



YINKA SHONIBARE MBE

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Yinka Shonibare MBE was born in 1962 in London and moved to Lagos, Nigeria at the age of three. He returned to London to study art first at Central Saint Martins College and then at Goldsmiths, where he received his master's in fine arts. Shonibare's work explores issues of race and class through the media of painting, sculpture, photography, and film. Shonibare was a Turner Prize nominee in 2004 and was also awarded the decoration of Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, or MBE.

He was commissioned by Okwui Enwezor at Documenta in 2002 to create *Gallantry and Criminal Conversation*, the work that launched him on the international stage. His *Nelson's Ship in a Bottle* was displayed in London's Trafalgar Square. It was the first such commission by a black British artist and was part of a national fundraising campaign organized by the Art Fund and the National Maritime Museum; it is now permanently displayed outside the museum's new entrance in London. In 2012, the Royal Opera House commissioned his *Globe Head Ballerina*. The life-sized ballerina encased within a giant snow globe spins slowly as if caught mid-dance. Shonibare's works are also included in prominent museums, including the Tate in London, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna in Rome, and the VandenBroek Foundation in the Netherlands.

EXHIBITIONS AND FAIRS

2017

- / 'Prejudice at Home : A Parlour, a Library, and a Room', James Cohan Gallery, Chelsea, UK.
- / The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK.

2016

- / 'End of Empire', Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK.
- / 'Rotunda Projects', Memphis Brooks of Art, James Cohan Gallery, USA.
- / 'Found', The Foundling Museum, London, UK.
- / 'Making & Unmaking', Curated by Duro Olowu.
- / Burlington Gardens Summer Festival, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK.
- / '...And the Wall Fell Away', Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.
- / 'Paradise Beyond', Gemeente Museum, Helmond, Netherlands.
- / 'Body/Play/Politics', Yokohama Museum of Art, Yokohama, Japan.

2015

- / William Morris Family Album, The William Morris Gallery, London, UK.
- / Rage of the Ballet Gods, James Cohen Gallery, New York, USA.
- / Yinka Shonibare, Morris-Jumel Mansion, New York, USA.
- / Yinka Shonibare, DRC-ART, Montreal, Canada.
- / Yinka Shonibare, DAEGU Art Museum, South Korea.

2014

- / Cannonball Paradise, Herbert Gerisch Foundation, Neumünster, Germany.
- / The British Library, HOUSE and Brighton Festival co-commission, The Old Reference Library, Brighton Museum, Brighton, UK.
- / PAD London, London, UK.
- / Yinka Shonibare MBE: Magic Ladders, The Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.
- / Yinka Shonibare, Brand New Gallery, Milan, Italy.
- / Making Eden, Blain|Southern, Berlin, Germany.
- / Wroclaw Contemporary Museum, Wroclaw, Poland.

2013

- / Yinka Shonibare, MBE: Dreaming Rich, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, Shanghai .
- / Yinka Shonibare MBE, Royal Museums Greenwich, London, UK.
- / Selected Works, Gdansk City Gallery, Gdansk, Poland; travelling to Wroclaw Contemporary Museum, Wroclaw, Poland.
- / FABRIC-ATION, GL Strand, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- / FABRIC-ATION, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK.
- / FOCUS: Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Texas, USA.
- / POP!, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.
- / Dreaming Rich, Pearl Lam Galleries, Hong Kong, China.

2012

- / Imagined as the Truth, San Diego Art Museum, San Diego, USA.
- / Invasion, Escape: Aliens do it right!, Anna Schwartz Gallery, Sydney, Australia.
- / Addio del Passato, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA.

2011

- / El Futuro del Pasado, Alcalá 31 Centros de Arte, Madrid, Spain, curated by Octavio Zaya; touring to Centro de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain.
- / Human Culture: Earth, Wind, Fire and Water, Israel Museum, Jerusalem.
- / Yinka Shonibare, MBE: Sculpture, Photography and Film, Western Michigan University, Michigan, USA.
- / Looking Up, Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco.
- / Yinka Shonibare MBE, Friedrichswerder Church, Berlin, Germany.
- / Before and After Modernism: Byam Shaw, Rex Vicat Cole, Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Lethaby Gallery, Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, London, UK.
- / Mother and Father Worked Hard So I Can Play, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY, USA; Travelling to the St Louis Art Museum, USA.

