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Nairobi, Kenya

Experience

Nairobi Design Week (NDW) (Sept 2019-Present)

Artistic director on creative projects; including the [Lotus of the Nile](#) , a digital game exhibited at the London Design Biennale, July 2021.

Festival management & production for [NDW](#) ; and several supporting campaigns, including physical and digital participation throughout the year.

Knowledge,Art & Networking Residence (KAN) (Jan 2020)

3-week hands-on residency, with 8 other artists from around Africa, invited by MS TCDC supported by ActionAid Denmark for the 2nd edition of the KAN festival that took place between Jan 22nd-25th in Arusha,Tanzania.

Created 'Afrika United installation', 12 sculptures and did a performance art piece all in collaboration with Congolese multidisciplinary artist Koko Kabamba.

Kilifi New Year Festival (Dec 2019)

Created the installation MEET GOD which aims to address the theme of Self- identity with the approach of environmental conservation through upcycling plastic bottles.

This was for Kilifi New Year Festival 2020.

Over 1000 plastic bottles were repurposed.

Tafaria Residency (Oct-Nov 2019)

A 6-week art residence program, hosted by Tafaria Castle located in Nyahururu,Kenya.

Led a one-week workshop on upcycling plastic waste materials for kids (aged 7-11 y/o) from a local school within the neighbourhood.

Designed and created 'The Path; stories of African games,' an art installation that aims to uncover the history and evolution of African games through storytelling.

The story contributors include participants of African Crossroads 2019 Event from various countries in Africa who filled a questionnaire about their personal interaction with games in the past, with thanks to Hivos. The project is supported and facilitated by Tafaria Castle under their Artist in Residence program.

Karen Village Residency -April-May 2019

A 6-Week residence program hosted and supported by Karen Village, Nairobi, Kenya.

Created paintings on canvas, redesigned the reception desk, participated in Pecha Kucha Presentation, created a mural with the kids from the community, and another mural titled 'Higher Beings' on a 3*15 m wall.

Switch-a-roo Residency - Nov-Jan 2018

Collaborated with French and Kenyan artists in creating murals with the community within Nairobi City and Slums such as Kibera, Kawangware and Mathari.

We extended participation with the community in Kilifi.

To further our collaboration, we had an Exhibition at Alliance Francais in Jan 2019 themed 'A colorful connection.'

Exhibitions

- Absa Art Gallery for Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefess Festival, (KKNK) South Africa, until Sept 2021
- London Design Biennale 2021- under the theme 'Resonance'- July 2021
- SondekaAlt Festival by Creatives Garage - May 2021
- Nairobi Design Week 2021 festival - art direction - April 2021
- 'The Castle' Exhibition, an online game, by Arthousehaus, London- Feb 2021
- Dutch Design Week - Oct 2020
- The Wakanda Alliance Hybrid Event at Urban King Life Center, New York - performance Art piece 'The Human Family' Sept 2020
- Covid-19 Social Distancing Group Exhibition at One-off Gallery - July/Aug 2020
- 'Art in the Time of...' Creatives Art Auction by Kikoromeo - June 2020
- 'Repetition' Performance during Lock-in Festival by Creatives Garage - May 2020
- The Y'rimu Collection at Nairobi Design Week Festival - March 2020
- Cradle Arts Festival Performance Art - Oct 2019
- 'Mannequin' Performance during Nairobi Design Muzes - Aug 2019
- 'A Glimpse of East Africa' Group Exhibition under Artyrama in Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria - March 2019
- 'A colorful Connection' Group Exhibition at Alliance Francaise , Jan 2019 to Feb 2019 , under a collaborative project with French Artists (SASF) in the Switcharoo Organization
- Public Painting on Board 'PHASES' 1.5m wide * 3m high - PAWA FESTIVAL 254(empowering the public on their rights) Koinange Street, Nairobi- 2018
- Duo Exhibition 'IDENTITY' - The Attic Art Space, Nairobi - 2018
- Group Exhibition 'Árt in November'- Under BetaArt Organization at Muthaiga Heights, Nairobi- 2018
- Absa L'Atelier Group Exhibition ,Johannesburg - 2018
- Solo Exhibition 'ME MYSELF & I' - BIEA Kileleshwa, Nairobi- 2018
- 'Generation Y' Group Exhibition under Retro Africa in Abuja ,Nigeria- 2018
- Group Exhibition- Kenya Artists Diary ,Alliance Francaise, Nairobi- 2018
- Group Exhibition- Kenya Art Fair, Sarit Center, Nairobi- 2017
- Group Exhibition- Circle Art Gallery, Nairobi -2017
- Group Exhibition- Manjano Exhibition, Village Market, Nairobi- 2017
- Group Exhibition- Uganda JamaFest- 2017
- Public Exhibition at Nairobi CBD- 'MY MAASAI' Photography works by Mohammed Altoum - 2017
- Duo Exhibition 'TWO ARTISTS' - UNEP Recreational Centre, Gigiri , Nairobi- 2016
- Group Exhibitions - Arts to End Slavery, Shifteye Gallery & The Kobo Trust Foundation- 2016 & 2017

Education

- 2013-2018 - BSc Civil Engineering at University of Nairobi.
- 2012-2013 - Diploma in Networking at Zetech College, Nairobi.

Skills & workshops

- Production Design - Under 'Some fine day pix' course
- Workshop experience- woodcut printing, sculpting, 3D Printing, Etching, Panoramic Imaging, VR Spaces.
- Poetry
- Writing short stories

Languages: Native English and Swahili

ARTICLES & INTERVIEWS

[Whats Good Creative Ambition Vision Artistry hosted by Metta Nairobi](#)

[Creativity Today Podcast hosted by Mercy Sitima](#)

[Naitiemu beautifully explores love and sensuality in her series, Persons of interest.](#)

[Morning with Ess](#)

[Johari Feature \(page 101 -103 interviewed by Social Activist and Author Nanjala Nyabola \)](#)

[Self-exploration featured by Betaart.](#)

[Engineer claiming her identity in Art](#)

[An expression of the Inner Self](#)

[A Colorful Connection Switcharoo](#)

Interests

Expanding my knowledge in the fields of creative story-telling, project management, technology, creativity, science, production design, and performance arts.

World cultures, writing, traveling, study of nature, photography, dancing ,creating beats and listening to music.