The Kenya Arts Diary 2011

### **JULY**

Monday

Tuesday 19

Wednesday 20

Thursday 21

Friday 22

Saturday 23 Sunday 24



Patrick Mukabi's formal art education started with a oneyear course in basic illustration at the Creative Art Centre in 1988, followed by a two-year certificate in graphic design at the Kenya Polytechnic, in Nairobi. He participated in his first group exhibition in 1994. The following year he won the nomination as "Best New Artist," at the East African Industries Annual Exhibition, held at Gallery Watatu. In 2002, he won the "Best Original Art Work," prize at Kuona Trust. He participates in numerous art exhibitions.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Mama Safi series, acrylic on vinyl, 154 x 116 cm

#### July 2011

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Kota Otieno is one of the founders of the Kibera-based community arts group Maasai Mbili but is now pursuing a solo career. Born in South Nyanza in 1980, Kota has always been imagery woven through his works. Creating woven canvas and metal surfaces to paint on are his trademark. Of late, Kota has ventured into making "it is easy to find and also keeps the environment clean". He has had several group and solo exhibitions.

kotajunk@gmail.com

Out of the cage, metal, 2009.

July 2011

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interested in art. He describes his work as "ghetto art" with Kibera sculptures of junk metal because

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Monday 25

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Sunday 31

### **AUGUST**

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Thursday **4** 

Friday **5** 





Camille Wekesa studied painting techniques, including fresco mural work, at the Istituto Europeo di Design in Italy and works primarily as a mural artist for private and corporate clients in Kenya and Europe. She says, "I love working on a large scale and my work has an African flair to it ... I would love to bring some of that to Europe and beyond". She also enjoys landscape painting and her most recent exhibition at RaMoMA in November 2009 was inspired by several safaris since her return to Kenya in 2008.

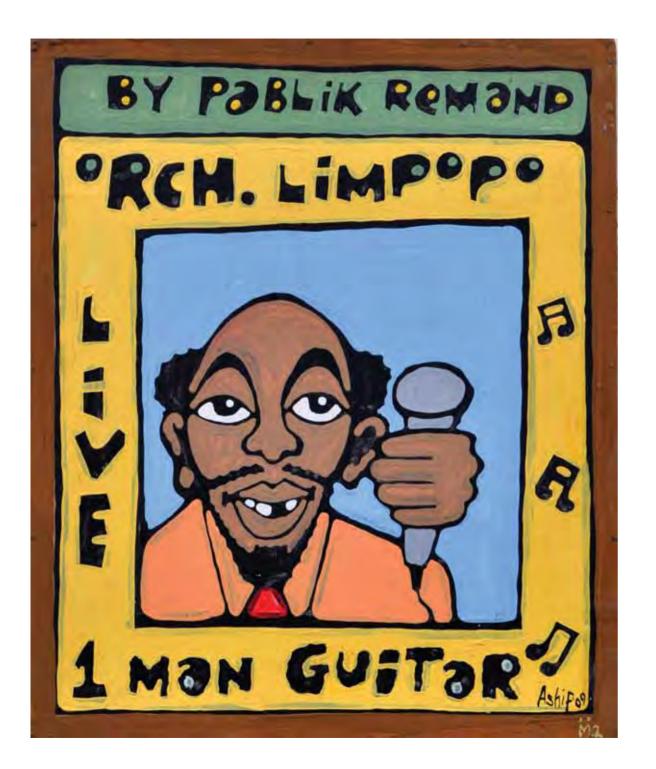
Tel. 0721 250843 www.sublimedivine.com

*Tsavo Light,* oil on canvas, 2009. 100 x 127 cm

#### August 2011

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George Ashif Malamba, like most of his fellow Kibera-based Maasai Mbili artists, is self taught and paints in the tradition of street and sign painters. Born in Nakuru in 1972, he attained educational O-levels. Aware of the politics of Kibera, he firmly uses his art as an educational and social awareness raising tool. His paintings "grow from the soil of Kibera" he says. They are witty, cartoonlike in nature, very colorful and usually painted on board or canvas. He has exhibited in Kenya and also abroad as part of Maasai Mbili.

