



**ADEKEPEMI ADEREMI · ADEOTI AZEEZ AFEEZ · EMEKA ILECHUKWU**

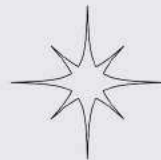
# OUTSIDE THE BOX

Private Viewing: Saturday 11th May

12.05.2024 - 02.06.2024

3PM - 8PM (closed on Mondays)

MÌLÍKÌ, 7b Etim Inyang Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos



# Exhibition Statement

"Outside the Box" invites you to explore the innovative and diverse worlds of three extraordinary artists whose works transcend conventional boundaries. Assembled under one roof, their artistry converges to celebrate the boundless realms of imagination and the power of thinking outside the box.

In a world where conformity often stifles innovation, these artists boldly challenge the status quo, forging new paths and perspectives through their distinct approaches to art. While their styles may vary vastly, they are united by a shared commitment to pushing the limits of their creativity and expression.

Nature serves as muse for one of the artists and both medium and inspiration for the others.

Adekepemi harnesses the raw and intricate beauty of tree bark to create stunning visual narratives that evoke a sense of wonder and reverence for the world around us.

Whilst Adeoti handles clay deftly, delving into the intricacies of the human form, moulding together threads of emotion and identity to craft deeply introspective works that resonate with viewers on a profound level.

Finally, Emeka manipulates wood to his will, defying conventions and redefining the very essence of woodworking. Through bold colours, indistinct shapes and patterns, experimentation and unconventional techniques, he challenges viewers to expand their perceptions and embrace the unfamiliar.

Together, these three visionaries invite us to embrace the transformative power of creativity and embrace the endless possibilities that lie beyond the confines of tradition. As we bear witness to their captivating creations, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing a culture of innovation and exploration, particularly among the youth, who hold the key to shaping a brighter and more imaginative future.

Join us on a journey into the extraordinary, where the boundaries of art are mere illusions and the possibilities are limitless. Welcome to Outside the Box!



# ADEOTI AZEEZ AFEEZ

Adeoti Azeez Afeez is an accomplished ceramicist specializing in the technique of sgraffito.

He resides and creates his artwork in the bustling city of Lagos, Nigeria.

Adeoti's incredible skill lies in his ability to create contrasting colors in engobe-coated clay, through detailed and skillful cross-hatching. His work is renowned for its depth, tone, and chiaroscuro effect.

Adeoti is a graduate of the prestigious Yaba College of Technology and has gained significant recognition by participating in several group exhibitions. Notably, Beyond Limit 2022, LIMCAF 2022, Colour Theory, AMG Projects 2023, and (Sur)face exhibition at Chilli Art Projects 2023. Besides, he participated in the highly acclaimed Statues Also Breath workshop with Prune Nourry, hosted in collaboration with Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile Ife.

## ARTIST STATEMENT

my artistic medium finds its expression in the very essence of clay, while my creations resonate with narratives that echo the profound stories of heritage and unity. In a world propelled by the relentless march of progress and innovation, I have keenly observed the steady erosion of our treasured cultural identity within the hearts of many Nigerians, overshadowed by the allure of modernity.

Against this backdrop, my ceramic creations rise as poignant reminders of our ancestral beginnings, beckoning us to pause and contemplate the roots from which we spring. They serve as more than mere artworks; they are living testaments to the multifaceted tapestry that forms the foundation of our collective existence.



### Agogo Ide

29 CM X 42 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY

2023

N 500, 000



### untitled (Òpómùlẹ̀ro series)

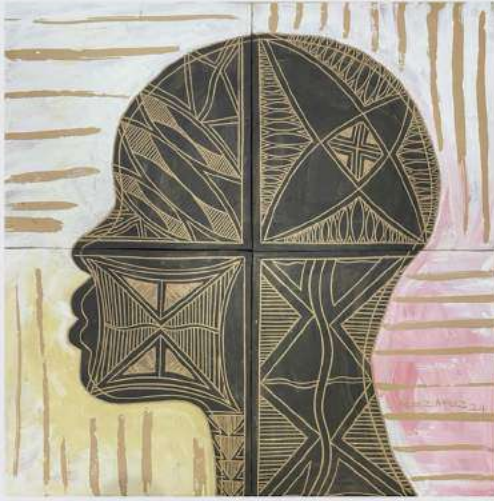
50.5 CM X 30.5 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY

