METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE



" The cows , The Pastures and The Tenants "

Contemporary African Art Exhibition By Muraina Akeem

27th of April 2024

SIGNATURE BEYOND ART GALLERY

Present

METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE

" The cows , The Pastures and The Tenants "

BY

MURAINA AKEEM

27th of APRIL - 4th of MAY 2024

Time : 2:00PM - 06:00pm

107 AWOLOWO ROAD, IKOYI, LAGOS, NIGERIA.

CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN ART EXHIBITION

INTRODUCTION

METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE

Welcome to "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE: the Cow, the Pastures, and the Tenants," a groundbreaking contemporary art exhibition curated by Signature Beyond Art Gallery. In this transformative showcase, we invite you to embark on a journey of exploration and discovery through the captivating world of 4-dimensional narrative sculptures crafted by the visionary artist, Muraina Akeem.

At the intersection of art and storytelling, "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE" offers a unique glimpse into Akeem's imaginative universe, where metal transcends its physical form to become a medium for the expression of profound narratives and timeless truths. Through his masterful craftsmanship, Akeem breathes life into inert materials, transforming them into conduits for the exploration of the human experience and the mysteries of existence.

The title of the exhibition—"the Cow, the Pastures, and the Tenants"—serves as a tantalizing invitation to delve into the rich tapestry of symbolism and metaphor woven throughout Akeem's sculptures. Each piece serves as a portal into a world where reality and fantasy converge, where the ordinary becomes extraordinary, and where the boundaries between past, present, and future blur into insignificance.

As you journey through the gallery space, allow yourself to be swept away by the evocative power of Akeem's creations. Lose yourself in the intricacies of his storytelling, immerse yourself in the subtle nuances of his craftsmanship, and allow your imagination to soar to new heights as you contemplate the deeper meanings hidden within each sculpture.

"METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE" is more than just an exhibition—it is a testament to the transformative power of art to inspire, provoke, and illuminate. We invite you to join us on this extraordinary voyage of discovery, as we explore the boundless possibilities of the human imagination and celebrate the enduring legacy of artistic expression.

With warm regards,

Signature beyond

Signature Beyond Art Gallery

FOREWORD

Welcome to "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE: the Cow, the Pastures, and the Tenants," an extraordinary contemporary exhibition that transcends the boundaries of conventional artistry.

As we step into the realm of Muraina Akeem's 4-dimensional narrative sculptures, we embark on a journey that defies the constraints of space and time, inviting us to explore the intricate tapestry of existence through the lens of imagination.

In this captivating collection, Akeem seamlessly blends the raw beauty of metal with the ethereal essence of storytelling, creating a symphony of form and narrative that resonates with profound depth and meaning. Each sculpture serves as a portal into a world where reality intertwines with myth, where the mundane is transformed into the extraordinary, and where the past, present, and future converge in a timeless dance of creation.

"The Cow, the Pastures, and the Tenants" symbolize more than just physical entities; they represent archetypes of human experience, embodying the universal themes of life, growth, and transformation. Through Akeem's masterful craftsmanship, these symbols come to life, inviting us to contemplate the mysteries of existence and ponder the hidden truths that lie beneath the surface of our collective consciousness.

As we navigate through this immersive exhibition, let us open our hearts and minds to the boundless possibilities that await us. Let us embrace the power of art to inspire, enlighten, and transform, and let us celebrate the extraordinary vision of Muraina Akeem as he invites us to embark on a voyage of discovery through the realms of Metalphysics.

With great anticipation and heartfelt admiration,

Signature Beyond

Signature Beyond Art Gallery

DEDICATION

Dedication

To all those whose spirits roam the boundless pastures of creativity, whose minds graze upon the lush fields of imagination, and whose hearts resonate with the timeless narratives woven into the fabric of existence, this exhibition is dedicated to you.

In honor of the relentless pursuit of artistic expression and the unwavering commitment to pushing the boundaries of perception, we dedicate "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE: the Cow, the Pastures and the Tenants" to the dreamers, the storytellers, and the visionaries who dare to envision worlds beyond the confines of reality.

May this collection of 4-dimensional narrative sculptures by Muraina Akeem serve as a beacon of inspiration, guiding us on a journey of exploration and discovery, as we traverse the landscapes of our imagination and uncover the hidden truths that lie within.

With boundless gratitude and profound reverence, we dedicate this exhibition to the indomitable spirit of creativity and to all those who seek to harness its transformative power to shape a world of wonder and possibility.