Tel. 0770 058762 m2artstudio@yahoo.com

One man guitar, acrylics on board, 2009. 50 x 60 cm

#### August 2011

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### **AUGUST**

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Irene Wanjiru burst on to the Kenyan art scene at the Wasanii International Artists Workshop in Naivasha in 1996. She has participated in exhibitions and workshops at home and in the USA, and her most notable commission is a two-metre tall sculpted root titled Maiha ni hivyo (That's the way life goes) that stands in the CARE headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, in memory of all the aid workers who laid down their lives in the service of CARE in its 50 years in East Africa. After a recent workshop at Kitengela Glass, she has begun working in glass and mixed media as well.

iwanjiru@gmail.com



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### **AUGUST**



Omosh Kindeh was born in 1980 in Nakuru, the child of an army family. He describes his urge to paint and sculpt as a compulsion, like being under a spell. A self-taught artist, Omosh decided to make a life in the visual arts after graduating from high school, when he wanted something as far as possible from the military life he grew up with. Omosh is currently working on his debut solo exhibition.

Tel. 0720 551599 omoshkindeh@gmail.com

Family portrait, mixed media on canvas, 2010. 73 x 109 cm

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August 2011

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Saturday Sunday 28

### AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

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Sunday 4



Ehoodi Kichapi is a self taught artist. His artistic life started in 2002, doing caricatures as an instructor for the Kuruka Maisha art group. He had his first solo show in 2007 at the Alliance Francaise in Nairobi. In 2006, he was awarded the University of Kentucky's Artist in Residence programme, a four-month Ruth Hunt Wood Fellowship. Six of his paintings were chosen for a yearlong exhibition in Scandinavia. Another of Kichapi's works is being exhibited at the Casoria Contemporary Art Museum in Naples, Italy.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Acid, mixed media, 110 x 80 cm

#### September 2011

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### **SEPTEMBER**



Nani Croze was born into an artist family and decided never to practise art. When life overtook her with three children to raise and no other means of income, she realised art was her calling. Starting with mural painting, she found an unfilled niche in Kenya for stained glass and rapidly mastered the art of glass. In 1979, she founded Kitengela Glass, making anything from stained glass to furniture. Major commissions include the murals at Laico Regency hotel, glass murals at the Museum, the US embassy and many others.

www.kitengelaglass.com

*Tree of life,* mural at National Museums of Kenya

#### September 2011

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### **SEPTEMBER**

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Michael Soi began painting in earnest about 15 years ago, and is becoming known for paintings that are immediately recognisable for their social commentary touching on political and social trends in Kenya. His paintings have a cartoon-like quality and are done in vivid colours. He uses the cat and the pig as metaphors for greed, corruption and gluttony. He considers a recent solo exhibition "Dishing Out" at The GoDown Arts Centre as his best.

snakedoctor2@gmail.com

*The politicians,* mixed media on canvas, 2010. 101 x 84 cm

#### September 2011

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### **SEPTEMBER**



Yassir Ali was born in the far north of Sudan in the town of Kasala. Yassir paints in the tradition of the famous Khartoum College of Fine and Applied Arts but the Nubian culture is his real source of inspiration. His abstract and colorful paintings contain many references to his native country. Yassir is very active and involved in various social and cultural projects in Kenya and Sudan. He has exhibited locally and internationally and continues to live in Nairobi, Kenya.

