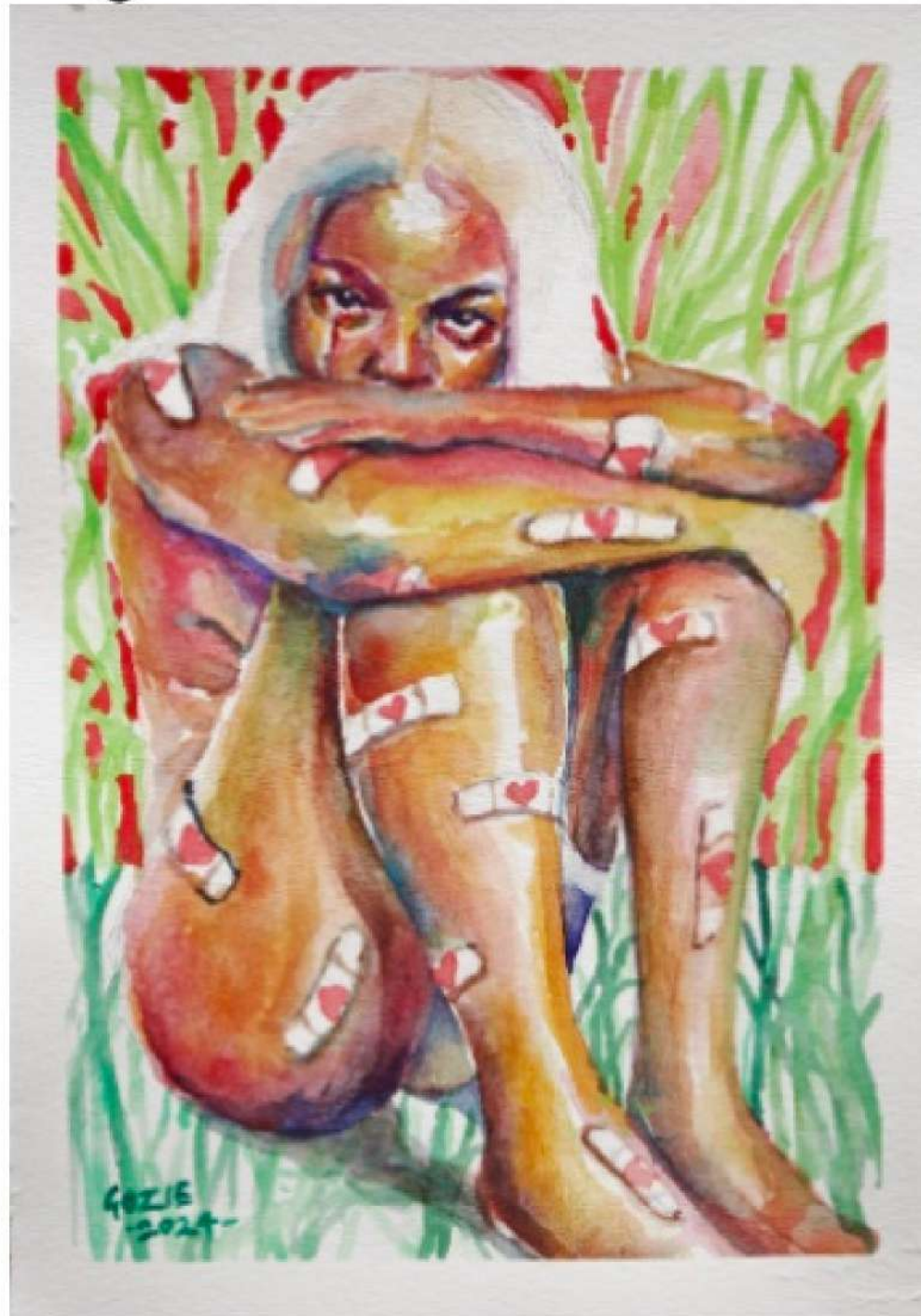


ACG PRESENTS:

CONNECTIONS

exhibition



catalogue

BY

CHIGOZIE OBI AHMED ABIODUN
DENNIS ONOFUA LAJA ADEKEPEMI ADEREMI
OLÚBÙNMI ATERE ADEIFE ADENIRAN

Curated by Adekepemi Aderemi

Connections: Exhibition Statement

Welcome to our exhibition, an immersive exploration of the profound tapestry of human CONNECTIONS. In this collection, we invite you to embark on a journey through the intricate landscapes of love and relationships, where the threads of emotion weave us together in ways both tangible and intangible.

The artists featured in this exhibition delve into the complexities of human connection, offering a visual symphony that resonates with the intricacies of the heart. Through various mediums, they navigate the delicate dance between vulnerability and strength, inviting you to reflect on the shared experiences that bind us all.

As you engage with each piece, allow yourself to peel back the layers of your own emotions, fostering a connection between the artwork and the depths of your soul. These works serve as mirrors, reflecting the universal narratives of love, passion, and companionship that define the human experience.

At the core of this exhibition is an invitation to embrace vulnerability—an essential element in the tapestry of love and relationships. By fostering a willingness to open oneself to the profound beauty and challenges of connection, we uncover the shared humanity that unites us all.

Connections beckons you to immerse yourself in the visual poetry of these talented artists, encouraging introspections, understanding, and appreciation for the myriad ways we are inextricably linked. Join us in celebrating the power of art to illuminate the nuances of the human heart and explore the profound beauty that arises from our shared journey of **love and connection**.

Meet the Artists:

Ahmed Abiodun Akinrinola



Ahmed Abiodun Akinrinola is a contemporary sculptor whose artistic journey traverses diverse media, with an emphasis on metal sculpture construction. He continuously explores a wide range of media in his quest to express his creative vision. His creative pursuits extend beyond traditional boundaries, reflecting a profound commitment to community engagement and collaborative production. He actively seeks to use his art as a means to unite and uplift his community. His collaborative approach extends to local projects, where he collaborates with fellow artists, community leaders, and residents to create public installations that embody the collective spirit.

