



The Kuenyehia Prize for  
Contemporary Ghanaian Art  
**2015 SHORTLIST CATALOGUE**



Kuenyehia Prize  
for Contemporary Ghanaian Art

“

**Art is the queen of all  
sciences communicating  
knowledge to all the  
generations of the world**

”

*Leonardo Da Vinci*

# About the Kuenyehia Prize for Contemporary Art

**T**he Kuenyehia Prize for Contemporary Ghanaian Art (the 'Kuenyehia Prize') is unprecedented in Ghana - a prestigious national art prize to:

- *Identify, reward, promote and develop Ghana's most outstanding artists between the ages of 25 and 40,*
- *Showcase and celebrate excellence in contemporary Ghanaian art; and*
- *To inspire the next generation of Ghanaian artists to produce outstanding work that will attract both local and international audiences.*

The Prize is currently limited to paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, carvings and installations.

Inspired by the most famous art prize in the world – UK's Turner Prize, the Kuenyehia Prize aims to encourage talented Ghanaian artists to continue to pursue their dreams and careers in art with passion and excellence by providing them financial support as well as personal and/or business development consulting services that will serve them throughout their careers.

Similar to what the Turner prize has done in the UK, the Kuenyehia Prize also seeks to raise the bar for Ghanaian art by inspiring the next generation of Ghanaian artists to produce outstanding work that will attract both local and international audiences. By doing so, the Prize will act as a catalyst for contemporary Ghanaian art generally and provide an unmatched platform to launch or further develop the careers of the prize winners and short listed artists.

In addition to prize money and materials (totalling twenty five thousand Ghana Cedis (GHS 25,000 for 2015)), the winning artists will benefit from coaching and mentoring.

The prize has the support and backing of a number of influential local and international individuals and institutions in the art world.

Artists who are at least 25 years and no more than 40 years living in Ghana are eligible to apply. The emphasis will be on artists who have already made some commitment to art as a career and a way of life and who have some level of demonstrable track record.

It is envisaged that in the coming years, the Prize will be open to artists of direct Ghanaian descent (including those living in the diaspora).

## Jury

For the 2015 Prize, the jury comprises of:

- **Florence Benson**  
*Art promoter, Collector and Dealer*
- **Godfried Donkor**  
*London based Ghanaian Artist*
- **Constance Swaniker**  
*Sculptor & Entrepreneur (Chair)*
- **Charlotte Langhorst**  
*Art Historian and Curator*



The Point

### Isaac Addico

Trained at the Ghanatta College of Art and Design, Isaac gets his motivation from his parents' words. His paintings are thought-provoking and cover shifting themes. In 2011, he had a solo exhibition, 'Memories of Yesteryear', at the Alliance Francaise in Accra.

Additionally, he has had several group exhibitions including at the Dubois Centre, The Loom, French Ambassador's Residence, Golden Tulip Hotel, Novotel, Nubuke Foundation and the National Museum of Ghana.



Keep Watching

Royal Women



The Flight



Savanah Begger



Album 3



Announcer



Album 4

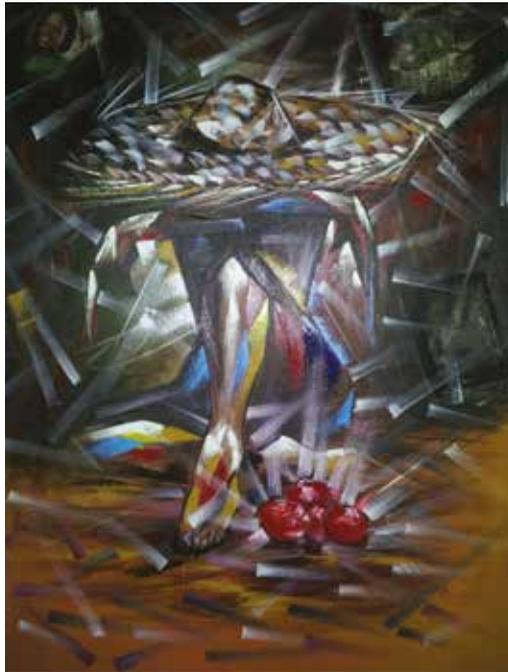


Album 1



Album 2

Just a Few



House Wife



Cedis



Akasakasa



Fruit of the Barren



Inculcating Tradition



Holding Treasures



Home at Last

## Fruitful Vine



### Negyem Adonoo

Negyem was trained at the Ghanatta College of Art and Design, Accra. He employs different techniques to deliver paintings which cover diverse themes.

