

Kojo Marfo

Kojo Marfo (b. 1980, Ghana) is a Ghanaian artist based in London. He became interested in the arts because he grew up surrounded by people sculpting and carving. However, Marfo found painting to be the more straightforward way to comment on society and start a conversation.

A vital aspect of his practice is rooted in traditional Akan artifacts he was exposed to as a child growing up in Ghana. These artifacts still remain a vital source of strength to Marfo. He references traditional Akan art to highlight social issues, such as inequalities, religion, politics, and spiritualism.

Marfo feels that becoming an artist was an essential way for him to express his experiences and observations, while also holding a mirror back to society. Marfo's work seeks to re-establish the immense richness that is lacking in mainstream representations of African people. He hopes to explore a self-referential perspective of the Black image by creating figurative abstractions that showcase the hidden beauty woven into Africa's social and geographical fabric.

"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

- 2025 *HOME: Heart Of My Existence*, JD Malat Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2024 *Crucible of Hope*, Heydar Aliyev Centre, Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2024 *Crucible of Hope*, DG Art Gallery, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2023 *Crucible of Hope*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 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

- 2025 *Portraits: Through The Looking Glass*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2025 *Carte Blanche*, JD Malat Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2024 *Here & Now* JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2024 *Journeys - 'On Paper'*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK
- 2023 *Africa Supernova*, Kunsthall KAdE, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 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

JD MALAT GALLERY

- 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

- The Charles Collection, Washington DC, USA
Carla and Pieter Schulting Foundation, The Netherlands
The Eleanor Crook Foundation (ECF), USA
The Lithuanian National Museum of Art (LNDM), Lithuania
Museu Inima de Paula, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Auctions

- 2023 Christie's New York, *Say It Loud, Visionaries of Now*, Online Auction, 5-19 August

JD Malat Gallery
30 Davies Street, Mayfair,
W1K 4NB
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Selected Artworks

JD MALAT

GALLERY



Kojo Marfo
Elegance In Unity, 2024
Acrylic on canvas
70 7/8 x 59in
180 x 150 cm



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

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