He graduated from the class of 2017 Department of Fine Art (sculpture) Yaba College of Technology, Lagos Nigeria, where he was awarded 'Best and Most Deserving Art Student in 2021, he obtained a certificate in Art Direction for film and television from the Ebonylife Creative Academy with an award as "Best Production Designer" for the movie "The SAMARITAN" 2021. Ahmed practices art full time from his studio space in Lagos and Ogun State, Nigeria. Ahmed has participated in several exhibitions including, "Art For Peace" with OYASAF and UFUK Dialogue, (Africa & Europe Exhibition Tour), "The Cube" at the OYASAF (Lagos, Nigeria) where he had his first Art Residency in 2017, "Trading Space" at ALARA (Lagos, Nigeria), "PARTICIPATE" group exhibition at National Museum Lagos, "FRAMING HER" with AWORANKA at GAIA Africa 2021, "From Lagos with Love" by Art-Bridge 2022 Lagos, "Backing the Future" with DICA Arts 2022, a residency with DIDA Gallery in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, 2022 and "Formes Vivantes" group show at the National Museum, Lagos 2023.

... Ahmed Abiodun Akinrinola



IN YOUR ARMS

Metal & Fiber Glass
110cm x 95cm x 17cm
2023

N 1, 570, 000



JUST US

Metal & Fiber Glass
60" x 40"
2022

N 1, 750, 000

Olúbùnmi Àtèrè



Olúbùnmi Àtèrè (b. 1991) is a ceramic artist crafting narratives with clay. Known for her grunge textures and unique carvings, she employs evocative forms and inscriptions in her works to comment on self, culture and societal values as they affect individual and collective consciousness. Interested in the complexity of human interactions and their expression, she comprehends the world from the inside-out, intrigued with the murky, messy parts of life.

Self taught; on a journey of self discovery; her curiosity about the nature of materials brought her to ceramics where she is captivated by the way matter can be transformed through process. Her current work is influenced by nature, emotions and culture where records of intimate collected histories lay.

Olubunmi studied Adult Education at Adekunle Ajasin University and consults as a communicator before her artistic debut in 2022. She bagged the prize for Technical Proficiency at Life in my City Art Festival the same year.

She has garner recognition through selected exhibitions including Beyond Limit 2022, LIMCAF 2022, Clay Holds Water, Water Holds Clay at NCECA, USA, 2023, Hands at Koops Project, UK, 2023, Africa Speaks 54 at ADI Mauritius 2023, Magneto Motherland at ChaleWote, Ghana, 2023 and Mauritius International Art Fair 2023.

Her work is a testament to the fusion of self, heritage and information practice.

... Olúbùnmi Atere

SEARCHING HEARTS

Clay Vessel
2024

N 150,000



Chigozie Obi

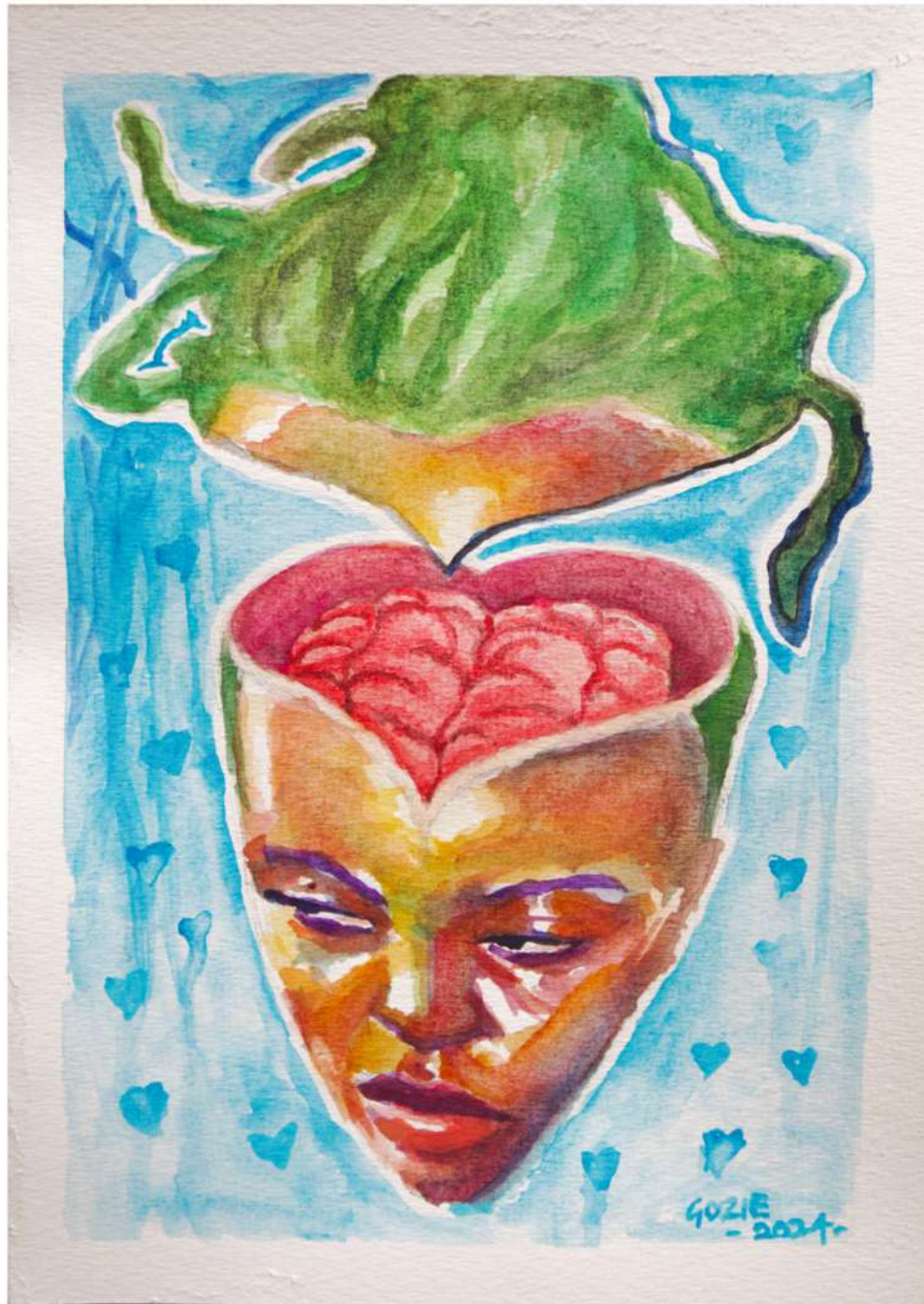


Chigozie Obi (b. 1997) is a multidimensional artist whose practice delves into multifaceted materials to narrate stories influenced by personal and societal encounters.