He finds inspiration in music and poetry, and this influence is manifest in most of his work.



Voice of Womanhood



A New Morning

Aiming Higher



Braveheart



Sunrise Beauty

### Charles Agbetsoamedo

While bored one night in 2013 in his room when he was in graduate school in the USA training to become a doctor, Charles discovered that he could actually make paintings just using the basic Microsoft Paint software.

This fell in line with his strongly held belief that with progress in life, it should be easier and simpler to do things. So he found a simpler and cleaner way of painting.

Peace like a calm Duck on a lake



The Watchful Eyes



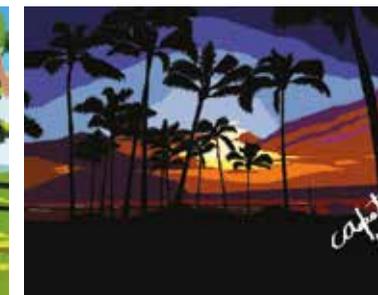
The Eagle's Vision



This side of Paradise



Beauty Lies in the Sky



Sunset Flight





Mother and Child



Lady Pose

### Kwame Akoto-Bamfo

Kwame has a BFA (Sculpture) and Masters in Fine Art, both from KNUST. In 2006, Kwame held an exhibition titled 'In between' in collaboration with two artists at the Alliance Francaise in Kumasi. In his current capacity as a lecturer, he manages and supervises ongoing art projects and exhibitions.

He is skilled in carving (wood and stone), weld art, painting, modelling and drawing. Kwame is motivated by 'the dream of having young Africans who know more about their history and are proud of their heritage.' His works reflect this dream.



Nkrabea (Destiny)



Nkynkym



Tekus Series



Piper



Mother of Our Gods

Vanittas

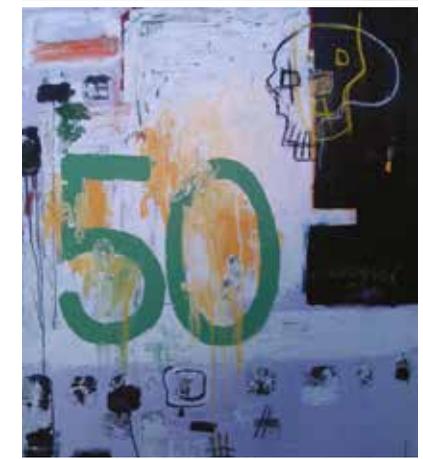
### Kweku Ampadu Appah

Gideon earned his BFA degree from KNUST in 2012. He has previously participated in solo and group exhibitions at the KNUST Museum, Goethe Institute and Nubuke Foundation. When he was in junior high school, he began creating artworks with a focus on technique over content.

Gradually, his work has evolved to take on more universal and worldly subject matters. His work gives a touchdown of the culture we live in: the glamour and glitz, sexuality, pleasure and violence. Part of his job is to 'provoke the imagination of the viewer so they can create their own stories based on their experiences with the work.'



Vanittas 4



Vanittas 2



Unto Thee



Untitled 1



Vanittas 3



Untitled 2



Stitches

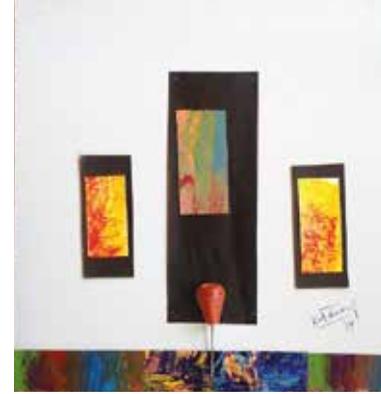
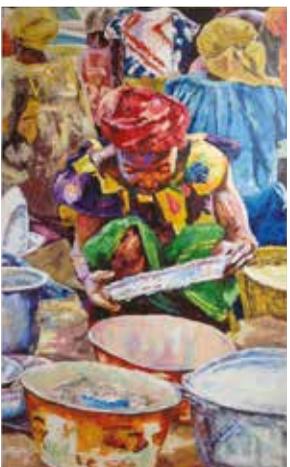


