

Otobong Nkanga

Kano, Nigeria, 1974

Lives and works in Antwerp

Solo Shows

2020

There's No Such Thing as Solid Ground, Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany

From Where I Stand, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA), Middlesbrough, United Kingdom

2019

Acts at the Crossroads, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa

From Where I Stand, Tate St Ives, Saint Ives, United Kingdom

2018

A Lapse, a Stain, a Fall, ar/ge kunst, Bolzano, Italy

To Dig a Hole that Collapses Again, MCA Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA

Transition, Mendes Wood DM, Brussels, Belgium

2017

The Breath from Fertile Grounds, Temple Bar Gallery + Studios, Dublin, Ireland

Wetin You Go Do?, The Tanks at Tate Modern, Blavatnik Building, London, United Kingdom

The Encounter That Took a Part of Me, Kunsthall Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark

2016

The Encounter That Took a Part of Me, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, United Kingdom

Cracks Around The Corner, Galerie In Situ Fabienne Leclerc, Paris, France

MATRIX 260, University of California, Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), Berkeley, USA

Landversation Beirut, Beirut Art Center, Beirut, Lebanon

2015

Fragments, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Diaoptasia, Tate Modern, London, United Kingdom

Bruises and Lustre, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp (M HKA), Antwerp, Belgium

Comot Your Eyes Make I Borrow You Mine, Kadist Art Foundation FR, Paris, France

Crumbling Through Powdery Air, Portikus, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Taste of a Stone, Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, Schiedam, The Netherlands

Tracing Confessions, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany

2012

However long the night, the dawn will break, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Contained Measures of Tangible Memories: Indigo Regina, L'appartement 22, Rabat, Morocco

2010

L' Édition Populaire #1, Vitrinegalerij, Antwerp, Belgium

No Be Today Story O!, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2009

Pointe Noire Fragments, Centre Culturel Français, Pointe Noire, République du Congo

Baggage 1972.2007/08, Kunsthalle Bern, Bern, Switzerland

Baggage 1972.2007, De Appel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Group Shows

2020

Stories and Poems - Otobong Nkanga, Thierry Oussou and Daniel de Paula, Amsterdam Art Gallery at Capital C, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The Future is Female - Love Letters, CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, The Netherlands

Our World is Burning, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

Construção, Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo, Brazil

Seismic Movements, Dhaka Art Summit, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Amuse-Bouche. The Taste of Art, Museum Tinguely, Basel, Switzerland

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, USA

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Frye Art Museum, Seattle, USA

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Utah Museum of Fine Arts (UMFA), Salt Lake City, USA

2019

Every leaf is an eye (Varje löv är ett öga), Göteborgs Konsthall, Göteborg, Sweden

Gaïa, que deviens tu?, Guerlain FIAC, Guerlain House, Paris, France

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, USA

Art & Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom Belgium, Egmont Palace, Brussels, Belgium

Il était une fois le paysage - Parcours métropolitain d'art contemporain, Galerie de l'Usine Electrique, Allauch, France

Fragile Earth: seeds, weeds, plastic crust, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (MIMA), Middlesbrough, United Kingdom

IncarNations, African Art as Philosophy, Palais des Beaux-Arts (BOZAR), Brussels, Belgium

Homeless Souls, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humblebæk, Denmark

Hand Drawn, Action Packed, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea, United Kingdom

Starke Stücke – Women artists from the collection of the FRAC, Metz, Stadt Galerie Saarbrücken, Saarbrücken, Germany

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, USA

May you live in interesting times, 58th International Art Exhibition - La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy (Honored with Special Mention Award)

Coexistence – Human, Animal and Nature in Kiasma's Collections, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland

13th Bienal de La Habana – La Construcción de lo Posible, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, Cuba

Sharjah Biennial 14: Leaving the Echo Chamber, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (Otobong Nkanga with Emeka Ogboh Named Winners of 2019 Sharjah Biennial Prize)

Perilous Bodies, Ford Foundation Gallery, New York, USA

Salle de Maquettes, Galerie de l'UQAM, Montreal, Canada

Salon de Peinture, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp (M HKA), Antwerp, Belgium

A World View, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Toowoomba, Australia

Hand Drawn, Action Packed, Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow, United Kingdom

Black Refractions – Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem, The Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, USA

A World View, Gympie Regional Gallery, Gympie, Australia

2018

Hand Drawn, Action Packed, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, United Kingdom

Cultural Threads, Textiles as a tool for socio-political reflection, Textiel Museum, Tilburg, The Netherlands

Artes Mundi 8, National Museum Cardiff, United Kingdom

Laid Bare in the Landscape, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, USA