2023

N 500, 000

# ADEOTI AZEEZ AFEEZ



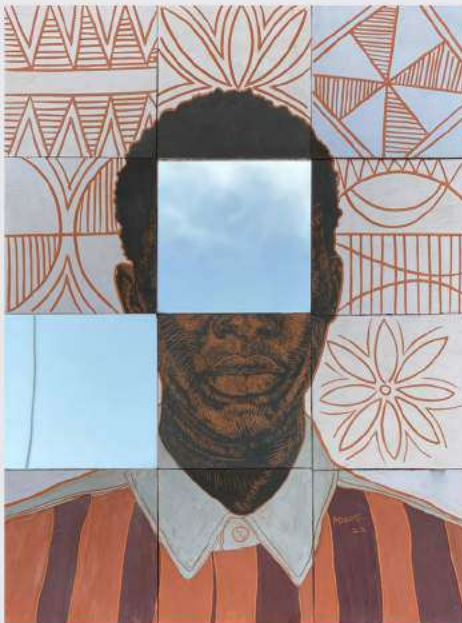
## Ori Apere Quadriptych

58 CM X 58 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY

2024

N 1, 800, 000



## Introspection I

43 CM X 58.5 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY, AND MIRROR

2023

N 1, 000, 000



## Introspection III

43 CM X 58.5 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY, AND MIRROR

2023

N 1, 000, 000



# ADEOTI AZEEZ AFEEZ



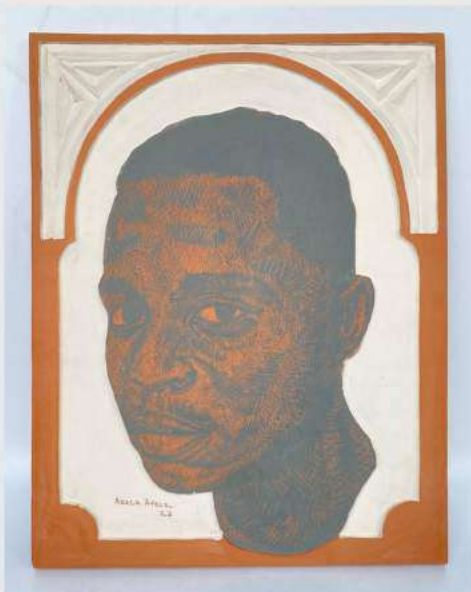
## Òpó kan (Òpòmùlẹ̀ro series)

33 CM X 36 CM

SGRAFFITO DRAWING ON CLAY VESSEL

2023

N 800, 000



## Ori Eni (Inner Self series)

41 CM X 52 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY

2023

N 1, 000, 000



## Ronke

28 CM X 43 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY VESSEL

2023

N 600, 000

# ADEOTI AZEEZ AFEEZ



**untitled**

15 CM X 40 CM

SGRAFFITO DRAWING ON CLAY VESSEL

2023

N 300, 000



**Which Way II**

28 CM X 38 CM

SGRAFFITO AND UNDERGLAZE ON CLAY VESSEL

2023

N 600, 000

# EMEKA ILECHUKWU

Emeka Ilechukwu graduated with distinction as a sculptor from the Institute of Management and Technology Enugu in 1997.

His sculptures, paintings and drawings are informed largely from his inner visions and desires to solve problems using his creativity and innovation. Through his work, he addresses numerous socio-cultural and environmental concerns affecting him and Nigerians like him daily.

Ilechukwu explores a diverse range of media in expressing his eclectic creative ideas. Inspiration for his pieces are typically drawn from critical observation of everyday mundane things, which he then transforms into unique, intricate, impressive outcomes.

His works are created to inspire hope and motivate courage. Emeka, as he likes to be called, dissects the opposing forces of life, such as light and darkness; good and evil; positives and negatives, encouraging his spectators to ponder on and discuss these themes. In creating these visual statements, he is adding aesthetics value to the world.

