

NNENNA OKORE

EDUCATION

- 2005 MFA Sculpture, University of Iowa
2004 M.A. Sculpture, University of Iowa.
1999 B.A. Painting, University of Nigeria. (First Class Honors)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- 2015- Professor, North Park University, Chicago, USA
2012-13 Fulbright Scholar, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria.
2011- 15 Associate Professor, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
2005-11 Assistant Professor, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
2005-05 Research Assistant, Library Information Arcade, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.

SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA (forthcoming)
2018 WHATIFTHEWORLD Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa (forthcoming)
2017 *Ukwa Ruo Oge Ya O Daa - There's a Time for Everything*, October Gallery, London, UK
Útútù, Mattatuck Museum, Connecticut, USA
Nnenna Okore: Osimili, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Anima, CSPS, Legion Art Gallery, Cedar Rapids, IA
2016 *Rotunda Projects: Nnenna Okore*, Memphis Brook Museum of Art, Memphis, TN
When All is Said and Done, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, IL
2015 *Nnenna Okore: Owu*, Arrowhead Gallery, Waubensee Community College, IL
Nkata, Krannert Museum of Art, University of Urbana-Champaign, USA
On the Brink, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, USA.
2014 *Twist and Turns*, David Krut Gallery, New York, USA.
Fiber of Being, Welch School Galleries, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA.
Unfound, Beard Art Center Gallery, Indiana Wesleyan University, Indiana, USA.
Will You Walk With Me to the End of the Earth?, Carlson Tower Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
2013 *Akaraka: What Will Be*, Art Twenty One, Lagos, Nigeria.
Flow, Wheatbaker Hotel Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria.
2012 *Transfiguration*, Contemporary African Art Gallery, New York, USA.
2011 *Nnenna Okore: New Works*, Herron School of Art and Design Gallery, Indiana University, Indianapolis, USA.
Shokoloko, Craft Alliance, St. Louis, USA.
Rush, Skidmore College Gallery, New York, USA. *Metamorphoses*, October Gallery, London, UK.
Torn Apart, David Krut Projects, New York, USA.
On The Edge, Dittmar Memorial Gallery, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA.
2010 *Life After*, Noyes Art Center, Evanston, USA.
Textile, Blachere Foundation Art Center, Apt, France.
Recovered Energies, Bekris Gallery, San Francisco, USA.
Absurd Beauty, Northeastern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago, USA.
2009 *Strings and Patterns*, Viterbo University Gallery, La Crosse, USA.
Anyanwu, Carl A. Fields Center Gallery, Princeton University, Princeton, USA.
Twisted Ambience, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, USA.

- 2008 *Of Earth...Bark and Topography*, Goethe Institut, Lagos, Nigeria.
- 2008 *Ulukububa*, October Gallery, London, UK.
- Moonlight Tales*, Tall Grass Gallery, Park Forest, USA.
- Afrika West*, Oriel Mostyn Gallery, Llandudno, UK.
- 2007 *Reflection*, Contemporary African Art Gallery, New York City, USA.
- Sub-consciousness*, Adam Hall Gallery, Wheaton College, Wheaton, USA.
- 2006 *Betwixt and Between*, Carlson Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
- 2005 *Paper to Paper*, Armature Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
- 2004 *Accumulations*, Arts Iowa City, Iowa City, USA.
- 2003 *Re-presented*, Armature Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
- 2002 *Beyond the Lines*, Didi Museum, Lagos, Nigeria.
- 2001 *Metaphors*, Alternate Space, Lagos, Nigeria.

