

SYOWIA KYAMBI / CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education

- 2020 Master in Fine Arts, Plymouth University, Transart Institute, UK
2002 Bachelor in Fine Arts, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, USA

Exhibitions [^{*} denotes solo exhibitions / ^{**} denotes touring exhibitions]

- 2026 ***Fugitive Bodies, Speculative Borderlands*** an[other] space, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2025 ***Worlding*** the Institute of Modern Art, Nuremberg, Germany
- 2025** ***Le Sel Noir*** Städtische Galerie Villingen Schwenningen / Städtische Galerie Bremen, Germany
- 2025 ***Das ist kolonial. Westfalens (un)sichtbares Erbe*** Landesmuseum Dortmund, Germany
- 2004 ***Broken Time. And the World is Made Again by What it Forgets*** Skopje Museum of Contemporary Art, Macedonia
- 2024 ***Decolonial Feminist Ecologies: On Body & Land*** Off Site Lahore Biennale, Pakistan
- 2024 ***Sweeping Tide: Notes Towards Decolonial Feminisms*** Gallery North & Experimental Studio, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- 2023* ***KASPALE*** The Nairobi Contemporary Institute, Kenya
- 2023 ***Matter as Actor*** Lisson Gallery, UK
- 2022-2025 ***All Hands On: Basketry*** Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Berlin
- 2022 ***Exercises in Conversation*** Pavilion of Kenya / 59th International Art Exhibition - Biennale di Venezia, Italy
- 2022 ***Índaffa / Forger Out of the Fire*** Dakar Biennale, Senegal
- 2022-2023 ***Contact Zones*** Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt/Main, Germany
- 2022 ***The Ordinary Lives of Women*** Unfinished Art Space, Malta
- 2019 ***AMANI, on the Trail of a Colonial Research Station*** MARKK Museum, Hamburg, Germany
- 2018* ***Double Consciousness*** Galerie Mitte im Kubo, Bremen, Germany
- 2015- 2019** ***Future Africa Visions in Time*** Nairobi National Museum, Kenya, Goethe Johannesburg, South Africa, Goethe Windhoek, Namibia, Goethe Kigali, Rwanda, Makerere University Gallery, Kampala,

- Uganda, Iwalewahaus, Bayreuth Academy for Advanced African Studies, Germany
- 2015 **Error X** Ostrale Centre for Contemporary Art, Dresden, Germany
- 2016** **Kabbo Ka Muwala – The Girl's Basket. Migration and Mobility in Contemporary Art in Southern and Eastern Africa** National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe, Makerere Art Gallery, Kampala, Uganda, Städtische Galerie, Bremen, Germany
- 2016 **Still (the) Barbarians** EVA International Biennale, Limerick, Ireland
- 2015/2016** **Remains, Waste and Metonymy: A critical Intervention into Art Scholarship** British Institute of Eastern Africa & Nairobi National Museum, Kenya
- 2015 **From Heaven to Hell** Villa Empain, Brussels, Belgium
- 2015** **Body Talk: Feminism, Sexuality and the Body in the Work of Six African Women Artists** WIELS Contemporary Art Centre, Brussels, Belgium, Konsthalle Lund, Sweden, Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain Lorraine, Metz, France
- 2014* **Between Us** GoDown Art Centre, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2013-2014 **Foreign Bodies/Common Ground** Wellcome Collection, London, United Kingdom
- 2013-2014 **Nairobi – Stockholm** the Swedish Centre for Architecture and Design, Stockholm Sweden
- 2012 **Layers** Nairobi National Museum, Kenya
- 2011 **ARS 11** Poikilo, Kouvola Art Museum, Kouvola, Finland
- 2010* **Permiso: Excuse Me** Nairobi National Museum, Kenya
- 2010 **Mwangalio Tofauti** Nairobi Gallery, Kenya
- 2010 **Not About Karen Blixen** Karen Blixen Museum, Denmark
- 2010 **SPace: Currencies in Contemporary African** Art Museum Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2009* Between the Doors La Casa de San Fernando, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2009 **Probe: the Amnesia Project Platform 7** Go Down Art Centre, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2008* **WoMen, Fraulein, Damsel & Me** Rahimtulla Museum of Modern Art, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2008* **Gender, Power & the Past** Goethe-Institute Nairobi, Kenya
- 2004 **Contemporary Visions** National Museum of Mali, Bamako, Mali
- 2004 **Utopia** Rahimtulla Museum of Modern Art, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2001 **Of Figurative Empathy** Lounge Gallery, Chicago U.S.A

