoughts and inspiration to the decorative and intellectual tastes of his viewing audience.

His Works



Title: All That You Can(t) Leave Behind
Medium: watercolor.
Size: 12x18 inches

The Painting "All That You Can't Leave Behind" is a title gotten from one of my favourite songs by the Band U2 And it's likely based upon the song itself.
It is also my brave attempt at depicting a theme from my past romantic debacles and dalliances that fell apart at the seams due to the proverbial "(un)foreseen circumstances beyond our control."

Ibrahim Bamidele

Ibrahim H. Bamidele is a young contemporary visual artist; works majorly in photography and painting. He was born 13, February 1992 in Lagos state, hailed from Osun state. He trained as an Apprentice at Talents art kingdom while in secondary school and formal training at Yaba College of Technology. He works in various medium and materials as a mixed media artist and his subject and inspiration evolves around his immediate environment, personal experiences and cultural perception. His works address political, religious, societal and daily humanity themes. His expressive painting style is characterized with the use of Ankara, news print and drip techniques. He has participated in various group exhibition and Competition.

His Works



Title: Dumping Ground
Artist: Ibrahim H. Bamidele
Size: 42"x 30" inches
Medium: Mixed media; Acrylic, Ankara and newspaper on canvas
Year: 2018
Brief description: this painting describe the stages of gossip, from gathering information to sharing and also the facet of reaction of the hearer. The ideology is to warn against unhealthy gossip.



Title: Heartfelt wish
Artist: Ibrahim H. Bamidele
Size: 48" x 24" inches
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Year: 2018
Brief description: This piece convey the hope and faith of a mother in her child and her desire to make him a more successful than she is. It also expresses their love and care in protecting and nurturing their child.



Title: Olori Agba. (The king's favourite)
 Artist: Ibrahim H. Bamidele
 Size: 30" x 42" inches
 Medium: Oil on canvas
 Year: 2018
 Brief description: This painting convey the power of unconditional love, forbearing all things in season and out of season. An undiminishing love in-spite of adversary. The painting represents the story of a Queen loved by a king though she had no child.

Awarun Adesope

Awarun Adesope is an Artist and an Material Engineer, a graduate of the University of Lagos, Akoka, Nigeria.

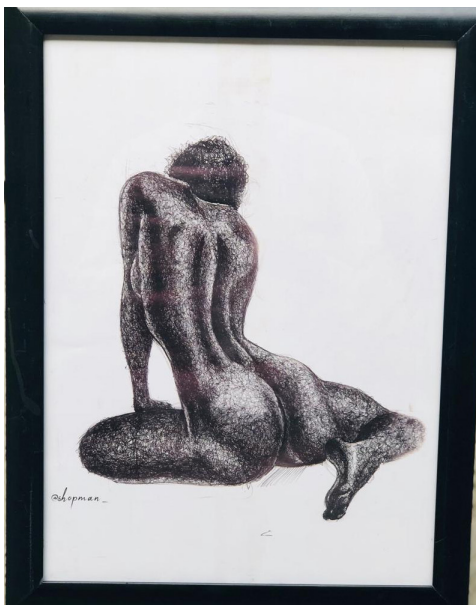
His art journey started way back when he found interest in art at age 7, making little artworks and getting familiar with art as a whole, he took it up as a career at the age of 18 when he got exposed to other artists who were ahead in the art industry and world as whole, the likes of Kevin Okafor, Laolu and many more inspired him through his Artist phase.

Adesope works well with graphite, charcoal and pen which he uses to create hyper realism and abstract pieces, he developed a technique from scribbling with pen which He has practiced and worked on overtime working on commissions and personal art pieces.

The upcoming exhibition "Forme Feminiee" themed around the universe and uniqueness of the female gender as a whole expressed in different forms of art.

The idea centred around the gracefulness, beauty, expressions of the Female gender represented by Adesope and other Artists He will be exhibiting with.

His Works



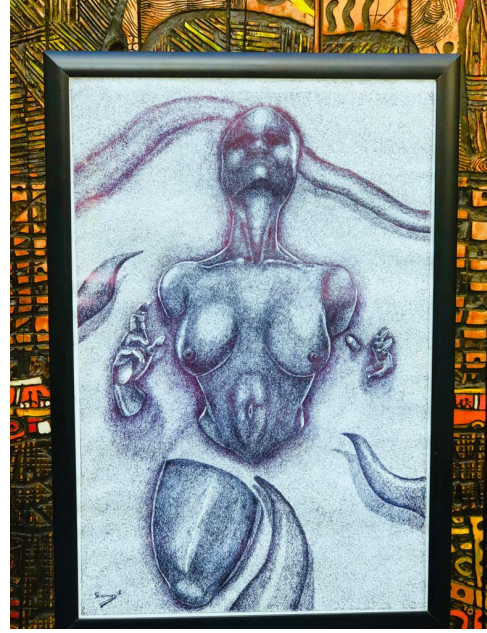
Name: Awarun Adesope
 Title: Maiden
 Medium: Pen on Paper
 Size: 12 x 16"
 Year: 2018