With deepest respect,

Muraina Akeem

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY



MURAINA, ADEKUNLE AKEEM
3, Wale Alomo Close, off Oguntade Street, Iju- Ishaga, Lagos. murainaakeem@gmail.com
Phone: (234) 8033245929

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 10TH APRIL 1966, IBADAN, OYO STATE MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED

NATIONALITY: NIGERIAN

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

1. 2001 FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATIONAL (TECH) AKOKA Post Graduate (Technical Teacher Certificate)

2. 1993 YABA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, YABA LAGOS Higher National Diploma (Sculpture)

3. 1990 YABA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, YABA LAGOS Ordinary National Diploma (General Art)

4. 1983 ADELAGUN MEMORIAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ODINJO IBADAN O' level

5. 1979 PROGRESSIVE DAY SCHOOL ALADORIN, IBADAN First School Leaving Certificate

MEMBERSHIPS

1. SOCIETY OF NIGERIA ARTISTS, NIGERIA
2. SCULPTORS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA, (Vice President South West 2021-Till Date)
3. ARTZERO GROUP NIGERIA
4. NIGERIA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

AWARDS

1. 2021 FELLOSHIP AWARD, Society Of Nigeria Artist, National Honour

2. 2017 DISTINGUISHED MASTER ARTIST AWARD, Society Of Nigeria Artists, Lagos Chapter

3. 2008 DISTINGUISHED STEWARDSHIP AWARD, Society Of Nigeria Artists, Lagos Chapter

EXHIBITIONS

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1. 2012 “THE EDEN BEFORE US” National Museum of Arts and Monuments, Onikan, Lagos.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

1. 2022 OCTOBER RAIN, Myerin Gallery Lagos

2. 2021 ELIXIR, National Museum Onikan Lagos

3. 2019 IMPACT ARTISTS FAIR, Alpha One, Eko Atlantic, Lagos.
4. 2018 “THE CENTRE CANNOT HOLD” Thought pyramid Art Centre, 96, Norman Williams Str. Ikoyi Lagos.

5. 2018
“OCTOBER RAIN” Society of Nigeria Artists, National Museum of Arts and Monuments, Onikan, Lagos.
6. 2011 INT’L ARTEXPO NIGERIA. National Museum of Arts and Monuments, Onikan, Lagos.

7. 2009 “ART ON THE MAINLAND” National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) National Theatre Complex, Igamu, Lagos.

8. 2009
“ART EXPO NIG.”, National Museum of Arts and Monuments Onikan, Lagos.
9. 2004 THE SEARCH (ART ZERO) Alliance Francaise, Kings Way Road, Ikoyi Lagos.
10. 2002 JIGIDA, Miss World Ball Room Galla Edinburgh, United Kingdom

11. 2001
SAFE A LIFE TODAY, AFA, Mmilimma Gallery, 19B, Balarebe Musa Crescent Victoria Island, Lagos.
12.2001 ECHOES, CITIES & ARTISITS IN NIGERIA, Museum of Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan,
Oyo State.

13. 2001 SOUL OF NATURE, African Foundation for the Arts 19b Balarabe Musa Crescent, Victoria Island, Lagos.

14. 2000 ART & ENVIRONMENT (3RD Hamattan Workshop) Ania Onabolu Building National Theatre Complex Iganmu, Lagos.

15. 1998 FROM THE CANDLE, Geothe Institute Victoria Island, Lagos.

16. 1996 FAMILY TIES, National Museum of Art and Monuments, Onikan, Lagos.

17. 1996 BEAUTY IN FAITH, Russian Cultural Centre, 18a Gerrad Road, Victoria Island, Lagos.

SELECTED WORKSHOPS

1. 2018 20TH HARMATTAN WORKSHOP (FACILITATOR) METAL Section, Niger Delta Art & Culture, Agbaraha Ottor, Delta State.

2. 2012 14TH HARMATTAN WORKSHOP (FACILITATOR) Metal Section, Niger Delta Art & Culture, Agbaraha Ottor, Delta State.

3. 2010 CONADEV 2010 SOCIETY OF NIGERIA ARTISTS, NIIA, Lagos State.

4. 2009 ARTLAW TRAINING DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE NETWORK Normal Williams St. Ikoyi Lagos.

5. 2008 NATIONAL CURRICULUM CONFERENCE, TAI SOLARIN UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, Ijagun, Ijebu Ode, Ogun State.

6. 2008 VISUAL ART PRACTISE IN DEVELOPING ECONOMY, National Conference, Society of Nigeria Artists June 12 Cultural Center, Kuto, Abeokuta

7. 2003 THE GOLD IN THE DEBRIS (FACILITATOR) Junk Metal Workshop British Int. School Victoria Island, Lagos.

8. 2000 BRONZE CASTING, Sculpture Department School of Art, Design and Printing Yaba College of Technology, Yaba, Lagos

9. 2000 COMPREHENSIVE EXHIBITION GUIDE, Alliance Francaise Kingsway Road. Ikoyi, Lagos.

