

ruby onyinyechi amanze

MARIANE IBRAHIM Gallery is delighted to announce the representation of Brooklyn-based artist, ruby onyinyechi amanze. To debut the collaboration, amanze's work will be exhibited at the 1-54: Contemporary African Art Fair from May 15th through the 17th at Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY.

Using drawing, amanze creates an infinite and borderless world where multiple stories collide somewhere between reality and fabrication. This non-linear narrative, both embraces different aspects of her transnational experiences, and loosely encompasses a growing global story of being from nowhere and everywhere. Confronted with the notion of identities, amanze manifests a detachment with the social assumption that a single geography is necessary to ground an individual. She firmly excludes the concept of belonging to a place as a determinist factor of identity, and suggests instead the validity of a hybrid and lyrical invention of a place that is fluid and ever-shifting in one's reality.

Her drawings trace a floating and a quasi-evanescent universe, inhabited by a family of aliens, hybrids and ghosts. amanze consciously evokes emptiness as a transitory space, silence as a conduit to introspection and layers of seemingly dislocated imagery where her dreamlike creatures form and disintegrate as families do.

The work on paper is a unique blend of delicately executed representational drawing, alongside whimsical patterned forms and experimental surfaces. Amanze states, "the drawing participates in its own making...I engage in a dialogue where the materials, forms and narrative inform me of what they need to be. I may begin with pieces of a story, but in the process of making, we spiral into this other world. We create our own journey." Her intuitive studio practice and her nomadic world-view, join to form new paradigms.

Drawing remains her primary medium and simultaneously the return to the origins of all forms of visual arts. Each completed drawing leaves the viewer an impression of inacheve as if something was going to appear or disappear...

ruby onyinyechi amanze (b.1982)

Born in Nigeria, before relocated to the U.K. ruby onyinyechi amanze, currently resides and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her mixed media drawings, have been influenced by textile design, photography, print-making and architecture. She received her M.F.A at Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. amanze has exhibited her work in numerous exhibitions both nationally and internationally in New York, London, Cape Town and Lagos to name a few. In 2012-13, she was the recipient of a Fulbright Scholars Award, where she joined the Department of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka to maintain a studio practice and research/teach contemporary drawing.