Tel. 0723 348058 ykumor@yahoo.com

Untitled, mixed media on canvas, 2010. 80 x 80 cm

#### September 2011

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#### SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Monday 26	OCTOBER	
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Richard Kimathi was born in Nyeri. He received a diploma from the Nairobi Creative Art Centre with a major in graphic art. He has participated in international workshops and has had his work exhibited widely. In 2000, Kimathi's painting Living Single was chosen to be used on a United Nations postage stamp. He was the recipient of the 2001 Ruth Hunt Wood Foundation Residency as artist in residence at the University of Kentucky, USA. In 2006, Kimathi represented Kenya at DaK'Art in Dakar, Senegal. In October 2010 he held his first solo show in Madrid, Spain.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Daddy, oil on canvas, 150 x 137 cm

#### October 2011

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# Kuonatrust centre for visualarts in Kenya

Likoni Close, Likoni Lane, off Dennis Pritt Rd. 254 (0)721 262326 | (0)733 742752 info@kuonatrust.org | www.kuonatrust.org ttp://www.facebook.com/people/Kuona-Trust





Open to the public 7 days a week from 10am - 6pm, please get in touch to visit and meet artists, attend exhibitions, participate in workshops, buy art and learn about the Kenyan art scene.



DOEN POSTCODE











visualeyesproductions@gmail.com

www.visualeyesproductions.daportfolio.com







Monday

Cyrus Kabiru, born in 1984, is a self taught artist who works mainly with found objects including scrap metal. He believes in himself and in pursuing his dreams. He cites his grandfather as a source of inspiration, and someone who told him "when you truly dream a dream of your lifetime, never go back to sleep". His love of sunglasses led to his most recent exhibition of what he calls his C—Stunners at the Goethe Institute in Nairobi.

Tel 0725 524597 cyrsnganga@yahoo.com

*Njogu (elephant),* scrap metal (bottle tops), 2009. 210 x 60cm

*C –Stunners,* found mixed media, 2009. Size variable.

#### October 2011

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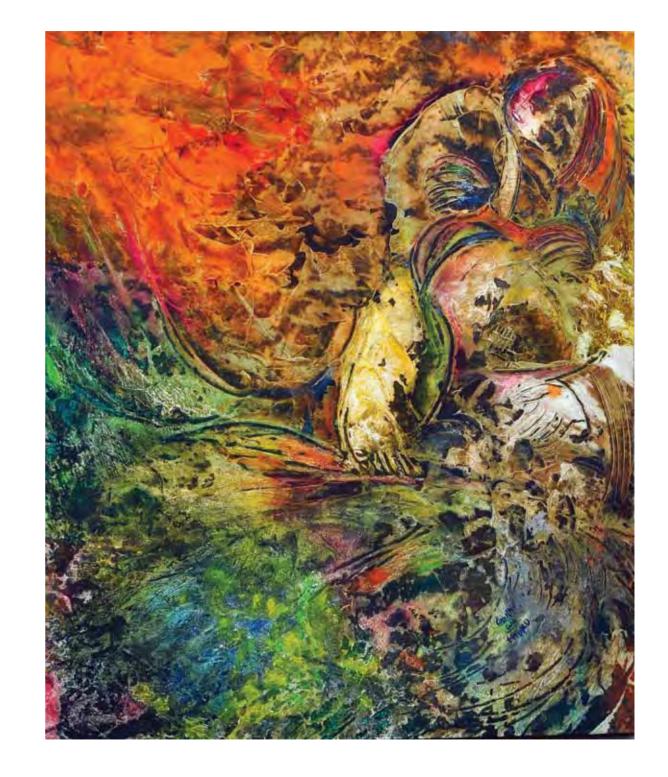
Tabitha wa Thuku was born in Kiambu near Nairobi and has been an artist nearly all her adult life, first as an illustrator and then as a painter. She experiences her creativity as a powerful driving force, an obsession that takes control of her and does not let her stop until the work is complete. Wa Thuku has participated widely in workshops and exhibitions in Kenya and overseas, most recently in Milan in 2009.

Tabithawathuku@hotmail.com

The angel of joy, mixed media on canvas, 143 x 170cm



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Sane Wadu was born in 1954 in Central Province and after completing high school worked as a teacher and later as a clerk. He began painting professionally in the 1980s. His friends and neighbours called him "insane" to give up a secure livelihood in pursuit of art, and his response was to adopt the name Sane as his nom de plume. Though self taught, Sane's creativity quickly gained him an international audience and he has had oneman exhibitions in New York and been shown in the USA and Europe.