SELECTED PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

1. 2018 BURST OF KNOWLEDGE (Amo'ye) Stainless Steel, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State.

2. 2001 LATE CHIEF S.L EDU'S BURST, Nigerian Conservation Foundation, Lekki- Epe Road, Lagos.

3. 2001 “SCIENCE MASCOT”, Federal College of Education (Tech), Akoka, Lagos.

4. 2000 REINDEER (Wild- Life Metal Sculpture) Niger Delta Art & Culture Centre Agbarha-Otor, Delta State.

5. 1999 RECEPTION ART PIECES (Metal Sculpture Figures) Ford Foundation AIB Plaza, Victoria Island, Lagos.

6. 1999 “MIGHT OF PEN” STATUE, Igbobi College, Yaba, Lagos.

7. 1995 LOGO EDIFICE, Nigeria Tele- Communication Okuku Osun State.

8. 1993 MONUMENTAL SPORT COLUMN EDIFICE School of Art, Design & Printing, Yaba College of Technology, Yaba, Lagos.

AUCTIONS:

1. 2017 “THE AFFORDABLES” ART HOUSE AUCTION, Kia Motors, 308 Adeola Odeku, Victoria Island, Lagos.

2. 2015 SOGAL ART AUCTION, Porche Motors Centre, 179, Akin Adesola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Metalphysics Alliance in 4-dimensional narrative sculptures .
" The cows , The Pastures and The Tenants "

Peculiar adorations goes to the Merciful beneficient .

The metalphysics Alliance, my second solo exhibit happens to be a landmarking of my 30th year of sorjorning in the creative sphere

Newly added materials to my constructive and creative works of art on steel, like newspapers, electrical panels, keys and padlocks etc had been purposefuly used in alliances to create a unique and symbolic thought provoking visual experiences.

It's further establishes the impact of my commitment to material recycling at re-engineering the environment consciousness in the relative engagements are interactions between self and cohabitats of the Earth citizen .

The exhibits were executed using my peculiar minimalistic approach and were given satirical titles in Yoruba my tribal language. I strongly believe that pristine tribal languages are one of the best ways to access and of documentations of the the virile culture and philosophy of our great ancestors or forebearers
But the satirical title is a subtle pinching and a clarion calling out on the tenants, here which is the man species, for him to witness in reality the self created nightmares around himself. Perchance this might serve as a lit to cleansing himself of this dark maladies.

The theme : The Cows, the Pastures and the Tenants
..the cows here, seven of them is a cue from one of the famous scriptural Joseph's interpretation of the then king of Egypt's dream of the seven fat cows....fat cows represents the largesse of a buoyant economy.
Cows in this context were created from discarded plastic fuel tanks of motor vehicles . This perfectly relates to oil the current nerve of my country's economy and one of the cardinal focus of this show.
The Pastures here represents all of the endowed natural resources not limited to oil but agriculture products, gold and some of the other relatives..
The Tenants are the entrusted managers of the earth citizens which in this case is the Man .

The oil boom era had resulted into an intoxicated ego massaging and wastefulness . And inevitably these had resulted into the creations of multiple drain pipes into the greedy and unpatriotic private pockets at the expense of the larger majority ..

Plate 1 " Agbalowo m'eeri " (Subsidy).. dthis has the biggest horn that is made of a 25 litre gallon keg, which is one of the famous tools of trade duringusually imposed artificial fuel scarcity and relative malpractices and oil theft.... in plate 3, " Akinb'ogunlo " (the Matyr) it's broken horns are executed with natural horn skeleton. This eepresents the Lost Souls of those who had stood up to defend lack of commensurate compensation for the attending challenges of the oil explorations on

their land ..the ogoni 5 came to mind .. While pretending that all is well in " F'awo r'aja " (Ego massaging) plate 2.
There is indeed a very urgent need to revisiting one of the other viable pastures i.e that is agriculture in " Igi owó " (Tree of wealth) Plate 18 . This had been the initial bane of our once revered luxurious economy .

Inevitably the turning around must be well focused and rigorously pursued with a purposeful passion in " Èmi lọ́ kàn " (the Whirlwind and the champ) Plate 20.
... the " Goose " that is the girl child hitherto the woman, that has been laying the " golden eggs "of those who will drive these lofty schemes must be well tendered and protected with affections in " Abe fe " (the appeased goddess) Plate 22 .

so that with these, we can be able to free ourselves from the self imposed shackles in " Ẹni tọ́rí yo " (Jail break) Plate 12 . By keeping our intellect intact in " Ije'un agba " (Brain box) Plate 14 .
It is only when we are seriously ready for emancipation by putting to use you those highlighted possible and other relative plausible Solutions ..ionly then can we be able to avoid incessant warranted and unnecessary racial and political killings. Obviously the major causes of these are mostly our misplaced rivalry and priorities...solely by putting a good justice system and evaluation in place to achieve these haven in Plate 13 " Olowo gbogboro " (Unifier's code)..
.. the unifier code is a catalog of a well researched and harvested over a hundred non-fictitious victims of incessant man's racial and political killings across different walks of life.. from Nigeria to United States of America, China, India, New Zealand, Egypt, UK, Russia, Greece,, Spain and much many others.