A World View, Cairns Art Gallery, Cairns City, Australia

Hand Drawn, Action Packed, St Albans Museums and Galleries Trust c/o Verulamium Museum, Albans, United Kingdom

A World View, Gold Coast City Gallery, Gold Coast, Australia

Propositions #6, Basis Voor Actuele Kunst, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Cosmogonies, au gré des éléments, Musée d'art moderne et d'art contemporain (MAMAC), Nice, France

Talisman In The Age Of Difference, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Take Me (I'm Yours), Villa Médicis - Académie de France à Rome, Rome, Italy

Propositions #5, Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussels, Belgium

First Person Plural, Basis Voor Actuele Kunst, Utrecht, The Netherlands

General Rehearsal, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia

A World View, Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, Townsville, Australia

Blind Faith, Haus Der Kunst, Munich, Germany

Artefact 2018, STUK – House for Dance, Leuven, Belgium

20 years NICC Jubilee, NICC, Antwerp, Belgium

Nous ne sommes pas le nombre que nous croyons être, Bétonsalon – Centre d'art et de recherche, Paris, France

Naturel pas Naturel, Palais Fesch/Musée des Beaux-Arts, Ajaccio, Corsica

2017

A World View, Gladstone Regional Gallery & Museum, Gladstone, Australia

Ouvert la Nuit, Villa Médicis, Rome, Italy

Ecce Homo-Zie de mens, Sint-Joriskerk, Antwerp, Belgium
Take Me (I'm Yours), Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan, Italy
Manipulate the World, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Dada Africa, Musée de L'Orangerie, Paris, France
Propositions #1: What we Mean, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Être pierre, Musée Zadkine, Paris, France
I am a native foreigner, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Musée en Œuvre(s), Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Lives Between, Rachel & Israel Pollak Gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel
Action!, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland
Documenta 14, Kassel, Germany
The Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp, Belgium
M HKA Heropent, Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium
Envision 2116, Shanghai Project Phase 2 - Seeds of Time, Shanghai Himalayas Museum, Shanghai, China
Tous, des sang-mêlés, Musée D'Art Contemporain du Val-de-Marne, Vitry-Sur-Seine, France
The Absent Museum, Wiels Centre D'Art Contemporain, Brussels, Belgium
Dialogues, Manifesta – The European Biennial of Contemporary Art, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Neither., Mendes Wood DM, Brussels, Belgium
Documenta 14, Athens, Greece
Beautiful Africa, La Galerie du 5e, Marseille, France
Kairos Castle, Kastell Van Gaasbeek, Gaasbeek, Belgium
Belgian Art Prize 2017, BOZAR Palais des Beaux-Arts / Paleis voor Schone Kunsten, Brussels, Belgium
L'île aux Mythes - Souvenir de Mwene Mutapa, La Box - Ecole nationale supérieure d'art de Bourges, Bourges, France
Colori, Castello Di Rivoli Museum of Contemporary Art, Rivoli, Italy
Contour Biennale 8 - Polyphonic worlds: justice as medium, Mechelen, Belgium
Lives Between, Kadist Art Foundation, San Francisco, USA
When the Heavens Meet the Earth, The Heong Gallery, Cambridge, United Kingdom
Stimulants: Circulation and Euphoria, Tabakalera, San Sebastian, Spain
En toute modestie, Musée International Des Arts Modestes, Sète, France
El Iris de Lucy, CAAM, Las Palmas, Spain

2016

A World View, Queensland Art Gallery / Gallery of Modern Art, South Brisbane, Australia
Georges Adéagbo and Ototong Nkanga, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Laboratoire Espace Cerveau, Institut D'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes, Villeurbanne, France
Envision 2116 - Shanghai Project Phase 1, Shanghai Himalayas Museum, Shanghai, China
11th Gwangju Biennale, The Eighth Climate (What Does Art Do), Gwangju, South Korea
Extracted, University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, USA

Kaleidoscope, Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom
Lucy's Iris, Musée Départemental D'Art Contemporain de Rochechouart, Rochechouart, France
Sonsbeek '16, Museum Arnhem, Arnhem, The Netherlands
Répétition, Boghossian Foundation, Brussels, Belgium
Vigies and Co, Centre D'Art Nei Licht, Dudelange, Luxembourg
Take Me (I'm Yours), Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark
The Amsterdam Trail, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Still (the) Barbarians, EVA International - Ireland's Biennial, Limerick, Ireland
Museum on/off, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
20th Biennale of Sydney, The future is already here - It's just not evenly distributed, Sydney, Australia
Beyond 2°, Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, USA
Le temps de l'audace et de l'engagement, Institut D'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne, France
Territorial Drift, Garage Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Life Itself, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
El iris de Lucy, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla Y León, León, Spain