Her work reflects her interest her profound fascination with the human life, the body, beauty standards, gender issues, mental health, the quest for self-acceptance, activism, and more. She aims to document and foster enduring dialogues about individuals and society, examining the different narratives employed and their impact on people on both individual and collective levels.

Obi obtained a bachelors degree of Visual Arts from the Creative Arts department, University of Lagos in 2017. Her work has been featured in several group exhibitions and sales, which include, 'Reverie', DADA Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria (2023), 'Young Talents: Polymathic Nature', C+N Gallery CANEPANERI, Genoa, Italy (2023), 'Unity', Vollery Gallery, Dubai (2022), 'Intersections', Gallery Affinity, Lagos, Nigeria (2021), 'Are You Comfortable Now?', A Whitespace Creative Agency, Lagos, Nigeria (2021), MoCada Museum's silent auction (2019). She won the Access Bank 'Art X Prize' (2021), is one of the winners of The Future Awards Prize For Art (2021) and was a residency artist at Gasworks, London (April - June 2022).

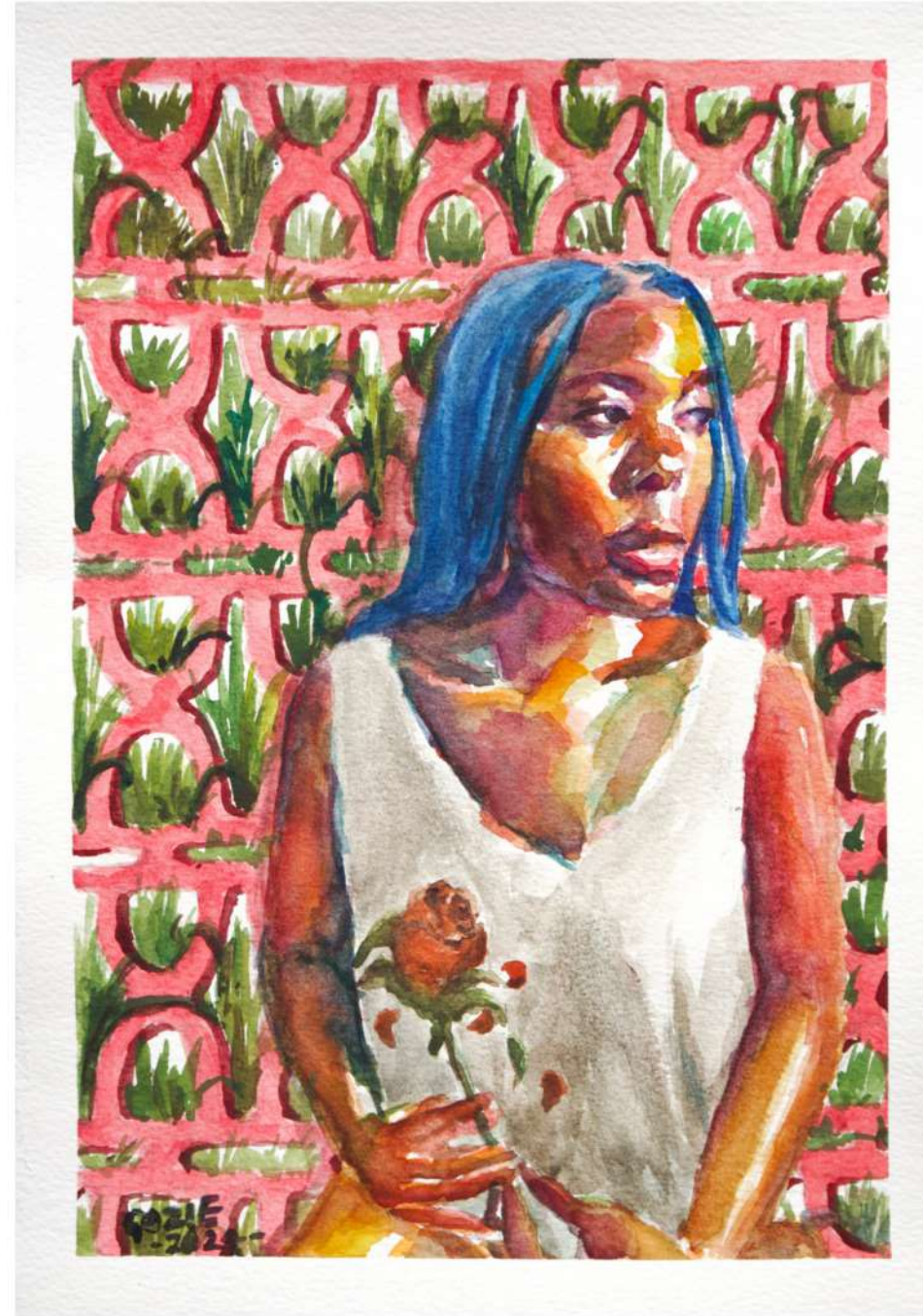
... Chigozie Obi



HEAD FULL OF LOVE

Watercolour on Paper
21cm x 29.7cm
2024

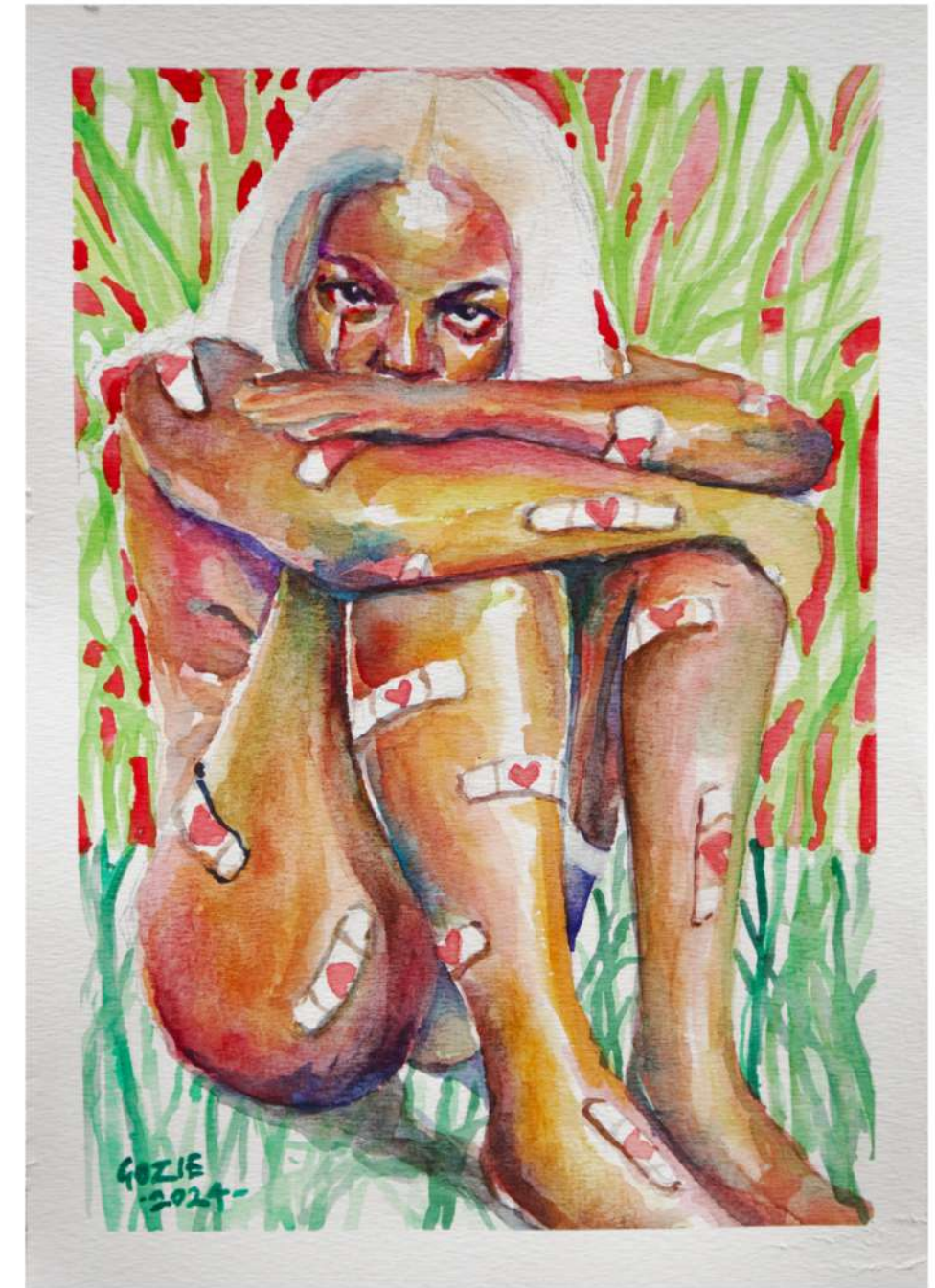
N 500, 000



LOVE HEALS ALL WOUNDS

Watercolour on Paper
21cm x 29.7cm
2024

N 500, 000



WAITING IN VAIN

Watercolour on Paper
21cm x 29.7cm
2024

N 500, 000

‘LAJA