This is a simple reflection that unguided violence, brutal abuses and killings are typification of any particular tribe, status or gender.
The harvested cenotaphs bore the full captions of those victim's names , when and where they were massacred.
Even though their preventable death were gruesome, they'll always remains in colorful collage in our memories
Nelson Mandela was added to this collage for a purpose. He came out of the unlawful incarceration to power but forgave all to to earn worthy world status of great hero for a better society.
It is only when there is justice that you can drop your keys elsewhere and go to bed, leaving your windows and doors open.
No bulletproof for nemesis , the boomerangs will always come back.
We are the wayfarers and also the torch bearers . Let's fill our lanterns with pure relevant oil to lit our paths for the quality of the oil in our lanterns determines its radiance and the firmness of our footings.

May we be rightly guided and strengthened.
happy viewing

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is with immense gratitude that we extend our sincerest appreciation to all those who have contributed to the realization of the "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE: the Cow, the Pastures and the Tenants" exhibition, featuring the captivating 4-dimensional narrative sculptures by the talented Muraina Akeem.

First and foremost, we express our deepest gratitude to Muraina Akeem, whose visionary talent and artistic brilliance have brought this exhibition to life. Through his mastery of metal sculpting, Muraina has created an immersive experience that transcends traditional art forms, inviting viewers to explore the intricate interplay between imagination, narrative, and reality.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the curatorial team and staff members whose dedication and hard work have been instrumental in organizing and presenting this extraordinary exhibition. Your tireless efforts behind the scenes have ensured that every detail of the exhibition is meticulously executed, allowing visitors to fully immerse themselves in Muraina's evocative world.

Furthermore, we are deeply grateful to our sponsors and supporters whose generosity and commitment have made this exhibition possible. Your unwavering belief in the power of art to inspire, provoke, and transform has enabled us to share Muraina's remarkable sculptures with a wider audience, enriching our cultural landscape and fostering creative dialogue.

Last but not least, we extend our warmest thanks to all our esteemed guests and visitors who have taken the time to explore "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE." Your presence and engagement are a testament to the enduring power of art to connect us, challenge us, and enrich our lives in profound ways.

Together, we celebrate the convergence of art, narrative, and imagination in "METALPHYSICS ALLIANCE," and we look forward to embarking on this captivating journey with you. Thank you for being a part of this transformative experience.

Warm regards,

Muraina Akeem

Artist

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VIEW EXHIBIT







Plate 1

Title: " Agba l'owo m'eeri " (Subsidy)
Size: 34" X 26" X 45 "
Medium : Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks , steel , bolts and nuts
Year: 2021



Plate 2

Tittle : " F'awo r'aja " (Ego massaging)
Size : 45" X 50" X 32"
Medium : Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks , steel , bolts and nuts.
Year : 2021



Plate 3
Title: " Akinb'ogunlo " (the Matyr)
Size: 48" X 48" X 16"
Medium : Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks, steel, bolts and nuts
Year : 2021



Plate 4

Tittle: " F'eje run " (Bio-fuel)
Size: 33" X 21" X 51"
Medium: Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks, steel, bolts and nuts
Year: 2021



Plate. 5
Title: " Agbo'ju l'ogun " (Insolence)
Size: 45" X 45" X 30"
Medium: Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks , steel , bolts and nuts
Year: 2021

