

# MAÏMOUNA GUERRESI

Maïmouna Guerresi is a multimedia artist working with photography, sculpture, video, and installation. An Italian-Senegalese artist, born in Italy, her work presents an intimate perspective on spiritual ideas of human beings in relation to their inner mystical dimensions.

Guerresi's images are delicate narratives with fluid sequencing, an appreciation of shared humanity beyond borders -- psychological, cultural, and political. Recurrent metaphors such as milk, light, the hijab, trees, and contrasting white and black create awareness of the vital unifying qualities of Islamic spirituality.

Maïmouna's work is a hybrid that embraces the spirituality and ancestry of African, Asian, and European culture. Her body of work is ultimately reflective of her embrace of the globalization of art and life. We often talk about a global international community, but few people truly reflect our interconnected world as flawlessly as Maïmouna. Viewed through this lens, her figures and scenes take on a new light, a universal truth about community and the soul. The person here becomes a sacred dwelling, a meeting-place for humanity to re-discover its shared mystical body.

Maïmouna has exhibited in solo and group shows all over Europe, Africa, the United States, Asia, and the Middle East.

She was invited to participate in the Italian pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 1982 and 1986, and at Documenta K18 in 1987 in Kassel, Germany. She has exhibited in numerous museums and international exhibitions, including the National Museum of Bamako, the Biennale Les Recontres de Bamako in Mali (2009), the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki, the Sharjah National Museum in UAE, the Bahrain National Museum, and the National Institute of Design in Ahmedabad, India. Guerresi most recently exhibited in *A Queen Within: Adorned Archetypes* at the New Orleans Museum of Art, among famed designers and artists such as Alexander McQueen, David LaChapelle, and Vivienne Westwood.

Her works are included in prestigious public collections worldwide, such as the Smithsonian Museum, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, LACMA, Institute des Cultures d'Islam in Paris, and the Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden in Marrakesh.

For over twenty years, Guerresi's poetic work has been about empowering women, bringing together individuals and cultures in an appreciation for the shared humanity that transcends psychological, cultural, and political borders.

