

Kojo Marfo

Kojo Marfo is a multidisciplinary artist born in Ghana in 1980. Currently living and practising in London, Kojo has spent a substantial amount of time living in New York City as well as travelling internationally. Kojo's passion for cultures has influenced the development of his unique style that engages with themes of universal heritage.

A self-proclaimed afro expressionist Kojo is inspired by the traditional Akan artefacts he was exposed to as a child. Most specifically, Akan fertility dolls given to women of childbearing age. The wooden dolls are armless and have the same signature rounded head pictured in Marfo's paintings. Often depicted with frills and jewels, Marfo's figures are also in reference to 16th and 17th century European court paintings. Marfo claims his work is of cultural hybridity where he fuses traditional Akan iconography with references to Western art, whilst utilising contemporary techniques in an ultimate expression of his unique and distinctive artistic style.

Considering painting as a mirror to society, Marfo seeks to create a self-referential perspective of the black image while engaging with themes of identity, multiculturalism, and shared experiences.

"I want people to see my work as a reflection of my Akan culture and my struggles living in the West. I want my artwork to create a connection with people, to be a symbol for everyone to relate to," Marfo said. "No matter what you are going through, or where you live, I want my art to help people think and reflect on their inner lives and how it relates to the wider world."





Kojo Marfo CV

b. 1980 – Ghana

Lives and works in London

Solo Exhibitions

2022 *Gatekeepers of Heritage*, JD Malat Gallery, New York City, USA

2021 *Dreaming of Identity*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2015 *Spirit & Soul*, Johnson's Gallery, London, UK

2010 *Spirit & Soul*, Originals Art Gallery, Poole, Dorset, UK

2009 *African Concept of Brutalism*, Martin Lockwood, London, UK

Group Exhibitions

2023 *Past, Present, Future*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2020 *Summer Group Exhibition*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2020 *Re-See*, Independent & Image Art Space, Chongqing, China

2020 *Isolation Mastered*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2020 *Threesome*, 19Karen Contemporary Gallery, Gold Coast, Australia

2014 *Brick Lane Gallery*, London UK

Art Fairs

2023 *ZONAMACO 2023*, Mexico City, Mexico

2021 *Stolen Stories*, UNTITLED, Miami Beach, USA

2015 *Oxford International Art Fair*, Oxford, UK

Collections

Museu Inima de Paula, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

JD Malat Gallery
30 Davies Street, Mayfair,
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JD MALAT GALLERY

Selected Artworks



Kojo Marfo
Keeper #1, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
66 7/8 x 57 1/8 in
170 x 145 cm



Kojo Marfo
Beloved 2, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
66 7/8 x 59 in
170 x 150 cm

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