

# GEORGE CAMILLE

Curriculum Vitae and Profile Information



D.O.B: 1st. September, 1963

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## Biographical Notes

I was born on the island of Mahe, Seychelles in 1963 and spent my childhood on the island of La Digue. I currently live and work in Seychelles.

I studied Art at Seychelles College to A level, and was subsequently awarded scholarships to further my studies at Blackheath College of Art and Goldsmiths College, both in London.

In addition to my formal training, a number of important collaborative friendships with fellow artists also helped to focus my initial direction as an artist. Today I recognise and value immensely past collaborations with 'Tonga Bill' Fehoko, the Martinique artist Habdaphaï and the French artist Mikel Chaussepied, who, in 1992, introduced me to the techniques of etching.

In 1987 I established Sunstroke Studio and, in so doing, provided an outlet for my art and design activities. This was followed in 1997 by the restoration of an old wooden colonial house, Kaz Zanana, which I opened as my first art gallery in Seychelles. In 2001 I opened my second gallery at Anse Gaulette on the island of La Digue.

Over the last thirty three years, etchings have become the medium for my more detailed and figurative work. Owning my own press has allowed me to experiment with a range of intaglio print techniques, combining a variety of materials and processes to create images which have shaped the development and presentation of my personal visual alphabet. Working mainly on copper plates and using dry point and acid bite techniques, I produce limited edition monochrome prints as well as hand painted etchings that strive to capture the spirit of Seychellois life.

My heavily textured collaged compositions - made from glued pieces of cut and ripped canvases and painted in acrylic to depict traditional Creole scenes and sceneries - transport the viewer on an intense journey into the physical beauty and evocative mythology of the Seychelles islands.

I have completed numerous solo and group exhibitions in Seychelles, Mauritius, Martinique, Reunion, UK, France, China, Germany, Russia, Belgium, Ivory Coast, Mali, and Italy.

I have original work in many private collections worldwide, and have completed a significant number of commissions, public, private and corporate.

Website: [www.georgecamille.com](http://www.georgecamille.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GeorgeCamilleSey/](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgeCamilleSey/)

Instagram: [georgecamilleseychelles](https://www.instagram.com/georgecamilleseychelles)

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## Grants & Awards

- 2023 Trophy in recognition of the ambassador to the African Culture Fund (ACF)
- 2020 8th Seychelles Chamber of Commerce & Industry Business - Life Time Achievement for George Camille and Best Creative Establishment for George Camille Studio
- 2019 Visual Artist of the Year — Seychelles Arts Award 2019, Seychelles
- 2017 First prize for Biennale Seychelles 2017, Seychelles
- 2003 First prize for painting exhibition for Seychelles Arts Festival, Seychelles
- 1993 English Speaking Union Scholarship to Goldsmiths College, London
- 1986 British Council Scholarship in Fine Art to Blackheath College of Art, London

## Workshops

- 2022 Art workshop with Luxembourg artist Christian Pearson, aka Sumo, Seychelles
- 2019 Asian & African and Mediterranean workshop, Hangzhou, China
- 2017 African Culture Fund workshop, Seychelles
- 2010 Art workshop by Thapong Visual Art Centre, Gaborone, Botswana
- 2007 InsulArt workshop organized by pARTage, Flic en Flac, Mauritius
- 1997 Workshop on Fibre Art techniques, Antananarivo, Madagascar
- 1990 Workshop on Etching & intaglio techniques by Mikel Chaussepieds, Seychelles

## Education

- 1993 Postgraduate research in Goldsmiths College, London, Scholarship awarded by English Speaking Union
- 1986 Diploma in Blackheath College of Art, London, Scholarship awarded by the British Council
- 1981 O and A Level Studies, Seychelles College

## Style & Techniques

I embarked on my artistic journey more than 35 years ago and initially I used a very realistic style.

I'm always experimenting with new styles and techniques of work. Moving towards more exploratory techniques using combinations of silkscreen and open stencil techniques to create simplified styles of work with bold and solid colour shapes and areas.

In order to play with light, shadows and textures, I've created works on paper and copper using an etching press to emboss shapes made from bent wire and card. These are left as white drawings or painted in watercolour and oil based inks and pastels.

I've created several distinct styles of painting using collage techniques on canvas and acrylic paint. Small cut or ripped pieces of canvas and card that are glued to create a much stylised work which is then painted in acrylic. The style is bold, direct, colourful and heavily textured.

A mix media style using old recycled wooden shutters that are cut and burnt and inlaid with embossed copper panels and bent copper wire was the basis for two solo exhibitions.