Tel. 0735 404183 sanewadu@yahoo.com

Second tee, mixed media on canvas, 26 x 31cm

#### October 2011

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Peterson Kamwathi was educated in Nairobi. He joined Kuona Trust Art Studio in 1999 as an apprentice and has participated in numerous workshops, residencies and exhibitions since. He has been awarded the prestigious Ruth Hunt Wood residency at Kentucky University, a residency at Bath Spa University and at the London Print Studio. Throughout these residencies he has mingled with international artists, sharing ideas and technical skills and broadening his awareness of contemporary art practices globally. Most recently he enjoyed a four month residency at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam.

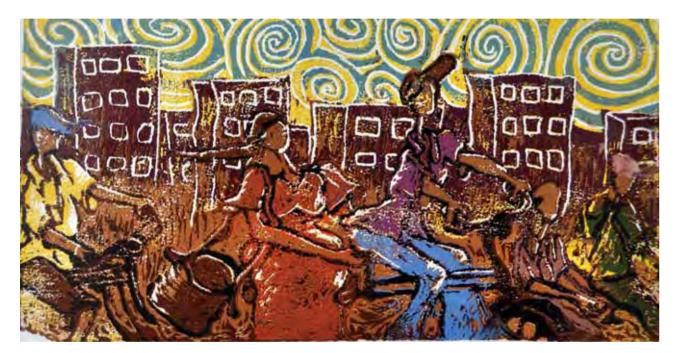
Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Untitled study, mixed media, 44 x 48 cm

#### October 2011

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### OCTOBER / NOVEMBER



Monday 31

Maryanne Muthoni was born in Nairobi in 1980. She is a fulltime artist, and works out of the Kuona Trust Studios. Her semiabstract work depicts people's daily lives and routines. She expresses herself by applying thick layers of oil paint on canvas using brushes and palette knives. She is also a printmaker. Maryanne works outside of the studio as well and participates in public projects (murals) using her art to communicate and educate.

Tel: 0723 458330 mmuthonig@gmail.com

Boda Boda II, woodcut, 2009. 47 x 24 cm

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### **NOVEMBER**

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Magdalene Odundo, acclaimed as one of the world's leading ceramicists, lectures and serves as Artist in Residence at educational institutions around the globe. Professor Odundo's ceramic traditions yet appear to us as utterly new. In Kenya her first exhibition was at the African Heritage Gallery on Kenyatta Avenue during the UN Decade of Women's Conference in Nairobi in 1985. Her magnificent vessels are now sought after by collectors, museums and galleries around the world.

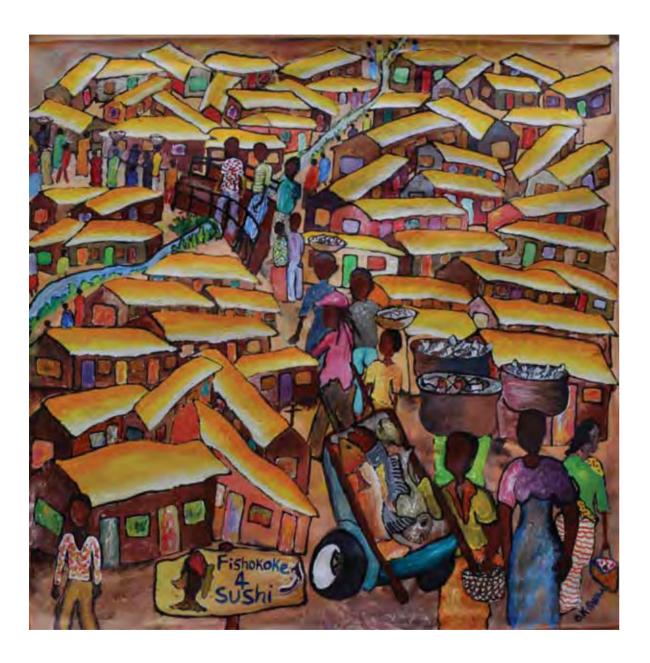
Modundo@ucreative.ac.uk

Vessel on permanent display at the Murumbi Gallery, Kenya National Archives, Nairobi.

