

AFIKARIS

PRESS RELEASE

PROJECT ROOM

ANGE DAKOUO
CE RYTHME, MON ESPRIT, UNE DISCORDE

17 October – 23 November



PROJECT ROOM

ANGE DAKOUO *CE RYTHME, MON ESPRIT, UNE DISCORDE*

PROJECT FROM 17 OCTOBER TO 23 NOVEMBER

7 RUE NOTRE-DAME-DE-NAZARETH, 75003 PARIS, FRANCE

The project that Ange Dakouo has devised for his second solo exhibition in Paris - the first, Pensées du tremblement, took place at Fondation H in September 2023 following a residency at the Cité internationale des arts - vibrates to the sound of Charlie Chaplin's voice. The last speech from The Great Dictator echoes through the space, mingling his words with those of the artist, who themselves are revealed on the walls. From 17 October to 23 November, Ange Dakouo's wall tapestries of gris-gris made of newspaper and thread will take over the AFIKARIS gallery's Project Room in an immersive installation entitled Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde.



Left. Ange Dakouo. *Convergence #1*, 2024. Mixed media (cardboard, newspapers, cotton thread and acrylic). 164x152 cm.

Right. Ange Dakouo. *Convergence #2*, 2024. Mixed media (cardboard, newspapers, cotton thread and acrylic). 164x151 cm.

Courtesy of AFIKARIS gallery and the artist.

The work of artist Ange Dakouo stands out for its reinterpretation of the costumes worn by Mali's dozo hunters. The son of a printer, he recreates traditional amulets from skilfully folded newspaper, enclosed in a controlled tangle of threads. Assembled patiently, the gris-gris give life to large wall tapestries and immersive installations.

Inspired by Charlie Chaplin's last monologue in *The Great Dictator*, Ange Dakouo weaves an ode to love and solidarity. He presents these two values as symbols of rebellion in the face of hate and oppression. This is how *Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde* comes across as a call for unity across borders in the face of tyranny and all forms of dictatorship.

“LIKE CHAPLIN, I BELIEVE WE HAVE THE POWER TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD. EACH WEAVING POINT, EACH BRUSH STROKE, EACH MUSICAL NOTE, AND EACH WRITTEN WORD CAN BECOME THE EXPRESSION OF THIS FIGHT AGAINST INDIFFERENCE. TOGETHER, AS DREAMERS, WE CAN BUILD A SOCIETY WHERE LOVE AND SOLIDARITY ARE THE LIGHTS THAT GUIDE OUR HUMANITY TO A BRIGHTER AND MORE UNITED FUTURE.”



In the darkness of the room, refined shapes appear, in white, black and red. The colour range carries the rhythm announced by the artist and supports the narrative. White is the opposite of black. Hope and the ascent toward plenitude stand out from the obscurity initiated by the demons and threaten society. Red brings a form of aesthetical balance. An allegory of violence, it also plays the role of an alert.

On the ceiling, a web of red strings, confining sharp items, becomes the metaphor for the weight of the world, threatening the harmony Dakouo is dreaming of.

Above. Ange Dakouo. *Impulsion collective*, 2024.
Mixed media (cardboard, newspapers, cotton thread, acrylic and mirror).
115x95 cm.
Courtesy of AFIKARIS gallery and the artist.

Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde puts forward love and solidarity as the fearsome weapons to defeat society's inequalities. Dakouo claims:

“MY ART IS THE EXPRESSION OF THIS VISION WHERE LOVE AND SOLIDARITY ARE THE MAINSTAYS FOR A HARMONIOUS SOCIETY. THROUGH MY ARTWORKS, I SEEK TO CAPTURE THE BEAUTY OF HUMAN COMPASSION, TO ILLUSTRATE THE FORCE OF FRATERNITY AND TO INSPIRE OTHERS TO EMBRACE THESE VALUES.”

17 October — 23 November, 2024

Project Room | Ange Dakouo, *Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde*
Boluwatife Oyediran, *Inverted Blackness*

PRESS OPENING: Thursday 17 October, from 2pm

PUBLIC OPENING: Thursday 17 October, from 6pm to 9pm

AFIKARIS Gallery

7 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth, 75003 Paris, France



Exhibitions views. *Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde*, Ange Dakouo. AFIKARIS Gallery.
Photo Credit: Studio Vanssay

ABOUT ANGE DAKOUO

Born in 1990 in Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Lives and works in Bamako, Mali

