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EXHIBITION

AFRICAN PATRONS CUP POLO TOURNAMENT

20TH OCT - 31ST OCT 2015

Fifth Chukker Polo & Country Club

KM 2 Kaduna-Jos Road Maraban Jos Kaduna

openspace@ilmihouse.org | 0813 8377347 | 0813 8987586

 **FIFTH CHUKKER**
POLO & COUNTRY CLUB

ilmihouse

FIFTH CHUKKER POLO AND COUNTRY CLUB

presents

OPENSOURCE EXHIBITION

AFRICAN PATRONS CUP POLO TOURNAMENT

20th October – 31st October 2015

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KM2, Kaduna to Jos Road, After Maraban Jos

08138377347

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The Openspace project is a collective of Artists - Writers, Painters, Musicians, Fashion Designers, Sculptors, Architects, Graphic Designers, Foodies, Photographers, Performers, Content/Concept Creators and Developers, Readers, Film Makers, Techies, Thinkers and Entrepreneurs...that share ideas and work on personal and collaborative projects. The strategy is to provide a platform for creative minds to meet and collaborate on the newest and most innovative approaches to effect a positive impact on society. A fresh new movement that seeks to develop the arts in Nigeria and turn it into a vibrant international concern.

As a project created to assist creatives to access an 'open space' for producing top quality works, Ilmihouse and Fifth Chukker Polo and Country Club are greatly excited to partner in the very first 'Openspace' Exhibition.

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openspace.ilmihouse.org

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You

I hear the *ogene*
or is it the cymbal
The piccolo pierce my ear
no it is the *khakhaki*
Everything fit correctly
then am I confused?

Not at all
'cause only one person
spurs up
such orchestra
only one occasion
elicits such gyration

An exhibition of love
a celebration of bliss
fertile conjugal harvest...

Eternity.

Jude-Souza Akwo

the exhibition

In its first ever exhibition, Openspace is proud to discover and showcase ten amazing artists based in Northern Nigeria. They emerged through a rigorous selection process and have produced works that can stand with pride in any space in the world. The majority of the artists who are at different stages of their careers, studied at the premier Arts School in the country, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. They display a boldness that is evident in the originality of their works. The Exhibition Catalogue also features works from selected Writers to compliment the visual display. This collection of artists brings to the exhibition works that are not only diverse in thematic approach but also show great strength in stylistic confidence. The works are complimented by The Fifth Chukker Clubhouse which provides the ideal backdrop, with the sculptures striking distinctive poses at the expansive terrace and outdoor space.

Open Space urges you to enjoy one of the most exciting exhibitions you'll see today.

Michael Okpanachi

Curator

The Artists

Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Talatu is a postgraduate of Painting from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and has participated in several exhibitions and workshops around the country. She believes in the expressive nature of line, shape and form in relation to space and the aesthetics of colour. She uses the illusionistic and dynamic characteristic of line to reduce objects of nature to their simplest forms and has a strong belief that the artist must do more than imitate nature.

Ayo Aina

Ayo Aina is an acclaimed Contemporary Artists with a BA and MFA in 1990 and 1996 respectively, from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. He has exhibited widely both locally and internationally, and been mentioned in important art books and journals. He is one of the pioneers of installation art in Nigeria, and also a consummate mosaic muralist. His works are prominently displayed in public spaces across the country.

Shalom Fidelis

Currently an Arts student at Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Shalom has been painting from an early age. He has participated in several workshops and been featured in a few art exhibitions in Zaria. He has a bold use of colour and has produced some vibrant pieces for the exhibition.

Lasisi Lamidi

Lasisi studied Sculpture to postgraduate level at ABU Zaria and is now engaged there as a lecturer. His sculpture, using discarded items including auto parts, explores social issues in the traditional African setting, adapting the traditional African concept of forward position, mask like face, distortion and simplifying the human form. Some of his recent paintings encapsulate some aspects of *personality theory* expressed by *Albert Bandura* which, he termed as behaviorism.

Ken Okoli

Ken Okoli trained at ABU Zaria specialising in sculpture at BA and MFA Levels. Following a Ph.D. in Art History, Ken now lectures Fine Art at the same institution. He has enjoyed two solo Exhibitions and over thirty group Exhibitions, and his sculptures are currently on public display around the country. Ken employs his immediate environment as the greatest source of inspiration and is currently looking into 'sculptures that move' including car body design and production.

Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Johnson is currently undertaking a PHD in the Fine Arts Department of ABU Zaria and has a particular interest in the theories and practice of ordinary subject matters for drawing and painting. As well as being an Artist, Johnson also writes on the subject with several of his articles published in journals in Nigeria and internationally. He also teaches the Arts and serves as a Lecturer in Fine and Applied Arts at Onabisi Onabanjo University in Ogun State. Johnson has staged 8 solo and 22 group exhibitions in Nigeria and abroad.

Lawal Suleiman

A self-taught artist from childhood, Lawal studied Business Administration before embarking on a career in Banking and Finance. He continued to paint on the side and 12 years later, he resigned to concentrate full time on his art. His works evoke African heritage and culture especially that of the Hausa Fulani of Northern Nigeria. Lawal has taken part in several exhibitions across Nigeria and his works can be seen in private collections as well as International Hotels and Government Buildings.

Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

Khadijah developed an interest in the arts at a young age, from newspaper cartoons most especially Modesty Blaise the secret agent. Since her days at ABU Zaria, she has been greatly influenced by Bridget Riley and her geometric design and illusionism. She also has a keen interest in amongst others Kandinsky, Jackson Pollock, Monet and Scott Burdick. Khadijah uses her art to express her views on societal issues especially relevant to the African woman.

Yusuf Olayinka Umar

Yusuf has a BA in Fine Arts from ABU, and is currently pursuing his MFA in Painting. He has taken part in several Art Exhibitions at A.B.U as well as 'The African Arts Resource Centre Art Exhibition, Lagos, and the 'Life in My City' Art Festival, Enugu both in 2014. He was featured in The Fondazione Benetton publication *'Nigeria/Roots: Contemporary Artists from Nigeria'* by Imago Mundi 2014. His themes are on human faces and everyday activities, executed using the veining pattern from leaves.

Anna Waziri

Anna is an emerging artist with an exciting imagination. She is currently a Fine Arts student at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, and her artistic philosophy is that there is always a way in bringing out an artistic effect. As 'one to watch' for the future her abiding principle is for art to continue to move its audience and not be a passive entity only to be viewed. Openspace is her first major exhibition.

Indelible

I want my love to leave scars
If it is forced to leave,
It should dig a niche in your life
Where I have laughed
Where I have cried.
The things I caressed
In the very Palm of my hand
Should have marks
Or be worn out from too much
Of my touch

When love stops,
If it stops,
It should leave a reminder
No matter how little,
A reminder
That it was there
And for all that time
You can not replace
What it gave you.
Never the same love twice.

Mam Tarfa

the works



Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Phoenix

2014

Oil and acrylic on emulsion on canvas

122 x 122 cm



Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Orb Web IV

2012

Acrylic, ink and oil on canvas

122 x 122 cm



Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Strange Things

2012

Oil and acrylic on canvas

122 x 122 cm



Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Synthesis

2012

Oil and acrylic on canvas

122 x 122 cm



Talatu Onkala Adiwu

Green Light

2014

Acrylic on canvas

182.88 X 121.99cm

This is My Joy

When the flames of my madness engulf me, you ignite yours so we both burn in our laughter.

And when the flames die down, you allow me into your solitude, where I bare my mind, soul and heart.

Every so often you tell me I am beautiful.

And when I would rather ignore it, you insist that I stop and own the truth that I see in your eyes.

