

Joana Choumali

Born in 1974 in Ivory Coast. Lives and work in Abidjan, Ivory Coast

EDUCATION

Graphic arts, Casablanca, Morocco

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Gallery 1957, London, UK (forthcoming)
- 2022 *It Still Feels Like the Right Time*, Sperone Westwater, New York, USA
- 2019 *How Do You Spell A Silent Sound*, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
3134 Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, Morocco
- 2018 *Dream and Identity*, Riad El Fenn, Marrakech, Morocco
- 2017 *BITTER*, Beurs Van Berlage, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2016 *Hââbré, the last generation*, 50 Golborne Gallery, London, UK
- 2011 *Joana Choumali: 'Nappy' series*, Eureka Galerie, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Dig Where You Stand*, Savannah Centre for Contemporary Art, Tamale, Ghana
NUDE, Fotografiska Museum, New York, USA
DNA Second Edition, Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, Morocco
Africa in Motion, Fondation Donwahi, Abidjan
Memoria: Récits d'une autre Histoire, Musée des Cultures Contemporaines
Adama Toungara (MuCAT), Abidjan Ivory Coast
- 2021-22 Summer Exhibition 2021, Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK
- 2021 *NUDE*, Fotografiska Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2021 *Self-Identity In The Face Of The Global Pandemic*, Gallery 1957, London, UK
- 2020 *Joana Choumali & Godfried Donkor*, Gallery 1957, Gallery I, Accra, Ghana
Le Jardin en Soi, Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, Morocco
Hope, Prix Pictet, EPFL Art Lab, Lausanne, Switzerland
Hope, Prix Pictet, Mouravieff-Apostol House & Museum, Moscow, Russia
Prix Pictet 2019: Hope exhibition, Luma Westbau Zurich, Switzerland
- 2019 *Hope*, Prix Pictet, Daikanyama Hillside Forum, Tokyo, Japan
Hope, Prix Pictet, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK

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- Still here tomorrow to high five you yesterday...*, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa , (Zeitz Mocaa) Capetown, South Africa
Welcome Home, MACAAL Museum , Marrakech, Morocco
Mon reve est Pop !, Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, Morocco
Still Here Tomorrow to High Five You Yesterday...Chapter 2, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018
Where I Seek, I Find Myself, Mfon Photo, Mocada Museum, NYC
Dream and Identity, Riad El Fenn, Marrakech, Morocco
Africa is No Island, Fondation Zinsou, Cotonou, Bénin
Côte d'Ivoire, *Identité et vitalité*, Art Contemporain Mattatoio, Rome, Italy
Where I Seek, I Find Myself, Mfon Photo, Mocada Museum, New York, USA
Africa is no Island, Musuem of African Contemporary Art, Al maaden, Marrackech (MACAAL), Morocco
Afriques Artistes d'hier et d'aujourd'hui, Fondation Clément, Martinique
- 2017
Rêveries d'hier et songes du present, Musée de la Photographie de Saint Louis, Senegal
BITTER, Beurs Van Berlage , Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Le Havre -Dakar, Musée d'Histoire naturelle, Le Havre, France
A fleur de peau, Abbaye de Daoulas, Daoulas, France
- 2016
The Female Gaze, Base Milano, Milan
Resilients, Land of African Business Conference, Hotel de l'Industrie, Paris, France
Africa Forecast: Fashioning Contemporary Life, Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, USA
Les Recontres de la Photographie, La Grande Hall, Arles, France
- 2015
Bold (Feminine), Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, USA
Design is the personality of an idea, Ford Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria
Skin Deep, The Tropenmuseum of World Cultures, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design, Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany
AGri-Cultures, National Museum of Civilisations, Abidjan
- 2014
3x3, La Galerie MAM, Dakar, Senegal
Lensculture: 50 Emerging Talents, Galeria Valid Foto, Barcelona, Spain
Pour les noirs et pour les blancs, Hierro desVilles Gallery, Nice, France

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- 2013 *Abidjan Arts Actuels (AAA)*, Fondation Donwahi, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
L'Emoi Photographique: Portrait, Hôtel Saint Simon, Angoulême, France
Private exhibition, ASCOMA Company, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
L'Emoi Photographique: Naissance d'une association, Hôtel Saint Simon, Angoulême, France
- 2012 *BICICI Amie des Arts*, Bank for Industry and Trade of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
On the Roof, National Museum Cinémathèque of Bamako Biennial, Mali
OFC, The Barbican Center as part of the Olympic Games, London, UK
- 2011 *BICICI Amie des Arts*, Bank for Industry and Trade of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
Petite revue de l'art moderne et contemporain de Côte d'Ivoire, Rotonde des Arts Gallery, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