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 Aisha in Wonderland, Solo exhibition, Projects+Gallery, Saint Louis ,Missouri ,USA.  
 Minbar -Project Agit'art 13° Biennale de Dak'Art Off, Dakar, Senegal.  
 Aisha in Wonderland, Solo exhibition, Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle, WA,USA
- 2017 The journey of the Sparrowhawk, Solo show curated by Manuela De Leonardis, Hafez Gallery in collaboration with the Consulate General of Italy in Jeddah.
- 2016 Sacred Dwellings, Stux & Haller Gallery, New York, with collaboration Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, U.S.A.
- 2015 Talwin, Matèria Gallery, curated by Niccolò Fano, text by Carlo Sala, Roma, Italy.  
 Le Souffle des Géants, curated by Studio Copernico, text in catalog by Rosa Falvo, Laura Serani Villa Gualtieri, Arpitesca, Casalbeltrame, Novara, Italy.  
 Il Sale e la Luce,curated by Luigi Marsilia and Studio Copernico,Villa Ghirlanda,MUFOCO, Museum of Contemporary Photography Art,Cinisello Balsamo, Italy.  
 VOLTA NY, curated by Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, New York, U.S.A.  
 Light Bodies, Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle, WA, U.S.A.
- 2014 India Through the Lens, curated by Tasveer Foundation, Bahrain National Museum, Bahrain.  
 M-eating, organized by Alessia Montani in collaboration with the Italian Embassy in Dakar and Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Biennale Off-Dak'Art 2014, Biscuiterie, Dakar, Senegal.  
 Inner Constellations, Dubai Art Fair 8th edition, Tasveer Gallery, Dubai,UA.E.  
 Inner Costellations, Islamic Art Festival 16° edition, Sharjah Art Museum, UAE.
- 2013 Concava, FAR Museum Contemporary Art, curated by Veronika Aguglia and Magda Gigliuto, with texts by Laura Serani and Massimo Pulini, Rimini, Italy.  
 M-eating, organized by Alessia Montani, curated by Giorgia Simoncelli, texts by L. Serani, G.Simoncelli, A. Michelini. Camhane Art Center, Skira exhibition , collateral event at Istanbul Biennial, Turkey.  
 Inner Space, Tasveer Gallery, Bangalore, India.  
 Inner Space, Seagull Foundation for the Arts, curated by Tasveer Gallery, Kolkata,India.  
 Inner Space, Piramal Art Gallery, curated by Tasveer Gallery, Mumbai, India.  
 Inner Constellations, Chobi Mela, VII International Festival of Photography, Shilpaka Academy, curated by Rosa Maria Falvo and Shahidul Alam, Dhaka, Bangladesh.  
 Mystic Black Body, curated by Cèline Duval, Stimultania Pôle de la Photographie, Strasbourg, France.
- 2012 Inner Space, National Institute of Design, curated by Tasveer Gallery, Ahmedabad, India.  
 Inner Space, Italian Culture Center, curated by Tasveer Gallery, New Delhi, India.
- 2011 Il Poema del Mantello, curated by Elisabetta Sassoli , organized by Paola Colombari , Palazzo Bevilacqua, Bologna, Italy.  
 The Giants, French Institute of Culture, Fez, Morocco.
- 2010 The Giants Rooms, solo exhibition in "Frontière", curated by Michket Krifa and Laura Serani, La Centrale Electrique,Brussels, Belgium
- 2009 The Giants Rooms, solo exhibition, Biennale Africaine de la Photographie, "Les Rencontres de Bamako 2009", curated by Michket Krifa, Musée National de Bamako, Mali.  
 Asilo Polittico, Manifattura Tabacchi, curated by Enrico Stefanelli, LDPEF, Lucca, Italy.  
 Ahwal, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.
- 2008 The Giants Rooms, Museum Filatoio di Caraglio, curated by di Andrea Busto, Cuneo, Italy.
- 2007 The Mystic Body, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.

- 2006 Adjani and Marlene - Sisters, Paola Colombari Gallery, Milan, Italy.  
 2005 The Mystic Body, curated by Francesca Alfano Miglietti, Bel Art Gallery, Milan, Italy.  
 2004 Light Signs, Momus Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.  
 2002 Fathimas, Galleria Varat, curated by Tommaso Trini, Florence, Italy.  
 2001 Re-Veil, Galleria Valmore, curated by Tommaso Trini, Vicenza, Italy.  
 A Cloak for Inner Beauty, Levy Gallery, Madrid, Spain.  
 2000 Identity and Plurality in European Cities: Milan and Islam, Palazzo delle Stelline, Milan, Italy.  
 1999 Maïmouna, Centro d'Arte Contemporanea Rocca Umbertide and Mudima Foundation,  
 curated by Enrico Mascelloni and Giorgio Bonomi, Milan, Italy.

