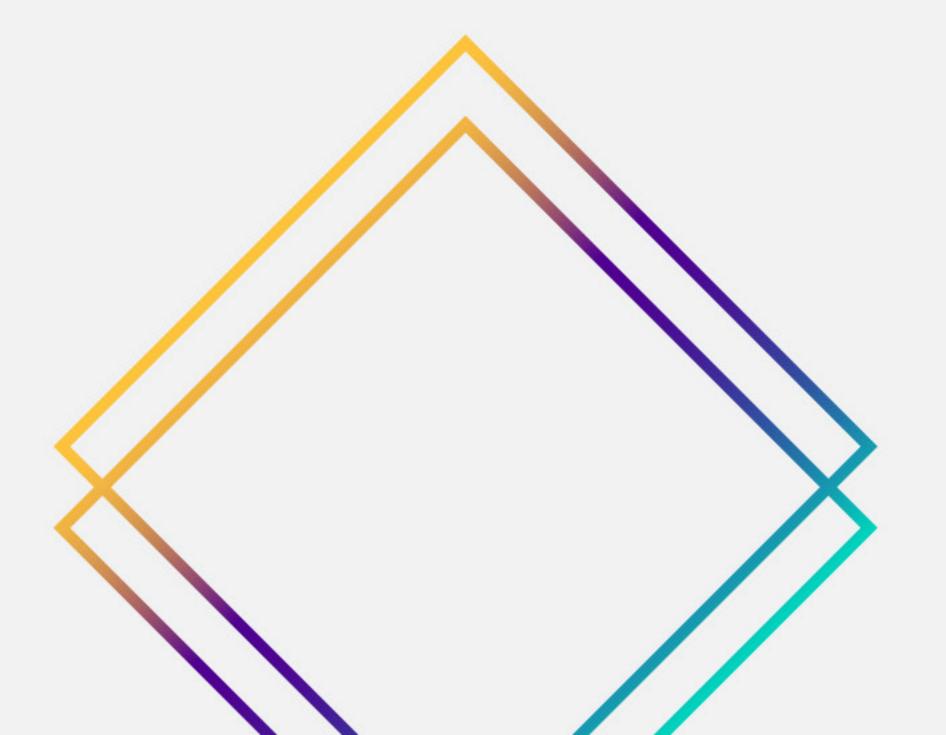


## Black History Month 2023





# Movements that Matter

**Art Exhibition Catalogue 9-20 October** 

#### **Foreword**

"We are delighted that Colt is marking Black History Month by partnering with CasildART for our 'Movements that Matter' exhibition featuring Black British artists.

Art has a unique ability to transcend barriers, inspire conversations and leave lasting impressions. That's precisely why we decided to use this expressive medium as the cornerstone of our Black History

Month celebration. We aim to create an immersive experience that not only showcases the incredible talents of Black British artists but also sparks conversations about the profound issues of representation, identity and movements that shaped history.

'Movements that Matter' is all about their movements related to personal journeys, social activism and physical journeys. This official theme for Black History Month 2023 in the UK is 'Matriarchs of Movements', which acknowledges the crucial role women have played in driving change. Our employee network, YOUnited, wanted to explore movements as a general concept but also incorporate a 'Matriarchs of Movements' section within the exhibition, linking to this overarching theme.

CasildART is a wonderful non-profit social enterprise that works to create opportunities for Black artists who are underrepresented in commercial galleries and museums. By supporting the work of CasildART and the featured artists, we aim to contribute to a more diverse and inclusive artistic landscape whilst inspiring those who interact with these works.

As you browse through this catalogue, you will have the privilege of delving into the remarkable works of these artists. May this exhibition inspire you, spark meaningful conversations and leave a lasting impact on your perspective."

Rashi Narayan and Nadine Ramasamy, YOUnited Co-Chairs and Rachel Collins, Head of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

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#### **Jack Dickson**



Jack Dickson lives and works in Dorset in the UK. Born in Enugu, Nigeria in 1975 to Zambian and Scottish parents he draws upon a range of cultural and aesthetic influences in his work. He describes his ethnic identity as fluid and his investigation of visual language and media reflects this state of liminality.

