



The Thread That Binds



Presents

The Thread That Binds

A group exhibition of select work by
Wallace Ejoh, Chukwuemeka John Okoye, Jimmy Nwanne, Olufemi
Oyewole, Derek Jahyem Jombo-Ogboi and Olubankole Olabode

Curated by Oliver Enwonwu

Exhibition Duration:
28 October – 14 November, 2023

Exhibition Venue:
Omenka Gallery, Ikoyi, Lagos

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About Omenka Gallery

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Wallace Ejoh



Wallace Ejoh is well known for a strongly personal style characterised by vivid brush strokes, a limited palette and tonal complexity through which he presents his sitters in assertive gaze to challenge negative racial constructs.

His work has been included in several auctions of contemporary art from Africa as well as extensively exhibited in Nigeria and internationally. In 2016, he was invited to Zoetermeer, Holland by Terra Art Projects to exhibit and for a mutual art exchange programme.

Ejoh has also completed several important commissions and his works have formed part of many private and public collections. Alongside an active studio practice, he has served as an instructor and mentor at the Universal Studios of Art in Lagos. He is a member of the Society of Nigeria Artists (SNA).



Night Nurse
(Yellow series)
2023
Oil on canvas
205 x 80cm



Silent Morning
2023
Oil on canvas
208 x 81cm



Tessy
2023
Oil on canvas
105.7 x 91cm



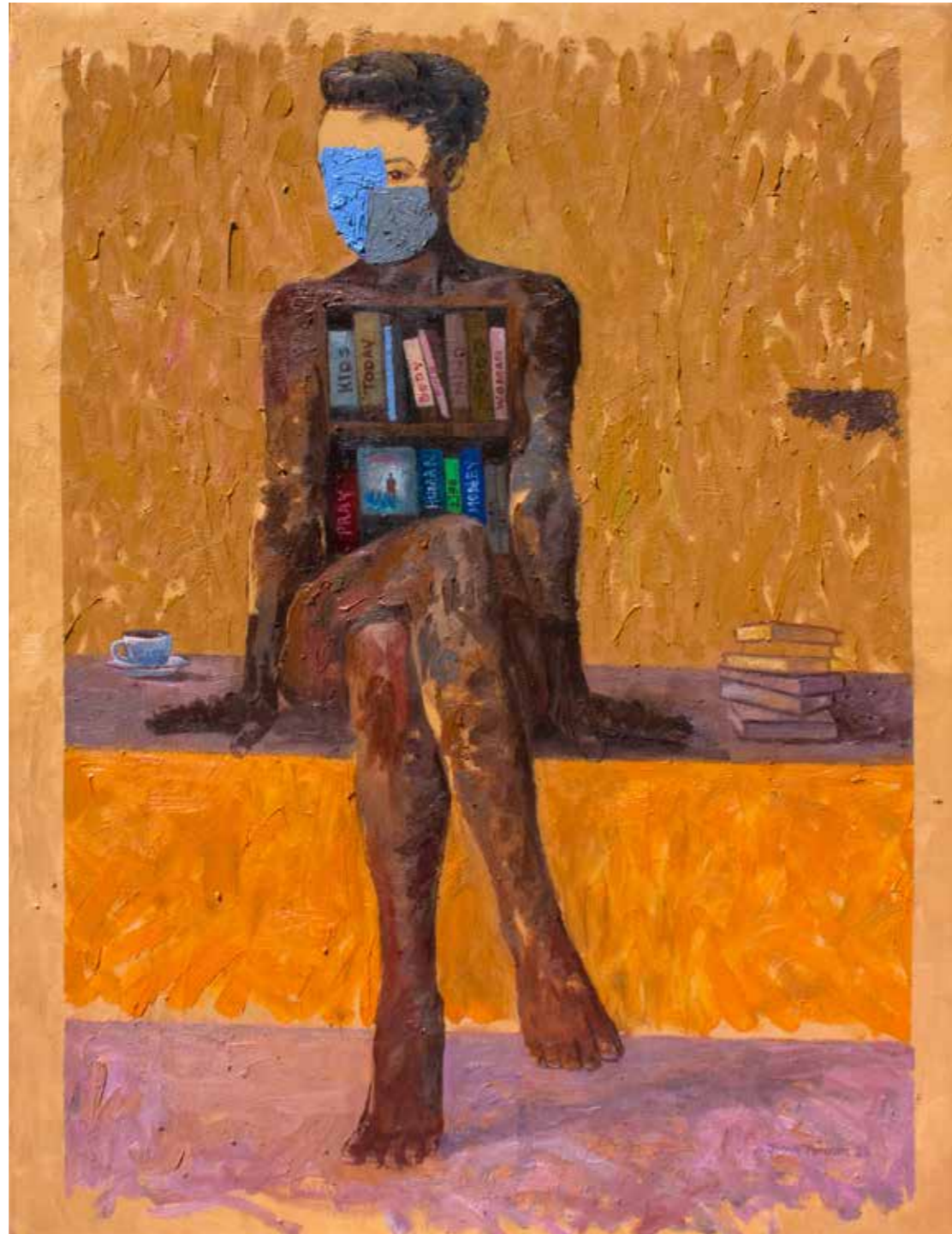
Kalon
2022
Oil on canvas
142 x 122cm

Jimmy Nwanne

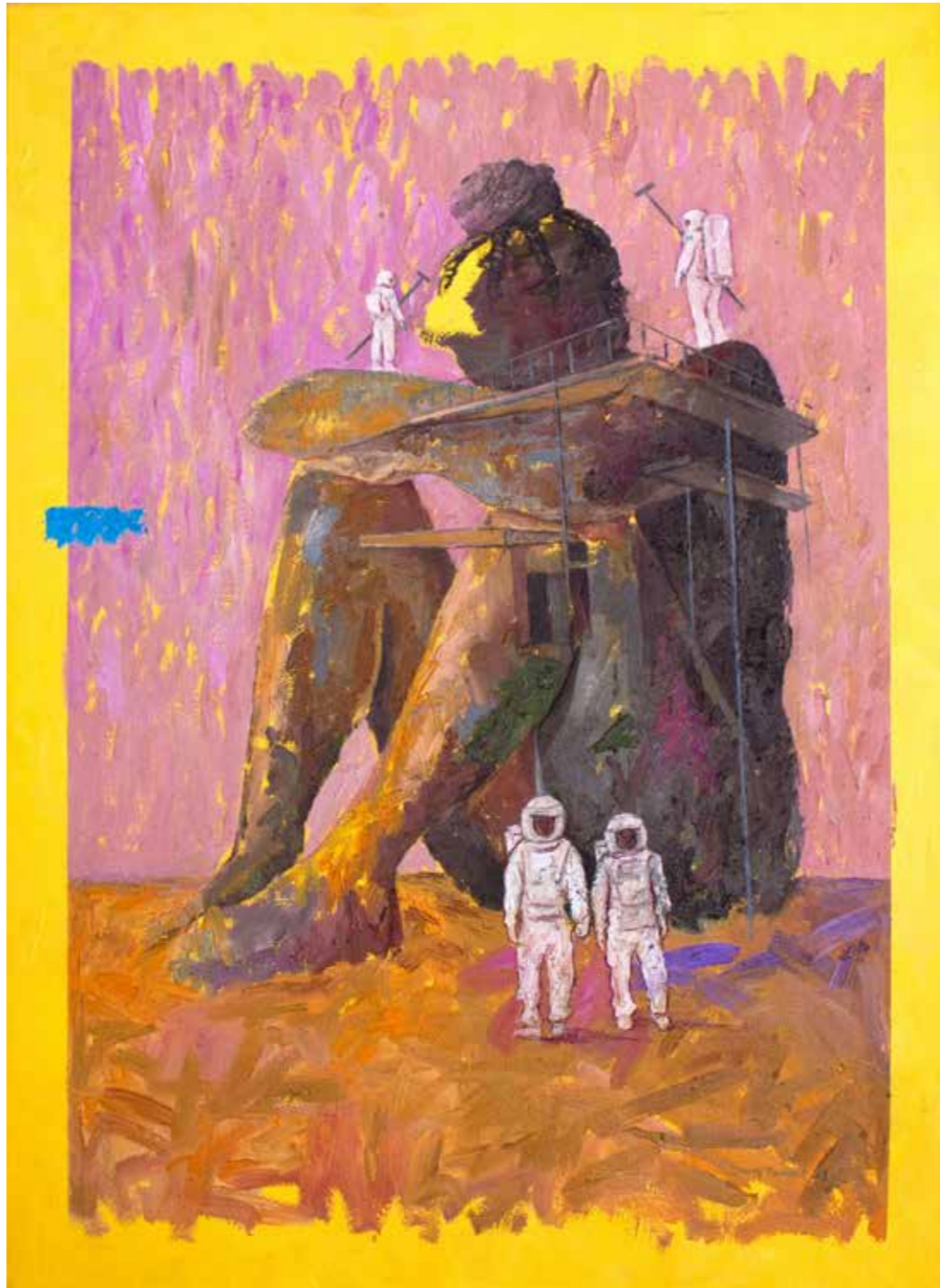


Jimmy Nwanne's works examine the relationship between life, identity and migration. The freedom to make a composition, a portraiture, by rearranging the natural place of something into another, in order to communicate an idea.