FAIRS, BIENNALE, FESTIVALS

- 2023 Investec Cape town Art Fair, with Gallery 1957, South Africa
- 2022 Paris Photo, Loft Art Gallery, Paris, France
OZANGÉ photography biennale, Malaga, Spain
Time Is Going: Archive – Future – Memories, organised by EUNIC Senegal for the 14th Biennale de l'art contemporain africain, Dak'Art, Résidence de l'Ambassade de l'Union Européenne, Dakar, Sénégal
- 2021 1-54 Paris, with Gallery 1957, France
1-54 London, with Loft Art Gallery, UK
1-54 New York, with Loft Art Gallery, USA
Paris Photo, with Loft Art Gallery, Paris, France
- 2020 1-54 Paris, France
Paris Photo x Elles, Paris, France
1-54 African contemporary Art Fair, online / Christie's, London, UK
1-54 Contemporary Art Fair, Marrakech, Morocco
Photo London Festival, Online
Art Dubai, with Gallery 1957, Dubai, UAE
- 2019 Marrakesh Art Week
Fil(a)mant, Fondation Blachere art Centre, Apt, France
1-54 London, Contemporary Art Fair, London, UK
N'golá Biennale, Biennial of Arts and Culture, Sao tomé e Principe

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- Lagosphoto Festival, Lagos, Nigeria
Unseen Photography fair, with Gallery 1957, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1:54 Contemporary Art Fair, New York, USA
Akaa Fair, Paris, France
1:54 Contemporary Art Fair, Marrackech, Morocco
- 2018
Marrakesh Art Week
AKAA (Also Known As Africa, Paris, France
Awoulaba/Taille fine, Breda Photo festival - International Photography
Festival, The Netherlands
1:54 Art Fair in NYC, New York, USA
Off de Dapper, Dakar Biennale, with Fondation Dapper, Dakar, Senegal
1:54 Art Fair in NYC, New York, USA
1:54 Contemporary Art Fair, Marrackech, Morocco
AfricaAfrica, Palazzo Litta Culture, Milan
- 2017
Afrotopia, Biennale internationale de la Photographie Africaine, Bamako,
Mali
Regimes of Truth, Lagos Photo Festival , Lagos, Nigeria
“Photo Vogue Festival,” Milan
Also Known As Africa (AKAA FAIR), Paris, France
Monopoli Photo Festival, Monopoli, Italy
Festival International de Photographie pour les femmes photographes, St
Gilles Croix de Vie, France
The Elusive Body, Festival Image Afrique, Basel, Switzerland
The Juices of Time, Pavilion of the Ivory Coast, 57th Venice Biennale, Venice
Where the Future Beats, LagosPhoto Festival, ” Casello Ovest di Porta
Venezia, Milan
- 2016
LagosPhoto Festival: Find us on the map, Rush Gallery, New York, USA
Hââbré, the last generation, Festival Cinéma d’Afrique de Lausanne,
Switzerland
Casablanca Biennale: We the people, Institut Français de Casablanca,
Morocco
- 2015
Sacro e profane, Photolux, Lucca, Italy
LagosPhoto Festival: Designing Futures, Eko Suite Hotel Nigeria, Lagos
Photoquai Biennale 2015: We are family, Quai Branly Museum, Paris, France
Casablanca Biennale, French Institute of Valencia, Spain

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- OBSCURA Festival, George Town, Malaysia
GRID Cape Town, International Photography Biennial, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014 POPCAP'14: Outstanding African Photographers, PhotoIreland Festival, Dublin, Ireland
Image Afrique, Basel, Switzerland
LagosPhoto Festival, Lagos, Nigeria
Cape Town Month of Photography, Cape Town, South Africa,
Eyes On, Photography Festival, Vienna
Addis Foto Fest, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Festival Internacional de Fotografia Cabo Verde, Mindelo, Cape Verde
Casablanca Biennale, Casablanca, Morocco
15th Edition BarrObjectif Festival de Photoreportage, Barro, France
- 2000 Goethe Institute Abidjan, biannual festival 'Les Rencontres du Sud', plastic serie 'Birth'

COLLECTIONS

Private collections

Collection Gervanne + Matthias Leridon,
Collection Serge Tiroche
Harry David Art Collection
Voodart Collection

Public collections

Museum of Photography St Louis, Senegal
Palais de la Culture, France
Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Fondation Blachère, France
Africa First, Tel Aviv, UAE
Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA, USA
Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL), Marrakech
Prix Pictet Collection Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
Nesr Art Foundation, Angola

