# artbyREWA.com

Instagram: @artbyrewa

"Viewers largely label me under "Contemporary African Art".

I label my work as Igbo Vernacular Art. The reason for this is that I believe that I have created a truly original body of work that exists outside formal academic or Western dialogue. My art is drawn from life itself and deeply anchored in a place and culture from which it was derived. This is the Igbo culture pertaining to the Igbos of Nigeria. I think that this description is more accurate as it implies a unique iteration of customs and tradition, bound to a particular location and a particular people.

Igbo Vernacular Art is not to be mistaken with Folk Art, but rather, concerns itself with an expressive aesthetic that would be more commonly associated with Contemporary of Modern Art; form, composition and narrative. Vernacular dialects are anchored to a particular land, and in much the same way, my art contains a vocabulary that is built on a strong sense of place and is situated in a location and a history.

It is my hope that one day, my work will be included in art historical dialogue about Africa and specifically Nigeria, beyond the confines of the wide-reaching Contemporary African Art designation."

## **REWA**

Email: info@artbyrewa.com | Mobile: 00234 81089 66557 | Website: www.artbyrewa.com | Instagram: @artbyrewa

#### Education

## Jul. 2016 Gordon Institute of Business (GIBS), South Africa

The Business of Africa module; Johannesburg, Lagos & Nairobi immersion visits

#### Mar. 2016 Duke Corporate Education, Duke University

Experiential Learning; Design Innovation & Leading Change

### Sep. 2006-2009 University College London (UCL)

B.Sc. (Combined Honours) Physiology & Pharmacology (obtained 2.1)

### Sep. 2004-2006 William Morris Academy

3 Â-Levels in Biology (A); Chemistry (A); English Language & Literature (A) | AS-Level in Psychology (A)

#### Solo Exhibitions

2019 Nwa Abgo: Entering Adolescence
Jonathan Ferrara Gallery, New Orleans, USA

# **Group Exhibitions**

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2019	Back to the Future: Still Here Tomorrow to High Five You Yesterday  Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa
2018	No Dead Artists Juried Exhibition  Jonathan Ferrara Gallery, New Orleans, USA
2018	Summer Art Fair The Gallery of African Art (GAFRA), London, United Kingdom
2017	Annual Masquerade Ball - Group Exhibition & Auction  Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MoCADA), New York, U.S.A.
2017	Her Story: Sisterhood That Transcends The Gallery of African Art (GAFRA), London, United Kingdom
2017	ReLe Young Contemporaries 2017 Exhibition ReLe Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
2017	Eko Art Expo <b>Eko Hotel, Lagos, Nigeria</b>

#### **Publications**

May 2018	Ayanleke, A. "Women-Inspired Art" www.thesparkng.com, 11.05.2018
Apr. 2018	Fisayo, M., "Showcasing Rising African Artist   REWA" www.africanartwave.com, 08.04.2018
Feb. 2017	Ajayi, M., "Young Nigerian Creatives You Should Support" www.avenue.ng, 07.02.2018
Dec. 2017	Ehirim, N., "The Graduating Class of Young Contemporaries" Guardian Newspaper, 31.12.2017
Sep. 2017	"What's New – HER STORY: Sisterhood That Transcends At Gallery Of African Art" www.theglowingcolours.com, 20.09.2017
	Solem, "Understanding Various Artistic Expressions"

Sep. 2017	www.artyramaonline.com, 23.09.2017
Sep. 2017	Instagram Feature CNN Africa, 20.09.2017
Sep 2017	Pinheiro, J., "Rewa's 'Onicha Ado N'Idu' celebrates igbo naming rites" www.visual.ng, 17.09.2017
Feb. 2017	Ugobude, F., "You Will Want To See Rewa Umunna's Art On Nigerian Goddesses" www.omgvoice.com, 20.02.2017
Jan. 2017	"Art House: Amazing Young Contemporaries Exhibition at ReLe Gallery" Channels TV, 29.01.2017
Jan. 2017	Caine, B., "Self Expressions In Water-Colour And Acrylic – "Travelers' By Rewa" www.farabaleweekly.com, 16.01.2017
Jan. 2016	Nwanne, C., "Artists Square Up For Young Contemporaries Contest Guardian Newspaper, 07.01.2017
Nov. 2016	Orubo, D., "Artist Turns Nigerian Goddesses Into Stunning Pop Art' Konbini Africa, 03.10.2016

#### **Nominations**

Jan. 2017	Woman of the Year, "Arts" category Her Network
2016 / 17	ReLe Art Foundation, ReLe Young Contemporary 2017
2010	BBC Wildlife Artist of The Year, "Visions of Nature" category

#### Corporate Work Experience

# Feb. 2017 to Jul. 2018: Group Head – Investor Relations & Corporate Development, Brainworks Capital Work Location(s): South Africa | United Kingdom | Zimbabwe

Played a fundamental role in moving the company, a Mauritian-registered investment holding company focused on investments in Zimbabwe, from *start-up* phase to *institutionalization* phase. Completed investor roadshows across London, Cape Town, Johannesburg and Harare and was a crucial part of the successful listing of the company on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) in October 2017 <a href="http://www.financialgazette.co.zw/brainworks-zimbabwes-new-investment-window/">http://www.financialgazette.co.zw/brainworks-zimbabwes-new-investment-window/</a>

# Jul. 2016 to Jan. 2017: Old Mutual Specialty Insurance (OMSI) Executive, Old Mutual West Africa Work Location(s): Ghana | Nigeria

Nov. 2015 to Jul. 2016: Old Mutual Group Leadership Rotation Programme
Work Location(s): Kenya | Nigeria | South Africa | United Kingdom
Assignment: Portfolio Manager - Risk Financing, Mutual & Federal South Africa
Executive Management Programmes under the Old Mutual Group Leadership Rotation Programme:
Gordon Institute of Business (GIBS) South Africa, The Business of Africa module
Duke Corporate Education, Duke University, Experiential Learning; Design Innovation & Leading Change

# Feb. 2015 to Oct. 2015: Strategy Manager, Old Mutual West Africa (OMWA) Work Location(s): Ghana | Nigeria

Defined and drove the company's strategy across the West African region including Nigeria, Ghana and select francophone countries and developed the Old Mutual West Africa three-year rolling business plan with a larger scope and a regional focus.

Oct. 2014 to Feb. 2015: Strategy Manager, Old Mutual Nigeria Work Location(s): Nigeria

Feb. 2010 to Sept. 2014: Management Consultant (Banking Strategy, Financial Services), Accenture Work Location(s): United Kingdom

# June 2008 to Aug. 2008 Intern (Management Consulting), Accenture Work Location(s): United Kingdom

### Other Skills

#### Accenture Training:

- Banking Industry Generalist Certification 2012
- Core Analyst School 2010 | Core Consultant School 2013

#### Personal Interests:

- Shortlisted for BBC Wildlife Artist of the Year 2010
- Ashtanga Yoga Practitioner
- Keen interest in (long only, listed securities) trading with personal portfolio facing double digit YTD returns

#### References

- Mrs Caroline Bendu-Cooper, Gallery of African Art (GAFRA), London, UK | Founder info@gafraart.com
- Mr Azu Nwabogu, Director, African Arts Foundation (AAF), Lagos, Nigeria | Also appointed Director of the Zeitz MOCAA in Cape Town, South Africa <u>Azu.nwabogu@zeitzmocaa.museum</u>
- Miss Aderenle Sonariwo, ReLe Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria | Founder art@rele.co