2009

- / Willy Loman: The Rise and Fall, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.
- / Party Time: Re-Imagine America - A Centennial Commission by Yinka Shonibare MBE, Newark Museum, 1 July – 3 January 2010.

/ A Centenary Commission, 26 February – August 2009.
/ Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Ireland.
/ A Flying Machine for every Man, Woman and Child & other Astonishing Works, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, California, USA.
/ A Flying Machine for every Man, Woman and Child, Miami Art Museum, Miami, USA.
/ Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Sydney, Australia; touring to Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA and National Museum of African Art Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., USA.

2008

/ Odile and Odette, Savannah College of Art and Design, ACA Gallery, Atlanta, USA.
/ Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA), Sydney, Australia; touring to Brooklyn Museum, New York, USA and the Smithsonian, Washington D.C., USA.
/ Prospero's Monsters, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA.

2007

/ Scratch the Surface, National Gallery, London, UK.
/ Jardin d'Amour, Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France.
/ White Flag at Half Mast, commission for the Jubilee Flagpole, Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London, UK.
/ Summer Show, New York Gallery, New York, USA.

2006

/ Yinka Shonibare Installation, Speed Museum, Kentucky, USA.
/ Flower Time, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.

2005

/ Mobility, James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA.
/ Yinka Shonibare Selects: Works from the Permanent Collection, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, New York, USA.
/ Collaborative film/dance project with the Royal Opera House and the Africa Centre, London, UK.

2004

/ Turner Prize, Tate Britain, London, UK.
/ Yinka Shonibare, Double Dutch, Boijmans van Beuningen Museum, Rotterdam, the Netherlands; touring to Kunsthalle Vienna, Austria.
/ Vasa, Commission for the opening of Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden.
/ Yinka Shonibare, The Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

2003

/ Play with me, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.
/ Double Dress, Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel; toured to KIASMA, Helsinki, Finland; Studio Museum, Harlem, NY, USA and Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy.

2002

/ Christmas Tree Project, Tate Britain, London.
/ Britannia project, Tate Britain, London .
/ Be-muse, The British School in Rome, Rome, Italy (catalogue).
/ The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, USA (brochure).
/ Camouflage, Johannesburg, South Africa (catalogue).

2001

/ Stephen Friedman Gallery and 2nd Floor, 12 Dolland Street, London, UK.

2000

/ Effective, defective, creative, permanent video installation, Wellcome Wing, Science Museum, London, UK.

AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

2013

/ Royal Academician, The Royal Academy, London, England

2012

/ Fellow of University of the Arts, London, England

2010

/ The Royal Academy of Arts Charles Wollaston Award

/ Honorary Doctorate from the Royal College of Art London, England

2008

/ Fourth Plinth Award Nominee, Trafalgar Square, National Gallery, London, England

2007

/ Honorary Doctorate Degree, Huron University

2005

/ Awarded the MBE

2004

/ IASPIS, International Artists' Studio Program in Stockholm, Sweden

2003

/ Fellow of Goldsmiths College, London, England

2001

/ Residency, Fabric Workshop, Philadelphia, USA

2000

/ Residency, MCA DePaul University, Chicago, USA

1999

/ Shortlisted Citibank Private Bank Photography Prize

1998

/ Paul Hamlyn Foundation Award for Visual Artists

/ Royal Society of Arts, Art for Architecture Award

1992

/ Barclays Young Artists Award, Serpentine Gallery, London, England

/ London Arts Board Artist's Grant

/ Camden Arts Centre, London, UK.

/ Affectionate Men, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK.

/ Diary of a Victorian Dandy Project, INIVA; toured to Castle Museum, Nottingham; Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle; Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, UK.

1999

/ Dressing Down, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham; toured to Henie Onstad Art Centre, Norway.

/ Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland; Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield; Oriel Mostyn, Llandudno, Wales (catalogue).

/ Brent Sikkema, New York, USA.

1998

/ Diary of a Victorian Dandy, site-specific project on the London Underground, commissioned and produced by INIVA, London, UK.

/ Alien Obsessives, Mum, Dad and the Kids, Tablet, the Tabernacle, London; toured to Norwich Art Gallery, Norwich, UK.

1997

/ Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK.

/ Present Tense, contemporary project series, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada.