The different subjects and objects function as symbols or motifs that represent an idea used to make associations to different aspects of life; the interplay between them almost suggests the feeling of overlap or cut and paste.



Self/Shelf
2023
Oil on canvas
140 x 100cm



Visitors
2023
Oil on canvas
140 x 100cm



Layers
2023
Oil on canvas
140 x 100cm



Path
2023
Oil on canvas
140 x 160cm

Chukwuemeka John Okoye



Chukwuemeka John Okoye's formal training includes a period of study under Dennis Ani. In addition, he earned a B.A in fine art (painting) from the University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom.

Okoye draws heavily from classical realism. His work is characterised by an ability to render his subjects empathetically to betray their humaneness.

He has participated in several art competitions and group shows internationally. In addition, his works are part of significant private collections at home and abroad.



Twinny
2022
Oil on canvas
150 x 120cm

Olufemi Oyewole



Olufemi Oyewole has possessed a fascination with drawing since childhood, a skill he continues to practice constantly. During his impressionable creative years after graduating from college, Olufemi discovered the works of Abiodun Olaku who had a positive influence on his style.

Known primarily as a watercolourist, he has recently begun experimenting with the coordination of lines, forms and drawings beyond paper. His work is thematically linked to human expressions and the aesthetic relevance of the African culture.