#### November 2011

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### NOVEMBER



Otieno Kennedy Rabala, born in 1969, comes from Homa Bay and cites the encouragement of the late Ruth Schaffner, founder of Gallery Watatu, as having the greatest influence in his decision to become an artist. His work is full of bright colour and line, and focuses on life in the slums. Rabala is a member of the Kibera-based artist group Maasai Mbili. His most recent exhibition was as Galleri Astley in Sweden in 2010.

Tel. 0720 293820 m2artstudio@yahoo.com

Fishokoke (fish church), acrylic on canvas, 2010. 40 x 40 cm

#### November 2011

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### **NOVEMBER**

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Saturday **26**  Sunday

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Xavier Verhoest's cinematographic editing studies in Belgium form the foundation for his current work: a hybrid of painting and photography. His upbringing in DRC Congo and his experience with people in war-torn countries as a volunteer with Medecins sans Frontieres have shaped many of his past and current works. He strongly beliefs in art as an essential part of selfexpression and the fluid images that fill his paintings are both beautiful and fragile. In Nairobi since 2003, he works as an artist and art curator.

Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Cruelty (Guantanamo series), mixed media. 27 x 22 cm

#### November 2011

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### NOVEMBER / DECEMBER



Jackson Wanjau was born in Nyeri District. He grew up watching his father, Samwel, one of Kenya's finest and most talented sculptors, working with stone and wood. In 1989 he graduated and entered a career as a primary teacher. This work held his attention for five years, after which he decided to put all his time and energy into making sculptures. His mentors were sculptors Billy Gakunju Kaigwa and Elija Ogira. Recently Wanjau's work has found its way into the collections of international collectors of sculpture from the region.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Night guard, moringa wood, 27 x 60 x 30 cm

#### December 2011

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### DECEMBER

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Saturday 10 Sunday 11

#### NO SIGNATURE SUPPLIED

Samuel Githui trained in Fine Art and History at the Creative Arts Centre in Nairobi in the 90s. Since then he has worked and exhibited consistently. In 2009 he attended an art residency in Venice, Italy and held a prestigious solo show at RaMoMA, Nairobi, in the same year. He has also attended workshops in Uganda and South Africa. Githui's distinctive brand of social realism shows a deep appreciation of the lives of ordinary Kenyans, mixing keen observation with exemplary skill.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Daily bread, oil on canvas, 126 x 126 cm

#### December 2011

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Morris Foit was born Morris Njau but took the name of Foit from his mentor, Czechoslovakian Francis Foit, a fine art lecturer at the University of Nairobi, who taught him to carve and make sculptures. Morris later found his way to pioneer Gallery Watatu, where his work was quickly snapped up. Since then he has taken part in many workshops and exhibitions, and his works sit in private collections both locally and internationally.

Tel. 0723 011597 foitnjau@yahoo.com

Buffalo head, wood, 2010. 83 cm

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#### December 2011

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DECEMBER Monday 19
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Wilson Mwangi Kinyua was born in Nairobi in 1976 and completed O-levels at the Nyandarua School for the Deaf. He traces his development as an artist to the arts and crafts classes he attended. Contrasting colours and clean cut lines give Wilson's paintings a jigsaw puzzle quality. His works are filled with animals, landscapes and symbols — yet despite the number of elements, his paintings have a harmonious stillness, perhaps reflecting the silent world he inhabits. Wilson has taken part in many group exhibitions at different galleries.

Tel. 0723 856212 (SMS only) kinyuawilso@yahoo.com

Proud, acrylic on canvas, 40 x 60 cm

#### December 2011

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### **DECEMBER / JANUARY**



Moses Nyawanda can trace his artistic resolve to being caned by his maths teacher for sketching him during lessons at the age of nine. He later obtained a Diploma of Fine Arts from the Centre of Creative Arts in Nairobi. His works are contemporary, sometimes humorous, often with a socio-political theme. Using the right colour to capture a particular mood seems at times more important than the subject matter itself. He has participated in multiple group and solo exhibitions and received several prizes.