For the 2015 Venice Biennale, I experimented with a new style of work using discarded recycled electric wire to create an installation that was a social commentary on the unchecked destruction of Seychelles' fragile environment.

I've been working on a lot of sculptures recently using wire, clay and sculpting foam. The sculptures are then cast in fibreglass resin and painted. I used that technique for my three part installation artwork for my winning entry for the Seychelles Biennale in 2017. The other two techniques were pencil and charcoal drawings and four short videos. It was the first time that I experimented with video installations.

My project for the Venice Biennale 2019 required the creation of an artwork out of paper that filled a 25 square metre room. I made three giant paper waves with embossed motifs out of thick watercolour paper that were 20 metres long and 1.6 metres wide to create the impression of a room filled with three huge tsunami waves.

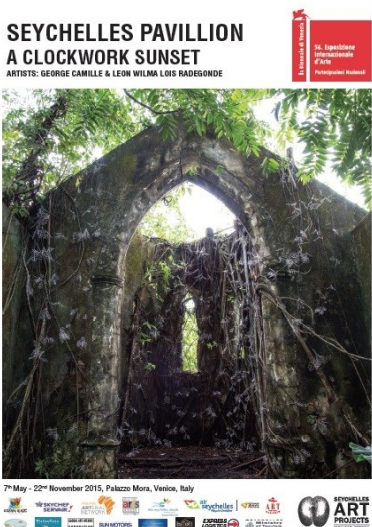
I love to experiment and discover the potential of new techniques.

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## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 'Si Loin, Si Proche' exhibition of Segou' Art 2023, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, Segou, Mali
- 2022 "A Fisherman's Tale" side exhibition of Seychelles Biennale, Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria
- 2021 "Drift Apart Come Together" - Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2019 58th International Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion, Venice, Italy
- 2019 'Drift' exhibition of Segou' Art 2019, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, Segou, Mali
- 2016 Segou' Art 2016, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, Segou, Mali
- 2015 56th International Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion, Venice, Italy
- 2011 "Coco de Mer", Palmen Garten, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2010 Images of Seychelles, IBF Exhibition Centre, Hannover, Germany
- 2008 "Volets d'une île à L'autre", Kephren Gallery, St Pierre, Reunion
- 2007 "Volets d'une île à L'autre", Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2006 "A Seychelles Journey" - Exhibition of paintings and assemblages, Red T Gallery 798, Dashanzi Art District, Beijing, P.R China
- 2005 "An Everyday Journey" - Exhibition of paintings and assemblages, Fregate Island, Seychelles
- 2005 "An Everyday Journey" - Exhibition of paintings and assemblages, Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelle
- 2004 "Les Murmures Du Gecko" - Exhibition of recent paintings and etchings, L'Alliance Française, Port Louis, Mauritius
- 2004 "The View from Within" - Exhibition of collages, paintings for 2nd Arts Festival, Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2003 "La Foli Natir" - Exhibition of paintings and embossed copper for Seychelles Arts Festival, National Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2001 "Impressed" - Exhibition of embossed copper and paintings, Kephren Gallery, St Pierre, Reunion
- 2001 "Impressed" - Exhibition of etchings and paintings, Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2001 Paintings of Seychelles - Jardin Des Arts Gallery, St. Denis, Reunion
- 1999 "En Leokri Kouler" - Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 1996 Solo Exhibition for opening of Kaz Zanana Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles





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## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2022 AfriKin Art - Contemporary African Art Fair Miami Art Week, Miami, U.S
- 2022 'ANSANM & ZESUMMEN' duo exhibition with artist Sumo, Kaz Zanana Gallery, Seychelles
- 2022 'Lekel ou idantite kreol' exhibition of Creole Festival, National Museum of History, Seychelles
- 2022 14th Dakar Biennale, Dakar Senegal
- 2022 9th Beijing International Art Biennale, Beijing, China
- 2021 "Aligned by the Sun (through the revolution)", seven-channel video installation created specifically for the Ackland Art Museum, US
- 2020 17th Asian, African and Mediterranean International Modern Art Exhibition, China
- 2019 8th Beijing International Art Biennale, Beijing, China
- 2019 Mauritius International Art Fair 2019, Mauritius
- 2018 Vannswet - Collective Exhibition by Seychellois artists, Eden Art Gallery, Seychelles
- 2017 'White Light White Heat, Biennale Seychelles 2017, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2017 African Culture Fund Exhibition, La Rotondes des Arts, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 2017 57th International Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion, Venice, Italy
- 2017 "Message in a Bottle" - Collective Exhibition by Seychellois and visiting African artists, Eden Art Gallery, Seychelles
- 2015 "Ars et Natura", Sala Margana, Piazza Venezia, Rome
- 2014 "Seychelles Art", Bernerie en Retz, France
- 2014 Travelling Group Exhibition of Seychellois art in Russia
- 2013 "Tablo lo Lekwater" - Exhibition for Creole Festival, Kaz Zanana, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2012 "Trait d'union" - Exhibition in memory of sculptor Bill Fehoko, St Denis, Reunion
- 2011 "Fanm" - Exhibition with Martin Kennedy and Mirza Moric, Kaz Zanana Gallery, Victoria,
- 2010 Thapong Visual Art Centre, Gaborone, Botswana
- 2009 Gallery Sud - Zurich, Switzerland
- 2008 Exhibition By Seychellois Artists, Bruxelles, Belgium and Cercle Münster, Luxemburg
- 2007 InsulArt, pARTage, Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka, Mauritius
- 2005 "2nd Triennale of Contemporary Art" - Port Louis, Mauritius
- 2002 "Le Jardin des Arts" - St Denis, Reunion
- 2000 "Le Monde Creole" - Fort-de-France, Martinique
- 1999 "Images of Seychelles" - Kiron Galleries, Paris, France
- 1998 "My Island" - Seychelles High Commission, London, UK
- 1998 Creole Festival Art Exhibition - National Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles



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### Commissions

- 2021 Clubmed - sculpture for hotel
- 2018 Hilltop Boutique Hotel - Artwork for villas
- 2017 The H resort, Mahe - Limited edition Giclee prints for villas
- 2017 Villa Roscia, Mahe - Giclee canvas for reception
- 2016 The Quadrant Building, Victoria - "The Ascent", an installation of a shoal of tunas made from recycled copper wire and embossed copper panels
- 2014 Boite millennium chorus group - "Coco de Mer" Sounds of Seychelles, CD cover design
- 2013 Enchanted Resort, Round Island - Paintings for Villas
- 2012 Le Repair Boutique Hotel, La Digue - Paintings for lobby, restaurant and rooms
- 2012 Central Bank of Seychelles - Embossed Copper paintings to commemorate the bank's 30th anniversary
- 2012 Seychelles Breweries - Embossed copper as corporate gifts for its 40th anniversary
- 2011 Air Seychelles - Design of menu cover and cabin paintings
- 2010 Hilton Labriz, Silhouette Island - Paintings for villas
- 2010 Acajou Hotel, Praslin - Paintings for chalets
- 2009 "Seychelles in your pocket" Guide books - Etchings for cover design for the book's 20th and 21st anniversary edition
- 2008 Round Island Hotel, Praslin - Paintings for rooms
- 2008 Four Seasons Resort, Mahe - Embossed etchings for villas
- 2007 Seychelles Embassy, Beijing, China - Paintings for public areas in Seychelles International Business Authority
- 2006 Denis Island Resort, Denis Island - Etchings for villas
- 2005 Seychelles Government - Painting of State House reproduced as limited edition prints for National Day VIP gifts
- 2003 Fisherman's Cove Hotel, Mahe - Paintings for library and public areas
- 2002 Sam's Pizzeria, Mahe - Paintings for the restaurant
- 2001 Banyan Tree Hotel, Intendance - Paintings for executive villas and public areas
- 2000 The Wharf Hotel & Marina, Mahe - Paintings for public areas
- 2000 Seychelles Breweries - Painting for Year 2000 calendar and subsequent advertising campaign
- 1995 Seychelles Government - Portrait of Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Chief Emeka Anyaoku



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### Publications and News Articles