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Spring Selections*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Abstract Minded: Works by Six Contemporary African Artists*, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York, New Paltz, NY
- 2017 *Abstract Minded: Works by Six Contemporary African Artists*, N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit, MI
- Shelter: Crafting a Safe Home*, Society for Contemporary Craft (SCC), Pittsburg, PA
- The Enlighteners*, Fondation Blachère Collection, Palais des Papes; Musée du Petit Palais; Musée Calvet and Musée Lapidaire, Avignon, France
- Beyond Surface*, Fashion Outlets of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- When the Heavens Meet the Earth*, The Heong Gallery, Cambridge, UK
- Weather or Not, That is the Question*, Children's Museum of the Arts, New York, NY
- Faculty Show*, Brendel Library Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, IL
- 2016 *Expo Chicago*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Seattle Art Fair*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Seattle, WA
- Summertime...*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Art Market San Francisco*, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- Standing Out*, Temple Muse, Lagos, Nigeria
- La mer/La mère*, St Mary's College, South Bend, IN
- On the Wall Installation*, Monique Moloche Gallery, USA
- Art Dubai, Sakshi Gallery, Dubai
- Nkata*, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL
- Finding Shelter: An Exhibition of Contemporary Fiber Art*, Baum Gallery, University of Central Arkansas, AK
- 2015 *Exceptional: Handmade Paper Beyond Substrate*, Minnesota Center for Book Art, USA.
- Works from Around our State*, Evanston Art Center, USA.
- Africa Africans*, Museu Afro Brasil, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- Faculty Art Show*, Brendel Library Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
- 2014 *Interwoven Histories*, October Gallery, London, UK.
- Brides of Anansi: Fiber and Contemporary Art*, Spelman Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, USA.
- African Origins*, Morton Fine Art, Washington, D.C.
- Faculty Art Show*, Brandel Library, North Park University, Chicago, IL
- 2013 *Six Draughtsmen*, Museum of Contemporary African Diasporic Art (MoCADA), New York, USA.
- International Biennial of Lin de Portneuf, Quebec, Canada.
- No One Belongs Here More Than You*, Center for Contemporary Art, Lagos, Nigeria

- Textura*, Bekris gallery, San Francisco, USA.
- 2012 *Inside-out/Outside-in*, Two person show, Visual Art Center Gallery, Mississippi State University, MS.
- 2011 *Environment and Object in Recent African Art*, Anderson Gallery, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, USA.
Transcending Integration, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, USA.
Environment and Object in Recent African Art, Tang Museum, Skidmore College, New York City, NY.
- 2010 *Scratch*, presented by Sakshi Gallery at Latit Kala Akademi, New Delhi, India.
(Re-) Cycles of Paradise, UN COP16, Cancun, Mexico.
 29th Sao Paulo Biennial, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
Textile, Blachere Foundation Art Center, Apt, France.
- 2009 *(Re-) Cycles of Paradise*, UN COP15, Copenhagen, Denmark.
Common Ground, Bekris Gallery, San Francisco, USA.
In Progress, Group show at Carlson Tower Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
Trash Menagerie, Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Salem, USA.
Paper to Pulp, Howard County Center for the Arts, Ellicott City, USA.
Transvanguard, October Gallery, London, UK.
Chance Encounters, Sakshi Gallery, Mumbai, India.
Objects of A Revolution, Galerie Dominique Fait, Paris.
Trace/Memory, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, USA.
- 2008 *Angaza Africa*, October Gallery, London, UK.
Afrika West at Galeri Artspace, Caernarfon, UK.
Channel4 Art Exhibition, Channel4, Art4, London, UK.
Second Lives: Remixing the Ordinary, Museum of Arts and Design, New York City, USA.
Refabrication, Carlson Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
Clay and Fiber, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, USA.
 Joburg Art Fair, (sponsored by October Gallery) Sandton Convention Center, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Trading Spaces, Binghamton University, Binghamton, USA.
- 2006 *African Contemporary Art Exhibition*, Dakar Biennale, Senegal.
- 2005 *Twelfth SOFA International Exposition*, Chicago, USA.
Faculty Show, Carlson Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, USA.
8th International Open Exhibition, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, USA
- 2003 *Migrations*, Legion Arts CSPA, Cedar Rapids, USA
Units, Legion Arts CSPA, Cedar Rapids, USA
- 2002 *New Works*, Armature Gallery, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA
- 2001 *New Energies*, Nimbus Gallery and Mydrim Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria.
- 1999 *B.A Exhibition*, Ana Gallery, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND RESIDENCIES

- 2017 Research and Development Lab (RaD Lab) Award, Threewalls, Chicago
- 2012 Fulbright Scholar Award to Nigeria
- 2011 Artist-in-residence/Teaching Fellowship, Skidmore College, New York, USA.
- 2010 Artist Residency, Jean Paul Blachère Foundation, Apt, France.
 Artist-in-residence, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, USA.
- 2008 North Park University Individual Project Grant, Chicago, USA.

