

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **Scarlett Coten (France)**

Scarlett Coten is an internationally renowned photographer whose work has explored themes of identity and intimacy. After studying at ENSP in Arles for three years, Coten moved to Paris to pursue photography. In 2000, Coten began her mesmerizing series “Still Alive” when she traveled to Sinai to document the Bedouins. In 2004, Coten was awarded the Humanity Photo Award in Beijing, China. In 2009, Coten was nominated in the NYPH Festival for her book. Coten has secured residencies in Cairo and Alexandria (2013), and Ramallah (2014). In 2016, Coten was the recipient of the Leica Oskar Barnack award for her photography series “Mectoub”.

### **Maimouna Guerresi (Italy/Senegal)**

Maimouna Guerresi is a photographer, sculptor, and video installation artist. Guerresi’s universe is the result as much of the chemistry between cultural and religious influences, as it is the fusion of different artistic languages. Linked both to Italy and Senegal, to Western culture as well as Sufi philosophy, her works reflect not only a dual culture but also a dual belonging and above all, the search for equilibrium between the two worlds. Guerresi’s work has exhibited internationally in museum exhibitions, biennales and art fairs in Europe and the United States. Her work also resides in the permanent collections of various museums namely the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Minneapolis Museum of Arts.

### **Mwangi Hutter (Kenya/Germany)**

Ingrid Mwangi was born in Nairobi, Kenya. Robert Hutter was born in Ludwigshafen/Rhein, Germany. They both received New Artistic Media degrees from the University of Fine Arts Saar, Saarbrücken, and have received scholarships from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, and residency scholarships of the Rhineland-Palatinate studio at the Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris. After working together for several years and marrying, Mwangi and Hutter merged their names and biographies and became a single artist, Mwangi Hutter. Working with video, photography, installation, sculpture and performance, they use themselves as the sounding board to reflect on changing societal realities, creating an aesthetic of self-knowledge and interrelationship. Mwangi Hutter will participate in Documenta 14 and will also present their recent work at the Kenyan Pavilion at the Venice Biennale 2017.

### **Ayana V. Jackson (USA)**

Based between Johannesburg, New York and Paris, Ayana V. Jackson has exhibited in with Gallery MOMO (Johannesburg, RSA), Galerie Baudoin Lebon, (Paris, FR), the San Francisco Mexican Museum (USA), and the Philadelphia African American Museum (USA) among others. Her public art exhibitions include *The Space Between Us*, in association with Ifa Gallery (Berlin/Stuttgart), and Round 32 of Project Row Houses in Houston's 3rd ward (USA). In 2014 Jackson was the recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Fellowship for Photography, and has received grants from the Marguerite Casey Foundation, the Inter-American Foundation, the US State Department, and the French Institute, the latter supporting her participation in the 2009 Bamako African Photography Biennial.

#### **Clotilde Jiménez (USA)**

Clotilde Jiménez is a London-based visual artist based and an MFA candidate (2018) in the painting department of the Slade School of Fine Art. Jiménez's work celebrates marginalized peoples while simultaneously exploring the boundaries of race, gender, and sexuality as seen through his lens – a lens being both a black and Hispanic American male. The work of Jiménez poetically transcribes and reconstructs the societal *idée fixe* of the black body in popular culture. Jiménez has been awarded the *Nesnadny + Schwartz Visiting Curator Program* by MOCA Cleveland (2015), and was the studio visit recipient of Curator Naomi Beckwith of the MCA Chicago. Additionally, he was the Artist-in-Residence at Fljóstunga, Reykholt, Iceland (2015), and the Slade's London Intensive (2015). His work has been featured in *VICE's The Creators Project* and *New American Paintings* issue #125, in which he was selected as a noteworthy artist.