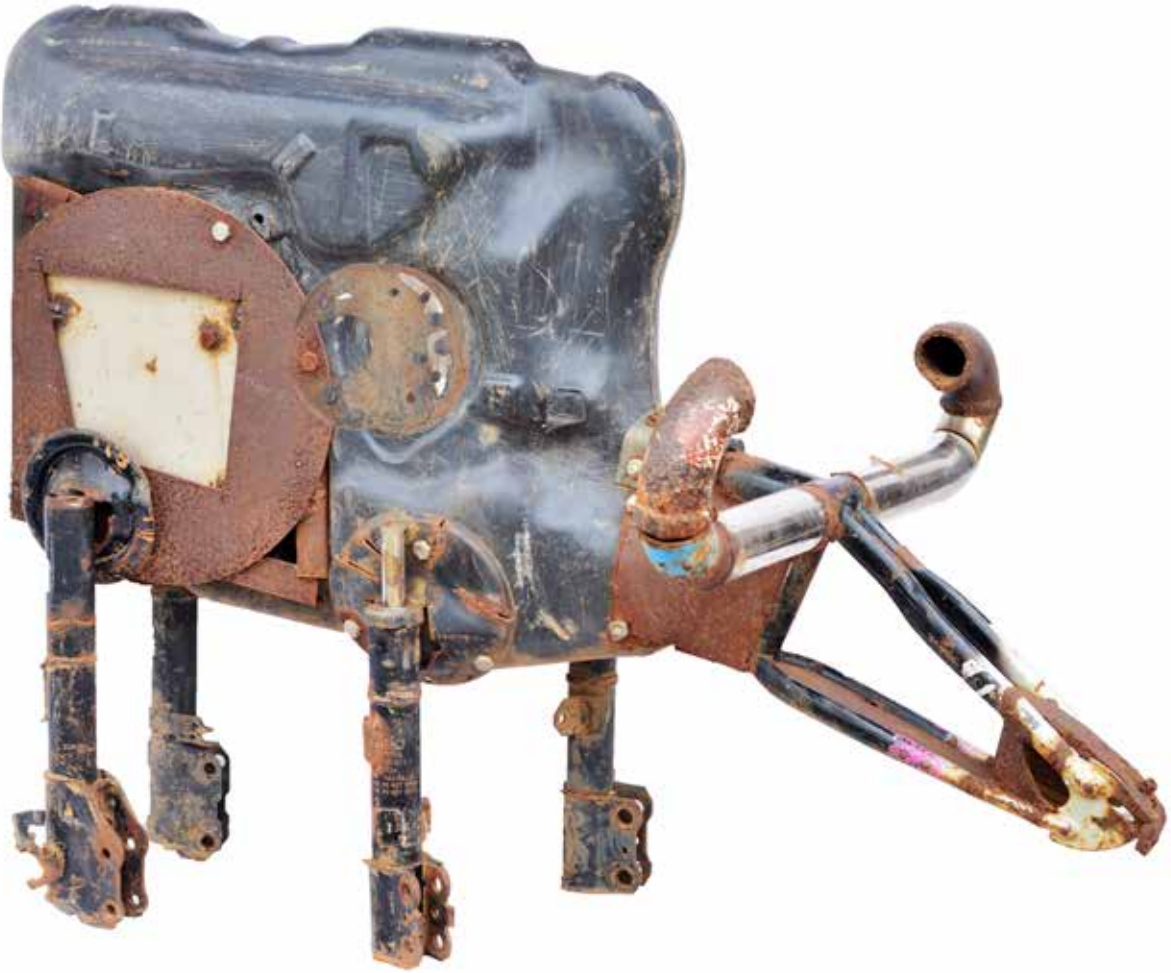


Plate: 6
Tittle: " Oro arokan " (Remenicency)
Size: 37" X 26" X 50"
Medium: Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks , steel , bolts and nuts
Year: 2021



Plate: 7
Tittle: " Agbo'de gba " (Double faced)
Size: 48" X 51" X 18"
Medium: Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks, steel , bolts and nuts
Year: 2021



Plate. 8
Tittle: " Omi tunutun " (2nd chance)
Size: 17" X 12" X 22"
Medium: Plastic car fuel tanks and shocks , bolts and nuts
Year: 2021









Plate. 9

Tittle. " Olowo gbogboro "
(Unifier's code)
Size. 95" X 65 "
Medium : Steel, newspaper , padlocks and keys
Year: 2022

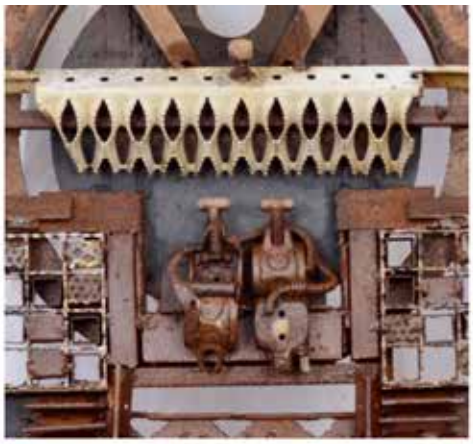






Plate 10
Tittle: " Ilé alaayun " (Procreation anointing)
Size: 38" X 50"
Medium: Wood and steel
Year: 2023









Plate. 11
Tittle. " Ade'le ba're " (where the welcomes smiles)
Size. 29" X 36"
Medium. Steel, newspapers, brass ornament plate, door lockers and key , e
Year. 2023