1995

/ Sun, Sea and Sand, BAC Gallery, London, UK.

1994

/ Double Dutch, Centre 181 Gallery, London, UK.

1989

/ Byam Shaw Gallery, London, UK.
/ Bedford Hill Gallery, London, UK.

LITERATURE

/ FABRICA-TION, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Yorkshire, UK (includes an interview by Hans Ulrich Obrist)

/ Artwriting, Nation and Cosmopolitanism in Britain: The 'Englishness' of English Art Theory since the Eighteenth Century, edited by Mark A. Cheetham, Ashgate, Surrey, UK

/ I Know Something About Love, Yinka Shonibare (text contribution), Parasol Unit, Koenig Books, London, England

/ Looking Up, Nouveau Musee National de Monaco, Monaco

/ Before and After Modernism, Byam Shaw, Central Saint Martin's College of Art and Design, London

/ KulTur i Afrika, The Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden

/ Pattern ID, Ellen Rudolph, Akron Art Museum, Akron, Ohio, USA

/ Yinka Shonibare, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia

/ Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Odile and Odette, published by ACA Gallery of SCAD, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

/ Yinka Shonibare, MBE, Rachel Kent and Robert Hobbs, Prestel and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia

/ Jardin d'amour, Musée du quai Branly, Paris, France Fashion Accidently, edited by Hsiangling Lai and Iris Huang, Contemporary Art Foundation / Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei

/ RADAR: Selections from the Collection of Vicki and Kent Logan, Denver Art Museum

/ Vitamin Ph: New Perspectives in Photography, Phaidon Press

/ Acting the Part: Photography as Theatre, National Gallery of Canada, Merrell, London

/ Contemporary Commonwealth, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

/ Around the World in Eighty Days, edited by Claire Fitzsimmons, Kit Hammonds, Margot Heller and Jens Hoffman, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London and South London Gallery

/ Ahistoric Occasion: Artists Making History, edited by Nato Thompson, published by Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, Massachusetts

/ Acting Out: The Invented Melodrama in Contemporary Photography, essay by Kathleen Edwards, University of Washington Press, Seattle

/ Zürich Development Center, Zürich Insurance Company, Zürich, Switzerland

/ Shades of Black, Assembling Black Arts in 1980s Britain, Duke University Press, Durham, NC; inIVA, London

/ A Sense of Place, inIVA, London

/ Exploring Art. A Global, Thematic Approach, Thomson Wadsworth, USA

/ Africa Remix, Contemporary Art of a Continent, Hayward Gallery, London

/ Samtidskonst för lävare och andra intresserade, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden

/ The Israel Museum Jerusalem, Harry N. Abrams Inc. New York

/ L'art de la friche, essai sur l'art africain contemporain, Flammarion, France

/ Turner Prize, Tate, London

/ Undomesticated Interiors, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Massachusetts, MA

/ Fashionation, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden

/ Selvedge...The Fabric of Your Life; The Architecture Issue, London

/ The Culture Game, University of Minnesota Press, Minnesota, MN

/ Continental Drift, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida, FL

/ Double Dutch, Boijmans van Beuningen Museum, Rotterdam, Netherlands and Kunsthalle Vienna, Austria

/ Doublures, Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, Canada

/ Looking Both Ways-Art of the African Diaspora, edited by Laurie Ann Farrell, published by the Museum for African Art, Long Island City, Queens, New York

/ Attitude, Contemporary Art Museum Kumamoto, Japan

/ Double Dress, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel

/ Yinka Shonibare, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York

/ Unpacking Europe, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

/ Yinka Shonibare. Be-Muse, Museo Hendrik Christian Andersen, Rome, Italy

/ Enwezor, Okwui, Tricking the Mind: the work of Yinka Shonibare, in Authentic/Eccentric

/ Conceptualism in African Art, 49th Venice Biennale, Italy

/ Yinka Shonibare, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

/ Vantage Point, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland

/ Bo01 City of Tomorrow, European Housing Expo, Malmo, Sweden

/ The Short Century, Museum Villa Stuck, München, Germany

/ Camouflage, Centre of Contemporary Art of Southern Africa, Johannesburg

/ Give and Take, Serpentine Gallery, London

/ Bamgboyé, O. A. What is Print?, in Technology and Culture, Witte de With Center For Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, the Netherland

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