Residencies & Fellowships

- 2025 **Carnival as a Conjuring of History and Memory** Sustaining the Otherwise & Alice Yard, Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

- 2022 **Artist Travel** MATZA Edgelands Institute, Cúcuta, Columbia
- 2022 **INHABIT** Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics,
Frankfurt/Main, Germany
- 2020 **Third Nature** London South Bank University, Performing Borders
& LADA, UK
- 2019 **Carrying Histories** PRAKSIS, Oslo, Norway
- 2019 **Field Kitchen Academy** Berlin, Germany
- 2018-2019 **Artist in Residency** Tanga, Tanzania & MARKK Museum Hamburg
- 2018-2020 **Senior Research Fellow Centre for Art, Design & Social Research
Program** Spoleto, Italy / Merida, Mexico / Nairobi, Kenya
- 2018 **HIAP** Helsinki, Finland
- 2017 **Smithsonian Artist Research Fellow** Washington DC, U.S.A
- 2016 **Miracle Marathon** Serpentine Galleries, London, United Kingdom
- 2016 **Performance as Process** Delfina Foundation, London, UK
- 2016 **(Re)thinking Feminism and Black Womanhood** Kampala Uganda
- 2016 **The Art of Health: Exploring Creative Engagement with Research**
Wellcome Collection, Mumbai, India
- 2013 **IASPIS** Stockholm Sweden
- 2012 **Art in Global Health** Wellcome Trust Fund, United Kingdom
- 2012 **ArtsWork: Refiguring Women** Goethe Institute, Johannesburg,
South Africa
- 2009 **Creative Artist Visit** External Ministry of Affairs, Mexico City,
Mexico

Artist Talks & Symposiums

- 2025 **Re-imagining the Global South: Art, Gender & Identity** UNESCO 57th
AICA International conference, University of Johannesburg, S.A
- 2024 **Extractivism/Activism: Art Activism & Ecological Extract** Paul
Mellon Centre & Autograph, London, UK
- 2024 **Assemblage III: Community & Care** Northumbria University,
Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- 2023 **In Conversation: Syowia Kyambi, Mareike Spaeth, Eike
Walkenhorst, Dr Oketch Onyango & Dr Annie E. Coombes** the
Nairobi Contemporary Art Institute, Kenya
- 2022 **Africa Fashion Expanded** V&A Museum & SOAS, London, U.K
- 2019 **Mosquito & The Suit** M.Bassy, Hamburg, Germany
- 2018 **Resident Fellow lecture by Syowia Kyambi** Academy of Fine Arts,
Exhibition Laboratory, Helsinki, Finland
- 2018 **Double Consciousness** Oldenburg University, Oldenburg, Germany

- 2017 **Looking for Bridges / Forming Trajectories** National Museum of African Art Smithsonian, Washington D.C, USA
- 2014 **1:54 FORUM 2014: Koyo Kouoh in Conversation with Syowia Kyambi & James Muriuki** Somerset House, London, UK

Educational Leadership & Pedagogical Practice

- 2023~2026 **Spitzen Professor** at the Academy of Fine Arts Nuremberg since November 2023 through the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and the Arts' Top Professorship Programme (SPP). Designed and implemented an on-going pedagogical project the Interlocutory Agency.
- 2022~2024 **Director of the Masters in Fine Arts program** for Transart Institute in accreditation with Liverpool John Moores University.
- 2019~2023 **Co-founder of a processed based international residency program**, Untethered Magic; focused on autonomy, knowledge exchange and sustainability.
- 2023 **Produced UJUZI a regional first alternative learning and mentorship program** for East African artists adopting a holistic approach to artistic education encompassing creative research methodologies and contextual thinking.
- 2010~2014 **Head of Art & Design Department** following Cambridge International Examinations Board British National Curriculum at both Years 9–11 (IGCSEs) and Years 12–13 (A-Levels & BTECs)
- 2005~2010 **Head of Primary Years Program Art Department**, International Baccalaureate Schools Aga Khan Academy in both Nairobi and Mombasa.
- 2020 **Peer to Peer Mentor: Hjemmefra-artists-at-home-residency** The Union, Oslo, Norway (online)
- 2019 **Kunstpioniere Program** MARKK Museum, Hamburg, Germany
- 2018 **Studio Critical Feedback Sessions** Academy of Fine Arts University of the Arts, Helsinki, Finland
- 2012 **Middle Leaders Training** Karen Ardley Associates, Cairo, Egypt
- 2012 **Lead Facilitator for the Assessment in the Arts** International British Curriculum Schools Nairobi INSET, Hillcrest International Schools, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2008 **Curator & Lead Facilitator for the Performance Art Workshop within the Primary Years Program** The Aga Khan Academy, Nairobi, Kenya