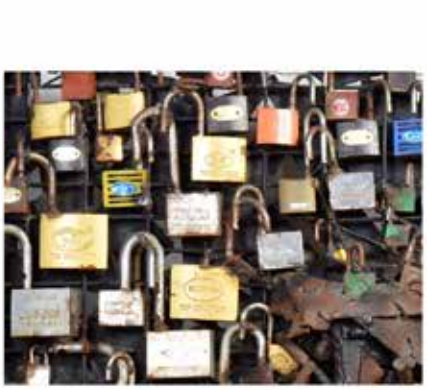






Plate. 12
Tittle. " Ẹni t'orí yo " (Jailbreak)
Size. 37" X 37"
Medium. Steel, padlocks and keys
Year. 2023







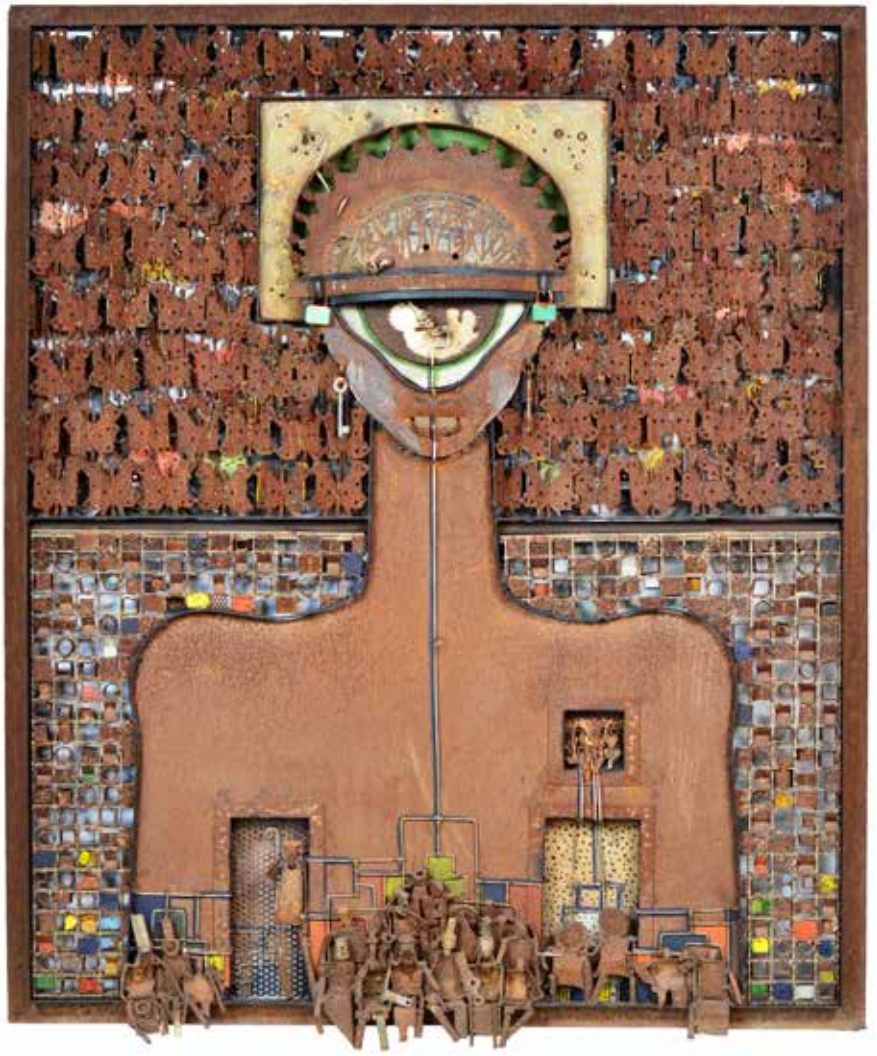


Plate. 13
Tittle : " Oloja gbooro " (Custodian)
Size : 51" X 64"
Medium : Door hinges, steel wire grail, padlocks and keys
Year : 2022





Plate. 14
Tittle: " Ije'un agba " (brain box)
Size. 38" X 17" X 15"
Medium: Melted plastic hose,
electrical cables and panels, steel
Year: 2022



Plate 15

Title : " Igbebi " (Ante-natal)
Size : 14" X 14" X 10"
Medium : Stainless Steel, mild steel rods, concrete filled eggshells,
Year : 2022



