

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

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| 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 Communes, 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
BIND Images Contemporaines, 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 *Art pour le développement*, Goethe-Institut, Lomé, Togo.
- 2013 2nd edition of Rencontre Internationale d'Art Contemporain (RIAC), Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo
Génération Y, Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo
Festival Etonnants Voyageurs, Les Ateliers Sahm, Brazzaville, Congo
Contraste à Brazza, 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