#### **Sofie Knijff (The Netherlands)**

Sofie Knijff is a Dutch-Belgian photographer based in Amsterdam. Having lived in Curaçao, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Paris in her youth, Knijff developed a strong inner fantasy world and a fascination for diverse cultures and identities. Given her initial career in as an actress and teacher, her practice is very much steeped in aspects of the theatrical and influenced by notions of theater and film. Knijff approaches spaces as scenery and people as characters. Knijff's work has been published and exhibited internationally in galleries and museums most recently the Dolhuys museum in Haarlem (The Netherlands) and the Ron Mandos Gallery in Amsterdam (The Netherlands).

#### **Frank Marshall (USA)**

Born in 1985 and resident in South Africa, Marshall holds a B-Tech degree in Photography from the Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria (2010). Marshall was chosen as one of the Top Ten finalists of the Sony World Photography Organization Student competition (sole contestant from Africa). Marshall's first solo exhibition "Renegades" ran at the Rooke Gallery though July and August 2011 and was featured at the Joburg Art Fair in September 2011. "Renegades" is currently on tour at the Bekris Gallery in San Francisco with a solo running from December through end January 2012.

#### **Fabrice Monteiro (Benin/Belgium)**

Fabrice Monteiro is an emerging artist working in photojournalism, fashion photography, and portraiture. Born to a Beninese father and a Belgian mother, his childhood is nurtured with multi-cultural perspectives and experiences. His unique, signature style revolves around his passion and love for the heart and the people of his country. Photography came naturally to Monteiro. As a professional model, he became aware of the complexity of composition, lighting and posture. Traveling the world inspired him to develop more creative projects, and in 2007, he meets the New York photographer Alfonse Pagano, who quickly becomes his friend and mentor. Having accepted his creative prowess, Monteiro is striving to build a visual world in his own multicultural image, mastering the aesthetics that allow his images to carry the weight of tradition and modernity.

**Jean-Claude Moschetti** (France)

Jean-Claude Moschetti is a graduate of the Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle et des Techniques de Diffusion (INSAS) in Brussels (Belgium) and works in the film industry. His interest in photography started in 1995 when he began working for the independent press and collaborating with the French and international press via the Reporters Economiques Associés (RÉA) agency. From then on, his photographs began to feature in French and international press outlets, and through his travels to the African continent, Moschetti embarked upon a very personal project: investigating West African secret societies.

**Zohra Opoku** (Ghana/Germany)

Zohra Opoku is an Accra-based versatile artist whose work employs media including installations, photography and video to explore the sophistication of textile cultures in disparate spaces targeting fashion's political and psychological role and socio-cultural dynamics in relation to African history and individualistic or societal identities. This experience enroots her aesthetic practice into sculptural modules as her [in]direct social commentary as seen in THE BILLBOARDPROJECT, composed of big scale installations of second-hand clothes, which were displayed in central Accra. She is employing metaphors of repetition and disguise in her portrait series TEXTURES and SIDESPECIFIC presented in specifically identified locations.

**Malick Sidibé** (Mali)

Malick Sidibé was born in Mali in 1936 and enjoyed a rich and extensive career until his death in 2016. Unknown by the art world until the 1990s, he has been the recipient of numerous honors awards most notably the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement Award by the Board of La Biennale di Venezia at the 52nd Annual Venice Biennale. Sidibé's work resides in numerous public and private collections including the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Getty Museum, California; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, California; and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania.

**Lina Iris Viktor** (Liberia/USA)

Lina Iris Viktor is a conceptual artist, performance artist, and painter living between London and New York. The multi-disciplinary approach to her work weaves disparate materials and methods belonging both to contemporary and ancient art forms while calling into question the

nature of time and being. Her works are a merging of photography, performance, abstract painting, along with the ancient practice of gilding with 24-karat gold to create increasingly dark canvases embedded with "layers of light" in the form of symbols and intricate patterns that Viktor calls "light-works". Viktor has exhibited in museums in the US and abroad most including the Harvard Art Museums and The Cooper Gallery, Harvard University (Boston, MA), and the Spelman Museum of Fine Art, Spelman College, (Atlanta, GA). Viktor has engaged in critical talks and panels New York University, The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA, London), and King's College (London).