Emeka has had five solo exhibitions, fifty salons, and he has participated in over thirteen group exhibitions nationally and internationally. The uniqueness of his works make them highly coveted by collectors and art lovers around the world have collected...

He is a Senior Partner of his art outfit, Emeka Ilechukwu & Associates, an organisation which produces and exhibits artworks globally, as well as conduct mentoring programs for art students and young aspiring artists.

He is married to Desola, his curator, and they are blessed with four wonderful kids.



**Refuge**

117 CM X 203.5 CM

CARVED AFRICAN TEAK

N 2, 000, 000



# EMEKA ILECHUKWU



**All For You**

106.5 CM X 76.3 CM

ACRYLIC ON CARVED AFRICAN TEAK

N 700, 000



**Contemplate**

106.5 CM X 73.7 CM

ACRYLIC ON CARVED AFRICAN TEAK

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. 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. Paintings on canvas are also an increasing focal point in her larger works.

With her debut curatorial exhibition, in which she also featured her own artworks, Adekepemi has incorporated a focus 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 just that.

These current works, abstractions of the forms, patterns and shapes found on tree bark, are a wholly new experiment representing her growth artistically and paying homage to where she started as an artist with the muted colour palette and black canvas.



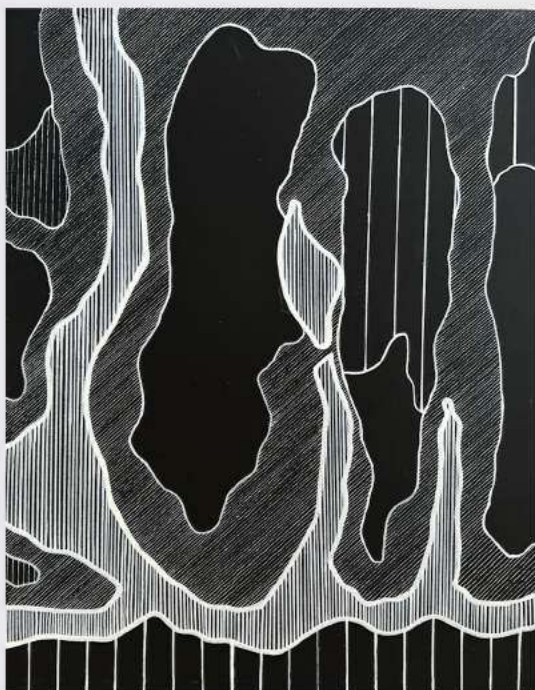
## I : Forest Series

61 CM X 76.5 CM

WATER-BASED PIGMENT INK ON CANVAS

2023

N 1,100, 000



## II : Forest Series

61 CM X 76.5 CM

WATER-BASED PIGMENT INK ON CANVAS

2023

N 1, 100, 000

# ADEKEPEMI ADEREMI



## III : Forest Series

61 CM X 76.5 CM

WATER-BASED PIGMENT INK ON CANVAS

2023

N 1,100, 000



## IV : Forest Series

61 CM X 76.5 CM

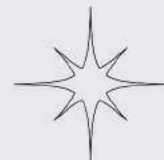
WATER-BASED PIGMENT INK ON CANVAS

2023

N 1, 100, 000



# Meet the Artists



**Adeoti Azeez Afeez**

@d.clay.guy



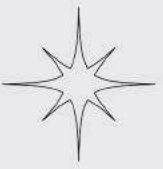
**Adekepemi Aderemi**

@kepemia



**Emeka Ilechukwu**

@emekailechukwu1



# GET IN TOUCH

✉ Adekepemi.aderemi@gmail.com

📍 @kepemia



Our mission: "empowering artists, connecting through creativity".

This ethos underscores my commitment to fostering a supportive environment for artists, free from exploitation and filled with opportunities for growth and recognition. It also reflects my aim to nurture communities and unite people through art, catering to both artists and enthusiasts alike. My ultimate goal is to shine a spotlight on Nigerian artists, nurturing their talents and encouraging more women to participate in the visual arts.