

YVANOVITCH MBAYA

Born:
1994 in Brazzaville,
Republic of Congo

Lives:
Casablanca, Morocco

Education:
National School of Fine Arts,
Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

Yvanovitch Mbaya was born in the Congo and now lives and practices in Casablanca, Morocco. His work is enriched by the places he travels, near and far. Through a multidisciplinary practice of drawing, video, installation, and performance, Mbaya works in the manner of a sociologist, studying the social and cultural behaviors of his environment.

Depicting scenes from the artist's memory, the anonymous figures in Mbaya's drawings are unified within a universal human experience. His earthy materials – coffee, charcoal, indigo – ground them with a common essence. These materials, sourced from several African nations, are also linked to place, culture, and history. Influenced by his extensive travels across Africa and experience as the other, Mbaya celebrates difference as well as what connects us.

Mbaya graduated from the National School of Fine Arts in Brazzaville, where he was a student of the acclaimed Congolese artist, writer, and set designer Bill Kouélany. Mbaya's works have been exhibited widely in Africa, including his recent solo show at CDA Gallery in Casablanca, as well as in France, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

Selected Solo & Group Exhibitions

2023	<i>Kimvuka (Together)</i> , duo show, Ronewa Art Projects, Berlin, Germany
2022	<i>GÂTA BANTU</i> , solo show, CDA Gallery, Casablanca, Maroc
	<i>Du Pinceau de l'intégration</i> , group show, OFF program of the 14th Dakar Biennial, Senegal
2021	4th Rencontres Internationales de Peinture de Ouagadougou (RIPO), Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso
	<i>Ngelaw</i> , group show, à la Cité des Arts de Chambéry, France
	<i>Souffles</i> , group show, Arteppes, Annecy, France
2020	Abu Dhabi Art Fair, United Arab Emirates
	<i>Be Real Black, For Me</i> , Madlozi Art Gallery, South Africa
	Morceaux Choisis, SEPTIÈME Gallery, Paris, France
	<i>United Artists</i> , group show, 1-54 Art Fair public program, Mövenpick Hotel Mansour Eddahbi Marrakech, Morocco
2019	<i>Hier est la mémoire d'aujourd'hui</i> , group show, Espace Commines, Paris, France
	<i>Lend me your Dream</i> , group show, Thema Galerie, Casablanca, Morocco
	Ségou' Art Biennial, Ségou, Mali
2018	<i>BIND Images Contemporaines</i> , OFF program of the 14th Dakar Biennial, Senegal
	12th edition of the Nuit des Galeries, organized by the Ministry of Culture, Casa Del Arte, Casablanca, Morocco

2017	3rd edition of Arkane Afrika, Casablanca, Morocco Yaz Karmasi 17, Ankara, Turkey
2016	ART 'COP 22, Marrakesh, Morocco Festival du Cinéma Africain, Khouribga, Morocco 2nd edition of Arkane Afrika, Casablanca, Morocco <i>BIND Images Contemporaines</i> , OFF program of the 14th Dakar Biennial, Senegal
2015	Fête des installations, Fabrique Culturelle des Abattoirs, Casablanca, Morocco 1st edition of Arkane Afrika, Cathédrale du sacré Coeur, Casablanca, Morocco
2014	<i>Art pour le développement</i> , Goethe-Institut, Lomé, Togo.
2013	2nd edition of Rencontre Internationale d'Art Contemporain (RIAC), Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo <i>Génération Y</i> , Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo <i>Festival Etonnantes Voyageurs</i> , Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo <i>Contraste à Brazza</i> , Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo
2012	1st edition Rencontre Internationale d'Art Contemporain (RIAC), Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo

Residencies

2015	Arkane Afrika, Casablanca, Maroc Centre d'Art Marnay Art Center (CAMAC), France
2014	Territoire de Création, Lomé, Togo
2013	Résidence de Recherche et de création à Art Bakery, Cameroon
2012	Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo
2011	Institut Français, Brazzaville, Congo

Awards

2021	Finalist - Henrike Grohs Art Award 2022, Johannesburg, South Africa
2016	1st Prize - International Fine Arts Festival, Imzouren, Morocco
2012	2nd Prize - Goddy Leye Award (Painting), R.I.A.C, Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo