



AMASAKA GALLERY

MAKANO BWATO

Born 2000 in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo
Lives and works in Kampala.

Solo Exhibition

2022 *Mirrors, Faces up*, Kampala, Uganda

Group Exhibitions

2024 *Kigali Triennale*, Kigali, Rwanda

2023 *Silent Invasions: The Art of Material Hacking*, Amasaka Gallery, Masaka

Human rights are universal, Xenson Art Space, Kampala, Uganda

Might Minds, Umoja Gallery, Kampala, Uganda

Colors of compassion, TAAG, New York, USA

Torrents, Nafasi Art Space, Dar-El-Salam, Tanzania

Figuratively speaking, Ogirikan Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

2022 *Ebirungi*, Latitude 0, Kampala, Uganda

2021 *Positive Memories*, Faces up, Kampala, Uganda

2020 *Get up Stand up!*, Kampala Art Biennale, Kampala Uganda

Auctions

2024 *Every shelter*, Houston, Texas, USA (upcoming in May)

2023 *Every shelter*, Houston, Texas, USA

Press

Chadrack Makano, Suboart Magazine - International Art Magazine for Emerging Artists,
October 2023



AMASAKA GALLERY

Awards, Grants & Residencies

2021 Best artist based in Uganda below the age 20 years, Faces up, funded by The African Culture Fund

Works in private collections

Arak Collection, Doha, Qatar

Short bio:

Makano Bwato (b. 2000, Bukavu) is a Congolese visual artist based in Kampala with a multifaceted practice in which writing plays a central role. It is channeling tumultuous thought processes into superimposed pieces of abstract poetry that sometimes contract into the form of a manic one-eyed alter-ego, grinning the artist's name "Makano". Having had to grapple with tragedy, art became Makano's vehicle to process trauma and find a form of expression for the unspeakable. Carried by an almost frenetic energy, his paintings don't stop at the confined space of the canvas but rather sprawl onto any conceivable surface in the artist's proximity. Makano's work was part of several group exhibitions in Masaka, Kampala, New York, London, Dar El-Salam, Lagos (all 2023). He had a solo exhibition with Faces Up, Kampala in 2022 and is the recipient of an award for the best artist based in Uganda under the age of 20 in 2021.

The artist himself describes his writing with these words: "Writing unconsciously set in motion by the brain, is just like breathing. I write as fast as I can to avoid any conscious decisions during the creation process, the idea is to bring out the purest form of creativity by ignoring cultural and historical references. When people look at my work, they realise that I don't preconceive the end result, each letter, each word, each symbol comes from within. Not deliberate and not random but something in between. I believe my art is an organised explosion of random energies. This gives people the opportunity of traveling to my subconscious. Every letter, word or symbol is a product of a feeling or impulsion, not an idea. I believe one of the rarest and purest forms of creativity is the one even the artist himself has no control over."