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 Re-Signification - Black Mediterranean, curated by Awam Ampka&New York University,  
 Spazio ZAC, collateral exhibition to Manifesta Palermo, Italia.  
 Al Musiqqa, curated by Véronique Rieffel, Cité de la musique Philharmonie de Paris.  
 Africa is not Island, MACAAL Museum, Marrakech, Morocco.  
 A Queen Within Adorned Archetypes, by Barreta Project and MUSEEA, NOMA  
 Museum, New Orleans, courtesy Mariane Ibrahim gallery. U.S.A.
- 2017 Trésors de l'islam en Afrique De Tombouctou à Zanzibar, Institut du Monde Arabe, IMA. Paris.
- 2016 Islamic Art Now, Part  
 II: Contemporary Art from the Middle East, Lacma Museum, Los Angeles, U.S.A.
- 2015 Re-signification, curated by Awam Ampka, organised by New York University, Museo Bardini,  
 Villa la Pietra, Galleria Biagiotti, Florence, Italy.  
 28th instants Video -exhibition of video and digital installation, Marseille, France.  
 The women's blood: red traces on white cloth, curated by Manuela De Leonardis,  
 Casa Internazionale delle Donne, Roma Italy.  
 Millénaire des Fondation de la Cathédrale , la ville de Strasburgo, Pole de La Photographie  
 Stimultania et la Chambre, Strasbourg, France.  
 Instants video, International Encounters, Exhibition of video and digital installations,  
 Marseille, France
- 2014 1:54, African Contemporary Art Fair, London, curated by Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle,  
 USA.  
 2ème Biennale Internationale de Casablanca, curated by Moustapha Romli Casablanca,  
 Morocco.  
 Akhfa, performance, Sconfinamenti #2, curated by Achille Bonito Oliva, creative direction,  
 Franco Laera and Elisabetta Di Mambro, 57th Festival of the Two Worlds, Rocca  
 Albornoziana, Spoleto, Italy.  
 Doppio Sogno, showcasing the large bronze sculpture "Light Signs", curated by Luca Beatrice  
 and Studio Copernico, Polo Reale, Turin, Italy.  
 Within/Beyond, Borders, curated by Delphine Munro, European Investment Bank, Banco del  
 Portugal, Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2013 Ici, là et au-delà (Here, there and beyond), Institut des Cultures d'Islam (ICI), curated by  
 Michket Krifa, Paris, France.  
 Paris Photo 2013, Tasveer Gallery, Grand Palais, Paris, France.  
 Artissima Turin Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
 Contemporary Africa Art Fair, 1:54, London, Mariane Ibrahim Gallery, Seattle, USA.  
 The Black Body in the West, international conference on black portraiture, organised by  
 Harvard University and New York University, Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France.  
 Re-Orientation, Mediterranean Biennale Sakhnin, curated by Belu-Simion Fainaru and Avital  
 Bar-Sha, Sakhnin, Israel.

- 2013 Extreme Carpets: From Timbuktu to Contemporary Art, curated by Enrico Mascelloni, Fondazione 107, Turin, Italy.  
A Necessary Beauty, 64th Premio Michetti, Michetti Foundation, Francavilla al Mare, Italy.  
India Art Fair, Tasveer Gallery, New Delhi, India.
- 2012 Africa: See You/See Me - African Influence on Contemporary Photography, National Museum, Lagos, Nigeria and Goethe Institute, 10th Biennial Dak'art, Dakar, Senegal.  
Africa Vision: Contemporary African Art, Mercedes House, Galerie Pascal Polar, Brussels, Belgium.  
Artissima Turin Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Paris Photo 2012, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Milan Image Art Fair (MIA), Paola Colombari Gallery, Milan, Italy.  
Pipping Down the Valleys Wild, Stux Gallery, New York, USA.
- 2011 ARS 11, curated by Jari-Pekka Vanhala, Kiasma, Helsinki Museum, Finland.  
Pudeurs et colères de femmes, curated by Diane Hennebert, Boghossian Foundation, Villa Empain, Brussels, Belgium.  
Italian Pavilion 54th Venice Biennale, curated by Vittorio Sgarbi and the Italian Culture Institute of Helsinki, Venice, Italy.  
Ri-tratti Imperfetti, curated by Patrizia Nuzzo and Paola Marini, Palazzo Forti, Verona, Italy.  
Dromofestival: Muc(h)ador, curated by Cristiana Collu and Ivo Serafino Fenu, Man Museum, Nuoro, Italy.  
Vite da Gallerista: Nino Soldano, curated by Marco Meneguzzo, Agrigento Fabbriche Chiaromonte, Italy.  
Artissima Turin Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Paris Photo 2011, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Bologna Contemporary Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Within/Beyond, Borders, curated by Delphine Munro, Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens, Greece.
- 2010 L'Orient et L'Occident desorientés?, curated by D. Hennebert, Boghossian Foundation, Villa Empain Brussels, Belgium.  
21st Century Italian Sculpture, curated by Marco Meneguzzo, Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, Milan, Italy.  
XIV Biennale d'Arte Sacra Contemporanea Le Beatitudini, curated by Giorgio Cortenova, Museo Staurós d'Arte Sacra Contemporanea, Teramo, Italy.  
London Contemporary Art and Design Fair, Paola Colombari Gallery, Milan, Italy.  
Barakat: The Gift - Contemporary Art from the Middle East and Africa, curated by Gaia Serena Simionati, Stux Gallery, New York.  
Africa: See You/ See Me, curated by Awam Ampka, Museo de Cidade Lisbon, Portugal.  
Artissima Turin Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Paris Photo 2010, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.
- 2009 Teatri possibili, curated by Andrea Busto, Palazzo Ferrero, Biella, Italy.  
Miraggi, curated by Giacinto di Pietrantonio, Milan, Italy.  
Artissima Turin Art Fair, Galleria Photo & Contemporary, Turin, Italy.
- 2008 26th Art Brussels Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium.  
59th Premio Michetti, curated by Maurizio Calvesi, Museo Palazzo San Domenico, Francavilla al Mare, Pescara, Italy.  
Artissima Turin Art Fair, 15th Contemporary Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Turin, Italy.  
Bologna Contemporary Art Fair, Photo & Contemporary Gallery, Bologna, Italy.