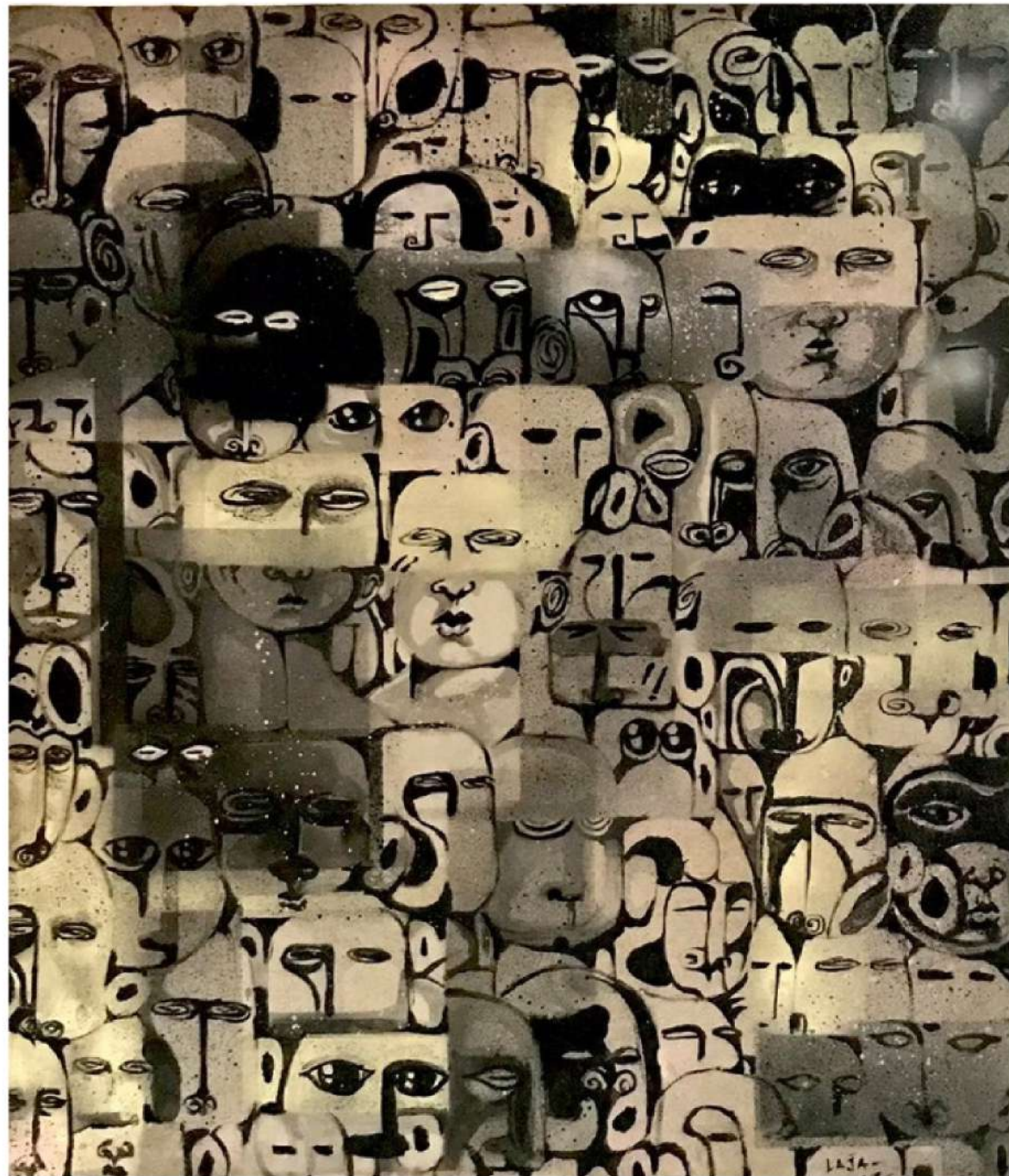


‘Laja (b. 1997) is a lagos based multidisciplinary artist who crowns his "creative energy" as the sole initiator to his artistic processes and production .

By giving in and surrendering entirely to this creative force that roars within him he is able to transcend his being that holds him down with chains of logic and mere visual assessment. Opening doors to absolute freedom of expression and experimentation.

‘Laja attended the yaba college of technology and the university of Lagos but left them both to follow his own creative voice.

... LAJA



IN THE PLACE OF "I"

n/a

2017

N 2, 000, 000



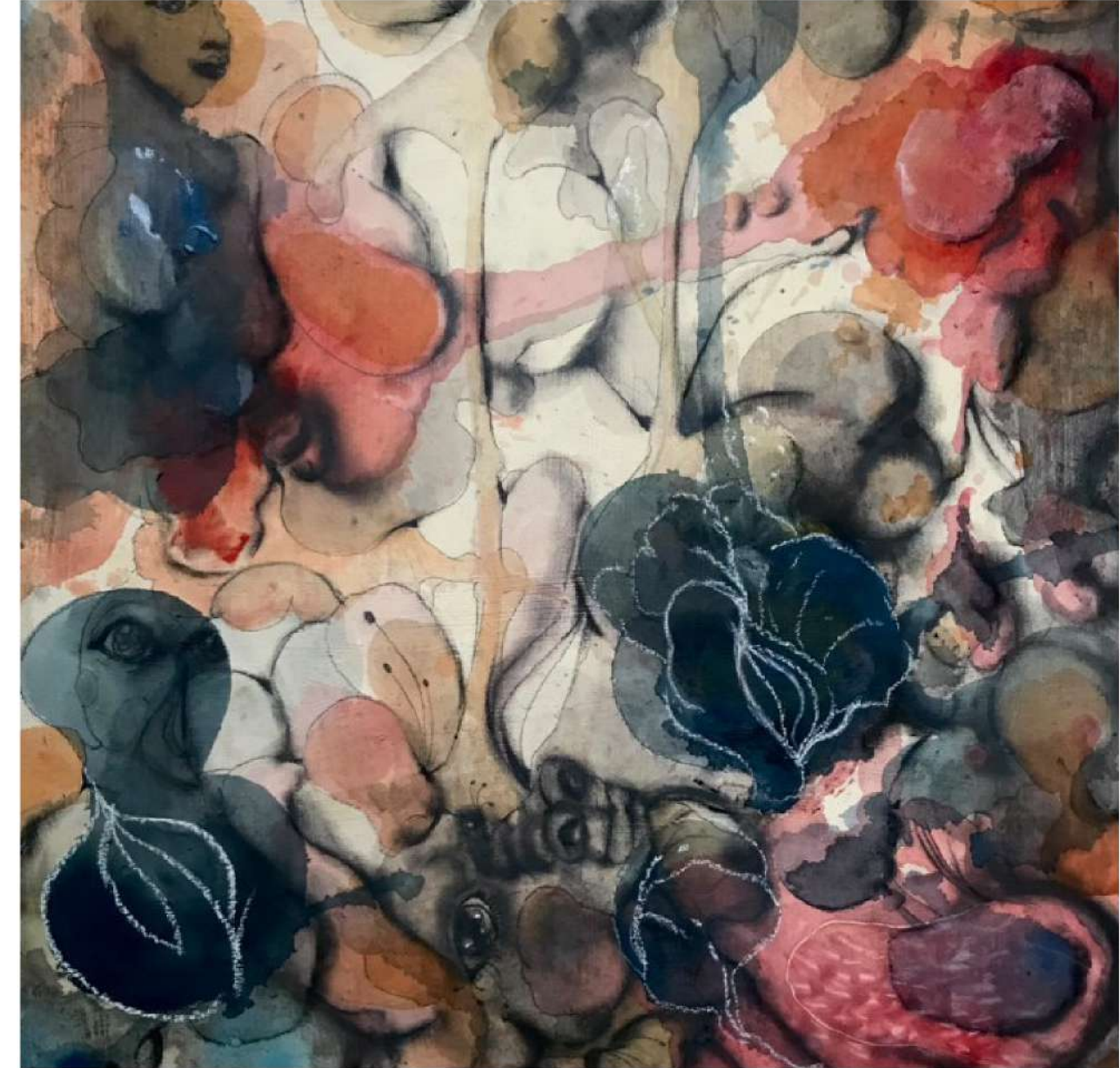
IN THE PLEASURE OF THREE

Mixed Media on Board

24" x 24"

