

NNENNA OKORE

CV

born in 1975 in Canberra, Australia
lives and works in Chicago/IL, USA

Education

2023	Doctor of Philosophy (Fine Art), Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
2005	Master of Fine Arts (Sculpture), University of Iowa, Iowa City/IA, USA
2004	Master of Arts, University of Iowa, Iowa City/IA, USA
1999	Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria

Solo Exhibitions

2024	"Landfeels", O'Connor Art Gallery (Dominican University), Chicago/IL, USA
	"Chasing Butterflies in Harmattan", Sakhile&Me, Frankfurt, Germany
2023	"Spirit Dance", Stanley Museum of Art (University of Iowa), Iowa City/IA, USA
2022	"In/Flux", MADA Gallery (Monash University), Melbourne, Australia
	"Macroscopic Organisms", Also Known As Africa, Paris, France
	"Making Kin", Carlson Tower Gallery, Chicago/IL, USA
2021	"Bioplastic: Thing Power", B27 Gallery (Monash University), Melbourne, Australia
2019	"Plasmorganisms", Chicago Public Library (Albany Park Branch), Chicago/IL, USA
2018	"Embodiment", Sakhile&Me, Frankfurt, Germany
2017	"Ukwa Ruo Oge Ya O daa", October Gallery, London, UK
	"Ututu", Mattatuck Museum of Art, Waterbury/CT, USA
	"Anima", Legion Art CSPA Galleries, Cedar Rapids/IA, USA
	"Osimili", Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
2016	"Sheer Audacity", Memphis Brook Museum of Art, Memphis/TN, USA
	"When All Is Said and Done", Monique Moloche Gallery, Chicago/IL, USA
2015	"Owu", Arrowhead Gallery, Waubesa College, Sugar Grove/IL, USA
	"Nkata", Krannert Museum of Art (University of Urbana-Champaign), Urbana/IL, USA
	"On the Brink", Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst/IL, USA
2014	"Twist and Turns", David Krut Gallery, New York/NY, USA

	"Fiber of Being", Welch School Galleries (Georgia State University), Atlanta/GA, USA
	"Unfound", Beard Art Center Gallery (Indiana Wesleyan University), Marion/IN, USA
	"Will You Walk With Me to the End of the Earth?", Carlson Tower Gallery (North Park University), Chicago/IL, USA
2013	"Akaraka: What Will Be", Art Twenty One, Lagos, Nigeria
	"Flow", Wheatbaker Hotel Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
2012	"Transfiguration", Contemporary African Art Gallery, New York/NY, USA
2011	"New Works", Herron School of Art and Design Gallery (Indiana University), Indianapolis/IN, USA
	"Shokoloko", Craft Alliance, St. Louis/MO, USA
	"Rush", Skidmore College Gallery, Saratoga Springs/NY, USA
	"Metamorphoses", October Gallery, London, UK
	"Torn Apart", David Krut Projects, New York/NY, USA
	"On The Edge", Dittmar Memorial Gallery (Northwestern University), Evanston/IL, USA
2010	"Life After", Noyes Art Center, Evanston/IL, USA
	"Textile", Blachère Foundation Art Center, Apt, France
	"Recovered Energies", Bekris Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
	"Absurd Beauty", Northeastern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago/IL, USA
2009	"Strings and Patterns", Viterbo University Gallery, La Crosse/WI, USA
	"Anyanwu", Carl A. Fields Center Gallery (Princeton University), Princeton/NJ, USA
	"Twisted Ambience", Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago/IL, USA
	"Common Thread", Bekris Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
	"Of Earth...Bark and Topography", Goethe Institut, Lagos, Nigeria
2008	"Ulukububa", October Gallery, London, UK
	"Moonlight Tales", Tall Grass Gallery, Park Forest/IL, USA
	"Affrika West", Oriel Mostyn Gallery, Llandudno, UK
2007	"Reflection", Contemporary African Art Gallery, New York/NY, USA
	"Sub-consciousness", Adam Hall Gallery (Wheaton College), Wheaton/IL, USA
2006	"Trans-figuration", Robert F. DeCaprio Art Gallery (Moraine Valley Community College), Palos Hills/IL, USA
	"Betwixt and Between", Carlson Gallery (North Park University), Chicago/IL, USA
2005	"Paper to Paper", Armature Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City/IA, USA
2004	"Accumulations", Arts Iowa City, Iowa City/IA, USA
2003	"Re-presented", Armature Gallery (University of Iowa), Iowa City/IA, USA
2002	"Beyond the Lines", Didi Museum, Lagos, Nigeria
2001	"Metaphors", Alternative Space, Lagos, Nigeria