2015

Streamlines, Haus Der Photographie, Hamburg, Germany
Excavating the Contemporary, Jewish Historical Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Last Sighting, Daad Galerie, Berlin, Germany
Material Effects, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, Lansing, USA
Earth Matters, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Brunswick, USA
15 Rooms, Long Museum West Bund, Shanghai, China
Take Me (I'm Yours), Monnaie de Paris, Paris, France
13th Biennale de Lyon, La vie moderne, Lyon, France
European Ghosts, MU.ZEE, Oostende, Belgium
Speaking Back, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2014

Meeting Point II, Luman Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Collection Permanente, RAW Material Company - Center for art, knowledge and society, Dakar, Senegal
Szalon, Logan Center Gallery, Chicago, USA
How to (...) things that don't exist, 31st Bienal Internacional de São Paulo, Brazil
Harvest, Queensland Art Gallery, South Brisbane, Australia
14 Rooms, Messe Basel, Basel, Switzerland
Berlin Biennale 8, Berlin, Germany
Giving Contours to Shadows, Savvy Contemporary, Berlin, Germany
Aerial Views, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Earth Matters, Fowler Museum at UCLA, Los Angeles, USA
Animism, Ashkal Alwan, Beirut, Lebanon
Foreign Exchange, Weltkulturen Museum, Frankfurt Am Main, Germany

Landings: Confrontation and Confession, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2013

Das Jubiläums festival, Akademie Der Künste, Berlin, Germany

La Mia Scuola di Architettura, Kunst Galleria Museo, Bolzano, Italy

Berliner Herbstsalon, Palais Am Festungsgraben, Berlin, Germany

Shared singularities, Centre D'Art Contemporain, Montreuil, France

PLAY! Recapturing The Radical Imagination, Göteborg International Biennial For Contemporary Art, Göteborg, Sweden

Animism, OCAT, Shenzhen, China

Earth Matters, National Museum of African Art, Washington DC, USA

Ja natuurlijk, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, Den Haag, The Netherlands

Re: emerge, Towards a New Cultural Cartography, Sharjah Biennial 11, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

2012

Across the board: Politics of Representation, The Tanks At Tate Modern, London, United Kingdom

Shuffling Cards, Art-Cade – Galerie Des Grands Bains Douches De La Plaine, Marseille, France

Trading Style, Weltkulturen Museum, Frankfurt Am Main, Germany

Inventing the World: The artist as Citizen, Biennale Regard Benin 2012, Cotonou, Benin

Reactivation, 9th Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai, China

De Nederlandse identiteit?, Museum de Paviljoens, Almere, The Netherlands

Manifest Aanwezig, Kasteel D'Aspremont-Lynden, Oud-Rekem, Belgium

We Face Forward, Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester, United Kingdom

Tropicomania: the social life of plants, Bétonsalon – Center for Art and Research, Paris, France

Groupshow, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Partitions Performances, La Fondation D'Entreprise Ricard, Paris, France

Object Atlas, Weltkulturen Museum, Frankfurt Am Main, Germany

2011

Connect, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Don't/Panic, Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South-Africa

The Altered Landscape, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, USA

MärklinWorld, Kunsthal Kade, Amersfoort, The Netherlands

The Collectors Show, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

L'inattendu du Tout Monde, Art-o-Rama, Marseille, France

All We Ever Wanted, CCA, Lagos, Nigeria

Summer Show, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Outre mesures et programmes radio, La Galerie – Centre D'Art Contemporain, Noisy-Le-Sec, France

Faites Comme Chez Vous, Raw Material Company – Center For Art, Knowledge and Society,

Dakar, Senegal

ARS 11, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland

The Western Syndrome, La B.A.N.K Galerie, Paris, France

África. Objetos y Sujetos, Centro de Exposiciones Fernán Gómez, Madrid, Spain

2010

World Festival of Black Arts and Culture, Dakar, Senegal

Body Language, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Sentences on the banks and other activities, The Khalid Shoman Foundation, Amman, Jordan

The Production of Space, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

De kunstenaar en zijn collectie – Harald Schole & Harold Schouten, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Unfixed, CBK, Dordrecht, The Netherlands

There is always a cup of sea to sail in, 29th Bienal Internacional de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Make Yourself at Home, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark

A Proposal for Articulating Works and Places, Museo D'Arte Contemporaneo Della Sicilia, Palermo, Italy