Ariyike
2023
Acrylic on canvas
142 x 152cm



Adetutu
2023
Acrylic on canvas
180 x 120cm



Tokunbo (Tokunbo series)
2022
Acrylic on canvas
142 x 152cm

Derek Jahyem Jombo-Ogboi

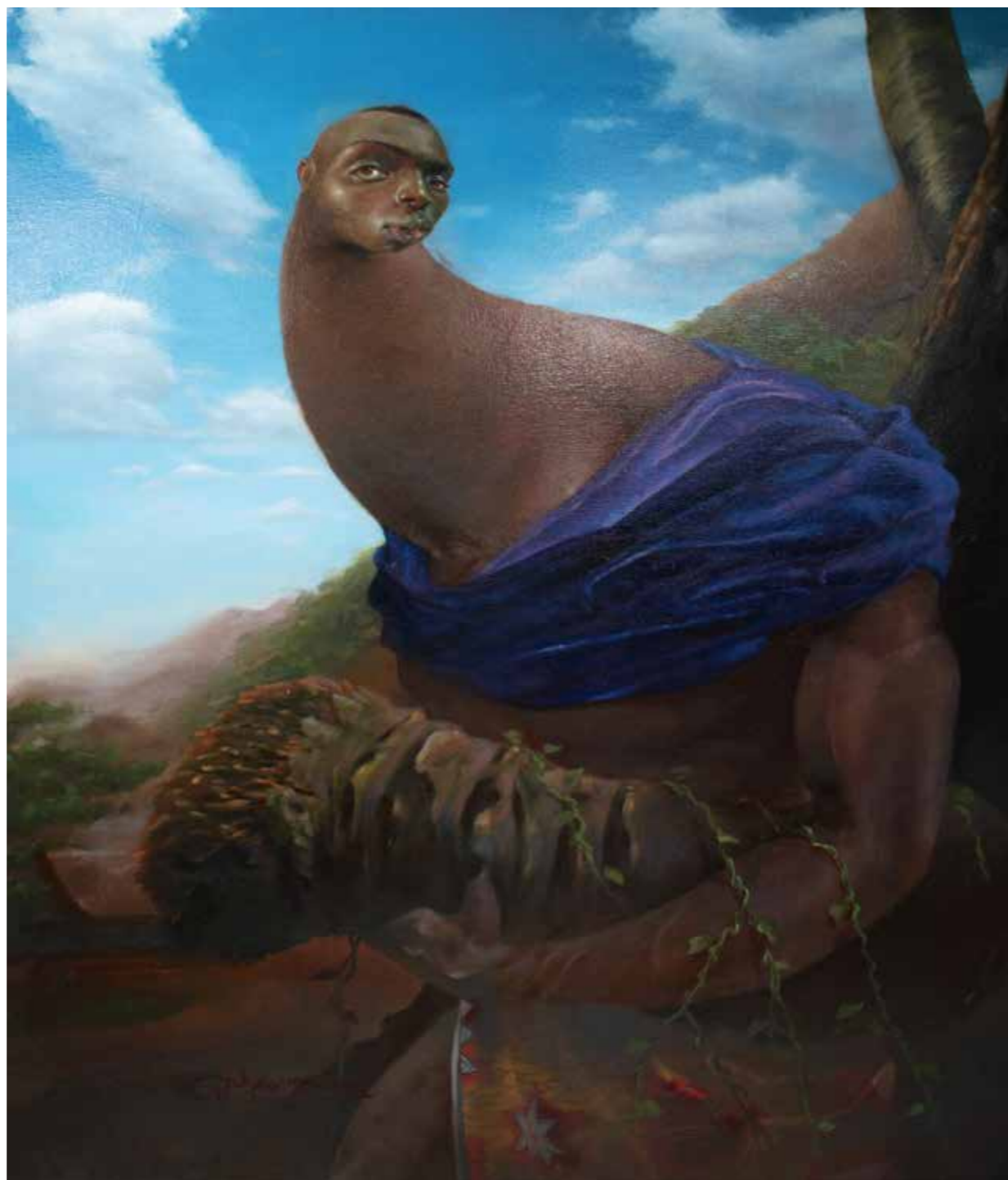


Derek Jahyem Jombo-Ogboi studied visual art at Yaba College of Technology. He draws influences from his birth and childhood in Benin, to address issues surrounding identity, ethnicity and status. His stylistic direction has also been shaped by the classical masters and their approach to the human figure.

Painting primarily on canvas, he is similarly adept at graffiti and auditory mediums. In his painting, Jombo-Ogboi exhibits a calm academic realism finely blended with elements of the surreal. Heavily laden with metaphors, his work is distinguishable by its complex layers of interwoven narratives, an exceptional approach to composition, colour, space and light as well as a deftness in capturing his figures with empathy.



Abayé Nim Ibé
(Itika: Now I Have Joined My Mates)
Dilemma series
2022
Oil on canvas
151 x 121.5cm



Arhuanran (Bini: Giant Prince)
Dilemma series
2022
Oil on canvas
151.5 x 122cm



A Special Lady
2021
Acrylic on canvas
122 x 107.5cm

Olubankole Olabode



Olubankole Olabode's multi-faceted practice embraces primarily painting, calligraphy and illustration.

Olabode explores a diversity of media ranging from pastels, graphite and charcoal to pen and ink, coffee, watercolour, oil and acrylic—the latter two being his most favoured. Also, a talented muralist, his work centres on the religious and socio-political. In promoting critical thought and engaging conversations, Olabode employs satire as well as symbolic references as metaphors in addressing pertinent issues affecting Africa and her related diaspora. More recently, his body functions as the cynosure in paintings that at once become tools to interrogate, dismantle or reinforce often neglected societal values and knowledge systems.



Parcel
2022
Oil on canvas
120 x 120cm



Circus
2022
Oil on canvas
120 x 120cm



Instruments of Chaos
2022
Oil on canvas
121.5 x 91cm

About Omenka Gallery

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S O C I A L M E D I A

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 Omenka Gallery

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Omenka Gallery is a leading art gallery in Nigeria and Africa, representing a fine selection of established and emerging contemporary Nigerian and international artists working in diverse media. With a particular focus on ensuring a sustainable presence for Nigerian and African art within a larger global context, Omenka regularly participates in major international art events like; *Art Dubai*, UAE; *The Armory Show*, New York; the *Joburg Art Fair*; *Cape Town Art Fair*; *Cologne Paper Art*; *LOOP*, Barcelona; the *London Art Fair* and *1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair*, London.

Omenka also offers to its esteemed clients a range of advisory services including appraisals, collections management, training and professional development,

art finance, as well as industry reports and due diligence. Our in-depth knowledge is drawn from our diverse backgrounds built over 13 years, running and managing one of the leading galleries on the continent, consulting for other important galleries, auction houses and museums, and participating in prestigious events all over the world.

In association with Revalo, Omenka has an active publications programme and produces exquisite catalogues with informed, scholarly texts to accompany its schedule of solo, group and large themed exhibitions, through which it stimulates critical thought and discourse centred on contemporary art development in Nigeria, as well as Africa and its diaspora.