- 2007 The Seventh Splendor, Palazzo della Ragione, curated by Giorgio Cortenova, Verona, Italy.  
 Acqua, curated by Paola and Daniela Moro, Forni Gallery Bologna and the Ducal Palace in  
 Modena, Italy.  
 Faccia Lei, curated by Elena Agudio in collaboration with Museum Arterra, Spazio Thetis,  
 Venice Arsenale Novissimo, collateral event of the Venice Biennale, Italy.  
 Il Velo, curated by Andrea Busto, Il Filatoio Museum, Caraglio, Cuneo, Italy.
- 2006 Ist Malindi Biennial, curated by Eric Girard Miclet, Malindi, Kenya.  
 International Biennial of Photography, Ken Damy Museum, Brescia, Italy.  
 Sculture En Plain Air, 2006 Winter Olympics, curated by Studio Copernico, text by Maurizio  
 Calvesi and Luigi Marsiglia, Limone Stupinigi, Turin, Italy.  
 Segni territoriali, Galleria Spazio Teca, Verona, Italy.  
 Noi (non)siamo qui, curated by Omar Calabrese, Acciaierie, Cortenuova, Bergamo, Italy.  
 Le sculture alle porte d'Oriente, curated by Studio Copernico, text by Maurizio Calvesi,  
 Museo Archeologico, Brindisi, Italy.
- 2005 Perdere la testa, curated by Francesca Alfano Miglietti, Galleria Studio Lattuada, Milan, Italy.  
 Filo-Philo, curated by Luciano Caramel, Chiostro Sant'Eufemia, Como, Italy  
 The Third International Film & Video Festival, Museum of New Art, Detroit, USA.  
 Corsi e ricorsi della storia- Solidarietà e Mutualismo, curated by Tiziana Conti, En Plein Air,  
 Pinerolo, Turin, Italy.  
 Le Figlie del vasaio, curated by Massimo Bertozzi, Parco del Magliano, Marina di Massa, Italy.  
 La forza creativa delle passioni autentiche, Galleria Valmore, Archivio Brera, Fondazione Don  
 Sturzo, Vicenza, Italy.  
 Art Fair Verona 05, Galleria Cinquetti and Studio Copernico, Verona, Italy.
- 2004 Under Different Circumstances, curated by Lisa Kurzner, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center,  
 Georgia, USA.  
 Biennial Off, Dakar'Art 6th curated by Francine Vandersten, Ars Sans Frontiere, Museum  
 Leopold Sengor, Dakar, Senegal.  
 L'Homme est un mistere, curated by Olivier Couqueberg, Fondazione O.D.D.C,  
 Saint-Brieuc, France.  
 Arte a Verona, curated by Raffaele Bassotto, Arsenale, Verona, Italy.
- 2003 Sottigliezze, curated by Patrizia Nuzzo, Palazzo della Gran Guardia, Verona, Italy.  
 Xarala, curated by Francine Vandersten, Arts Sans Frontière, Liege, Belgium.
- 2002 Arte a Verona, curated by Raffaele Bassotto, Arsenale, Verona, Italy.  
 Scultori a Verona, curated by Giorgio Cortenova, Luciano Caramel, Electa exhibition  
 catalogue, Palazzo Forti, Verona, Italy.
- 2001 Limpidamente, curated by Giorgio Bonomi and Daniela Moro, Terme di Bibbione,  
 Venice, Italy.  
 Ambiente e le aree protette, curated by Martina Corgnati, Palazzo Sertoli, Fondazione Credito  
 Valtellinese, Sondrio, Italy.  
 Preghiera alla terra, curated by Tommaso Trini, Palazzo del Broletto, Novara, Italy.
- 2000 Identity and Plurality in European Cities: Milan and Islam, Palazzo delle Stelline, Milan, Italy.  
 Autore Donna, curated by Martina Corniati, Palazzo Pasquini, Castiglioncello, Italy.  
 Un Museo per la ceramica, curated by Martina Corgnati, Museo Fabbrica Mazzotti,  
 Albissola, Italy.
- 1999 Praga Magica, curated by Erico Mascelloni, Palazzo dei Sette, Orvieto, Italy.  
 Con-tatto, curated by Francesca Alfano Miglietti, La Posteria Gallery, Milan, Italy.