Maryam Aliko Mohammed



Ayo Aina

Discovery

2015

Mixed Media

80 x 80 cm



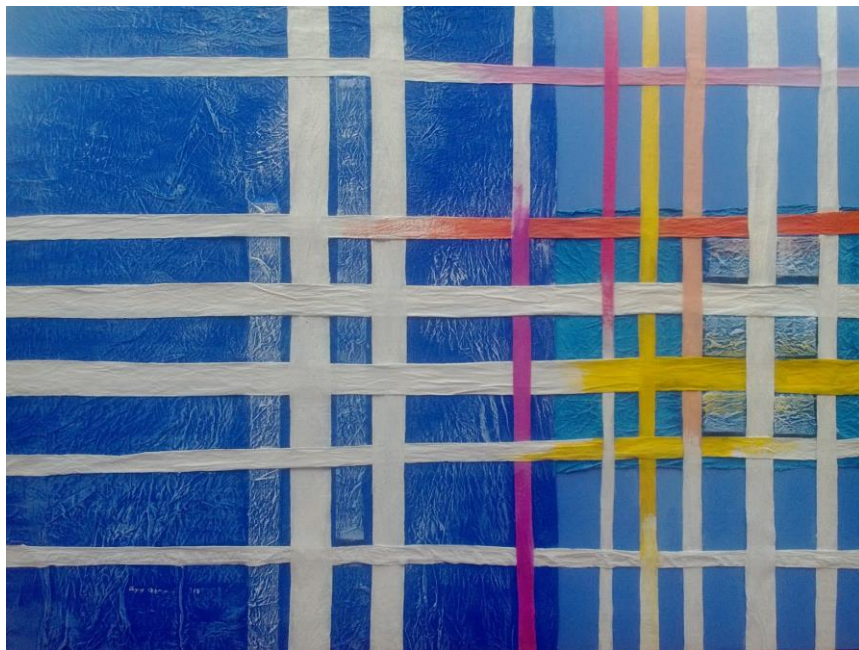
Ayo Aina

Climate Change

2015

Mixed Media

100 x 60 cm



Ayo Aina

Influenced

2015

Mixed Media

90 x 120 cm

A Plea

There were seventeen billions of us
That began eating the sun until our feet became fire, real fire?
Even the many zillion years we walked upon this earth
Was not enough to wash the small stain on our garments.

Was it fire?
Fire, was it you?

Who taught us unhappiness?
Who polished our craft in sin?

Say it,
Not to us,
Not to them,
Not to the Gods, who had become weaklings too like our forefathers who let
those gangsters ransack the shrine

Say it to the day these billions of people
Broke down that door and walked into it to do shameful things with
themselves
Say it out,
Fire, say it.

Or, do you not understand?

