



Houston Maludi, *la vie dans la cité V*, 2019, Back to the street

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## Houston Maludi

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## Biography

Born in 1978, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo  
Lives and works in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

Houston Maludi studied at the Académie des Beaux-arts de Kinshasa.

Inspired by the Cubist artists Georges Braques and Pablo Picasso, and by Max Planck's work on quantum mechanics, he develops his own style. Houston Maludi mainly uses black and white in his work and a continuous line to define both the micro and macro universe. His aim is not to faithfully represent his environment but rather to communicate the energy of things. The same curve can define the shoulder of a character in the foreground and the side of a crowded road at another reading level of his intricate images. The line endlessly fills up the canvas in a Horror Vacui that evokes at the same time the reality of a crowded city like Kinshasa and the absence of void in the universe. The limited color palette used by the artist accentuates the graphic quality of his work. From far away they almost look like abstract monochromes, before revealing their vivid depictions of cityscapes. « In the symbiotic, error does not exist, If you know how to use it, it becomes a line integrated to the composition of the work ».

Art is for him a quest, he seeks to discover a truth in the infinite universe; his name "Maludi" means freedom. He says he is not the one creating his paintings but on the contrary his works are shaping him and leaving a mark on him. Once a canvas is achieved, he emerges from the creative process as a greater man, more mature, he evolves at the rhythm of his artistic production. "I seek the truth in form because matter is an obstacle to the sight; I pierce it to discover the infinite universe. This is my approach and my philosophy."

CV

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2020

Alpha Crucis, Museum Astrup Fearnley, Oslo, Norway

2019

Na Kinshasa Eza Possible, Galerie MAGNIN-A, Paris

2018

African Passions, Cadaval Palace, Evora, Portugal

2016

Dans le regard de l'autre, Le Carreau, Cergy, France  
Afrik'Expo, Libreville, Gabon

FAIRS

2020

1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, Marrakech

2019

AKAA monumental installation, Paris, France  
1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, Marrakech, Morocco  
1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, England

2018

1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, Marrakech, Morocco  
1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, New York, USA

2017

1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK  
Art Paris Art Fair, Grand Palais, Paris, France  
Independent, Brussels, Belgium

2016

Untitled Miami Beach, Miami, USA  
1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK  
Independent, Brussels, Belgium  
Art Paris Art Fair, Paris, France

2015

1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, England

COLLECTIONS

Société Générale, Paris, France  
Fondation Francès  
Contemporary African Art Collection, Jean Pigozzi



Exhibition view of Alpha Crucis – Contemporary African Art, Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo, 2020



Exhibition view of African Passions, Palacio de Cadaval, Portugal, 2018