Tel. 0720 134648, 0733 269067 mosesnyawanda@gmail.com

Children praying, oil on canvas. 40 x 30 cm

January 2012

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### **JANUARY**

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Saturday Sunday 8



Sophie Walbeoffe says "I recently visited Ol Jogi ranch in Laikipia, where I was able to work from life right next to two huge tame African elephants. The experience inspired me into a fever of elephant paintings. The love and communication between the two elephants was truly tangible and real. This image is the first of a series of elephant images that I am working on. Long may the culture and wildlife of Kenya be respected and live in harmony into the future."

www.sophiewalbeoffe.com

#### January 2012

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#### **MURUMBI GALLERY**

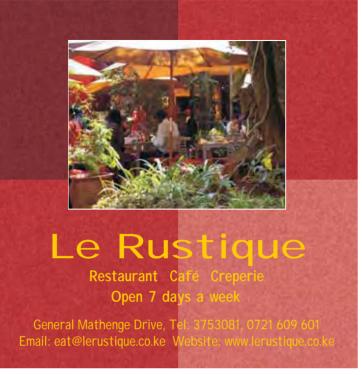




THE MURUMBI GALLERY in the Kenya National Archives, opposite the Nairobi Hilton. Art, books, sculpture, postage stamps from Africa's most renowned collectors, Joseph and Sheila Murumbi. Open Daily including Sundays.

THE MURUMBI PEACE MEMORIAL at Nairobi City Park. Sculptures by East African pioneer artists in a spectacular setting. Open Daily, admission free.



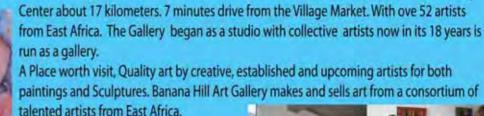




Fax: +254 20 31 52 07 Email: info@alliancefrnairobi.org Web: www.afkenya.or.ke

### Banana Hill Art Gallery

Contemporary African Art Gallery and Center for African Art, Located 25 minutes Drive From Nairobi City



Established in 1992, and known as Banana Hill Art Studio, it found its success in the promotion exposure of the incredible

amount of talented artists in East Africa.



Learning about African art is a process. One has to be exposed to it, become acquainted with its unique qualities, and then focus on which of these qualities are suited to your individual preference. This can take quality time! Relax,

look around, think about its funtasy, get as much input as you can. And when you are ready, Shine Tani the owner and Director of this gallery and his staff, Rahab the Manager, will be happy to assist you.

These art is full of life, in them artists express themselves in many ways, Subjects are daily life in this African community. Art full of tales.



We can notice it through the various paintings in the gallery, each artist has his own style and vision of the world. Humour is often present and brings a lot of freshness. The colors are numerous, warm or bright, a real pleasure for the eye.

These paintings and sculptures in vite us to discover all the things these incredible artists from this little spot of earth have to tell...to be followed with attention



The Gallery holds Groups and solo exhibitions running on monthly basis

open i fritten - Notigen Herrstell and Edithnoon-Holligen. Soverge open monigh out Hibbler:

contact: Banana Hill Art Gallery, P.O Box 14312 00100 Nairobi, Tel: +254 733882660, +254 733121613, +254 711756911, +254 700807362. email: bananahillgallery@gmail.com, www.bananahills.net

## OLE SERENI FULL-PG AD GOES HERE

### **Art Directory**

Art Galleries	
Banana Hill Art Gallery, off Limuru Rd, Kiambu	0733 882 660
Gallery Watatu, Standard St, Central Business District	020 221 5321
GoDown Arts Centre, Dunga Rd, Industrial Area	020 55 5770, 55 5227
Kitengela Glass, Kitengela	020 300 3456, 300 5126
Kuona Trust, Likoni Close, Hurlingham	0733 742 752
Lisa Christoffersen's Home Gallery, Runda	0722 511 871
Maasai Mbili Art Centre, Kibera Rd, Kibera	0723 618 160
Murumbi Gallery, Kenya National Archives, Moi Ave, CBD	020 222 8959
Nairobi Gallery, Old PC's Office, Kenyatta Ave, CBD	020 216 566
Ngecha Artist Association, off Limuru Rd, Ngecha	0725 554 938
One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Rosslyn Lone Tree, Gigiri	0722 521 870
Paa ya Paa Arts Centre, Paa ya Paa Lane, Ridgeways	0733 270 109
RaMoMA, Second Ave, Parklands	020 374 8612/-8
Spinner's Web, Peponi Rd, Westlands	020 207 2629, 418 1121
Cultural Centres	
African Heritage House, Mombasa Road	0721 518 389
Alliance Française, Loita St, Central Business District	020 340 054, 340 079
British Council, Upper Hill	020 283 6000
Goethe-Institute, Monrovia St, Central Business District	020 222 4640
Italian Institute, Woodvale Grove, Westlands	020 445 1266/-7
Karen Blixen Museum, Karen	020 800 2139
Kwani Trust, Riverside Dr., Westlands	020 444 1801

#### **Restaurant Galleries**

Sarakasi Trust, Ngara Rd, Ngara

National Museums of Kenya, Museum Hill

Café des Arts, UN Ave, Gigiri	020 712 3000
Le Rustique Restaurant, General Mathenge Dr., Westlands	0721 609 601
Talisman Restaurant, Ngong Rd, Karen	0733 761 449

020 374 2131

020 269 4026/-7



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Located opposite the Nairobi National Park, Kitengela Glass is at the end of a rough road, and despite this, the constant stream of visitors from all over the world never stops. The magical ambience of the place is peppered with sculptures, animals and secret mosaic pathways which lead to niches of busy artisans all transforming recycled glass and scraps of other materials into beautiful artworks, jewellery and home ware.

Founded in 1979 by Nani where she started as a stained glass studio, Kitengela Glass has evolved over the 30 years into a group of studios, all accomplished in their respective skills, including stained glass, glass blowing, dalle de verre, fusing, slumping, mosaic, wrought iron, ferro-cement sculpture, pottery, woodwork and beading.

It has been working with the local community where – over fifty people have been trained and work in the various disciplines, a local orphanage, scholarships awarded, school fees loaned, roads repaired and security improved, a thousand trees planted, raw materials and fuel recycled, and all the packaging is second hand.

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0722 522246

Cell: 0734 287887,

@ Le Rustique Restaurant Along General Mathenge Drive, Westlands, Nairobi





notes sketches ideas









#### Maasai Mbili Art Centre Ten active artists in one studio

Maasai Mbili Art Centre Well known for its workshops and outreach projects.



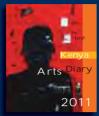
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- The City of Lulea, Sweden
- Grafikhuset Godsmagasinet, Uttersberg, Sweden
- Kohler-Robertsdottir, Gothenburg, Sweden
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#### Artists featured in cover images

Front cover: Beatrice Wanjiku Back cover, clockwise starting from top left: Peter Ngugi, John Kamicha, Ehoodi Kichapi, Kioko Mwitiki, Richard Kimathi, George Ashif Malamba, John Silver

Published and printed by Kul Graphics Limited on behalf of the Kenya Arts Diary Group.

Kul Graphics Limited PO Box 18095 - 00500, Nairobi, Kenya Tel. 020 675 0756 info@kulgraphics.co.ke www.kulgraphics.co.ke

If you are interested in ordering the Kenya Arts Diary or advertising in the next edition, please contact the publishers Kul Graphics or send an email to KenyaArtsDiary@gmail.com.

The Kenya Arts Diary Group is a volunteer group of artists and art lovers who got together in 2010 to collate and publish this diary in order to promote Kenyan artists and their art. It is a not-for-profit group and all proceeds from sales and advertising will be used to fund next year's edition with the intention of making the Kenya Arts Diary an annual publication.

The Kenya Arts Diary Group comprises Kul Bhakoo

Nani Croze

Peta Meyer

Susan Mitruk

Leo Roozendaal

Xavier Verhoest

With invaluable support from Patrick Murage of Kuona Trust and Sylvia Gichia of VisualEyes Productions.