## Awards

- 2013 Arte sostantivo Femminile, National Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art of Rome, organized by A3M, Italy.
- 2015 IPA International Photography Awards, Honorable Mention , book Inner Constellations. New York. U.S.A.  
La Rana D'oro, XXV edition, Arpitesca Casalbetrame, Novara, Italy

## Conferences

- 2015 MocaFest, panel discussion, video projection, Kuala Lumpur, Convention Center, Malaysia
- 2014 Muslima - Muslim Women's Arts & Voices, panel discussion, February 2014, New York, USA.
- 2013 Black Portraiture- 'The Black Body in the West', international conference, organized by Harvard University and New York University, Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France.

## Video Festival

- 2015 Instant Video, Marsilia, France.

## Online Exhibitions

- 2013 Muslima- Muslim Women's Arts & Voices curated by Samina Ali

## Workshops

- 2015 Commande realise du millènaire des fondations de la Cathèdre de Strasbourg, France
- 2014 The Mystic Body, Stimultania and Lycée professionnel Adrien Testud, Chambon Feugerolles, France.

## Public Collections

- Lacma Museum , Los Angeles,U.S.A
- Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, U.S.A
- Fondation Alliances, Casablanca, Morocco
- BMCE Bank, Casablanca, Morocco
- Institut des Cultures d'Islam (ICI), Paris, France
- Tasveer Foundation, Bangalore , India
- Michetti Foundation, Francavilla al Mare, Italy.
- Fondation Boghossian, Villa Empain, Brussels, Belgium.
- Studio Copernico - Materima, Casalbetrame, Italy.
- European Investment Bank, Luxemburg.
- Museo National of Bamako, Bamako, Mali.
- Museo d'arte Contemporanea, Palazzo della Ragione,Verona, Italy.
- Fondazione Mudima, Milan, Italy.
- Museo d'arte Contemporanea Ozieri, Sardinia, Italy.
- Museo del Parco, Portofino, Italy
- Museo Casa Bianca, Malo, Italy.
- Museo di Paternò, Paternò, Italy.