LUKE AGADA

b. 1992, Lagos, Nigeria. Lives and works in Chicago, IL

Education

2023 MFA, Painting and Drawing, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2018 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Federal University of Agriculture, Ogun State, Abeokuta, Nigeria

Selected Exhibitions

2027 *tba,* Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, St. Louis, MO *(forthcoming)*
tba, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA *(forthcoming)*

2026 *When the Center Holds*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, NY
In Abstracto, In Concreto: On Memory and Presence, Efie Gallery, Dubai, UAE

2025 *To Translate is to Move Across*, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL
Some More Dogs: a curated selection from the Hornik collection, Four One Nine, San Francisco, CA
Back To the Earth, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
Ever So Present II: Between Home and Elsewhere, Gagosian at Park & 75, New York, NY
Master Class: Inside the Last American Museum School with SAIC Painting Alumni, SECRIST BEACH, Chicago, IL
25!, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL

2024 *Between Two Suns,* Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
Shared Vision: Portraits from The CCH Pounder-Koné Collection, African American Museum in Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
Newcity Breakout Artists Group Exhibition, Chicago Artist Coalition, Chicago, IL
In the Know, Show, Green Family Art Foundation, Dallas, TX

2023 *Polireality,* Hive Center for Contemporary Art, Beijing, CN
Arms, Feet and Fitful Dreams, moniquemeloche, Chicago, IL
Where the Wild Roses Grow, Kristin Hjellegjerde Gallery, Schloss Görne, Berlin, GE

2021 *Unusual Suspects*, African Artists' Foundation, Lagos, NI

2020 *Collective Reflections: A Contemporary African and Diasporic Expressions of a New Vanguard,* Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana

2017 *Lagos for All,* Lagos, NI

Grants & Fellowships

2023 James Nelson Raymond Fellowship Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Teaching Fellowship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
SAIC Fall Residency Fellowship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Dean's Grant, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2020 Global Warming International Art Prize, Art Impact International, New York, NY

Awards and Residencies

2025 Dragon Hill Residency, Mouans-Sartoux, FR

2024 Breakout Artist 2024, Newcity Art, Chicago, IL

2023 Artist in Residence, The Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA

2022 Helen Frankenthaler Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Janet and Russell Doubleday Award, The Art Students League of New York, New York, NY

2021 George and Ann Siegel Award, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Raise Our Voices, The Voice Residency, Voice HQ

Podcasts

2024 Episode 199: In Conversation with Luke Agada, Cerebral Women with Phyllis Hollis

Bibliography

2026 Proctor, Rebecca Anne. "*Can Figurative Abstraction Sway Historic Memory?" Frieze. June 11*
Colón, Ambar. "*Expo Chicago art fair returns with 'refined' floor plan, Obama Center ties,*" WBEZ Chicago. April 3
Hamelo, Gameli. "*In Dubai, Efie Gallery Is Rewrtiing the Map of Contemporary African Art,*" Observer. March 29

2025 Rener, Sarah. "*Between Shadows and Memories: The Liminal World of Luke Agada,*" Medium. November 27
Bonfiglio, Jonathon. "*Luke Agada's Paintings are Spectral Depictions of Time,*" Newcity Art. October 20
Sandler, Teddy. "*Echoes of Subjectivity in Abstract and Surrealist Translation,*" IMPULSE Magazine. October 14
Ho, Karen. "*Chicago's Art Scene Offers a Beacon of Hope for Artists and Dealers,*" ARTnews. October 3

Cassady, Daniel. "*Curator Brice Arséne Yonkeu Talks Identity, Amoako Boafo's dot.ateliers, and His New Gagosian Show 'Ever So Present II',*" ARTnews. June 30

2024 Bishop, Deborah. "*Chicago Painter Luke Agada Explores the Immigrant Experience,*" Luxe Magazine. December 14
White, Katie. "*Trendsetting Galleries Are Betting on Rising Artist Luke Agada,*" Artnet. October 28
Terry, Christa. "*Painter Luke Agada Is Pushing the Boundaries of Representation,*" Observer. October 7
Waddoups, Ryan. "*Luke Agada Maps His Psyche's Blurred Terrain,*" Surface. October 1
Kern, Katie. "*Luke Agada was Once a Veterinarian. Now, His Art Focuses On the Anatomy of Adaptation,*" Cultured Magazine. September 25
Rabb, Maxwell. "*11 Artists Having a Breakout Moment This Fall,*" Artsy. August 26
Wilson, Abbie. "*Luke Agada: Painting the Complexities of Globalization and the Migrant Form,*" ourculture. May 23
"*Breakout Artists 2024: Chicago's Next Generation of Image Makers,*" Newcity Art. April 2
Waywell, Chris. "*Los Angeles According to: Bennett Roberts from Roberts Projects,*" Frieze. February 19

2023 Rabb, Maxwell. "*The 10 Best Booths at Art Basel in Miami Beach,*" Artsy. December 7
"*A 'Polireality' in Beijing @ Hive Center for Contemporary Art,*" Juxtapoz. October 26
Valentine, Victoria L. "*Latest News in Black Art: Luke Agada Joined Monique Meloche Gallery, New Atlanta Art Fair, Black Studies x Art History & More,*" Culture Type. October 12
Pride, Ray. "*Today In Culture, October 4, 2023: Report Says Arts Sector Not So Healthy, Equity Jeffs Love Goodman, Chicago is (Still) the Best, Says Condé Nast Traveler,*" Newcity Art. October 4
Idowu, Angel. "*Chicago Exhibition Weekend Celebrates Public Art Across the City, Sept. 29-Oct. 1,*" wttw News (PBS). September 29
"*Luke Agada: Arms, Feet, and Fitful Dreams at Monique Meloche Gallery,*" La Voce di New York. September 14
"*Luke Agada,*" CGN. September 14
"*6 Rising Artists We Discovered in Galleries' Summer Group Shows,*" Artsy. August 18
"*GR Gallery Brings Along Some Friends to VOLTA New York,*" Juxtapoz. May 18
"*The Studio Announces 2023 Summer/Fall Fellowship Awardees,*" Assets for Artists. May 12
Porter-Woodruff. "*Luke Agada,*" The Artist Feature. March 11

2022 Hall, Michael. "*Celebrating the Art Students League's 2022 Grant & Scholarship Recipients,*" LINEA. August 5

2021 Drewry, Emily. "*The driving force behind Ayanfe Olarinde's NFT collection: Community,*" Voice Blog. November 7
Donoghue, Katy. "*Danny Dunson Offers a New Model for Emerging Talent,*" Whitewall. June 1
Olatunbosun, Yinka. "*Unusual Suspects' Spellbinding Moments of Creativity at AAF,*" This Day. June
Santo, Courtney Miller. "*The Pinch, Fall 2021,*" The Pinch Journal, Vol. 41, No. 2, Voice HQ. Fall

2020 Woodward, Daisy. "*A List of Great Things to Do Before the Year is Out,*" AnOther. December 1

2018 Adebayo, Adedolap. "*Surrealism: A Different Kind of Reality,*" Infotrust. November 29
"*Nigeria Art Archives,*" The Art Momentum

Public Collections

Green Family Art Foundation