

Gallery 1957



PALIMPSEST

MODUPEOLA | ZOHRA | FLORINE | ELISABETH | LOIS

14 March – 30 April 2019

Gallery 1957 is proud to present an all-female group show Palimpsest, exploring layers through multi-disciplined work with works from Modupeola Fadugba, Zohra Opoku, Florine Demosthene, Elisabeth Efua Sutherland and showcasing for the first time a performance by Lois Selasie Arde-Acquah. Taking place from the 14th of March until the end of April, these artists explore themes of identity, family and society throughout their works.

About Gallery 1957

Based in Accra and working internationally, Gallery 1957 has a curatorial focus on West Africa. The gallery presents a programme of exhibitions, installations and performances by the region's most significant artists currently bridging the gap between local and international practices. Founded by Marwan Zakhem in 2016, Gallery 1957 has evolved from over 15 years of private collecting. Opened in 2017, Gallery 1957 II is the gallery's second space, situated in Accra's Galleria Mall. The gallery serves as a vital platform, promoting West Africa's presence within the art scene by hosting ambitious exhibitions, providing resources for residencies and participating in international art fairs.

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About Modupeola Fadugba

Born in 1985 in Lomé, Togo, Modupeola Fadugba has a background in economics, engineering and education and holds a BEng Chemical Engineering / MA Economics from the University of Delaware and MEd from Harvard University. *The People's Algorithm* was awarded El Anatsui's Outstanding Production Prize at the African Artists' Foundation's National Art competition in Nigeria in 2014 and a Dakar Biennale Grand Prize in 2016. She lives and works in Abuja, Nigeria.

About Zohra Opoku

Zohra Opoku is an artist of German and Ghanaian descent based in Accra. She employs installation, sculpture and photography at the helm of her practice. Opoku explores West African traditions of spirituality and family lineage which form a dialogue with the contemporary realities of self-authorship and hybridity. The artist's work provides an examination of textile culture and considers fashion's political, psychological, and socio-cultural role in the formation of personal identities. Through her exploration of African cultural memory, Opoku creates visual observations of consumer culture that question the meaning of national identity.

About Florine Demosthene

Demosthene was born in the United States and raised between Port-au-Prince, Haiti and New York; she has spent the past four years living and working across Africa. Her work uses a combination of figurative and abstract mark making with which Demosthene constructs alternative landscapes to present the heroines of her practice, which re-examines her own sense of self.

About Elisabeth Efua Sutherland

Elisabeth Efua Sutherland (b. 1991, Accra) is a performance and visual artist who lives and works in Accra, Ghana. She is also the Founder and Artistic Director of The Accra Theatre Workshop. Sutherland has shown internationally including: LUMA Foundation Zurich (2017); The Lab, Google Cultural Institute, Paris (2016); Chale Wote Festival, Accra (2015); and the Dakar Biennial (2014). She has also worked in arts education with theatre-based programs for young people in Accra, Indiana, Seattle and New York, and was a theatre major at De Pauw University, Indiana, before achieving an MA from Brunel University, London. During 2016, Sutherland was artist in residence at the Google Cultural Institute, as part of the 89plus project curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist and Simon Castets. In 2017 she has residencies at the Villa Empain Brussels and the Harn Museum of Art.

About Lois Selasie Arde-Acquah

Lois Selasie Arde – Acquah was born in Accra, Ghana in 1992 where she currently lives and works. Her works border around the notion of seemingly repetitive activities as she employs a laborious process of producing her intricate and unique monochrome patterns upon various materials (canvas, paper, Styrofoam, synthetic leather, etc.). In recent times, she has engaged in performances where she is observed going through a painstaking process of producing her patterns. She obtained her BFA in painting in 2015 and pursued her MFA at the college of Arts, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana.