

GALLERY 1957

LAYERED HISTORIES

COLLIN SEKAJUGO AND KALOKI NYAMAI

Gallery 1957, London
28th July - 24th August 2022

Gallery 1957, London, is proud to present an exhibition of new multimedia works from recent artists in residence, Collin Sekajugo (b. 1980, Uganda) and Kaloki Nyamai (b.1985, Kenya), running 28th July – 24th August 2022. The exhibition coincides with both artists' national participation at the 59th Venice Biennale, 2022 (Uganda and Kenya National Pavilions, respectively).

Showing works created in residence with Gallery 1957, Collin Sekajugo interrogates the subject of identity across his work, exploring socio-cultural, political, and economic issues that afflict ethnic, class, and other identities. These images inspire a sense of disorientation in order to unsettle preconceptions about familiar identities, and to produce new and more accepting understandings of difference. Collage is a predominant technique in Sekajugo's art. These collages are produced using found objects, such as polypropylene bags, wastepaper, and product labels, which renders his art both a commentary on contemporary consumer culture as well as an invitation for his audience to engage with his work through the familiar.

Drawing on the stories his grandmother recounted and his own lived experience, Kaloki Nyamai explores how identity, and the perception of the self is inflected by the past and present. He works with multiple media, layering each work with rich textures that reveal figures and abstract forms, which serve as an antidote to the singular narrative of history that is taught as the definitive account of Kenya and its people. These brand-new works speak to daily life, past events, and the political fault lines of postcolonial Kenya. Nyamai's work is part of a lineage of storytelling his grandmother and other ancestors practiced, passing on tales from one generation to another to produce an understanding of history as complex, plural, and contradictory.

For full details and larger images, please see the end of this document.



Collin Sekajugo
Trust the aunt, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 150 cm
78 1/8 x 59 1/8 in
(G1957CS001)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
Subjects, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 157 cm
78 1/8 x 61 3/4 in
(G1957CS002)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
Hidden price, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 150 cm
78 1/8 x 59 1/8 in
(G1957CS004)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
The endorser, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 157 cm
78 1/8 x 61 3/4 in
(G1957CS005)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
Dream chaser, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
142.5 x 87.5 cm
56 1/8 x 34 1/2 in
(G1957CS006)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
The reality, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
138.5 x 88.5 cm
54 1/2 x 34 7/8 in
(G1957CS007)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
Filtered imagination, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
141 x 93.5 cm
55 1/2 x 36 3/4 in
(G1957CS008)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
Warm winter, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
136 x 85 cm
53 1/2 x 33 1/2 in
(G1957CS009)

[View detail](#)



Collin Sekajugo
The watchman, 2021
Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
200 x 149 cm
78 3/4 x 58 5/8 in
(G1957CS003)

[View detail](#)



Kaloki Nyamai
Ivinda Inene (Big Day), 2021
Acrylic and collage on canvas
152 x 140 cm
59 7/8 x 55 1/8 in
(G1957KNK015)

[View detail](#)



Kaloki Nyamai
Oka Twone1 (Come and See), 2022
Acrylic, stitching, and image transfer on canvas
230 x 221 cm
90 1/2 x 87 1/8 in
(G1957KNK019)

[View detail](#)



Kaloki Nyamai
Nutonga Sukulu (I am taking you back to school), 2022
Acrylic, stitching, and image transfer on canvas
143 x 128 cm
56 1/4 x 50 3/8 in
(G1957KNK017)

[View detail](#)



Kaloki Nyamai
Keta Tu Okoma (Just Sleep), 2022
Acrylic, stitching, and image transfer on canvas
225 x 235 cm
88 5/8 x 92 1/2 in
(G1957KNK018)

[View detail](#)

COLLIN SEKAJUGO
Trust the aunt, 2021



Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 150 cm
78 1/8 x 59 1/8 in
(G1957CS001)

COLLIN SEKAJUGO
Subjects, 2021



Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 157 cm
78 1/8 x 61 3/4 in
(G1957CS002)

Image 1/3



Image 2/3



Image 3/3

COLLIN SEKAJUGO
Hidden price, 2021



Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 150 cm
78 1/8 x 59 1/8 in
(G1957CS004)

Image 1/4



Image 2/4



Image 3/4



Image 4/4

COLLIN SEKAJUGO
The endorser, 2021



Polypropylene, paint and photo on canvas
198.5 x 157 cm
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Image 1/5



Image 2/5



Image 3/5



Image 4/5



Image 5/5

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Acrylic, stitching, and image transfer on canvas

143 x 128 cm

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Image 1/5



Image 2/5



Image 3/5

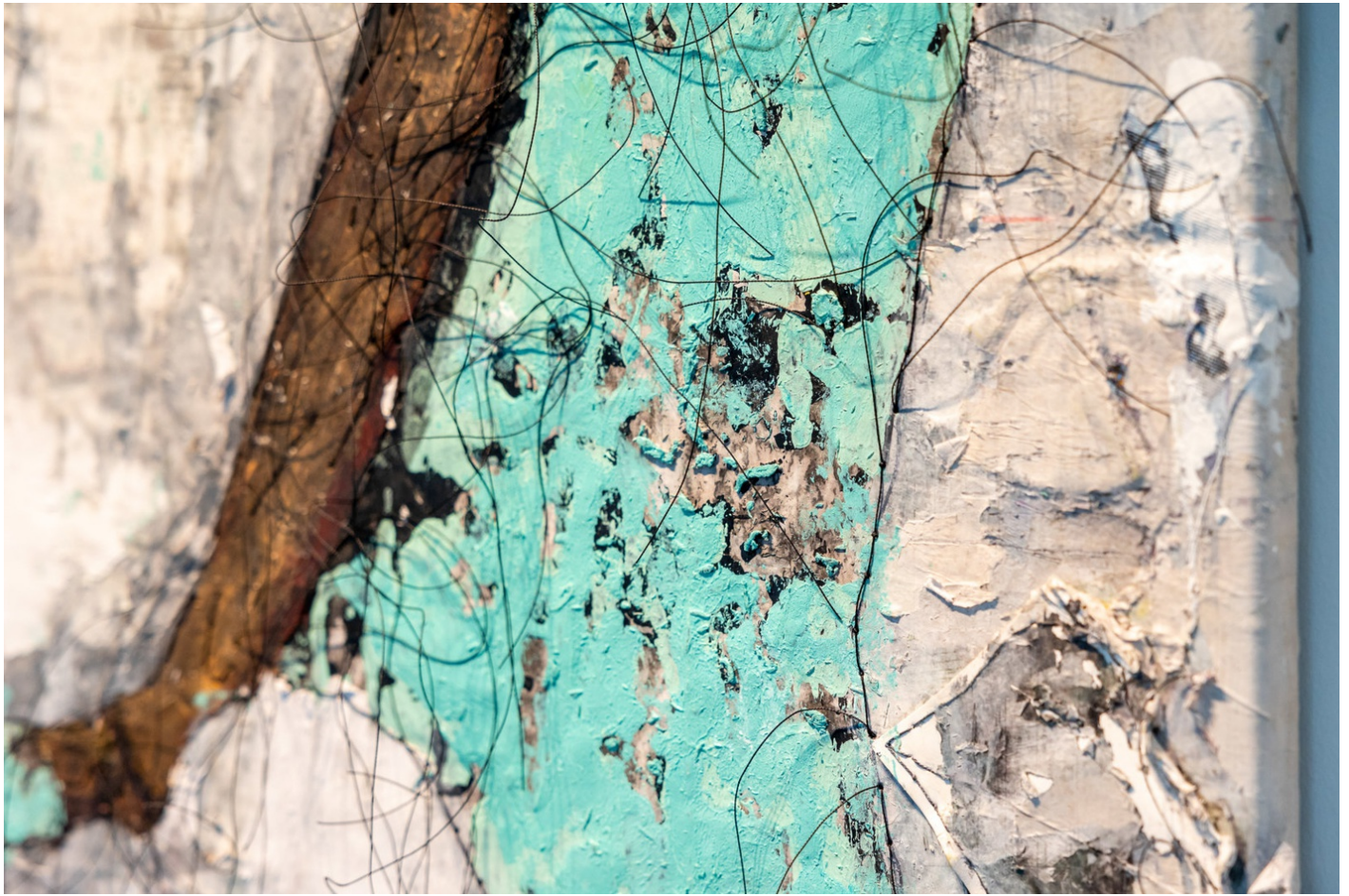


Image 4/5



Image 5/5

KALOKI NYAMAI
Keta Tu Okoma (Just Sleep), 2022



Acrylic, stitching, and image transfer on canvas
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Image 1/5



Image 2/5



Image 3/5



Image 4/5



Image 5/5

About the Artists

Collin Sekajugo is the child of a Rwandan mother and Ugandan father, resulting in a multi-ethnic identity that heavily influences the content and technique of his art. His art has been exhibited at solo and group exhibitions in Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Dubai, the United Kingdom, and Denmark, while some of his work resides in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington D.C. His work is part of the 2022 Venice Biennale's Uganda National Pavillion, for which he received a Special Mention Award (with Acaye Kerunen) for outstanding achievement as a national pavilion.

Born in Kitui, Kenya, Kaloki Nyamai moved at an early age to the capital of Nairobi, where he currently resides. His first creative inspirations were his mother, who worked in fashion, and his grandmother, who was a musician. These varied early inspirations are reflected in Nyamai's multidisciplinary repertoire, as a student of interior design and film, who later taught art classes before dedicating himself to his visual art practice. Nyamai pursued formal training at the Buruburu Institute of Fine Arts (BiFA) and has since exhibited in several solo and group exhibitions in Kenya, Ghana, South Africa, the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Germany, and Spain. In recognition of his talent, his work has been shown at the Kampala Biennale, Dakar Biennale, and the Venice Biennale.