He uses a variety of media in his work including digitally manipulated images, photography, printed textiles, painting and drawing. At the heart of his practice is drawing and painting. He responds to the world around him, especially people and telling their stories has become

his focus over the past few years. The pattern, textiles and other imagery in his densely layered mixed media work all make reference to the complexity and ambiguity of contemporary experience.

Jack Dickson uses portraiture to initiate discussions about representation, identity, and context. Caroline, a portrait of his wife, in Movements That Matter, captures the essence of the movement within artistic expression, reflecting personal and societal transformations, inviting viewers to engage with the intersection of past, present, and future.



#### **Caroline**

Mixed media (oil, acrylic, conte and phototransfer) on canvas
120cm x 180cm

£6000

#### **Birhane Worede**



Worede grew up in Addis Ababa and studied BFA Painting, at Ale School of Fine Art & Design, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Birhane Worede's captivated figures inhabit timeless, formless and spaceless worlds that engage only with color, gesture and surface. Worede's loose, washy works are reductive - exploring color and emotion to allow his gestural hand to take centre stage, effortlessly shifting between figuration and abstraction. His figures often appear captivated by the devices they hold, navigating online social spaces rather than

physical ones - a concept which is reflected in the voids they occupy. Worede ruminates on these figures disconnect from their environment as a result of being tied to their phone, leaving the spaces they occupy somewhat un-rendered.

Working with oil paint on canvas, Worede's works are somewhat improvised, shifting and transforming as the artist engages with space, surface and color. Reducing his composition to simply color and shape, Worede sees his process as one akin to abstraction, only adding line and form at the end when he decides to pick out a figure from the rich, lush swathes of color he has laid down. Worede's works play with mood, oscillating between cool and warm palettes which are always punctuated by marks in the opposite hue.

Birhane's art is a visual interpretation of human psychology and behavior as well as his own personal journey of self-discovery.

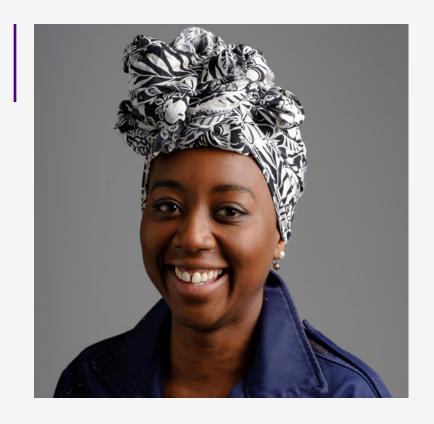


Sympathy
Oil on canvas
120x90cm
£3,500



Missing Oil on canvas 150x150cm £4800

#### **Bokani**



Bokani was born in Zimbabwe and now lives in London. She uses urgent and gestural techniques to create her vibrant and abstract pieces. Her artwork revolves around themes of identity, heritage, and ecological connection, and she evokes the African cloth patterns of her childhood through spontaneous use of color and structure.

Bokani's work engages viewers on an emotional, intellectual, and spiritual level, and she draws inspiration from Laudato Si to address the climate crisis with resilience. With a blend of technical discipline and abandon, Bokani's pieces create dynamic dialogues with audiences, including her digital works that integrate colourful

aesthetics with modern tech influences like Al. Her diverse journey from politics to art is reflected in her unique style.

Her recent research has gravitated towards two concepts that seem to reflect each other, Phytoremediation and Tikkun Olam. Phytoremediation, a captivating process, employs plants to cleanse contaminated environments. She is intrigued by how certain plants show nature's resilience in removing toxins like metal pollutants, pesticides, explosives, and oil spills.

In parallel, the concept of Tikkun Olam, deeply rooted in Jewish tradition, mirrors the notion of healing and restoring the world. This exploration of phytoremediation and Tikkun Olam is part of Bokani's ongoing interest in understanding our interconnected relationships with the environment and each other.

Her recent works on mirrors bring the viewer into the work by reflecting their distorted image back. The aim is to begin a conversation about our complicity, inviting the viewer to see themselves in a new way.