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AWARDS

- 2019 8th Cycle of Prix Pictet, for her series *Ça va aller* (It will be OK) - Winner
- 2016 Fourthwall book Award, for *Hââbré, the Last Generation*
Magnum Foundation Emergency Fund, for the series "Sissi Barra"
- 2014 POPCAP '14 Prize Africa, for *Hââbré, the Last Generation* - Winner
LensCulture Emerging Talents Awards, for *Hââbré, the Last Generation* – Winner

RESIDENCIES

- 2022 Eesidency at Civitella Ranieri Foundation, Italy
- 2017 Nirox Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2016 Iferty Contemporary Art Centre, Essaouira, Morocco
- 2015 Iferty Contemporary Art Centre, Essaouira, Morocco

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications

- 2022 “African Art Now”, Octopus and Tate Publishing, by Osei Bonsu. p 80-83
- 2022 “African Artists : From 1882 to Now”, Phaidon Editors with introduction by Chika Okeke-Agulu and glossary by Joseph L Underwood. p. 81
- 2022 “One Picture Book Two #31 : Çà Va Aller”, Joana Choumali, Nazraeli Editions
- 2017 ‘BITTER Chocolate Stories’, Paradox Editions, The Netherlands
- 2016 ‘HAABRE’, Fourthwall Book Editions

Prints

- 2021 Dec Issue, Art Quarterly
- 2020 Oct, 11, The Observer, “A Stitch in Time”, Sean O’Hagan
Sept-Oct, Royal Photographic Society Magazine, “Each Stitch was a way to recover”, Tom Seymour
May 1st, British Journal Photography, “Tales of the City”, Tom Seymour

Online

- 2022 Dec 1, The Guardian, “Flexing it! Mind-bending female photography – in pictures”, Mee-Lai Stone
Nov 3, Artnet, “7 Must-See Works to Seek Out at the ADAA Art Show, From Remedios Varo’s Surrealist Scenery to Pacita Abad’s Stunning Sun Goddess”
Nov, Paris Photo, “Elles x Paris Photo - Joana Choumali”

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- April 29th, VA, “Joana Choumali in conversation”, Lydia Caston
- April 28th, Blind Magazine, “Joana Choumali on Weaving Her Grief Into Photographs”, Christina Cacouris
- April 8th, The New York Times, “In This Joana Choumali Work, a Dreamy, Swallow-Filled Sky”, Alwa Cooper
- Feb 8th, Fahrenheit Magazine, “Joana Choumali and photography to the rescue of the past”
- 2021 Dec 17th, The Art Newspaper, “Why, for me, Frieze London is a satellite art fair”, Chibundu Onuzo
- Nov 10, Royal Photographic Society, “Acclaimed curator Azu Nwagbogu salutes a favourite artist”, Graeme Green
- Oct 22, Shine, “Using art to help understand life and herself”
- Aug 2021, On Art Media, “These contemporary African photographers who are challenging the attitude”
- 2020 July 8th, Photolux, “Joana Choumali – The threads of hope”, Daniela Mericio
- June 9th, British Journal Photography, “Tales of the City”, Tom Seymour
- Oct 10th, The Guardian, “Joana Choumali: 'I set my imagination free on the photographs'”, Sean O’Hagan
- 2019 Dec 6th, Financial Times, “Ghana leads African charge in Miami”, Anna O’Sullivan
- Nov 14, ArtNet, “‘It Was a Sort of Therapy for Me’: Joana Choumali, the first African to Win Europe’s Top Photography Award, on Her Emotive work”, Naomi Rea
- Nov 13, Financial Times, “Ivorian photographer is first African to win Prix Pictet”, James Pickford
- Oct 21st, The Art Momentum, “Joana Choumali : « Alba’hian », le jour se lève sur Abidjan”
- Oct 7th, It’s Nice That, “Joana Choumali’s art reimagines life in Accra and Abidjan at daybreak”, Daphne Milner
- Sept 27, Nataal, “Joana Choumali”, Emma Gilhooly
- Sept 11, Martin Cid Magazine, “Gallery 1957 at Unseen Amsterdam with solo booth from Joana Choumali, 20-22 September 2019”, Verónica López
- Sept 10, Elephant, “Joana Choumali Reimagines Life in African Cities”
- 2018 Mar 2, Financial Times, “African art market comes to Africa”, Melanie Gerlis

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Oct 1, The Washington Post, “Voices of African photography: ‘Transforming the image of our continent’”, Olivier Laurent

2016

Feb 10th, GUP Magazine, “I Don’t Know Your Story: An Interview With Joana Choumali”, Nora Uitterlinden

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