Name: Awarun Adesope
 Title: Battle Queen
 Medium: Pen on Chip Board
 Size: 14 x 16"
 Year: 2019



Name: Awarun Adeshope
Title: Solitude
Medium: Pen on Pelican Board
Size: 22 x 24"
Year: 2019



Name: Awarun Adeshope
Title: Euphoria
Medium: Pen on chip board paper
Size: 18 x 24"
Year: 2018

Hafsat Sani Sami

Hafsat Sani Sami, born and raised in Kaduna, is an experimental, self exploring artist. She focuses on telling the stories about life and its struggles, but also it's triumphs, using the imagery of bold, beautiful brown women.

Hafsat has had a solo show at the Thought Pyramid Art Centre/ gallery in Abuja where she showcased art pieces as well as jewelry and textiles which she also creates herself.

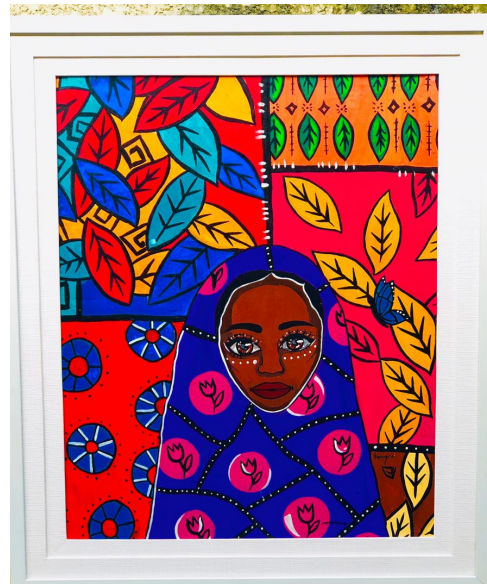
Hafsat is the author of her beautiful poetry book titled "Imagining a Beautiful Life" which tells the stories of her paintings and everything she was going through during the creation process of bringing them to life

Hafsat is an award winning artist with an award of "excellence in the arts" as awarded by the under 30 ceo body in Abuja. She has a passion for speaking to crowds to inspire the younger generation to feel free in expressing themselves however they feel fit. She recently at the Yasmin El Rufai Foundation to children and adults alike about pursuing the arts.

Her Works



Name: Hafsat Sani Sami
Title: Angst
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Size: 35.5x35.5"
Year: 2016



Name: Hafsat Sani Sami
Title: Brave Girl
Medium: Acrylic Canvas
Size: 30x24"
Year: 2018

Olusegun Adejumo



Name: Olusegun Adejumo
Title: RED
Medium: Oil on Canvas
Size: 23x19"
Year: 2011

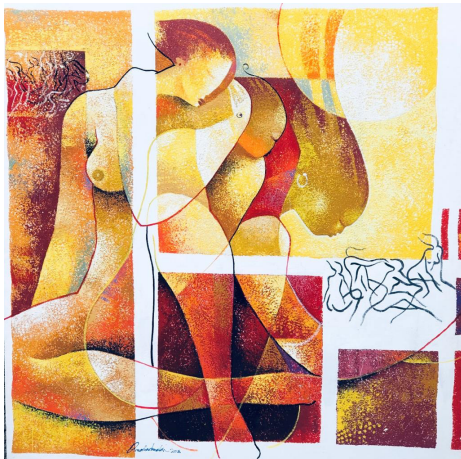
Donald Onuoha



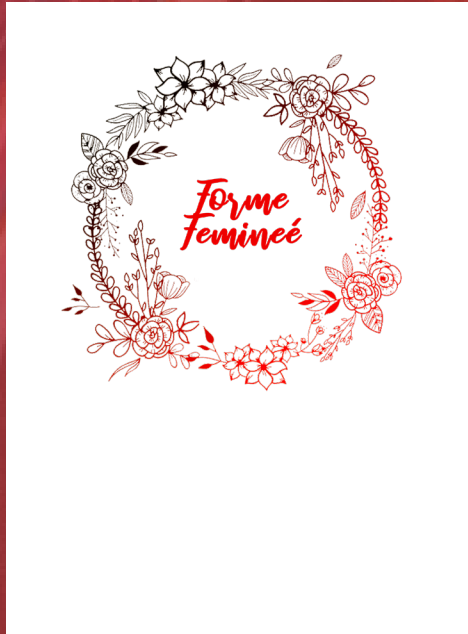
Name: Donald Onuoha
Title: Untitled
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 58" x 58"
Year: 2011



Name: Donald Onuoha
Title: Colourful Gesture
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 47"x56"
Year: 2010



Name: Donald Onuoha
Title: Sprung in Depths of love
Medium: Acrylic on Canvas
Size: 47"x47"
Year: 2013



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