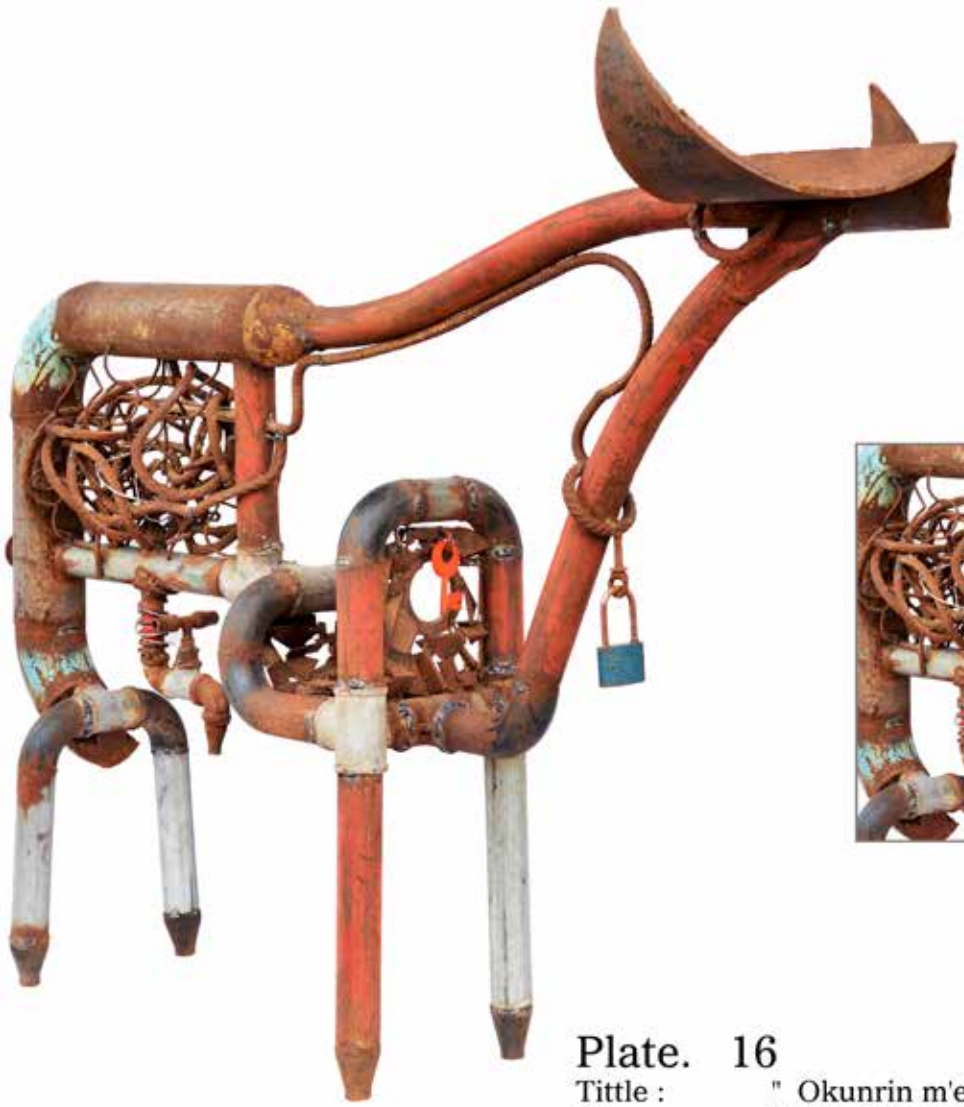




Plate. 16

Tittle : " Okunrin m'esan " (Masculined male)
Size : 54" X 71" X 21"
Medium : Steel pipes and elbows, twisted rods , padlocks and keys
Year : 2023