We're the Ones We've
Been Waiting For VI
Glass mirror, frame
(Aluminium, Anodized)
120cm x 60cm x 3cm
£4,500



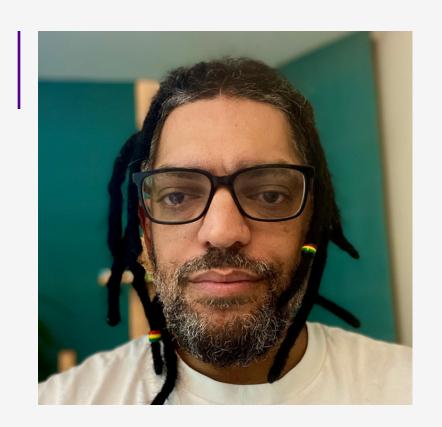
Pyrifera
Glass mirror, frame
(Aluminium, Anodized)
120cm x 60cm x 3cm
£4,500



We Are the Ones Poem III

Glass mirror, frame
(Aluminium, Anodized)
120cm x 60cm x 3cm
£4,500

#### **Errol Theunissen**



Errol Theunissen's journey as a painter and illustrator is an inspiration to many. Despite facing a challenging accident that left him with severe injuries, he discovered his passion for art and pursued it with determination.

His work is a beautiful reflection of his roots, with a strong connection to Africa evident in his use of color and subject matter. Errol's paintings have been showcased in major UK cities and recognized in prestigious art competitions.

Through his art, Errol captures everyday experiences, memories, and stories that have touched his heart. His use of a vibrant color palette brings his paintings to life, often telling a close, personal story. The inclusion of animals in his work highlights his interest in exploring the relationship between humans and animals.

Errol's art is a testament to the beauty of everyday life. His ability to capture moments and transfer them from his mind to canvas is truly inspiring and amplifies the exhibition theme of personal journeys - both physical and artistic.



Focus
Oil on Linen
40cm x 30cm
£500



Forbidden Love
Oil on Canvas
50cm x 40cm
£800



The Knife
Oil on Canvas
80cm x 60cm
£900



Justice
Oil on Canvas
50cm x 40cm
£800



I Prefer the Green at Night Oil on Canvas 40cm x30cm £500

### Patricia Bugembe



Patricia Bugembe, also known as Patty B, is a Sheffield-based artist who was originally born in Uganda but grew up in Ethiopia. She is selftaught and started drawing to escape from the 'white noise' and superficial expectations of everyday life.

Her mixed-media portraits depict her journey to connect with her roots as a black woman, and her art provides her with a sense of home. Through her drawings, she explores the history, perspective of the subject's story. beauty, and power of Black women, using art to understand herself and her experiences.

Her artwork features disjointed and unsettled forms against a backdrop of print, reflecting both personal

and societal journeys. This echoes the exhibition's aim to showcase the challenges and triumphs experienced within the Black British experience.

Since her debut solo exhibition, "Her Story Remains Unfinished," in 2019, hosted by Sheffield's Creative Arts and Development team (CADS), Patty B has continued to draw portraits to capture peaceful and tranquil moments, exploring different mediums to find a signature style that best expresses her vision and experiences.

The portraits in this exhibition are hand-drawn in charcoal on black paper, and to further imitate life, she adorns each portrait with various textures and materials collected from magazines, wrapping paper, and recycled craft materials.

These coloured and textured layers somehow, through lessons yet to be learned, bring out the light and



La Vie en **Rose Part 1 Charcoal Portrait** with collaged craft textures 30cm x 37cm £300



Imani **Charcoal Portrait** with collaged craft textures 50cm x 60cm £400



La Vie en **Rose Part 2** Charcoal Portrait with collaged craft textures 47cm x 37cm £400



**Mama Africa Charcoal Portrait** with collaged craft textures 50cm x 70cm £500



La Vie en **Rose Part 3** Charcoal Portrait with collaged craft textures 30cm x 37cm £300

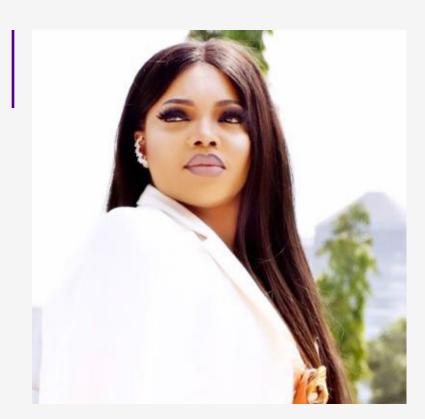


**Sisterhood** (new title) Charcoal Portrait with collaged craft textures. 50cm x 60cm £500



**Black and Love** Charcoal Portrait with collaged craft textures 36cm x 34cm £400

### Feyisola Adeyemi



Feyisola Adeyemi is a Nigerian-Irish contemporary artist and surrealistic fashion designer based in the UK. She specializes in portrait-focused monument sculpture and integrates installation, printmaking, crafting, and painting into her practice.