- 2023 KOZE KOZE - conversations of Seychellois Creatives, Chapter 1, book by Seychelles Art Foundation
- 2023 Segou' Art, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, exhibition catalogue
- 2022 The Album of the 9th Beijing International Art Biennale, exhibition catalogue
- 2022 14th Dakar Biennale, exhibition catalogue
- 2021 'Drift Apart Come Together' exhibition catalogue
- 2019 The Album of the 8th Beijing International Art Biennale, exhibition catalogue
- 2019 'Drift' exhibition catalogue
- 2019 La Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion exhibition catalogue
- 2019 Segou' Art, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, exhibition catalogue
- 2017 Byenal Sessel 2017 exhibition catalogue
- 2017 "Les Seychelles, muse des arts", article in Passenger6a, by EUGÈNE WEIER
- 2017 La Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion exhibition catalogue
- 2016 Seychelles' best contemporary artists and where to see their work by Chantelle Howell, article on the website of The Culture Trip.com
- 2016 Segou' Art, Contemporary Art Fair of Mali, exhibition catalogue
- 2016 International Entrepreneurship in the Arts (Routledge 2016), Lidia Varbanova
- 2016 Seychellois artists who showcase life on the island through art by Betymie Bonnelame, article on Seychelles News Agency website.
- 2016 Back from the Venice Biennale, article in Today newspaper P13
- 2015 La Biennale di Venezia, Seychelles Pavilion exhibition catalogue
- 2015 "Seychelles", coffee table art book for Ars et Natura's project of the archipelago's bio diversity
- 2015 Seychelles through the eyes of Italians, article in Today newspaper
- 2014 "George Camille", article in Sessel Sa magazine, Nathalie Hodgson
- 2014 "Art exhibition in Bernerie en Retz", article in Seychelles Today newspaper
- 2013 "George Camille the Artist" profile on CNN's "Inside Africa Show"
- 2008 Article in "Seychelles in your Pocket 20th edition", Page 115
- 2008 "Spotlight on our Seychellois", article in Le Meridien Fisherman's Cove magazine
- 2007 "Art opens at Kaz Zanana – George Camille's latest work on display", article in Seychelles Weekend Nation newspaper, edition 15/12/2007, Page 4
- 2007 "George Camille's exhibition opens on Mahe", article in Seychelles Weekend Nation newspaper, edition 22/12/2007, Page 5
- 2007 "George Camille opens new exhibition today", article in Regar newspaper, edition 14/12/2007, Page 9
- 2007 "George Camille's expose a la Galerie Khephren", article in Le Journal, edition 26/11/2007, Page 22
- 2007 "George a la Galerie Khephren", article in Le Quotidien de La Reunion, edition 26/11/2007, Page 16
- 2007 "Volets d'une ile a l'autre", exhibition catalogue for exhibition in St.Pierre, Reunion and Victoria, Seychelles
- 2007 "Artists take in event dedicated to islands", article in Regar newspaper, edition 20/07/2007, Page 9
- 2007 "L'Arbre de L'inspiration de George Camille", article in Le Mauricien, edition 29/06/07, Page 15
- 2006 "Artist George Camille brings the mystical splendour of Seychelles to China", article in Seychelles Weekend Nation, edition, 26/08/2006, Page 5
- 2006 "George Camille Solo Exhibition", listing in Time Out Beijing, edition 08/2006, Page 45
- 2006 "One of life's most interesting journeys", article in Beijing Talk, edition 08/2006, Page 15
- 2006 "She says Seychelles for A Seychelles Journey", listing in the Beijing Weekend, edition 30/07/2006
- 2006 "A Seychelles Journey", exhibition catalogue for exhibition in Beijing, P.R. China
- 2005 "Les Murmures du Gecko", exhibition catalogue for exhibition in Port Louis, Mauritius
- 2005 "An everyday journey", article in Silhouette in-Flight magazine for Air Seychelles, by Martin Kennedy, Pages 72-73
- 2004 "Le Peintre Seychellois George Camille a Maurice", L'Eco Austral, Isabelle Poonasamy
- 2004 "Les Murmures Symboliques", article in Week-End Scope of Mauritius, edition 23/09/2004, Page 100
- 2004 "George Camille, la quete d'une part manquante", article in Le Mauricien, edition 24/09/2004, Page 5

- 1997 Moulouk ek Moutay - National Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 2004 "Les murmures du gecko selon George Camille", article in Le Mauricien, by Dominique Bellier, edition 13/09/2004, Page23
- 2004 "Les murmures du gecko", exhibition catalogue for exhibition in Port Louis, Mauritius
- 2004 "Vintage Camille, the View from Within", article in Regar Newspaper, edition 30/04/2004, Page 9
- 2003 "UK-Seychelles art exhibition", article in Seychelles Nation, edition 11/09/2003, Page 2
- 2001 "Galerie Khephren de La Reunion 'Impressed de George Camille'", article in Le Quotidien of Reunion, edition 11/12/2001, Page 14
- 2001 "Banyan Tree's Bold Statement", article in Homes & Gardens, by Diane Shirley
- 1996 12 Artists Group Exhibition - National Art Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles
- 1996/ 1994/ 1992 Seychelles Biennial - Carnegie Hall, Victoria, Seychelles
- 1995 Festival Kreol Exhibition - National Gallery, Victoria, Seychelles