

PRESS

For Immediate Release



Pan, 2019, Oil on canvas, 36 x 60 in,

Urevbu Contemporary Welcomes Back Collectors and Patrons with a New Exhibition Opening February 6

Memphis, TN - February 1, 2021 - Urevbu Contemporary, formerly Art Village Gallery, is pleased to announce its first collective exhibition of 2021 titled “**dis/contented realities**” featuring emerging Black artists to watch from Cameroon, Nigeria and the US. The exhibition launches with a private view for gallery collectors and other invited guests on Friday, February 5. **The public opening reception will be held on Saturday, Feb 6 from 5:30pm - 9:30pm, but strictly by appointment only due to COVID regulations.** Attendees interested in attending the opening reception are required to make an appointment online or by contacting the gallery directly. The exhibition will be on view through March 31, 2021.

About the exhibition:

dis/contented realities presents a bold range of works from five emerging artists: Sophia Azoige (Nigeria), Samuel Dallé (Cameroon), Árá Deinde (Nigeria), Amarachi Odimba (Nigeria) and Kaylyn Webster (US). Though the paintings in the exhibition are unified by their figurative imagery, each of the artists approaches their subject from a fresh perspective according to their own individual aesthetic, representing a spectrum of styles ranging from the abstract to the naturalistic. Through layers of oil and acrylic--and in some cases, unexpected media, like

Ankara fabric, the paintings of ***dis/contented realities*** are informed by the rich, personal histories and experiences of the artists who represent them.

Confronting issues of race and identity, immigration and diaspora, beauty and friendship, the themes grapple with issues of our present. While some of the artists in the exhibition advocate for a restructuring of reality, others stimulate their audience to confront the political and social landscape.

dis/contented realities places these paintings in conversation with one another, allowing the viewer to appreciate and explore the connections and the conflicts of the artists' respective viewpoints.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Sophia Azoige

Born in Ikom, Nigeria, Sophia Azoige is an emerging artist who is currently studying Fine Art at Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port-Harcourt Rivers State, Nigeria. Having already achieved her first solo exhibition in 2020, Sophia's work is informed by the beauties of human existence alongside her childhood experiences. She executes her stylistic expression through the use of loosely detailed human form along with textiles and fabrics.



Olama, 2019, acrylic and fabric on canvas, 48 x 48 inches

Samuel Dallé

Born in Douala, Cameroon, Samuel is a fine artist trained at the Arts Institute of Mbalmayo (IFA) in Cameroon and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kinshasa (Academie des Beaux-Arts de Kinshasa, DRC). Samuel Dallé is among those artists who believe that art is an expression of daily life. His paintings are strongly tinted with a palpable modernity and illustrate the duality between a rural and modern Africa.



Legacy, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 39 x 39 inches

Árá Deinde

Árá Deinde is a visual artist from Abeokuta in Ogun state, Nigeria. He left his degree program in Agricultural engineering to pursue a career in the arts. Árá is currently an artist in residence at KUTA Nigeria, an art foundation, which gives him room to influence young people in his community through art while being immersed in the vibrant cultural scene himself.



Coming From Where I'm From, 2020, acrylic, oil and pastel on recycled flex, 60 x 60 inches

Amarachi Odimba

Amarachi Kelechi Odimba holds a PGD in Education and a B.SC in Geology and mining from Enugu State University of Science and Technology). She is a self taught multimedia artist whose practice explores the complexities of human relationships, identity, sexuality, education and migration. Her works span across paintings, drawing, public participatory art and installation.



You Kept Me Waiting, 2021 acrylic on canvas, 47.4 x 36 inches

Kaylyn Webster

Kaylyn Elyse is a fine artist from Memphis, TN, where she currently lives and works. She is in the undergraduate program in the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis, pursuing a BFA in Studio Art with a Painting Concentration and a Minor in African & African American Studies. Kaylyn's artwork aims to reflect the value and humanity of Black people, refusing to accept the racial stereotypes that have been placed on African-Americans.



Pan, 2019, oil on canvas, 36x60

About Urevbu Contemporary:

Urevbu Contemporary represents emerging and mid-career artists with the primary purpose of supporting the practice and work of artists from Africa and its Diaspora while increasing opportunities for artists to introduce their artwork to new geographies. The gallery is deeply committed to presenting culturally significant exhibitions, programming and curated experiences that spark cross cultural dialogue to inspire an appreciation for diversity. Urevbu Contemporary also commissions artists who work in a variety of mediums on corporate and independent projects. The gallery is celebrated for its innovative exhibitions and artists who engage in relevant and critical social and cultural dialogue that transcends the boundaries of race.

For press inquiries, please contact:

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Venue Detail:

Urevbu Contemporary | 410 South Main Street | South Main Arts District | Memphis, TN

Gallery hours during exhibitions: Tuesday - Friday: 11:00am - 5:00pm

Weekends or other times by appointment only (inquiries@urevbucontemporary.com)

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