Group Exhibitions

2025	"Foundations", Haus Kunst Mitte, Berlin, Germany "Material Sensibilities", October Gallery, London, UK
2024	Public Art Abu Dhabi Biennial, Abu Dhabi, UAE "I Am All The Loves I Have Ever Known", Sakhile&Me, Frankfurt, Germany "Voices from Abroad", behncke gallery, Munich, Germany "Climates and Carpets", Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, Baku, Azerbaijan "Right Is Right", Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA "Neo-Custodians: Woven Narratives of Heritage, Cultural Memory, and Belonging", Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha/NE, USA "To Weave the Sky: Textile Abstractions, from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection", El Espacio 23, Miami/FL, USA
2023	"Unbridled Encounters", Walford Galleries (Wheaton College), Wheaton/IL, USA "Intimations", Sakhile&Me, Frankfurt, Germany "Tapestry of Voices: The Poetic Dialogue Project", Christopher Art Gallery (Prairie State College), Chicago Heights/IL, USA; Downing Museum, Bowling Green/KY, USA "Earthly Visions: Inside the Climate Crisis", Gallery 400 (The University of Illinois), Chicago/IL, USA "Narrative Threads: Fiber Art Today", Moody Center for the Arts (Rice University), Houston/TX, USA; Cambridge Art Gallery, Ontario, Canada "Fragments & Fabrications", Bradbury Art Museum (Arkansas State University), Jonesboro/AR, USA "To Build What We Become When We Dream", Queens Square Gallery (Cambridge Art Galleries), Ontario, Canada
2022	"HerStory: Shaping History", Rele Gallery, Los Angeles/CA, USA "Poetics of Material", Rele Gallery, Los Angeles/CA; Rele Gallery, Lagos, USA
2021	"Trauma", Triennale Brugge, Brugge, Belgium "Ecological Co-Development", Chengdu Biennale, Chengdu, China "Columned Hall Exhibition", Stoa169, Polling, Germany "The Invincible Hands", Yemi Shyllon Museum of Art, Lagos, Nigeria "Natural Materials", Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA "Podium II", Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
2020	"Second Careers: Tributaries in African Art", Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland/OH, USA "31:women", Daimler Art Collection, Berlin, Germany "Prête-Moi Ton Rêve", Musée des Civilisations Noires, Dakar, Senegal
2019	"Art + Identity", Browngrotta Art Gallery, Wilton/CT, USA

	"Fuel for Thought", Art Exchange Gallery, Essex, UK
	"Transformed: Paper in Dimension", Hunterdon Art Museum, Clinton/NJ, USA
2018	"Water", Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts, Cedarburg/WI, USA "Abstract Minded: Works by Six Contemporary African Artists", August Wilson Center for African American Culture, Pittsburgh/PA, USA; Samuel Dorsky Museum, New Paltz/NY, USA; N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit/MI, USA
2017	"The Enlighteners", Palais des Papes, Avignon, France; Musée du Petit Palais, Avignon, France; Musée Calvet, Avignon, France; Musée Lapidaire Avignon, France "Beyond the Surface", Fashion Outlet, Chicago/IL, USA "When the Heavens Meet The Earth", The Heong Gallery, Downing College, Cambridge, UK "Weather or Not, That is the Question", Children's Museum of the Arts, New York/NY, USA
2016	"La mer/La mère", St Mary's College, South Bend/IN, USA "Standing Out", Temple Muse, Lagos, Nigeria "Summertime Group Exhibition", Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
2015	"Finding Shelter: An Exhibition of Contemporary Fiber Art", Baum Gallery (University of Central Arkansas), Conway/AR, USA "Exceptional: Handmade Paper Beyond Substrate", Minnesota Center for Book Art, Minneapolis/MN, USA "The Contemporaries", Wheatbaker Hotel, Ikoyi, Nigeria "Works from Around our State", Evanston Art Center, Evanston/IL, USA
2014	"Africa Africans", Museu Afro Brasil, Sao Paulo, Brazil "Interwoven Histories", October Gallery, London, UK "Brides of Anansi: Fiber and Contemporary Art", Spelman Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta/GA, USA
2013	"African Origins", Morton Fine Art, Washington DC, USA "Six Draughtsmen", Museum of Contemporary African Diasporic Art, New York/NY, USA "International Biennial of Lin de Portneuf", Quebec, Canada "No One Belongs Here More Than You", Center for Contemporary Art, Lagos, Nigeria
2012	"Textura", Bekris Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA "Inside-out/Outside-in", Visual Art Center Gallery (Mississippi State University), Mississippi State/MS, USA "We Face Forward", Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK "(Re-)Cycles of Paradise", LACE Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles/CA, USA
2011	"Transcending Integration", Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore/MD, USA