Leila Yusufu



Shalom Fidelis

Face of Africa

2015

Oil on Canvas

45 x 33 cm



Shalom Fidelis

Motion

2015

Oil on Canvas

30 x 160 cm



Lasisi Lamidi

Reflection of Life I

2013

Mixed Media Painting

78 x 78 cm



Lasisi Lamidi

Reflection of Life II

2013

Mixed Media Painting

70 x 70 cm



Lasisi Lamidi

Lasisi Lamidi

Blue Dance

2013

Steel and Fabric

120 x 80 cm, 5kg



Lasisi Lamidi

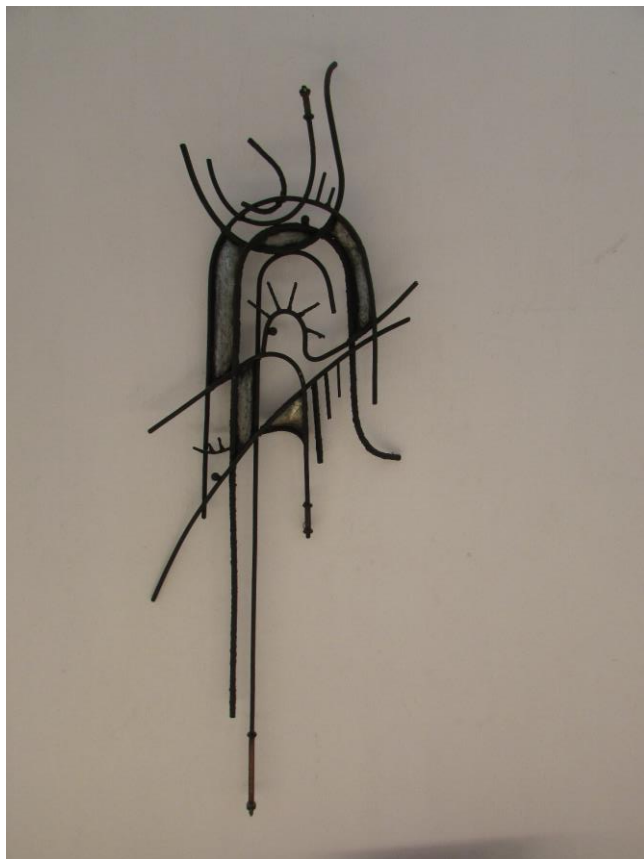
Lasisi Lamidi

Purple Dance

2013

Steel and Fabric

102 x 40 cm, 4kg



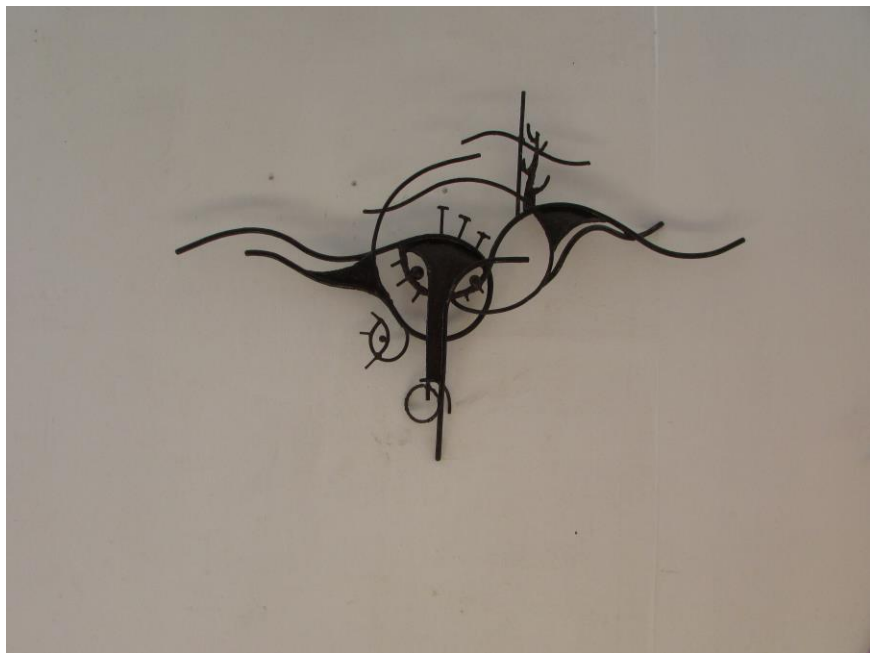
Ken Okoli

The Fall and Rise

2013

Mild Steel

130 x 53 cm



Ken Okoli

We are Still Watching

2013

Rusted mild steel

62 x 94 cm



Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Pothole Reflection I & II

2014

Acrylic on board

25 x 30 cm



Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Labadi Beach I & II

2013

Acrylic on board

25 x 30 cm



Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Ibogun Obasanjo Village I & II

2013

Acrylic on board

25 x 30 cm



Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Allo I & II

2013

Acrylic on board

30 x 25 cm



Johnson Olarinde Oladesu

Rock City Jos I & II

2013

Acrylic on board

30 x 25

Jos

Intricately beautiful she still is

Her eyes filled with untold tales

Her curves just perfectly placed

Seducing all from every corner

Loved for she's not fat, she possesses Tin

Raped, maimed, beaten, bombed

Who'd have thought she'd be an overcomer

Arms wide open to all, she's Jositized

And she's my Nigerian Independence City.