2017

N 2, 000, 000



FOURTEEN ATTEMPTS ON SELF STRANGULATION

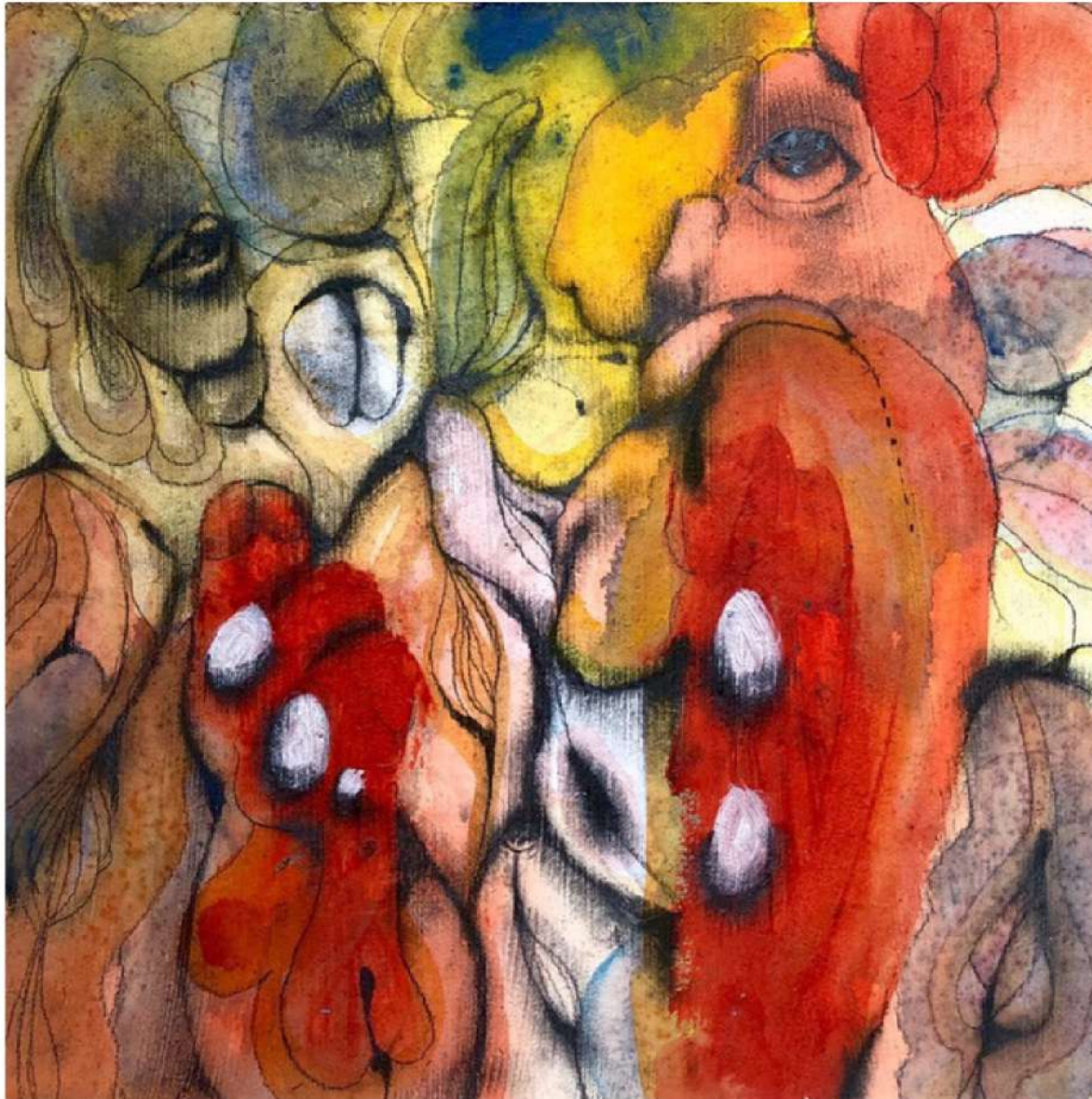
Mixed Media on Board

24" x 24"