Dugout

## Two Queens



**Top:** Piece of Eden  
**Centre:** King Grusi  
**Bottom:** Queen



Courier



Courier 2



Courier 3



Courier 4

### Kwadwo Boateng Asare

Kwadwo is an avid painter. He won The Unilever Global International School Arts Project 2006/2007 for an outstanding work of art selected for exhibition at Tate Modern, London in March 2007.

He has built up a repertoire of painting works that explores varying themes. He holds a BFA Painting degree from KNUST and speaks Twi and English fluently.



Couriers



Couriers 2



Memories I Never Had



Untitled 3



## Eat in Remembrance of Me

Donkomi



Heads in Line



Untitled 1



Read Summer



Untitled 2

### Kelvin Haizel

Kelvin uses installations, mixed media and performance as a way to confront his solitude. His work explores trance, simultaneous existence and mass/consumed culture. Through these subjects he revisits his own nostalgia for growing up in a large family. He graduated with a BFA (Painting) degree from KNUST in 2010 and won the Paa Kwame Award for Painting in his final year.

He has had solo and group exhibitions at the Dubois Centre, World Bank, KNUST Museum, Johnsons Creek Wisconsin USA and several other places. He has this to say about his work: 'My work becomes tangible evidence of negotiations through spaces between myself as an individual who is part of a community and as a community unto myself.'

Road Safety



Isshaq Ismail

Isshaq studied Painting at the Ghanatta College of Art and Design. He is a member of the Ghana Association of Visual Artists (GAVA) and has previously participated in solo and joint exhibitions at the African Regent Hotel, Arts Accra, Marina Mall, Novotel Hotel and National Museum, all in Accra.

He has also had collections at The Loom Gallery, Golden Tulip Hotel and the Centre for National Culture (CNC), Cape Coast. Isshaq gets his motivation from his mother who says to him 'It seems impossible until it's done.'



