

## *Seeing Sounds*

1-7 October 2019



Derrick Ofofu Boateng, *Fruit of Life* (2019). Image courtesy of the artist and HAART

Breaking away from the traditional gallery experience, the House of African Art (HAART) is a new platform that showcases established and emerging artists from Africa and the diaspora. From 1-7 October, HAART presents its second exhibition, *Seeing Sounds*, at Copeland Gallery, Peckham. HAART's pop-up exhibition model, which launched in March 2019 with its inaugural exhibition *The Next Wave*, creates an engaging environment around visual arts, coupled with a public programme of performances, talks and events.

Showcasing a variety of artwork in which each artist explores the links between sound, music and creativity, *Seeing Sounds* is presented alongside a schedule of evening talks, spoken word poetry performances and live music. Exhibiting artists include Derrick Ofofu Boateng, Emmanuel Unaji, Euan Roberts, Moufouli Bello and Williams Chechet.

A highlight from the exhibition programme includes a discussion between academics Dr Diana Omigie and Joydeep Bhattacharya whose research revolves around music-induced emotions and the aesthetic experience.

**Derrick Ofofu Boateng** is a photographer born and based in Accra, Ghana. Driven by a desire to create works which showcase the vitality, joy and exuberance of the local people, Boateng captures stills of everyday life in Ghana and distorts the backgrounds with arresting color palettes, showing his hometown in a new light.

**Emmanuel Unaji** is a multimedia artist of Nigerian origin, based in London. Combining painting, drawing, collage and fashion design, Unaji's style is rebellious and bold. Inspired by the fashion industry, Unaji frequently uses fragments of magazine photographs to which he adds painted, drawn or sculpted elements. Blurring the boundaries between fine art and fashion design, he combines mixed media works with other practices to create wearable art in addition to traditional paintings and portraits.

**Euan Roberts** is a London based artist of mixed cultural heritage (Afro-Barbadian and Scottish). Working primarily with acrylic on canvas and ceramics, his colourfully upbeat work is often contrasted with sometimes unsettling themes. Roberts' work focuses on imparting a feeling of optimism, hope and joy onto the viewer, opening them up and inspiring them to be creative.

**Moufouli Bello** is a multi-media artist who lives and works in Cotonou, Benin. Whilst her practice is primarily drawing and painting, Bello's use of media has diversified over time to include animation, installation, photography, sound and digital art. Bello's ongoing interest in issues surrounding identity have led her to study ideological structures and how traditions, culture, politics and now technology affect our perception of society, emotions and human behaviour.

**Williams Chechet** is a pop artist, graphic designer, illustrator and muralist who was raised in Kaduna in northern Nigeria and currently lives and works in Lagos, Nigeria. Chechet is interested in images that circulate in popular culture, focusing on symbols of Nigerian society through a pop art lens. In his recent projects, Chechet explores the faces and characters of northern Nigeria as well as the leaders, icons and images that have shaped Nigeria's political history.



Euan Roberts, *The Tao Of Longo* (2018). Acrylic on canvas. Image courtesy of the artist and HAART



## **Notes to Editors**

**Title:** Seeing Sounds

**Dates:** 1-7 October 2019

**Opening Reception:** 1 October 2019, 7pm-10pm

**Previews (by appointment):** 1 October 2019, 10am-7pm

**Address:** Copeland Gallery, Copeland Park, 133, Copeland Road, London SE15 3SN

**Opening Times:** Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 10am – 10pm; Wednesday, Friday, Sunday: 10am – 8pm; Monday 7 October: 10am – 2pm.

**Admission:** Free Opening; £7 for Private Evening Events on Thursday and Saturday; £12 for an Unlimited House Ticket

**Nearest Station:** Peckham Rye Overground Station

**Website:** [www.houseofafricanart.com](http://www.houseofafricanart.com)

**Instagram:**  
[@houseofafricanart](https://www.instagram.com/houseofafricanart)

**Facebook:**  
[@thehouseofafricanart](https://www.facebook.com/thehouseofafricanart)

**Twitter:**  
[@haarttweets](https://twitter.com/haarttweets)

**Tickets and Event Schedule:** [Eventbrite registration link](#)

## **About HAART**

HAART was founded in 2018 by British-Nigerian lawyer Maryam Lawal, who has had a lifelong passion for the arts with a particular focus on artwork from the African continent. Primarily inspired by the burgeoning art scene in Lagos, Nigeria, Lawal aims to give artists from the continent and the diaspora a platform for their work, providing them with greater support and wider recognition. HAART allows collectors to purchase works from early to mid-career artists and currently works with artists originating from Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone and the Ivory Coast.

## **Press contacts:**

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