

BARCELONA GALLERY WEEKEND 2021

OUT OF AFRICA GALLERY

BOB-NOSA

Biography

“Art is not supposed to look pretty. It’s supposed to make you feel something.”

Rainbow Rowell

For the past decade, **Bob-Nosa** (b. 1974 in Edo, Nigeria; lives and works in Lagos, Nigeria) was one of the few artists working in Nigeria who built barricades, constantly wreathed in flames in the face of the authorities, and responded disrespectfully with provocative artworks that spoke truth to power. The sombre tone used in most of his work is a response to the traumatic experience of his parents’ death, combined with his outrage at the widespread humanitarian and social crisis. His ongoing critique of the global political structure, the captivity of African migrants and refugees in free trade as slaves on the Libyan border and the atrocities committed by Boko Haram terrorists, as well as the complaint of gender-based violence, intensify this sense of protest and denunciation in his work.

Using urban art techniques such as collage and spray painting, the artist uses satire and parody as a form of social activism to provoke change and transformation in his country, Nigeria, but also on the African continent and even in the global world.

Bob-Nosa’s art is inspired by the notion of “inhumanity”. The artist belongs to a minority group of contemporary artists who criticise the government. That is why he has named his workspace “Protest Art Studio”, where the pieces he creates comment on the political and social issues that affect him.

“My art is a social and political response, a form of protest art movement that defends the oppressed, art that strikes a blow against bad leadership, art that condemns inhumanity and violence in our society. Where there is no humanism, it is understood that society lacks human sensibility and reverts to a violent and bestial society that tries to inflict pain and suffering on the weakest. To be inhuman is to be indifferent, unkind, cruel and devoid of kind and humane feelings. Societies that do not support human rights, dignity and freedom are understood to be societies that do not respect human values,” says Bob-Nosa.

[Bob-Nosa on Instagram](#)

BARCELONA GALLERY WEEKEND 2021

OUT OF AFRICA GALLERY

BOB-NOSA

Curriculum Vitae

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021

"Police Violence" – OOA Gallery – Barcelona, Spain

2020

"Transit" – National Museum of Modern & Contemporary Art – Gdansk, Poland

2019

"No to domestic violence" – OOA Gallery – Barcelona, Spain

2018

"Obituary" - Signature Beyond Art Gallery – Lagos, Nigeria

"Homme Libre" - African Artist Foundation – Lagos, Nigeria

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018

"CU--ULTURE and TRADITION, Same experience different local" - London, UK

2017

Beirut Art Fair – Beirut, Lebanon

2016

That Art Fair – Cape Town, South Africa

"Breaking News" - Art21 Gallery – Lagos, Nigeria

Sogal Art Auction - Lagos, Nigeria

2015

"They have asked us to smile" - Lagos Book & Art Festival - Freedom Park - Lagos, Nigeria

2013

Arthouse Contemporary Auction - Lagos, Nigeria

"Building bridges" - Nigerian Independence Day celebrations - Kenya

World Bank Art Exhibition – Abuja, Nigeria

2012

Art Basel Miami Art Fair – Miami, USA

“New works by Ayoola Gbolahan and Bob-Nosa Uwagboe” - Nigeria Now – Abuja, Nigeria

“The Children of the World” - German Cultural Centre – Lagos, Nigeria

2011

“Do not resuscitate” - Cora Art Festival - Freedom Park – Lagos, Nigeria

“The Last Picture Show” - Le Méridien – Cameroon

“Generational Statement” - Thought Pyramid Art Gallery – Abuja, Nigeria

“The last picture show” - La Galerie Vendôme” - Paris, France

2009

“Beyond Figuration”- Omenka Gallery – Lagos, Nigeria .

Art Exhibition – French Woman Association - African Art Foundation (AAF) – Lagos, Nigeria

“Last picture show V.I.” - Maison du parti – Douala, Cameroon

Collocation 5 Art Exhibition – Thought Pyramid Gallery – Abuja, Nigeria

2002

Edo State Sports Festival Art Exhibition – Edo State Council for Art and Culture – Oba Ekenzua Cultural Centre – Benin City, Nigeria

2001

Art Exhibition for Nigeria Artists - Lagos State Council for Art and Culture - Lagos, Nigeria

“Treasure of our time” - Pendulun Art Gallery – Lagos, Nigeria