- 2007 Artist Full Fellowship at Global Art Village, Delhi, India.
Residency at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Skowhegan, USA.
- 2006 Art Omi International Residency, New York, USA.
UNESCO-Aschberg Fellowship for Artists (Gruber Jez Foundation), Mexico.
- 2005 North Park University Individual Project Grant, Chicago, USA.
- 2004 SFAI Residency, Santa Fe Art Institute, Santa Fe, USA.
- 2002 Graduate Assistantship, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
Emma McAllister Novel Scholarship, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA.
Teaching Assistantship, University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA
- 1999 Valedictorian (Fine Arts), University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.
- 1994 First prize, UNIFEM Women's Art Contest, Lagos, Nigeria.
- 1993 First prize, UNICEF African Child's Day Art Competition, Mbabane, Swaziland.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2017 Between Fragility and Potency-A world of Sculptural transformation, by Elsa Guily, Intense Art Magazine, #3, October, 2017.
- 2016 Nnenna Okore's Sheer Audacity at the Brooks, by Elle Perry, Memphis Flyer, December 1, 2016.
Matter As Metaphor: The Art of Nnenna Okore, by Oliver Enwonwu, Omenka Magazine, Issue 4, Vol 1, 2016.
- 2015 A Sprint and a Stroll Through Krannert Art's New Exhibition, by Rebecca Knaur, Smile Politely: Urbana-Champaign Online Magazine, September 15, 2015.
Krannert Art Museum features Solo Show of Chicago-based Artist, by Jodi Heckel, Illinois New Bureau, August 26, 2015.
Nnenna Okore, Inspirational Magazine, Vol 4, May 2015
Paintings of a Caricaturists, Plus Two Sculptors, by Peter Plagens, Wall Street Journal, 2 January,
- 2014 Wise Buys: 50 Women Artist Worth Watching, Art+Auction Magazine, September, 2014
- 2013 Political By Nature: 2500-word interview with Nnenna Okore, by Robert Preece, Sculpture Magazine, July/August, 2013.
Finding inspiration in the most simple things..., by Faustina Anyanwu, C.Hub Magazine, December-February, Issue 2, Vol 1, 2012/13.
African Textiles Today, by Chris Spring, Smithsonian Book/British Museum Press, 2012.
Nnenna Okore: 'Transfiguration', by Holland Cutter, New York Times, November 9, 2012.
- 2012 We Face Forward..., by Jackie Wullschlager, Financial Times, August 12, 2012.
Out of Africa Comes the Art of Noise, by Mark Hudson, The Telegraph, 18 July, 2012.
Step Aside, Ferguson, African Art takes over Manchester, by Tajudeen Sowole, The Nigerian Guardian, June 15, 2012.
Okore receives Fulbright Award, by Nkechi opurum, Daily Times, May 3, 2012.
- 2011 Communication for Change celebrates the launch of a new documentary series..., by Juliana Oladipo, Fab magazine online, July 11, 2011.
Waste Management/Things Torn Apart, by Kate McCrickard, Art South Africa, Volume 9.4, June
With Metamorphoses, Okore returns to the UK, The Nigerian Guardian, April 19, 2011.
Fragility, Elegance and Decay, by A.M Weaver, Ceramics: Art and Perception, Issue 83, March 2011.
- 2010 Nigerian Art Market....,says Nnenna Okore, by McPhillip Nwachukwu, Vanguard, November 25.
Material Meaning, by Jessica Hemmings, Wasafiri Magazine, Issue 63, 2010.
Into the Art of Africa, by Elizabeth Upper, Above Magazine, Winter 2009/2010.
- 2009 Contemporary African Art Since 1980, by Okwui Enwezor and Chika Okeke-Agulu, 2009.
New Order, by Chika Okeke-Agulu, Arise Magazine, Issue 6, October 2009.
Nnenna Okore's art recycled material installation, by Jessica Kronika, The Examiner, August 11