Cyril Gege



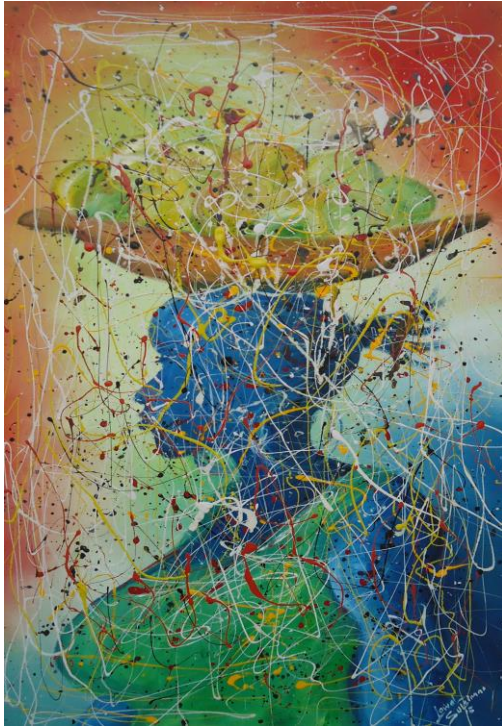
Lawal Suleiman

The Rest

2015

Oil on canvas

121 x 152 cm



Lawal Suleiman

Orange Girl

2015

Oil on canvas

50 x 91 cm



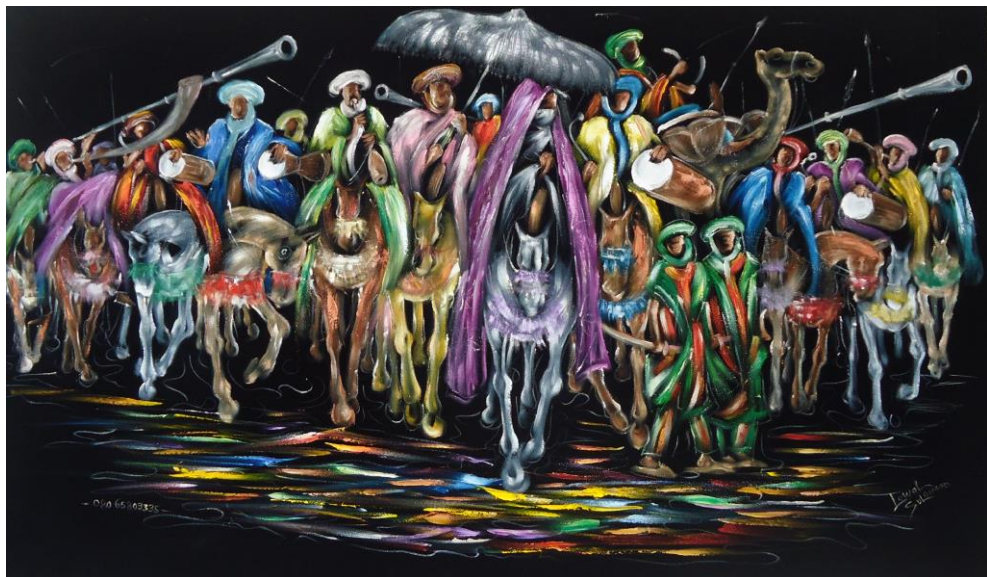
Lawal Suleiman

Katsina College

2015

Oil on velvet

76 x 127 cm



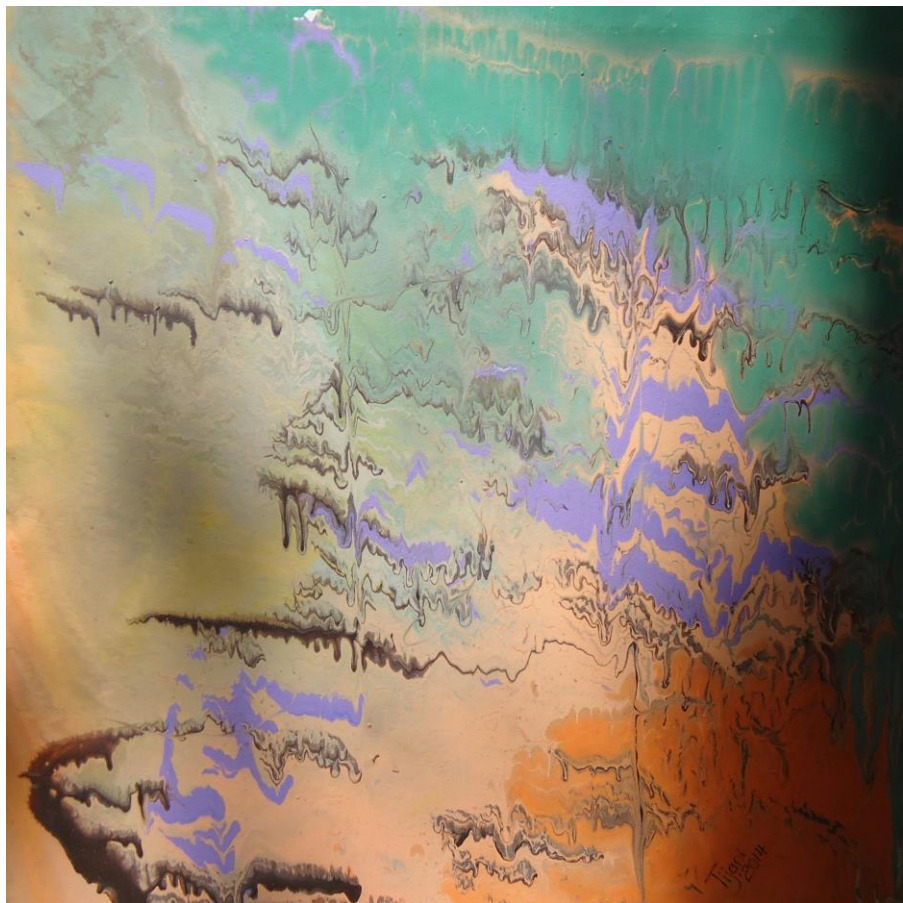
Lawal Suleiman

Durbars Return

2015

Oil on velvet

76 x 127 cm



Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

Kumshin Aure

2014

Acrylic on Canvas

46 x 46 cm



Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

Queen Amina of Zazzau

2014

Acrylic on Canvas

46 x 46 cm



Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

O Bring Back Our Girls

2014

Acrylic on Canvas

46 x 46 cm



Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

Mutilation

2014

Acrylic on Canvas

46 x 46 cm



Khadijah Iyabo Tijani

Iya Osun

2014

Acrylic on Canvas

46 x 61 cm

The 150 Word Story

I buried the baby here. In Papa's farm. I am sure it was here; but I can't find it. It's too dark. It was light some moments ago, though. I can feel the dry wind on my skin, the tendrils of my hair flowing in its wake. I shouldn't have listened to Aunty Risi.

It was not his fault that Wale did this. Aunty Risi told me I got my beauty from Esu: The devil. She said I was a seed of the goddess. Such beauty, she exclaimed, could only be a gift from the gods.

My breasts are still heavy and pointed but the baby is not here to suck them. I must keep searching. I'm sure he's still buried here somewhere.

It is dark. Still very dark. The wind has gone home and I am left all alone. I must find the baby. I must.