2022

N 2, 000, 000

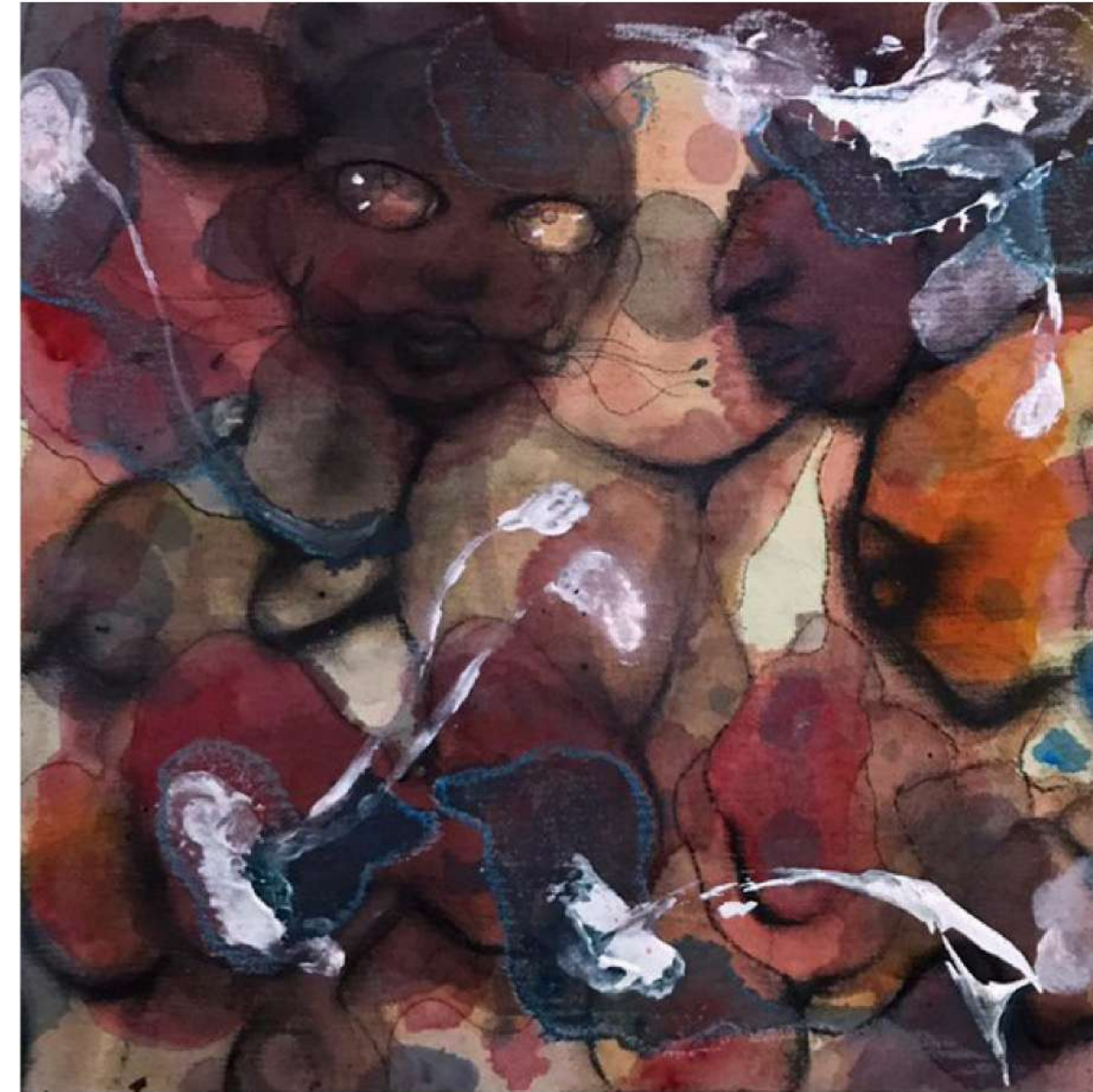
... LAJA



BIRTH OF NECESSARY EVI

Mixed Media on Board
12" x 12"
2022

N 550, 000



IN REMBRANCE OF LOVE AND SELF STRANGULATION

Mixed Media on Board
12" x 12"
2017

N 600, 000

Dennis Onofua

(B.1993)

A multi-faceted artist with a passion for figurative and abstract expressionism, Onofua is a visionary who delves deep into the realms of contemporary and modern art.

He obtained his artistic education at Auchi Polytechnic in Auchi, Edo State, where he chose painting as his specialised medium, allowing him to explore the boundless possibilities of color, line, and form. Since embarking on his professional journey in 2018, line, colour, and form have emerged as the foundational pillars of Onofua's artistic expression. With an unwavering commitment to these elements, he skilfully weaves them together to create mesmerising and thought provoking aesthetics. His artworks serve as visual narratives, inviting viewers to contemplate and interpret the complexities of the human condition.

Onofua's figures, carefully crafted within his artistic realm, serve as poignant representations of humanity. Through their delicate portrayal, he captures the inherent vulnerability and fragility of the human experience. Simultaneously, these figures embody a sense of disconnection, highlighting the challenges of disconnection in an ever-evolving world. Yet, amidst their perceived disfigurement and disconnection, there is an inherent celebration of diversity, showcasing the multifaceted nature of the human spirit. Driven by a profound desire to push the boundaries of artistic expression, Onofua continuously explores new techniques and ideas. His artistic practice prioritises experimentation, enabling him to evolve and grow as an artist. Through his works, he aims to ignite conversations, challenge perceptions, and evoke emotional responses, ultimately leaving a lasting impact on his viewers.

With his dedication to self-expression and his exploration of the human condition, Onofua stands as a promising emerging artist, poised to make significant contributions to the contemporary art scene. His captivating works serve as a testament to his artistic vision, inviting audiences to embark on a transformative journey through the realms of abstract expressionism and contemporary art.

Onofua has achieved consistent recognition in both local and international galleries due to his unique and diverse approach to his craft. As a full time studio artist based in Lagos, Nigeria, he immerses himself in the vibrant artistic scene of the city, constantly pushing the boundaries of his artistic expression. His works serve as a testament to his passion, skill, and ability to transcend conventional artistic norms, inviting viewers into a world where imagination and reality intertwine.



