

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Leilah Babirye

Born: Kampala, Uganda, 1985
Lives and works in Brooklyn, New York, USA

Education

2007–2011 BA Fine Art, Sculpture and Art History, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

Special Projects

2023
Frieze Sculpture, London, UK (public commission)

2022
Black Atlantic, Brooklyn Bridge Park, Brooklyn, New York (public commission)

2021
Najunga From the Kuchu Ngaali (Crested Crane) Clan, Celine, London, UK (public commission)

Solo Exhibitions (selected)

2024
We Have a History, de Young Museum, San Francisco, California
Obumu (Unity), Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK

2022
Ebika Bya ba Kuchu mu Buganda (Kuchu Clans of Buganda), Gordon Robichaux, Los Angeles, California

2021
Ebika Bya ba Kuchu mu Buganda (Kuchu Clans of Buganda) II, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (catalogue)

2020
Ebika Bya ba Kuchu mu Buganda (Kuchu Clans of Buganda) I, Gordon Robichaux, New York (catalogue)
Leilah Babirye, Rebecca Camacho Presents, San Francisco, California

2018
Amatwaale Ga Ssekabaka Mwanga II (The Empire of King Mwanga II), Gordon Robichaux, New York

Group Exhibitions (selected)

2024
Stranieri Ovunque - Foreigners Everywhere: 60th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Giardini delle Vergini, Venice, Italy (catalogue)
Liquid Gender, Sainsbury Centre, Norwich, UK

2023
Dreaming of Home, Leslie-Lohman Museum of Art, New York
This Too Shall Pass, Venus Over Manhattan, New York
Ecstatic, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California
Traces of Displacement, The Whitworth, Manchester, UK
Living Art Sharing Stories, Sainsbury Centre, Norwich, UK

Distant Voices; Galerie Max Hetzler, Paris, France
Drawings by Sculptors, Helena Anrather, New York

2022

Mixed up with others before we even begin, Museum moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien, Vienna, Austria
Strange Clay: Ceramics in Contemporary Art, Hayward Gallery, London, UK (catalogue)
Contemporary African Art Collection, The Africa Centre, London, UK
52 Artists: Revisiting a Feminist Milestone, The Aldrich, Ridgefield, Connecticut
The odds are good, the goods are odd, Lisson Gallery, New York
Set It Off, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, New York
On the Nature of Things, Andrew Kreps, New York

2021

Coventry Biennial: Hyper-Possible, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, UK (catalogue)
David Wojnarowicz: Tidal Motion, 445 Commercial Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts
DOWNTOWN 2021, La MaMa Galleria, New York

2020

25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK (catalogue)
When Sun Comes Out, Blank Forms, New York
Did I Ever Have a Chance?, Marc Selwyn Fine Art, Beverly Hills, California
Art on the Grid, Public Art Fund, New York
Intimate Companions, Mary Heaton Vorse House, Provincetown, Massachusetts
A Page From My Intimate Journal (Part II) —, Gordon Robichaux at Parker Gallery, Los Angeles, California

2019

Flight: A Collective History, Hessel Museum of Art, CCS Bard, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
Stonewall 50, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, Texas
Plays On Camp, curated by Ksenia M. Soboleva, Assembly Room, New York
The Other Is You: Brooklyn Queer Portraiture, Bric, Brooklyn, New York
Fur Cup, Underdonk, Brooklyn, New York
Nobody's World, Gordon Robichaux, New York

2018

STRANGE ATTRACTORS: The Anthology of Interplanetary Folk Art, Vol. 2: The Rings of Saturn, Kerry Schuss, New York
The Socrates Annual, Socrates Sculpture Park, Long Island City, New York
Drawings, CANADA, Frieze New York
Worlds Apart | Worlds Reframed: Images & Voices of the Queer Diaspora, Concordia University, Portland, Oregon

2017

Sylvia Rivera Law Project, Small Works for Big Change, Participant Inc, New York
Let Go or Be Dragged, Gordon Robichaux, NADA, New York
Leilah Babirye, Daphne Fitzpatrick, Siobhan Liddell, and Tabboo!, Gordon Robichaux, New York

2016

When Things Fall Apart: Critical Voices on the Radars, Trapholt Museum, Kolding, Denmark (catalogue)
Art and Resistance, curated by the Center for Constitutional Rights, Mormor Studio, New York
Sylvia Rivera Law Project, Small Works for Big Change, Cooper Union Gallery, New York
Sites of Exchange: Lavender Diaspora, Clifford Chance US LLP, New York and Washington DC

2015

FIAR: Fire Island Art Residency Exhibition, Cherry Grove Community House, Fire Island, New York

2014

Makerere Art Gallery, Kampala, Uganda
Kampala Art Biennale, Kampala Contemporary Art Festival, Kampala, Uganda

2013
Uganda Museum, Kampala, Uganda

2012
NAFASI Art Space, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania

2011
Kuona Art Trust, Nairobi, Kenya
Women Exhibition, Shelton Hotel, Kampala, Uganda

Publications (selected)

2022
Strange Clay: Ceramics in Contemporary Art, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

2021
Coventry Biennial: Hyper-Possible, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, UK
Leilah Babirye, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK and Gordon Robichaux, New York

2020
25 Years, Stephen Friedman Gallery, London, UK

2016
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Residencies

2023 Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, UK
2021 Center for Contemporary Ceramics, California State University Long Beach, California
2020 Art Omi, Ghent, New York
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2018 Socrates Emerging Artist Fellowship, Long Island City, New York
2015 Fire Island Art Residency, Long Island, New York
2014 32 Degrees East / Ugandan Art Trust, Kampala, Uganda
2013 NAFASI Art Space, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania
2013 Kuona Trust, Nairobi, Kenya
2013 Hospitalfield Artist Residency, Scotland, UK

Lectures

2021
Can you see us now? A Diversity, Equity, & Inclusivity Ceramics Symposium, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire (visiting artist)
Art and Survival at Tisch, curated by JD Samson, New York University, New York

2020
Yorkshire Sculpture International, a partnership project between the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Art Gallery, The Hepworth Wakefield and Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Leeds and Wakefield, UK
Dykography: Conversations With Artists, The Center, New York
Art and Survival at Tisch, curated by JD Samson, New York University, New York
Clifford Chance US LLP, New York
Dialogue with human rights advocate Melanie Nathan, Rebecca Camacho Presents, San Francisco, California

2019
I Had A Dream, Moleskine Foundation and The Africa Center, New York
Creativity in Context at Tisch, organised by JD Samson, New York University, New York

2018

Ori Gallery, organised with Denver David Robinson, Portland, Oregon

Black Lesbian Conference, Barnard College, New York

Leilah Babirye: In Conversation, Gordon Robichaux, New York

Forum Talks, organised by Serubiri Moses, 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, New York

2016

Clifford Chance US LLP, Washington, DC

Public Collections

The Africa Centre, London, UK

Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio

Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California

Hessel Museum of Art, Bard College, Annandale-On-Hudson, New York

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, UK

Mumok, Vienna, Austria

Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island

Sainsbury Centre, Norwich, UK

Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Xiao Museum of Contemporary Art, Shandong, China