Cynthia Osuchukwu Onyinye



Yusuf Olayinka Umar

Dogari

2013

Leaf print on canvas

100 x 80 cm



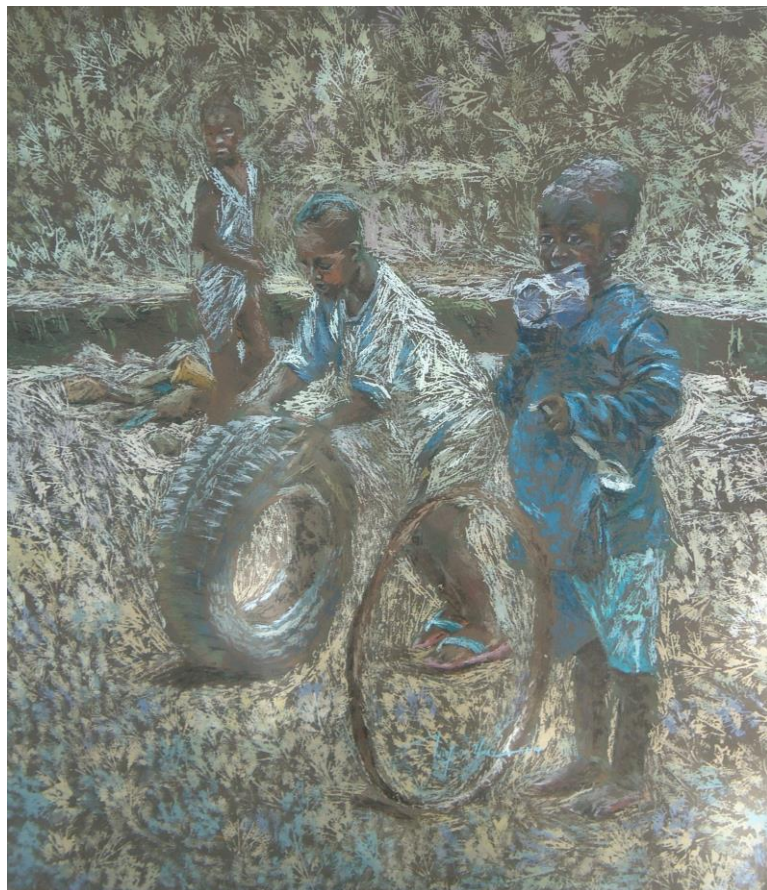
Yusuf Olayinka Umar

The Missing Piece

2014

Oil on pasted leaves on canvas

100 x 80 cm



Yusuf Olayinka Umar

Yesterday

2014

Leaf print on canvas

120 x 100 cm



Yusuf Olayinka Umar

Procession

2014

Leaf print on canvas

120 x 150 cm



Anna Waziri

Ryom Rocks

2015

Gouache on cardboard

30 x 39 cm



Anna Waziri

Untitled

2015

Watercolour and Gouache on cardboard

20 x 30 cm



Anna Waziri

The Souvenir

2015

Seashell on wood

25 x 25 cm

Love

Deep poetry
Red colour gushing from
The right ARTery

Abdulhakeem Imran

ilmihouse

Ilmihouse is a social enterprise targeted at self-development and in turn the development of the community at large. Created as a centre primarily for the literary and creative arts, it has at its base a library which provides free access to a broad selection of books and other printed materials. With a special interest in the youth, Ilmihouse supports a collaborative community of readers, writers and creative minds through readings, talks, conversations, debates, and workshops. The Ilmihouse project has been designed to ensure a gradual expansion and on completion will be a hub for the literary and creative industries.

Ilmihouse supports lifelong learning and encourages continuous inquiry and reflection. It is committed to freedom of expression and the respect of individual rights and diversity of cultures. There is a continuous drive to widen access to its resources and to ensure that they are freely available, especially to the most disadvantaged in the community.

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FIFTH CHUKKER

POLO & COUNTRY CLUB

Fifth Chukker Polo Club is an international polo and lifestyle resort located just 25km northwest of Kaduna City. The resort covers over 3000 hectares of some of the Nigeria's most picturesque landscape. It consist of a series of independent and interacting components including a Clubhouse, accommodations and sport facilities. The Club hosts both corporate and private events and is a daytime destination for dining, sporting and leisure pursuits.

The Club is an ideal setting for executive getaways, corporate retreats, and team building programs, Fifth Chukker offers a variety of activities designed to foster initiative and motivation for your group. Our dedicated special events team will ensure any event is professionally delivered according to your needs.

Our wide range of facilities includes accommodations as well as sports offerings. Accommodations include luxury villas of two or three bedrooms, as well as private one-bedroom bungalows. The sporting facilities include three polo fields, stabling, the Equestrian Riding Academy, bush trekking, mountain bikes, quad bikes, lawn tennis, basketball, table tennis and a swimming pool.

Fifth Chukker Polo & Country Club sets a benchmark in excellence while maintaining its relaxed family orientated atmosphere.

KM2, Kaduna –Jos Road, After Maraban Jos

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0808 4762172

The Crew

Michael Okpanachi, Curator

Michael is a literary artist, concept developer and cultural thinker. In October 2014, he was shortlisted for the Short Story Day Africa Prize, and was also selected as one of the twelve emerging writers in Nigeria to look out for by The UNESCO World Book Capital Project. Currently an Artist-in-Residence at Ilmihouse, Michael develops projects that empower and open spaces for young creatives. He is a 2015 MacDowell Colony Fellow.

Ahmad Al Mustapha, Designer

Ahmad developed an interest in product design while he was an undergraduate of Architecture at ABU Zaria. He went on to undertake postgraduate studies in Architecture, however he also delved more formally into product design, with courses on Product Design & Manufacturing, and Graphic Design. From large household items to electronic gadgets, Ahmad is constantly looking to improve things around him with his mantra being "better life through design led innovation".

Katung 'KT' Kwasu, Reader-in-Residence

KT is a Literature graduate from ABU Zaria, currently completing his Masters in the same subject. As an avid reader, he maintains an impressive knowledge of literary works and is particularly interested in exploring surrealism in writing and the challenge of the African Writer outside 'Africa conventional'. He has written various works for radio and also served as editor with a number of organisations including the Creative Writers' Club at ABU Zaria, and The National Association of Students of English and Literary Studies.

Zam Obed, Graphic Designer

Zam is an Accountancy student of Kaduna Polytechnic who ventured into graphic design because of his need to improve on the quality of works he saw around him. He is a self-taught quintessential graphic designer and an inspirational illustrator. He creates great graphic contents both for print and social media.

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