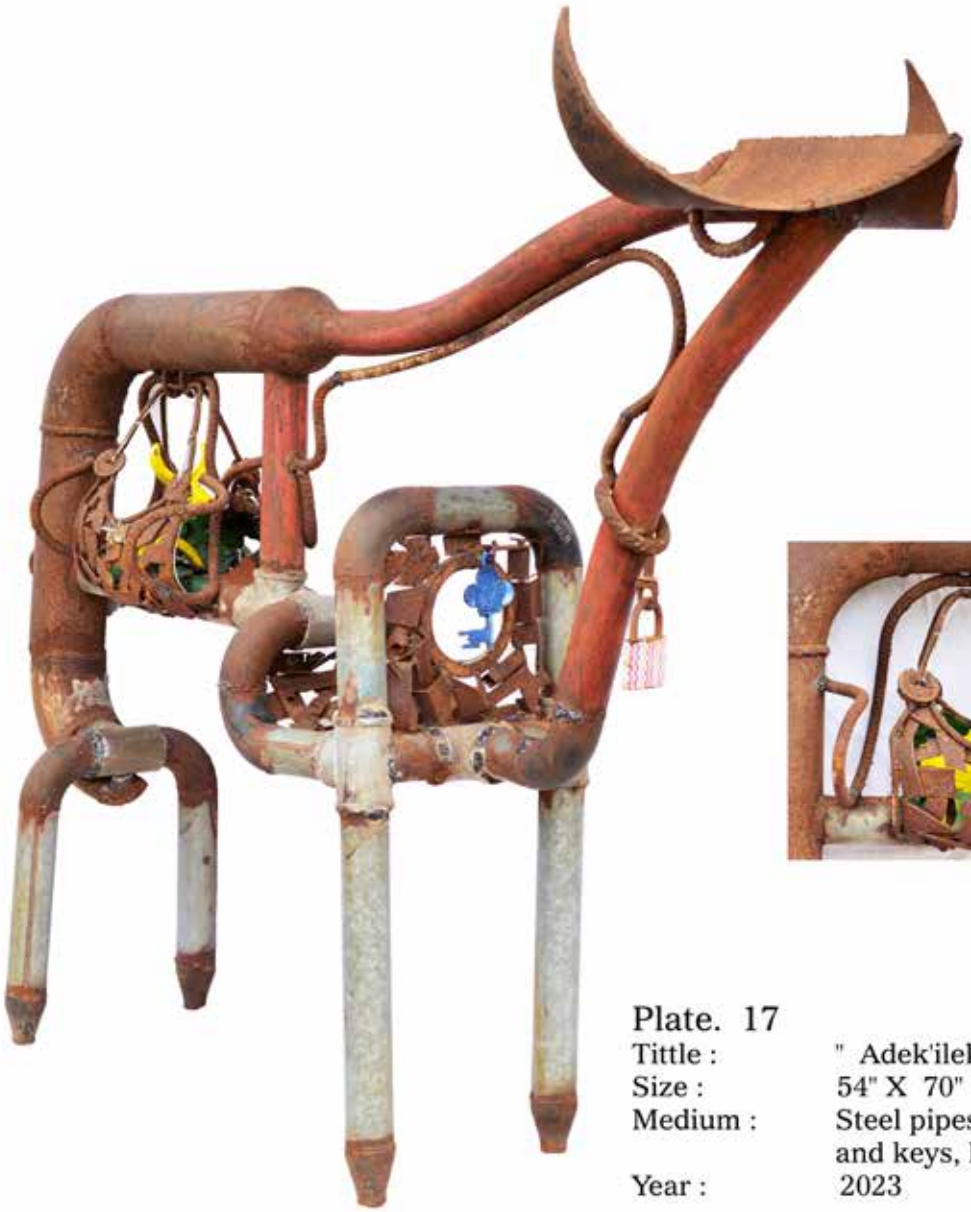




Plate. 17

Tittle :	" Adek'ilekun " (Multiplication factor)
Size :	54" X 70" X 51"
Medium :	Steel pipes and elbows, padlocks and keys, lockers
Year :	2023





Plate. 18
Tittle : " Igi owó " (Tree of wealth)
Size : 40" X 25" X. 24"
Medium : Old bean-shaped brass manilla money , stainless steel, twisted rods
Year : 2023





Plate. 19
Tittle : " Amu s'emi " (Oasis)
Size. : 31" X 18" X. 21"
Medium : Old bean-shaped manilla money, steel pipes and twisted rods
Year : 2023









Plate 20
Tittle : " Èmi lokàn " (Whirlwind wind and the champ)
Size : 68" X 47"
Medium : Assorted twisted rods, lacerated plates, stainless steel, colour
Year : 2022





Plate. 21
Tittle: " Ìyàwó oshingin " (Yes I do)
Size: 36" X 36"
Medium: Door hinges, wire-mesh, colour
Year: 2022











Plate. 22
Tittle: " Abefe " (Appeased goddess)
Size: 68" X 60"
Medium: Steel, padlocks and keys, electrical panels, stainless steel
Year: 2022



Plate. 23
Tittle. " Elemi méje " (7-lifer
Size. 13" X 13" 10"
Medium. Steel
Year. 2021



Plate. 24
Tittle : " Ara nfe ìsinmi " (Ruminating)
Size : 21" X 26" X 18"
Medium : Steel
Year : 2021



Plate 25

Tittle : " Ará nfe ìsinmi 2" (Reclining figure)

Size : 21" X 26" X 18"

Medium : Steel

Year : 2021



Plate. 26
Tittle : " Agba ni t'ara " (Cooling off)
Size : 11" X 11" X 17"
Medium : Steel
Year : 2023





Plate. 27
Tittle : " Ire wo'le " (Answered answer)
Size : 32" X 32"
Medium : Wood and Steel
Year : 2023





Plate. 28

Tittle : " Ìtànsán oòrùn " (Sun on the rubbles)

Size : 31" X 46"

Medium : Wood and Steel

Year : 2023

Signature



+234 803 317 7676, 902 722 7248

Signaturebeyond@gmail.com, Signaturebeyond@yahoo.com

Signatureandsogal @signaturebeyond1 signature-beyond

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All Enquiries: | signaturebeyond@gmail.com
Lateef Aremu
+234(0)8033177676