África. Objetos y Sujetos, El Centro Cultural Cajastur Palacio Revillagigedo, Gijon, Spain

Festival Theaterformen, Staatstheater Grosses Haus, Braunschweig, Germany

Whose Map is it?, INVIVA, London, United Kingdom

Animism, Kunsthalle Bern, Bern, Switzerland

Common Ground, Nieuw Dakota, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Une Aiguille dans une Botte de Foin, Musée Du Quai Branly, Branly, France

Animism, Extra City Kunsthall, Antwerp, Belgium

2009

Roots and Routes, Galerie Sanaa, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Arts in Marrakech, 3rd AiM International Biennale, Marrakech, Morocco

A Delicate Touch, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

Diagonal Views, Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem, The Netherlands

Autres Mesures, Centre Photographique D'île de France, Pontault-Combault, France

I Want to be Famous, Galerie Nomad, Brussels, Belgium

This is now, 2, L'Appartement 22, Rabat, Morocco

2008

Re/Presentaciones. Ellas, Casa Africa, Las Palmas, Spain

Delight, Arti Et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Snap Judgments, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Flow, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

This is now, 1, Johannesburg, South Africa

Snap Judgments, Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, USA

2007

Snap Judgments, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada

Simmels Gelijk, NDSM-Shipyard, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Africa Remix, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Allan Kaprow, Kunsthalle Bern, Bern, Switzerland
Snap Judgments, Mexico City, Mexico

2006

Triennale de Luanda, Luanda, Angola
1st Architecture, Art and Landscape Biennial of the Canaries, Las Palmas, Spain
Africa Remix, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Snap Judgments, Miami Art Central, Miami, USA
Africa Remix, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
De Grote Oversteek, Stedelijk Museum Zwolle, MB Zwolle, The Netherlands
Fußball, Münchner Stadtmuseum, München, Germany
Shared History, Arti Et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
There and Back: Africa, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain
Snap Judgments, New York, USA
Générique, Galerie 14, Paris, France

2005

African Remix, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Heal the world, The Third Line, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Belonging, Sharjah International Biennial 7, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
North / South Lab, Tanzquartier Wien, Vienna, Austria
Africa Remix, Hayward Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2004

Flying Circus Project 04, The Black Box, Singapore
Do You Believe in Reality?, 2004 Taipei Biennial, Taipei, Taiwan
Smokescreen, Fokus 2, Kunstverein & Stiftung Springhornhof, Neuekirchen, Germany
Flash Right, Turn Left, Sticing Artwalk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Free Territory, 26th Bienal Internacional de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
Africa Remix, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany
Women Artists from Africa No. 4, Galerie Peter Hermann, Berlin, Germany
Epifyten, De klassieke Hortus als voedingsbodem voor hedendaagse kunst, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
On Fragile Grounds, Objectif Exhibitions, Antwerp, Belgium

2003

Fractured Gaps, Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
El Arte Con La Vida, 8th Havana Biennial, Havana, Cuba
MIP, Center of Experimentation and Information in Art, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Transferts, Palais des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium

2002

Observatorio #3, Camouflage, Brussels, Belgium
Awaiting Pleasures, Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Observatorio #1, Camouflage, Brussels, Belgium
En Direct de Bamako, FNAC, Paris, France

Dessins XXL, Le Lieu Unique, Nantes, France

Dak'Art 2002, 5th Biennale of African Contemporary Art, Dakar, Senegal

Bomboyi, Institut Français à Kinshasa, Kinshasa, Congo

Made in Africa Fotografia 2002, 1st Biennale di Fotografia Africana, Milan, Italy

Classicism & Beyond, Fotofest 2002, Houston, USA

2001

Mémoires intimes d'un nouveau millénaire, 4th Biennale de Bamako, Mali

1999

Toxic, Chateau D'Oiron, Oiron, France

Collections

Studio Museum Harlem

Kiasma - Museum of Contemporary Art

Nevada Museum of Art (NMA)

Rabo Art Collection (Rabobank)

Weltkulturen Museum

FRAC Lorraine

Queensland Art Gallery - Gallery of Modern Art

Kadist Art Foundation

Mu.ZEE

Museum Folkwang

AkzoNobel Collection

Société Générale Art Collection

Centre National des Arts Plastiques - CNAP

Centre Pompidou

FRAC Corse

Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst Antwerpen (M HKA)

Robeco Art Collection

Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea

Fondation Sindika Dokolo

Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

Stedelijk Museum Zwolle

Stedelijk Museum Arnhem

Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum

Tate Modern

Sharjah Art Foundation