Dream



Reflections



Focus



First Toy



Play and Learn



From Wa to Salaga



Left: Warrior  
Center: Waiting  
Right: Valentine

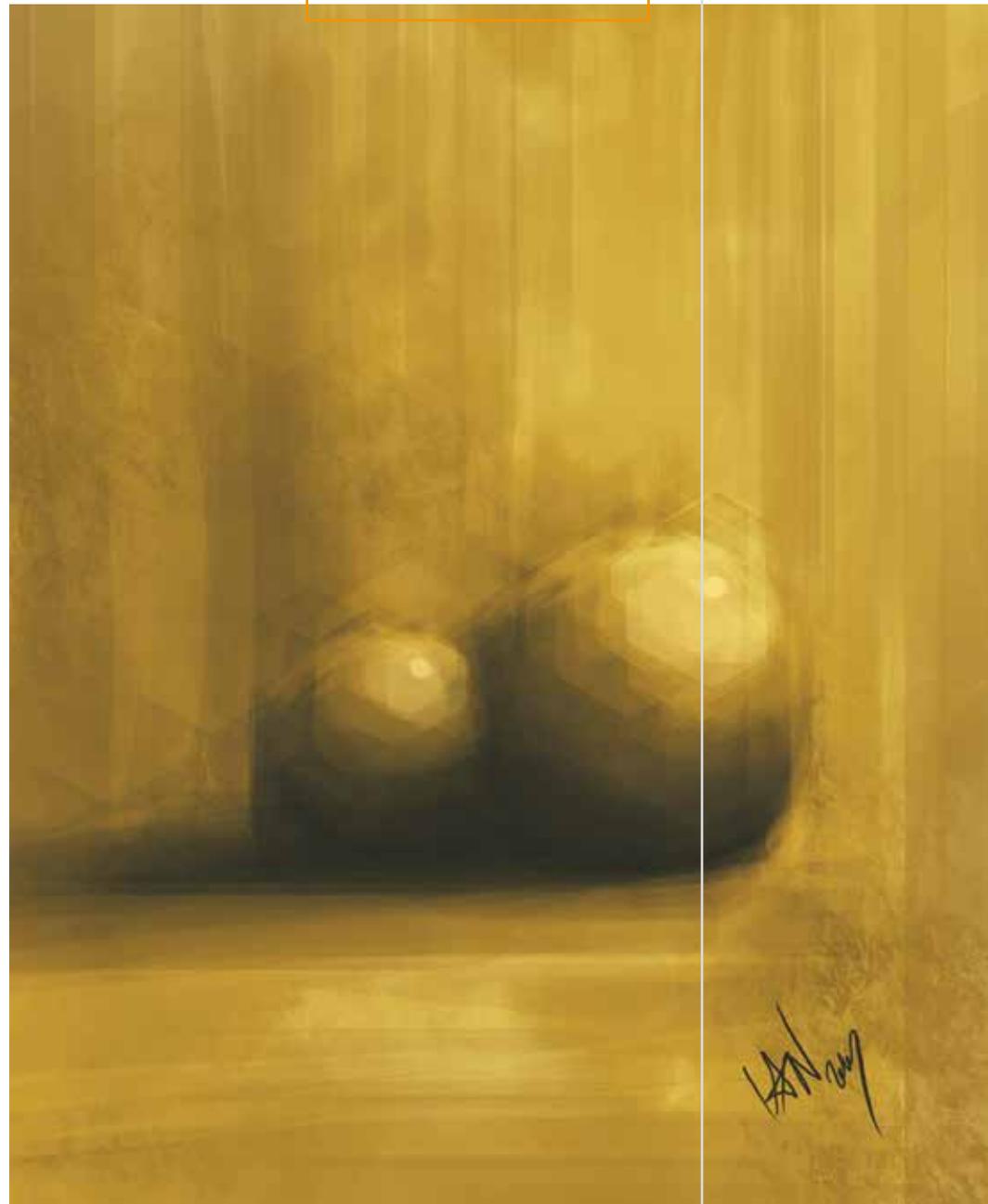
## Ian Kwakye

Ian is a self-trained digital artist, graffiti artist, illustrator and photographer. He has seven years of self-training and four years of working experience as a freelance artist in the designing field. As a contemporary artist, he believes 'the dynamic development of ideas always goes with human expression to define creativity.'

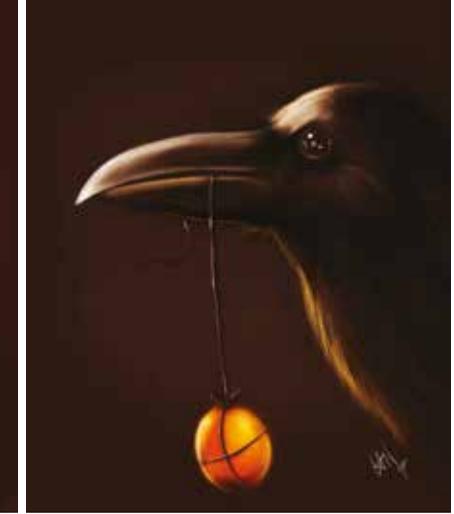
## Unidentical Twins



**Top:** Madehego  
**Centre:** Huntuma  
**Bottom:** Black-eyed-sussan



Sub Saharan Ordinate



Raven



Odd Dreams



**Top:** Forgotten Bug  
**Centre:** Traveler  
**Bottom:** Kube





God is my Helper



New Couples



Almost Home

## Final Destination

### Michael Lokko

Michael discovered his talent at an early age when he used to draw on any surface he got. He studied Painting at the Ghanatta College of Art and Design. He combined his formal studies with training under several experienced artists. His painting reflects shapes and forms.

Mostly abstract, his works mirror his inner being and life beyond our everyday imagination. For Michael, painting has been a journey into the unknown. In his own words, 'If the world was clear, art would not exist. Because the world is full of art.'



**Top:** Cave Animals  
**Centre:** Market Pose  
**Bottom:** Boabab



**Top:** Strength in Numbers  
**Centre:** Off Day  
**Bottom:** Roof Top



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