Her work draws inspiration from nature and societal issues such as textile waste, which she tackles by repurposing discarded clothing.

Adeyemi's art delves into black cultural history, colonialism, and the celebration of blackness, with the aim of promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion by engaging with themes of race, gender, and class.

Her collection "The N Now" is the featured work in this exhibition.

Feyisola Adeyemi's artwork aligns with the exhibition's goal of exploring societal challenges and transformation. Her life-size sculptures serve as a means of understanding historical narratives and their impact on contemporary identity and representation.

The sculptures in "Movements that Matter" explore resistance as catalyst for positive change. They inspire cultural pride in contemporary Black achievement and call for an appreciation of the Black historical past as a worthy legacy.

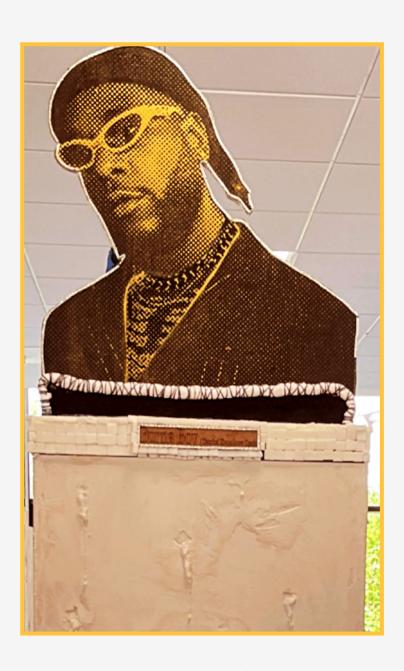
Ultimately, these figurative sculptures celebrate contemporary Black culture and achievements, echoing struggles for freedom and progress, and ingeniously engage with the exhibition's emphasis on personal, societal, and artistic movement.



#### Serena Williams (Tennis champion) Sugar, Jesmonite,

rhinestones, acrylic, mdf board, textiles 242.2cm X 60cm X 25cm

£3,750



## Burna Boy (Record Producer and Songwriter)

Sugar, Jesmonite, rhinestones, acrylic, mdf board, textiles 242.2cm X 60cm X 25cm

£3,750

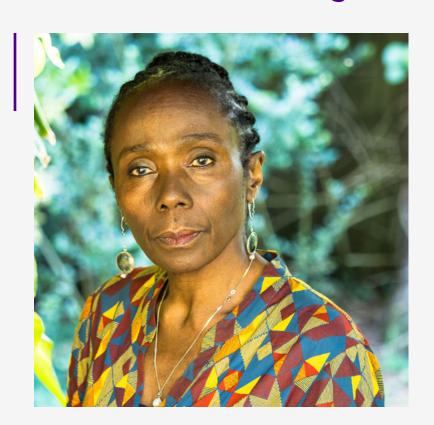


#### **Anthony Joshua (Boxer)**

Sugar, Jesmonite, rhinestones, acrylic, mdf board, textiles 242.2cm X 60cm X 25cm

£3,750

### **Yeside Linney**



Yeside Linney was born in Nigeria.
She came to the UK as a child to
go to boarding school and went to
Cambridge University. Yeside became
an English teacher and only after
retirement did she return to her first
love, art.

In just three years, she has achieved recognition as the runner-up in Surrey Artist of the Year competition, exhibited her works at Watts Gallery, and won the Euan Millar Abstract Prize and the Susan Angoy Prize.

Linney's art embodies independence, embraces change, and layered expressions.

Her liminal exploration, anchored

in nature, conveys restoration amid vulnerability. As a self-taught artist, she finds inspiration in her love for the countryside.