- Visual Arts: Five artists 'paper' the arts center, by Mike Giuliano, Howard County Times, July 30,
 Tom Torluemke and others at the Cultural Center, by Albert Stabler, Proximity Magazine, July 26,
 Wakeful Souls, by Uzor Maxim Uzoatu, Next Newspaper, July 10, 2009.
 From Rags to Riches with Art, by Vanessa Offiong, Weekly Trust, June 2009.
 The goddess of small things ..., by Victor Ehikhamenor, Next Newspaper, June 19, 2009.
 Imitations of Nature, by Okechukwu Uwaezuoke, This Day, June 20, 2009.
 'Of Earth...' Nnenna Okore stages home show, by Chuka Nnabuife, Nigerian Compass, June 16,
 Nnenna Okore: Ulukububa at October Gallery, London, by Jessica Hemmings, Surface Design
 Journal, July edition, 2009.
 Contemporary Art Auction in Lagos, by Emmanuel Anyifite, Next Newspaper, April 9, 2009. Okore,
 Enwonwu, Onabrakpeya, Anatsui, Kentridge others in London's art auction, by Chuka Nnabuife and
 Emmanuel Agozino, Nigerian Compass, April 7, 2009.
 Groundbreaking African Artists In Spotlight At First British Auction Of Contemporary African Art
 At Bonhams, by Julian Roup, Bonhams Headlines, March 2009.
 Art of Africa, by Simon de Burton, The Financial Times, March 28, 2009.
 Artist to Watch: Nnenna Okore, by Katy Donoghue, Whitewall Magazine, Spring Issue, 2009.
 Studio Visit with Nnenna Okore: Art from Discarded and Found Things, by Molar Wood, Next
 Newspaper, February 08, 2009.
- 2008 Ulukububa: Infinite Flow, by Bunmi Akpata-Ohohe, Africa Today, December 3, 2008.
 Introduction: Ulukububa-Infinite Flow, by Polly Savage, Exhibition Catalogue, London, Oct 16-Dec
 6, 2008.
 Using Old Materials to Put a New Face on the Museum, by Roberta Smith, New York Times,
 September 26, 2008.
- 2007 Mind Openers-Women Artist in Africa, by Barbara Murray, Farafina Magazine, No 8, January,
 2006 The Yam is King, by Obi Nwakama, Farafina Magazine, No. 7, October, 2006.
 As Dak'art Beckons, by Ugochukwu Uwaerzuoke, This Day, March 26, 2006.
- 2005 8th International Open, Exhibition Announcement by Woman Made Gallery, March 4, 2005.
 2003 Chasing the Paper Trails with Vision, by Vidya Murthy, Daily Iowan, June 26, 2003.
 2002 Plenty Art Shows, Lean Patrons, by Chukka Nnabuife, The Guardian, May 21, 2002.
 2001 The Metaphors of Today, by Victor Ikwele, National Interest, August 19, 2001.
 New Energies, Rebellion against the Old, by Ozolua Ukhaheme, The Guardian, May 15, 2001.
 The Real Values Beyond the Tags, by Okechukwu Uwaezuoke, The Comet, May 15, 2001.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2016 Panel Discussion, with Karen Milbourne and Ato Malinda, AKA Art Fair, Paris, France.
 Booth Talk, Nnenna Okore in Conversation with Staci Boris, Expo Chicago, Chicago, USA.
 Guest Speaker, Career Night at Wheaton College, USA.
- 2015 Visiting Artist, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA.
 Panel Discussion, with Sidney Kasfir, Chika Okeke-Agulu and Ugochukwu Smooth Nzewi, Anya
 Fulu Ugo Symposium, University of Nigeria, Nigeria.
 Panel Discussion, with Niaomi W Gakunga, Ablade Glover and Bright Eke, Museu Afro Brazil.
 Gallery Talk, in conversation with Michelle Grabner, Elmhurst Art Museum, USA.
- 2014 Guest Artist, Georgia State University, USA.
 Guest Artist, Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York, USA.
 Visiting Artist, Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, USA.
- 2013 Visiting Scholar, University of Lagos, Nigeria.
- 2012 Panel Discussion, with Christa Clarke, Osi Audu and Marcia Kure, Newark museum, USA.
- 2011 Visiting Artist, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, USA.

- Visiting Artist, Herron school of Art and Design, University of Indiana, Indianapolis, USA.
Guest Artist, Tang Museum, Skidmore College, New York, USA.
- 2010 Guest Artist, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, USA.
Visiting Artist, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, USA.
Visiting Artist, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, USA.
- 2009 Guest Artist, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, USA.
Guest Artist, Princeton University, Princeton, USA.
Guest Artist, Viterbo University, La Crosse, USA.
Guest Artist, Time Line Lecture series, Museum of African Art, New York City, USA.
- 2008 Visiting Artist, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

JURY EXPERIENCES

- 2017 Juror, *Between the Seams*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 Juror, *So Much More*, Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL.
Juror, *Nonword + Upward*, Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL.
- 2010 Juror, Annual Juried Art Exhibition, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 Juror, 1st Annual Joseph Frasca memorial Works on Paper Exhibition, Around the Coyote Gallery, Chicago, IL

SELECT COLLECTIONS

Four Seasons Hotel and Resorts, California, USA
North Park University, Chicago, IL, USA
World Bank, Washington DC, USA
Brooklyn Academy of Music, NY, USA
United States Embassy, Abuja, Nigeria
Eko Hotel and Suites, Lagos, Nigeria
Halls Winery, Napa, CA, USA
Newark Museum, New Jersey, USA
Jean Paul Blachere Fondation, France
Indianapolis Art Center, Indianapolis, USA
Royal Collections, Abu Dhabi, UEA
Art House Contemporary Limited, Nigeria
Channel 4, London, UK
Renaissance Capital, Moscow, Russia
Daraja Art Foundation, London, UK
Sina Jina Collection, London, UK