- 2007 **Curator & Lead Facilitator titled *Inside & Outside the Classroom: The Importance of Art Education*** Rahimtulla Museum of Modern Art, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2005 **CPD training for the Arts as Inquiry within the Primary Years Program** International Baccalaureate, Bucharest, Romania

Public Commissions & Collections

- 2026/2022 The Nairobi Contemporary Art Institute Collection Nairobi, Kenya
Kaspale's Playground (2020)
Parts of the Brother's (2020)
Parts of the Sister's (2020)
- 2024 Nicolas Logsdail Collection London, UK
Entity Costume part of Fracture (i) (2011)
- 2024/2016 Devereux Collection London, UK
Kaspale's Ancestor (i) (2022)
WoMen, Fräulein, Damsel & Me (2013)
- 2020 PLP / Aspire Art Collection Cape Town, South Africa
Kaspale's Archive Intrusion the Vortex III (2019)
Rose's Relocation (2015)
- 2016 Sindika Dokolo Foundation Luanda, Angola
Counter Action (ii) (2015)
- 2011 Kouvola Art Museum Collection Kouvola Finland
Between the Doors (ii) (2010)
- 2008 National Museum Nairobi Kenya
Infinity: Flashes of the Past (2008)
- 2004 National Museum Mali Bamako, Mali
Rosewood (2004)
Everybodyies (2004)

Press & Publication

- 2025 Körnig & Lähnemann & Daniels & Rudy, "Le Sel Noir: Perspektiven Schwarzer Gegenwartskunst." Kerber Verlag
- 2025 Hardt, "Beziehungsgeflechte." Texte Zur Kunst, July, Web-Archive
- 2025 Wild & Kyambi, "Worlding." Catalogue
- 2023 Prasad & Osrin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Planetary Destruction." CUSSH

- 2021 Kyambi, "Holding Space." performingborders e-journal Fragments for Borderless Futures, U.K
- 2020 Marsh, "In Other Words." Metal Culture
- 2018 Galerie Mitte im Kubo. Solo Exhibition Catalogue. "Double Consciousness." Bremen, Germany
- 2018 C. Liebelt, S. Böllinger and Ulf Vierke, "Beauty and the Norm: Debating Standardization in Bodily Appearance." Palgrave Macmillan
- 2016 National Gallery Zimbabwe in Harare, Makerere Art Gallery Kampala & Stätische Galerie Bremen, "Kaboo ka Muwala [The Girls Basket] Migration and Mobility in Contemporary Art in Southern and Eastern Africa." Revolver Publishing
- 2016 Murray, Kernohan & Kouoh, Catalogue, "Still (the) Barbarians." EVA INTERNATIONAL – Ireland's Biennial
- 2015 Raw Material Company, "Body Talk: Feminism, Sexuality and the Body in the Work of Six African Women Artist." WIELS, Konsthalle Lund, FRAC Lorraine 49 North 6 East
- 2015 Villa Empain, "Heaven and Hell. From Magic Carpets to Drones." Boghossian Foundation
- 2014 Contact Zones NRB Vol: 13. "Miriam Syowia Kyambi." Nairobi: Native Intelligence
- 2013 Coombes, Hughes & Munene. "Managing Heritage, Making Peace: History, Identity and Memory in Contemporary Kenya." I.B. Tauris
- 2012 Contact Zones NRB Vol: 05 "Mwangalio Tofauti – Nine Photographers from Kenya." Nairobi: Native Intelligence
- 2012 Goniwe & Mboweni. "SPace: Currencies in Contemporary African Art." Johannesburg: Africa World Press & Unisa Press
- 2004 Dr. Kivubiro Tabawebbula. "Utopia, Seven Artists Seek a Place in the Kenyan Art Scene." Nairobi: Kyambi/Kivubiro