

Godfried Donkor

Born in 1964 in Accra, Ghana. Now lives and works across London, UK and Accra, Ghana

EDUCATION

- 1994-1995 MA in African Art History at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, UK
- 1991-1992 Fine Art Painting, Escolla Massana, c/ Hospital, Barcelona, Spain
- 1984-1989 BA in Fine Art at Central Saint Martins, London, UK

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Battle Royale II: Pantheon of Champions*, Gallery 1957, London, UK
- 2021 *A Collection on Works on Paper*, Gallery 1957, London, UK
- 2019 *Battle Royale – The Last Man Standing – Part I*, Gallery 1957, Gallery II, Accra, Ghana
- 2017 *The First Day of the Yam Custom: 1817*, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2011 *People of Utopia*, Artco Gallery, London, UK
- 2010 *The Fives Court*, Fred Gallery, London, UK
- 2009 *The Olympians and Muses*, Afronova Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Story of a London Township, Space, London, UK
- 2008 *State Of The Union*, T1 + 2 Gallery, London, UK
Once Upon A Time In The West, There Was Lace, Wollaton Hall Nottingham, UK
- 2007 *Financial Times*, Gorre Festival, Gorre Island, Senegal
Abolition 07, Hackney Museum, London, UK
- 2006 *The Sable Venus and the Black Madonna*, Gallerie 23, Amsterdam, Holland
Jamestown Masquerade, Walsh metal works, St Croix, USVI
- 2005 *Concerto in light and Darkness no 1*, National Museum, Ghana
- 2004 *Godfried Donkor*, Pascal Polar Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Financial Times, Ecole Regionale des beaux Artes, Nantes, France
- 2003 *The Fancy*, Stephen Lawrence Gallery, London, UK
Godfried Donkor, Recent works, The Scene Gallery, NY, USA
- 2002 *Godfried Donkor*, Albrecht Durer Kunstverein, Nuremberg, Germany
- 2001 *Handel and Hogarth at Vauxhall pleasure gardens*, St Peters Church, London, UK
- 2000 *Whose Africa*, Horniman Museum, London, UK

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- 1999 *Wrestling and Mysticism*, Dak'Art 2000, Dakar, Senegal
Slave to Champ, E M A C A, Nottingham, UK

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *The Time is Always Now: Artists Reframe the Black Figure*, The National Portrait Gallery, curated by Ekow Eshun, London, UK (forthcoming)
- 2023 *Filling in the Pieces in Black*. Curated by June Sarpong, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK / and Maruani Mercier Gallery, Belgium
Fallen Landscape, Milton's Cottage, Chalfont St Giles, UK
Unlimited II, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2022 *The World Reimagined*, touring exhibition (Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool City Region, London, and Swansea), UK
The Storytellers, Gallery 1957. London. UK
- 2021 *[West] African Renaissance* - Gallery 1957, Christie's, Dubai, UAE
- 2020 *The Portrait Show*, Everard Gallery, London, UK
Joanna Choumali and Godfried Donkor, Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2019 *Tradition and Modernity – The Mask*, Afrikahaus, Aachen, Germany
David Adjaye: Making Memory, Design Museum, London, UK
- 2018 *African Metropolis: An Imaginary City*, MAXXI, Rome, Italy
- 2017 *Afriques Capitales*, Parc de la Villiette, Paris, France
- 2016 *Still the Barbarians*, EVA International Ireland's Biennial, Limerick, Republic of Ireland
- 2016 *Maskerade*, Artco Gallery, Aachen, Germany
- 2016-2014 *Conversations: African and African American artworks in Dialogue*, Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, USA
- 2015 *Streamlines*, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany
- 2014 *Speaking of people*, Ebony, Jet and contemporary Art, Studio Museum, Harlem, USA
How far how near, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Holland
- 2013 *Hollandaise*, Raw Material Company, Dakar, Senegal
- 2012 *Cologne Paper Art*, Cologne, Germany
Aus Afrika, Galerie Frank Schlag & Cie. Essen, Germany
Hollandaise, Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Holland
Black Germany, Haus de Kunst, Munich, Germany
Boxe, Fondation Blachere, Apt, France

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- Moving into space: Football and Art in West Africa*, National Museum of Football, Manchester, UK
Gold, Museum Belvedere, Austria
28 days: Reimagining black history month, J M .Barnicke gallery/Georgia Scherman projects, Toronto, Canada
- 2011 *Interpretations of Africa*, football and design, Design Museum, UK
- 2011 *Alias*, Krakaw Photomonth, Krakaw, Poland
Art on Poetry, Saison Poetry Library, South Bank, London, UK
'as it is ', Africa Applauded, Mojo Gallery, Dubai
- 2010 *In and Out of Africa*, Henn Art gallery, Maastricht, Netherlands
III World festival of Black arts and Cultures, Dakar, Senegal
Space and Currencies, Museum of Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2009 *Landfall*, Docklands Museum, London, UK
Fine Art – Nice Price, Artco Gallery, Aachen, Germany
Multiple Art, Artco Gallery, Aachen, Germany
- 2007 *Trade Winds*, Docklands Museum, London , UK
Trade and Empire: Remembering Slavery, The Whitworth Art Gallery , UK
Select I, Artco Gallery, Aachen, Germany
- 2004 *Pin Up*, Tate Modern, London, UK
- 2001 Artists in Residence exhibition, IASPIS, Stockholm, Sweden