Her semi-representational landscapes and vibrant abstracts create an ongoing visual autobiography in which she explores her identity conflict, stemming from her British education and denied Nigerian heritage.

By exploring liminal spaces and transition, she reflects the exhibition's emphasis on personal journeys across time and place.



Season of the Soul Acrylic and Mixed Media on Dibond 80 x 30 cm £695



Morning Light 1
Acrylic and Ink on
Dibond, Resined
80 x 30 cm
£975



What Cometh
Acrylic and Mixed
Media, resined on
Cradel Panel Board
80 x 60 cm
£795

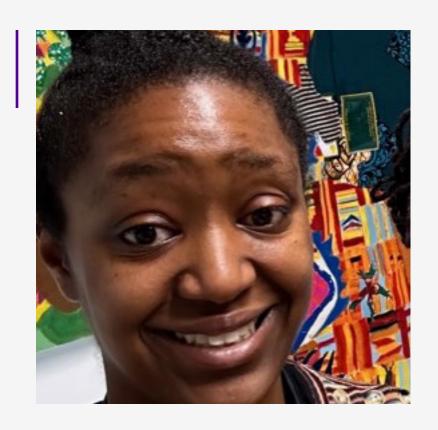


Tranquility 1
Acrylic and ink on Dibond
100 x 80 cm
£1500



Harmony
Acrylic and inks On
Dibond
100 x 80 cm
£1500

#### **Abi Ola**



for both herself and viewers in her pattern-filled world.

Abi's emphasis on creating physical objects with material presence and density aligns with the exhibition's exploration of movement as a tangible and transformative force.

Her work invites viewers to consider the tangible impact of movement, not only on individual lives but also on the collective fabric of society.

Abi Ola is a multidisciplinary artist who works in various mediums including painting, drawing, screen printing, collaging, batik, and textiles.

Her art is focused on shapes and patterns, drawing inspiration from her West African heritage and British surroundings. She incorporates patterns from Nigerian traditional attire into her work, which can be seen beyond her paintings.

Her patterns can be found adorning buildings, clothing, and even skin, creating an immersive experience



Walking In Weeds

Oil pastels, oil, acrylic tissue paper, fabrics, and screen print on canvas, 120x150

£6000



## **Elongated Body** of a Woman

Oil, fabrics, plasticine, and natural indigo on fabric 30x42cm

£600

# Lemuel and Emmanuel Unaji



Lemuel and Emmanuel Unaji are two brothers who have British Nigerian Heritage.

Both are artists, with Lemuel being a filmmaker and Emmanuel being a multidisciplinary artist who combines visual arts with fashion.

As a filmmaker, Lemuel incorporates elements from music, philosophy and film. He visually explores humanity's search for utopia and narrates the journey towards reaching a state of clarity.

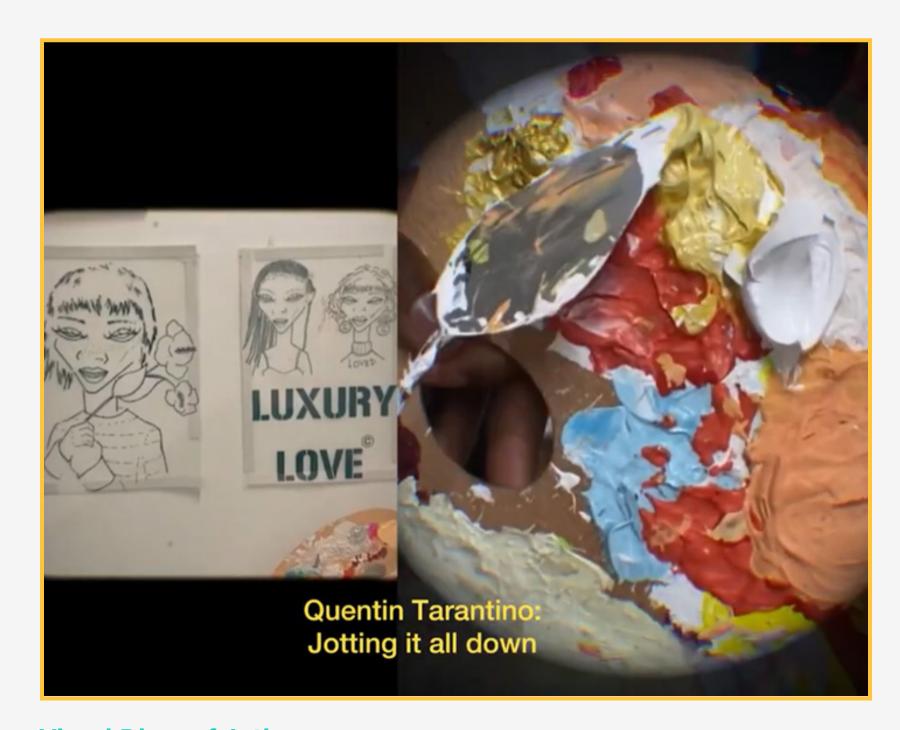
His aesthetic is derived from an innovative art house approach

to filmmaking, which creates intellectual and emotional narratives. Lemuel seamlessly combines the sensibilities of the luxury sector with the unorthodox consumerism of the Gen Z underground blog era.

This video installation was crafted by Lemuel Unaji to document the creative process of his brother, Emmanuel Unaji, a fine artist.

Lemuel highlights the adaptable nature of the artist's practice, which employs a primal visual language to articulate sustainable ancestral practices that are inherent to the African diaspora. These values are channelled through canvas and wearable art pieces that upcycle industrial waste materials.

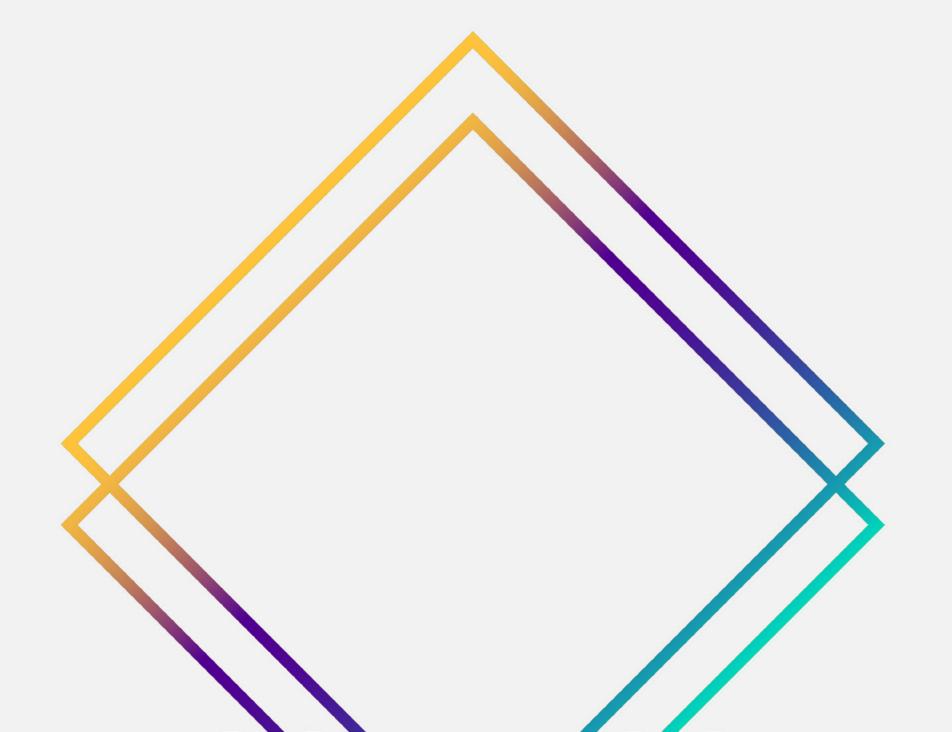
Lemuel's signature Arthouse filmmaking style captivates viewers by collaging layers of visual media and seamlessly blending sound to symbolize the stream of consciousness of a young black British Nigerian artist navigating performative spaces through the gaze of society and industry.



Visual Diary of Artisan
Life- Video Installation
Directed by Lemuel Unaji



## Black History Month 2023



# Thank you

Curated by Sukai Eccleston CasildART

For enquiries

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