EDUCATION

2017 – Master II in plastic arts, Conservatoire des Arts de Bamako, Mali

RESIDENCIES

2023 Cité des Arts de Paris, France - under the patronage of the Fondation H

2022 Congo Biennale, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

2021 Blachère Foundation, N'Gaparou, Senegal

2020 Espace Trames, Dakar, Senegal

2019 Arkane Residence, Casablanca, Morocco

COLLECTIONS

Rothschild Foundation, Switzerland

Fondation H, Madagascar, France

Blachère Foundation, France, Senegal

ARNDT Collection, Germany, Australia

Société Ivoirienne de Banque, Ivory Coast

AWARDS / PRIZES

2024

Apollo 40 Under 40 Craft

Prince Claus Seed Award

SELECTION OF SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024

Ce rythme, mon Esprit, une discorde, AFIKARIS Gallery, Paris, France

2023

Pensées du tremblement, Fondation H, Paris, France

Égrégore, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

2020

Entremêlés, Espace Trames, Partcours, Dakar, Sénégal

La marche, Taxi-Bamako, Bamako, Mali

2019

Demain sera meilleur, Villa Soudan, Bamako, Mali

2018

Les boîtes rouges, Taxi-Bamako, Bamako, Mali

SELECTION OF GROUP SHOWS

2024

Signifying the impossible song, Southern Guild Gallery, Los Angeles, États-Unis

LOEWE FOUNDATION Craft Prize, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

1-54, So Art Gallery, La Mamounia, Marrakech, Maroc

2023

AKAA, So Art Gallery, Paris, France

1-54 London, So Art Gallery, Somerset House, London

O Quilombismo — Of Resisting and Insisting. Of Flight as Fight. Of Other Democratic, Egalitarian Political Philosophies, Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Berlin, Germany

1-54 New York, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, New York, United States



2022

Art X Lagos, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

Souffle d'Afrique, So Art Gallery, Casablanca, Maroc

Documenta 15, Kassel, Germany

1-54 London, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Somerset House, London

1-54 Paris, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Christie's, Paris, France

CHAOS #2, From Chaos comes Light, Memoire Africaine Gallery, Saly, Senegal

A Different Now is Close Enough to Exhale on You, Goodman Gallery, Le Cap, South Africa

Congo Biennale, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

2021

Matières, Manières et Sociétés, Institut Français de Saint Louis, Sénégal Brave

New World, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

AKAA Digital, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Paris, France

2020

60 Arts, National Museum of Mali

Donsow, the masters of the invisible, National Museum of Mali, Bamako, Mali

2019

Hier est la mémoire d'aujourd'hui, Espace Communes, AKAA, Paris, France

Arkane Afrika, 5^{ème} édition, Casablanca, Maroc

2018

Esthétiques en partage au-delà des géographies, Les Ateliers SAHM, OFF Dak'art, Dakar, Sénégal

Couleurs de Ségou, Centre Culturel Kôrè, OFF Dak'art, Dakar, Sénégal

EQUATIONS NOMADES, A la rencontre de Hassan Massoudy / Institut Français du Mali, Bamako, Mali

2017

Je te présente ma ville, Institut Français de Brazzaville, Republic of Congo Group Show, Musée National du Mali, Bamako, Mali

2016

Cercle Panafricain des Artistes (PACA), OFF of the Dakar biennale, Musée Boribana, Dakar, Sénégal

2015

Les Frontières, Musée du district de Bamako, Mali

2014

KAWRAL, Alliance Française, Mopti, Mali

2013

Une guerre pour la paix, Conservatoire des Arts de Bamako, Mali

IN PARALLEL IN THE MAIN SPACE



Boluwatife Oyediran. *David on a Couch*, 2024.
Oil and acrylic on canvas. 183x244 cm
Courtesy of AFIKARIS Gallery and the artist.

INVERTED BLACKNESS

Boluwatife Oyediran

17 October – 23 November

In his second solo exhibition at the AFIKARIS gallery - *Inverted Blackness* - Boluwatife Oyediran deals with questions of identity, integration and belonging to a community. Caught between his native culture and his desire to integrate into American society - as a student at the Rhode Island School of Design - the Nigerian painter translates these internal mutations visually. The blue bodies bathed in a luminescent halo are in fact the image of black bodies worked in negative. This transformation, carried out digitally and then reproduced on canvas, is what Boluwatife Oyediran calls 'Inverted Blackness' - the concept at the heart of his eponymous exhibition.

FAIRS

1-54 London | London, United Kingdom | 10 – 13 October 2024

Ozioma Onuzulike, Boluwatife Oyediran, Mouhcine Rahaoui, Géraldine Tobe, Hervé Yamguen

Untitled Art | Miami, United States | 4– 8 December 2024

Nasreddine Bennacer, Omar Mahfoudi, Eva Obodo, Hervé Yamguen

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Founded in 2018 by Florian Azzopardi with the aim of promoting emerging and established artists from Africa and its diaspora, AFIKARIS gallery set up shop in December 2020 at 38 rue Quincampoix, Paris and moved permanently in 2022 to 7 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth. Committed to promoting intercultural and disciplinary exchanges, AFIKARIS acts as a platform for artists to reach a wide audience. As a space for reflection on the contemporary art scene, the gallery offers artists a space to address current local and international issues at the heart of their art.

AFIKARIS' programme includes group and solo exhibitions, art fairs, publications, an artistic residency and institutional partnerships.



Above. View of the AFIKARIS gallery located at 7 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth
Courtesy of the AFIKARIS gallery.
Photo credit: Studio Vanssay

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

AFIKARIS Gallery
7 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth
75003 Paris, France

From Thursday to Saturday
11AM — 7PM

PRESSE CONTACT

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