

Modupeola Fadugba

Born in 1985, Lomé, Togo. Lives and works between Abuja, Nigeria and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

EDUCATION

BA, Chemical Engineering, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA

Masters in Economics from the University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA

Masters in Education from Harvard University, Newark, Delaware, USA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *The Chemistry of Water*, RWS Gallery, London, UK
- 2025 *Also What Are We Wearing?*, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, London, UK
Of Movement, Materials and Methods, Gallery 1957, London, UK
- 2021 *The Artist's Algorithm: Why Nations Win*, Alara Concept Store, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2018 *Dreams from the Deep End*, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2017 *Prayers, Players & Swimmers*, Cité des Arts, Paris, France
Synchronised Swimming & Drowning, Ed Cross FINE Art, London, UK
Heads Up, Keep Swimming, SMO Contemporary Art, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2016 *Like Play, Like Play*, Dakar, Senegal

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 *RA Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London, UK
- 2025 *RA Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London, UK
Mining Abstractions, kó, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2024 *Keeping Time*, Curated by Ekow Eshun and Karon Hepburn, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
Constellations Part 1: Figures on Earth & Beyond. Co-curated by Katherine Finerty, Nuna Adisenu-Doe and Tracy Naa Koshie Thompson, Gallery 1957, London, UK
- 2023 *Filling in the Pieces in Black*. Curated by June Sarpong, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK / and Maruani Mercier Gallery, Belgium
- 2022 *Picturing Black Girlhood: Moments of Possibility*, Paul Robeson Galleries, Newark, New Jersey, USA
- 2021 *Pool: A Social History of Segregation*, The Fairmount Water Works, Philadelphia, PA, USA

1957

Gallery 1957, I, II and III Accra
Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast
& Galleria Mall
PMB 66 — Ministries
Gamel Abdul Nasser Avenue
Ridge — Accra
Ghana
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- 2019 *Seen and Be Seen*, Praise Shadows Art Gallery, Brookline, MA, USA
A Ballad for Harlem, duo show with Augusta Savage, Schomburg Center For Research In Black Culture Harlem, New York, NY, USA
- 2018 *Summer Open House*, The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP), Brooklyn, NY, USA
- 2017-8 SS17, Gallery Momo, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017 *A Continent Beyond*, Gallery Momo, Cape Town, South Africa
Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, Burlington House, London, UK
Afriques Capitales, Gare Saint Sauveur, Lille, France
- 2015 *The Art Energy*, London, UK
Design is the Personality of an Idea, Ford Foundation & African Artists Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria
Art/Energy, Red Door, London, UK

FAIRS

- 2026 1-54 Marrakech, with Gallery 1957, Marrakech, Morocco
- 2025 Frieze Seoul, with Gallery 1957, Seoul, South Korea
- 2024 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, with Gallery 1957, London, UK
Frieze Seoul, with Gallery 1957, Seoul, South Korea
- 2023 The Armory Show, with kó gallery, New York, NY, USA
Art Dallas, with Gallery 1957, TX, USA
- 2022 Art Dubai, with Gallery 1957, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 1-54, Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK
Art Dubai, with Gallery 1957, Dubai, UAE
- 2017 AfriqueCapitales: Cape of Good Hope Here We Come, Lille, France
SS17, Cape Town, South Africa
ART X Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria
1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, New York
- 2016 1-54, Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK
The People's Algorithm 2.0, Dak'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal

RESIDENCIES

- 2023 Headlands Residency, Sausalito, CA, USA
NXTHVN fellowship, studio fellow, (2022-2023), New Haven, CT, USA
- 2022 Residency Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2020 Headlands Residency, San Francisco, CA, USA

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2018 The International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) residency

AWARDS

2025 Norval Foundation Grand Prize Winner

2022 *Dreams from the Deep End*, winner of the 65th Annual New York Emmy Awards

2016 *The People's Algorithm 2.0*, awarded El Anatsui's Outstanding Production Prize

The People's Algorithm 2.0, Dakar Biennale Grand Prize from Senegal's Minister of Communication

2014 *The People's Algorithm* (2014) was awarded El Anatsui's Outstanding Production Prize

COLLECTIONS

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Smithsonian Institute of African Art

Tiroche Collection

Sindika Dokolo Foundation

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications

2021 The Artist's Algorithm: Why Nations Win (Alára Lagos: 2021)

2018 *Dreams from the Deep End* (Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana: 2018)

2017 Heads Up, Keep Swimming (SMO Contemporary Art, Lagos, Nigeria: 2017)

2016 Like Play, Like Play (Dak'Art Biennale, Senegal, 2016)

Prints

2018 March Issue, Harper's Bazaar Art, "The Shape of Water", **First Cover**

Online

2025 June 3, Wallpaer, "Ten Things to See at London Gallery Weekend"

2023 Feb, Art Scholastic, "[Q&A with Modupeola Fadugba](#)"

Mar 8, Business Day Ng, "International Women's Day: Celebrating top

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- Nigerian female visual artists”
- Jan-Feb, Art Scholastic, “Q and A with Modupeola Fadugba”
- 2022 Nov, Aljazeera, “‘The past glory is returning’: Ibadan’s nascent artistic revival”
- Aug 20, The Art Society, “Take The Plunge With These Swimming-Inspired Works Of Art”
- Aug 2, New Haven, “New Haven studio welcomes aspiring artists”
- Jan 14, Elephant, “#Splashtag: Why Are Painters So Obsessed with Swimming Pools?”, Victoria Woodcock
- 2021 Dec 18, TSA Contemporary Art Mag, “Exhibition Photos of Modupeola Fadugba’s ‘The Artist’s Algorithm: Why Nations Win’”
- Nov, Pan African Visions, “Modupeola Fadugba, The Artist’s Algorithm: Why Nations Win”
- Nov 4, Art and Objects, “Modupeola Fadugba Leads The Artist’s Algorithm Project”
- 2020 Dec 15, Artsy, “Gallery 1957 Heralds a New Era for West African Artists on Their Own Terms”, Charlotte Jansen
- June, WePresent, “Modupeola Fadugba”
- 2019 May 15, WitheWall, “Modupeola Fadugba Plunges into the Role of the Artist”
- 2018 Nov 5, Artforum, “Modupeola Fadugba”, Ayodeji Rotinwa
- Sept 11, Elephant, “The Political History of Black Identity and Swimming”
- Sept 10, Nataal, “Modupeola Fadugba”, Helen Jennings
- Sept 5, Vice, “Evocative Paintings Of An All-Black Swim Team Of Senior Citizens”, Zing Tsjeng
- Sept, Avril 27, “Deep End Dreams: Modupeola Fadugba”, text by Rebecca Anne Proctor
- June 18, Galerie Magazine, “Modupeola Fadugba Causes a Stir with Her Dreamy Artworks”
- Apr 5, Harper’s Bazaar Arabia, “Meet Bazaar Art’s March Cover Star Modupeola Fadugba”, Rebecca Anne Proctor
- March, Bubblegum, “Artist Modupeola Fadugba on chance, human agency and conquering fears”
- 2017 Dec 2, The Guardian Nigeria, “On paper, Fadugba’s strokes separate ‘Value’, ‘Worth’, Tajudeen Sowole
- Nov 1, Temple Muse, “Modupeola Fadugba At Temple Muse”

Oct 31, The Guardian Nigeria, “Equity, education, and female heroes in the art of Modupeola Fadugba”

May 8, Contemporary And, “Modupeola Fadugba at 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair: Heightened Sensitivity”

2016

July 15, Happening, “Artist Modupeola Fadugba | The Highs And Lows Of Working Solo”

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