

International
**video art
festival
lagos**

2013



6th December 2013 – 31st January 2014

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INTRODUCTION

The city of Lagos is becoming a one-stop portal for multimedia art in Africa. It can be likened to an intense creative geographic space that revitalizes Africa's huge cultural asset. As noted, the city embraces multiculturalism as an insatiable infiniteness that defines its identity. How else can the multiplicity of visual languages that exact the poetics of this expressionistic city be defined? The resulting art centres, artistic/cultural gatherings and initiatives, artists/writers collectives, construction, design and world acclaimed entertainment and services industries all add to the menu of experiences that define and enable a catalytic change within and beyond Lagos.

Video art is remapping the visual artscape of Lagos. From its inception in Nigeria began through Oneminutes Foundation workshops in the South Eastern and Western cities of Enugu and Lagos in 2007 and 2008 respectively; alternating workshops and the first ever international video art exhibition such as Lihna Imagineria and Identity: An Imaginary State.

Over the course of three years VAN Lagos have developed a dynamic archive of videos and have conducted screenings across the continent, Europe and the Americas. Nigerian artists both local and in the diaspora have developed a voice that started from a whisper and approaching a loud cry in the global art community.

The International Video Art Festival Lagos concerns the presentation, promotion and development of new media within the context of contemporary art practices in Nigerian. It provides new and alternative possibilities for global and local artists and cultural producers to connect, interact and advance the cause of experimental video art.

Big 60 is an annual programme run by A White Space, starting from the *6th December 2013 – 31st January 2014*. This years event will feature the International Video Art Festival Lagos from the 12th December onwards. The screening features work from around Africa, South East Asia and Europe, and will influence the Big 60 menus in order to reflect these parts of the world through not only sight and sound but also taste, touch and smell.

A non-profit organization, **The Video Art Network Lagos (VAN Lagos)** was established in 2010 through the collaborative efforts of artists Emeka Ogboh, Jude Anogwih and cultural producer Oyindamola Fakeye. The purpose of the organization was to develop new media art and specifically video art, encourage networks and support collaborations between new media artists, curators and cultural producers in Nigeria, Africa and the rest of the world.



UNBOUNDSTUDIO

Continuum... is an exploratory set of works that tends to look at societal norms, vastly complemented by the rapidly developing urbanisation and consumerism from an estranged perspective. Questioning the nostalgia of the past, and the assault of an ambitious and futuristic progress, one hopes to find some respite from an immense feeling of disorientation of sorts.

In the last few years, conflicting situations the world over has led to growing anxiety, despair and from that condition - the proclivity to probe these circumstances. The populace as in every third world country, struggling with its post colonial dilemma, with its fervour to thrive, is posed with a similar state of disengagement from the delusions of "success stories" and examine closely the validity of a distant dream of the ideal. In these conditions the individual either resorts to creating a parallel world of his own - a refuge, in a >>

child-like attempt to escape, from a world that is torn apart by its complexities; or to find solutions through countering the age long myths, consumerist notions and societal habits through their observations of their immediate surroundings.

Unbound Studio presents a set of ten artists who explore the contradictions as faced by the Society today.

What appears often as a repetitive and recurring imagery in their works only accentuates the troubles of the age that each of these artists concern to portray. In their own words they depict the immediate situations that have been explored through their videos. Looking at them one can't help but wonder if it's always necessary to reach a solution. This endeavour remains open to dialogue, through continuous discernment; we can hope to resolve the complexities of the age. Perhaps it is good, sometimes, to ask questions that need not always be answered. Or as they say - the answers are often to be found in the questions asked.

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ADITIKULKARNI

Insomnia is a sleep state of misperception of time and space. This film explores the violence of sleep and its social malfunctions. Here the waking world is a volatile aftermath - a meeting place of affect and personal delirium.



Title: Insomnia

Year: 2012

Time: 4:28

AMOLPATIL

In the video, Amol revisits his roots where traditional folk theatre has been practiced in his family for generations. He engages in analyzing the performance art and theatre practice, initiated by his father in a play, where the inmates from an asylum enact the objects in a room. He performs in the, now renovated, ancestral house at Lanja, Maharashtra, and takes up the character of a table fan, a grand father's clock, a newspaper and the doors, thus enacting the man-made "dead" objects. He infuses these objects with "life" that interact with each other to create a dialogue between the dead.



Title: Asylum For Dead Objects

Year: 2013

Time: 2:20



BAPTISTSCOELHO

Since April 13, 1984, the endless conflict between India and Pakistan over the ownership of the Siachen Glacier has been fought at an altitude of around 18,000 feet, which is the highest battlefield on earth. Bitter cold temperatures reaching to -60° Celsius make living conditions unbearable for the soldiers. The video, "If it would only end...", reveals the past 27 years of this war through the goods that the soldiers have consumed and how these commodities have consumed them. These personal possessions and supplies, which reflect the true character of life experienced on the glacier, mysteriously move in a controlled formation. The saga persists and the accumulation appears without an end. Nevertheless, the work raises hope that perhaps there could be an end to this warfare; simply, if we so choose...

Title: If It Would Only End

Year: 2009

Time: 3:41

Special thanks to:



Where Dreams Cross