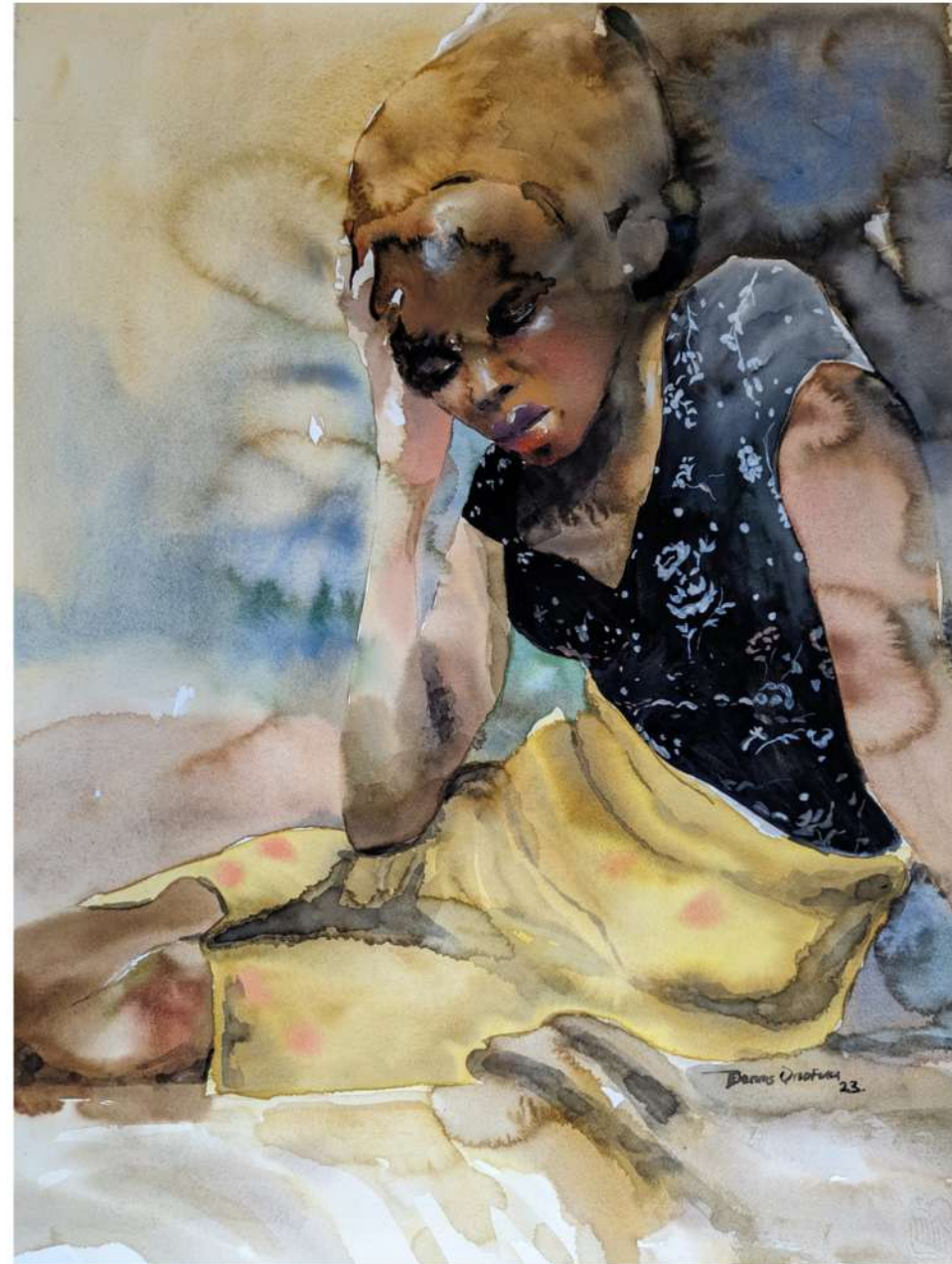
... DENNIS ONOFUA



OBSESSION

Watercolour on Paper
30" x 22"
2023

N 450, 000



PERPLEXED

Watercolour on Paper
30" x 22"
2023

N 450, 000



AMOUR

Watercolour on Paper
8" x 11"
2022

N 180, 000

... DENNIS ONOFUA



COMPADRE

Mixed Media on Canvas
60" x 48"
2023

N 1, 600, 000



NEVER HAVE I

Mixed Media on Canvas
48" x 36"
2023

N 1, 200, 000

Adeife Adeniran



Adeife Adeniran (b. 1999) is a visual artist from Lagos, Nigeria, whose paintings and illustrations explore the themes of loneliness and introversion. Through his fictional character, Box Head, Adeniran invites viewers to journey into the inner world of a solitary figure, where imagination, mental states, and reality collide. His work is a captivating blend of fictional narration and psychological realism, rendered in a comic illustration style that is both simple and minimal. Adeniran's work is inspired by a diverse range of influences, including the stark realism of Edward Hopper, the vibrant cartoons of KAWS, and the masked figures of Dennis Osadebe. He also explores the depths of his own experiences and observations of cinema, animation, comics, and music, crafting intimate yet universal works. Adeniran holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Visual Arts from the University of Lagos, Nigeria.

... ADEIFE ADENIRAN

THE EARLY RUSH

Oil Paint &
Paper Print on Canvas
2023

N 700, 000



Adekepemi Aderemi



Adekepemi Aderemi's career as an artist began with a journey of self-development and improvement by studying and recreating her surroundings in her own way. Through her work Adekepemi has created a context for herself; a space in which she feels comfortable – she finally belongs.

In her debut exhibition, Portals at Alara, Adekepemi's work was characterised by its brooding colours and circular patterns, as she has continued her journey of self-discovery, her evolving mood, attitude and perception of life can easily be seen throughout her new pieces. She favours brighter and bolder colours, whilst she continues to be inspired by the natural world around her (trees, seascapes, sky etc), she is beginning to explore people, man-made structures, buildings, distressed walls, graffiti etc), and journaling has become a huge aspect of her recent works too.

As a textiles graduate from the University of Loughborough School of Art and Design, Adekepemi Aderemi is versed in several art and textiles processes, including drawing, painting, mark-making, machine stitch, and linoleum printing, which all feature heavily in her work. Acrylic paints are also an increasing focal point in her larger works. For example in her recent collection, Woven Threads, the mask-style self portraits painted on the glass are the main subjects, with the framed prints serving as elaborately detailed backgrounds. In addition to these above techniques, Adekepemi has also recently begun producing sculptures, created using wire rods, as well as figure paintings.

With her debut curatorial exhibition, Adekepemi now focuses on figurative expressions, evolving from her usual abstract artistry. In a body of work that commemorates self-development through introspection, this figurative approach encourages viewers to look beyond the self, to the art within.

Adekepemi's work allows her to express herself with an honesty and vulnerability that she would typically have found uncomfortable in real life situations. It is important to her that those who follow her journey and her art see her breakthrough and subsequent development and can resonate with it or even feel a sense of reassurance from it – it is possible to pull yourself out of these dark spaces. She has done it.

... Adekepemi Aderemi



CONNECTED

? on a Wooden Base
75cm x 45cm (approx.)
2024

N 950, 000



I AM LOVE

? on a Wooden Base
75cm x 45cm (approx.)
2024

N 750, 000

Get In Touch!

ACG

ART CADRE GALLERY

IG: @the.acgallery
E: acg@kadrstudio.com

IG: @kepemia
E: adekepemi.aderemi@gmail.com