	"Environment and Object in Recent African Art", Anderson Gallery (Virginia Commonwealth University), Richmond/VA, USA; Tang Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs/NY, USA
2010	"As It Is: Contemporary Art from Africa and the Diasporas", Mojo Gallery, Dubai, UAE
	"Scratch", Latit Kala Akademi (Sakshi Gallery), New Delhi, India
	"(Re-)Cycles of Paradise", UN COP16, Cancun, Mexico
	"29th Sao Paulo Biennial", Sao Paulo, Brazil
	"Textile", Blachère Foundation Art Center, Apt, France
2009	"(Re-)Cycles of Paradise", UN COP15, Copenhagen, Denmark
	"Common Ground", Bekris Gallery, San Francisco/CA, USA
	"In Progress", Carlson Tower Gallery (North Park University), Chicago/IL, USA
	"Trash Menagerie", Peabody Essex Museum, Salem/NY, USA
	"Paper to Pulp", Howard County Center for the Arts, Ellicott City/MD, USA
	"Transvanguard", October Gallery, London, UK
	"Chance Encounters", Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai, India
	"Objects of A Revolution", Galerie Dominique Fait, Paris
	"Trace/Memory", Evanston Art Center, Evanston/IL, USA
2008	"Angaza Africa", October Gallery, London, UK
	"Affrika West", Galeri Artspace, Caernarfon, UK
	"Art Exhibition", Art4 Gallery, Channel4, London, UK
	"Second Lives: Remixing the Ordinary", Museum of Arts and Design, New York/NY, USA
	"Refabrication", Carlson Gallery, North Park University, Chicago/IL, USA
	"Clay and Fiber", Woman Made Gallery, Chicago/IL, USA
	"Trading Spaces", Binghamton University, Binghamton/NY, USA
	"Moonlight Tales", Tall Grass Arts Association, Park Forest/IL, USA
2007	"African Contemporary Art Exhibition", Dakar Biennale, Dakar, Senegal
2005	"Twelfth SOFA International Exposition", Chicago/IL, USA
	"8th International Open Exhibition", Woman Made Gallery, Chicago/IL, USA
2003	"Migrations", Legion Arts CSPA, Cedar Rapids/IA, USA
	"Units", Legion Arts CSPA, Cedar Rapids/IA, USA
2002	"New Works", Armature Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City/IA, USA
2001	"New Energies", Nimbus Gallery and Mydrim Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

Art Fairs

2024	Art Basel Miami Beach (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery), Miami/FL, USA
	Art Basel (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery), Basel, Switzerland

2023	Art Basel Miami Beach (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery), Miami/FL, USA
2022	1-54 Contemporary African Art Gallery (with Sakhile&Me), London, UK The Armory Show (with Kó Art Space), New York/NY, USA
2020	Investec Cape Town Art Fair (with Sakhile&Me), Cape Town, South Africa
2019	1-54 Contemporary African Art Gallery (with Sakhile&Me), London, UK
2018	Expo Chicago (with Threewalls), Chicago/IL, USA
2016	Expo Chicago (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery), Chicago/IL, USA
2015	1-54 Contemporary African Art Gallery (with October Gallery), London, UK

Teaching Experience

2021-2022	Assistant Chief Examiner, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
2019-2021	Associate Lecturer, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
since 2015	Professor, North Park University, Chicago/IL, USA
2011-2015	Associate Professor, North Park University, Chicago/IL, USA
2005-2011	Assistant Professor, North Park University, Chicago/IL, USA

Residencies & Awards

2023	Threewalls Community Art Grant, Chicago, USA
2021	Creative Victoria Art Grant, Melbourne, Australia
2020	Monash M Pavilion Art Grant, Melbourne, Australia
2018	Individual Professional Development Grant, North Park University, Chicago, USA
2017	Research and Development Lab Award, Threewalls, Chicago, USA
2012	Fulbright Scholar Award
2011	Artist-in-residence, Skidmore College, New York, USA
2010	Artist Residency, Jean Paul Blachère Foundation, Apt, France Artist-in-residence, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, USA
2007	Artist Full Fellowship at Global Art Village, Delhi, India Residency Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, USA
2006	Art Omi International Residency, New York, USA UNESCO-Aschberg Fellowship for Artists (Gruber Jez Foundation), Mexico
2004	SFAI Residency, Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, USA
2002	Graduate Assistantship, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA Emma McAllister Novel Scholarship, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA

Collections

Stanley Museum of Art (University of Iowa), Iowa City/IA, USA
Krannert Museum of Art (University of Urbana Champaign), Urbana/IL, USA
Kruizenga Art Museum (Hope College), Holland/MI, USA
Jorge M. Pérez Collection, Miami/FL, USA
North Park University, Chicago/IL, USA
World Bank, Washington DC, USA
Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn/NY, USA
Newark Museum, Newark/NJ, USA
Indianapolis Art Center, Indianapolis/IN, USA
Jean Paul Blachère Foundation, Apt, France
Mercedes Benz Art Collection, Stuttgart, Germany
United States Embassy, Abuja, Nigeria
Royal Collections, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Sina Jina Collection, London, UK