FAIRS

- 2023 ArtGenève, Genève, Switzerland
- 2021 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, Somerset House, London, UK
- 2020 ICTAF, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018 Dark'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal
- 2014 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK
FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
Art14, London, UK
- 2013 FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2012 Art ULM, Ulm, Germany
Cologne Paper Art, Cologne, Germany
- 2009 FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1998 Dark'Art Biennale, Dakar, Senegal

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PUBLIC COMMISSIONS, INSTALLATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

- 2021 Denmark Hill Station, London, UK
- 2006 Jamestown Masquerade, St Croix, US Virgin Islands
- 2005 Jamestown Masquerade, Jamestown, Ghana
- 1995 *Glamour*, Harvey Nichols, London, UK
- 1994 *Woodstacks*, Harvey Nichols, London, UK
- 1994 *To be the Best*, Designed by Rana Salem, Harvey Nichols, London, UK
The Seven Lives of Picasso, Harvey Nichols, London, UK
Perrier Sculptures, London Fashion Week Promotion, Harvey Nichols, London, UK

AWARDS

- 2023 Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship Recipient, Washington, USA
- 2018 Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Centre Arts Fellow, Bellagio, Italy
- 2004 Arts Council of England, research and development award, UK
- 2001 IASPIS, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1998 Prix de la Révélation, Dakar Biennale

PROJECT, RESIDENCIES AND TALKS

- 2023 Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2018 Rockefeller Bellagio, Artist-in-Residence, Bellagio Centre, Italy
- 2016-7 Nirox Foundation, Cradle of Humankind, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2016 Artist talk in discussion with Christine Checinska, INIVA, London, UK
- 2015 Ofkob 2015, Artist residency, Aburi, Ghana
- 2013 Artists talk in discussions with Hans Ulrich Ulbrist, 1:54 Art Fair, London, UK
- 2010-1 Puma African Artist kit project, kit design Ghanaian National football team
- 2007 AISS, art in social structures, launch and exhibition, Accra, Ghana
Financial Times Mudhut, The Big Chill festival Herefordshire, UK
- 2006 Artist in Residence, Project Row Houses, Houston, Texas
- 2002-3 Artist in Residence, CCA7, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago
- 2001 Artist in Residence, IASPIS, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2001 ArtOmi, international artist workshop, Upstate New York, USA
- 2000 Artist in Residence, Horniman Museum, London, UK
Artist in Residence, Dakar, Senegal,
- 1999 Public Arts Workshop, British Council, Dakar, Senegal

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Curator of the Elders exhibition, South London Gallery, London, UK

COLLECTIONS

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Smithsonian Museum of African Art - Washington D.C
Studio Museum, Harlem
Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester
Spanish Sports Council Collection
National Collection of Senegal
University of Helsinki
National Gallery of Botswana
The World Bank Collection, Washington D.C
ArtOmi international artist collection
Unilever Collection
Fondation Gandur pour l'art, Geneva, Switzerland
Paintings for Hospitals
National Gallery of Botswana

Private and public collectors in England, Holland, Spain, Germany, France, Belgium, USA, South Africa, Ghana, Senegal and Trinidad andToba go.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications

- 2024 *A King's Passion: African Art and the Emergence of a 21st-Century Patron*, Edited By Sandra Mbanefo Obiago, Five Continents Editions (forthcoming)
- 2023 *VOICES: Ghana's Artists In Their Own Words*, Twentyfour Thirstysix, p. 96
- 2021 *African Artists From 1882 to Now*, Underwood, J. and Okeke-Agulu, 1st ed. Phaidon, p.93
- 2014 *Black Artists in British Art: A History Since the 1950s*, Eddie Chambers, edition IB Tauris, (cover)
- 2011 *People of Utopia*, Godfried Donkor, Arco Publishing

Prints

- 2017 Frieze, Issue 192

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Online

- 2023 Jan, Le Temps, “En images : Art Genève, un cabinet de curiosités géant”
- 2022 Oct 18, BBC, “Black History Month: Walkable art trail explores African history”, Dawn Limbu
- 2021 Nov 10, Christie’s, “[West] African Renaissance in collaboration with Christie’s Dubai”
- 2020 Dec 28, Le Temps, “Olivia Fahmy: «Il est nécessaire de se penser au sens large”
Fondation Gandur pour l’Art, “Pure Ali II of Godfried Donkor”
- 2019 Nov 8, Art Forum, “Godfried Donkor”, Ayodeji Rotinwa
Oct 13, Harper’s Bazaar Arabia, “Why Do We Need An Art Fair Dedicated To African Art?”
Sept 6, 2019, Apollo Magazine, “The boxer is the closest I can get to a superhero’ – an interview with Godfried Donkor’, Thomas Marks
- 2018 Sept 5, Africannah, “Godfried Donkor: A painter who happens to make collages”
- 2017 Dec 15, Frieze, “Godfried Donkor”, Sean O’Toole
- 2014 Nov 11, “The Power of the Press: Artists Celebrate Ebony and Jet at The Studio Museum in Harlem”

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