Design by Peta Meyer of Tara Consultants

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Yassir Ali

Justus Kyalo

Kevin Irungu

Magdelene Odundo

Larissa Hoops



Mothers with fruits by Fredrick Mbugua

Artists from Ngecha Artist Association ngechaartist@gmail.com



IDPs camping at a church by Hannah Turuga



Three women with fruits by Kevin Ndungu



My hen by G Ngaruyia



Untitled by P Kibunja



Begging talent, metal and wood by Deno (Dennis Muraguri) Tel. 0723 727924, desmurr@yahoo.com

Name				
Address _				
Tel				
Mobile _				
Email				
In case of	emergency p	olease con	tact	



## 2011

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

28 29 30

**26** 27 28 29 30 31

January	February	March	January	February	March
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2012

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## Kenya Public Holidays

June 1st

January 1st New Year's Day

Madaraka Day

April 22nd Good Friday 25th Easter Monday

**May** 1st October Labour Day 20th

er December Heroes Day 12th J

12th Jamhuri Day 25th Christmas Day 26th Boxing Day

## **Metric Conversion Table**

			IVIE	etric Co	nve	ersion lar	ле			
	Leng	th			Mas	SS			Are	ea
Inches		Centimetres		Ounces		Grams		Sq. Inches		Sq. Centimetres
0.393701	1	2.54000		0.035274	1	28.349523		0.15500	1	6.45160
0.787402	2	5.08000		0.070548	2	56.699046		0.31000	2	12.90320
1.181102	3	7.62000		0.105822	3	85.048569		0.46500	3	19.35480
1.574803	4	10.16000		0.141096	4	113.398092		0.62000	4	25.80640
1.968504	5	12.70000		0.176370	5	141.747615		0.77500	5	32.25800
2.362205	6	15.24000		0.211644	6	170.097138		0.93000	6	38.70960
2.755906	7	17.78000		0.246918	7	198.446661		0.08500	7	45.16120
3.149606	8	20.32000		0.282192	8	226.796184		0.24000	8	51.61280
3.543307	9	22.86000		0.317466	9	255.145707		0.39500	9	58.06440
Feet		Metres		Pounds		Kilograms		Sq. Feet		Sq. Metres
3.280840	1	0.3048		2.204622	1	0.453592		10.76391	1	0.09290
6.561680	2	0.6096		4.409244	2	0.907184		21.52782	2	0.18580
9.842520	3	0.9144		6.613866	3	1.360776		32.29173	3	0.27870
13.123359	4	1.2192		8.818488	4	1.814368		43.05564	4	0.37160
16.404199	5	1.5240		11.023110	5	2.267960		53.81955	5	0.46450
19.685038	6	1.8288		13.227732	6	2.721552		64.58346	6	0.55740
22.965878	7	2.1336		15.432354	7	3.175144		75.34737	7	0.65030
26.246718	8	2.4384		17.636976	8	3.628736		86.11128	8	0.74320
29.527558	9	2.7432		19.841598	9	4.082328		96.87519	9	0.83610
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1.864113	3	4.82803	2A	1189 x 1		46.81 x 66.22	B0	1000 x 1		39.37 x 55.66
2.485484	4	6.43738	A0	841 x 1		33.11 x 46.81	B1	707 x 1		27.83 x 39.37
3.106855	5	8.04672	A1	594 x 8		23.39 x 33.11	B2	500 x 7		19.68 x 27.83
3.728226	6	9.65606	A2	420 x 5		16.54 x 23.39	B3	353 x 5		13.89 x 19.68
4.349597	7	11.26541	A3	297 x 4		11.69 x 16.54	B4	250 x 3		9.84 x 13.89
4.970968	8	12.87475	A4	210 x 2		8.27 x 11.69	B5	176 x 2		6.29 x 9.84
5.592339	9	14.48410	A5	148 x 2		5.83 x 8.27 4.13 x 5.83	B6 B7	125 x 1 88 x 12		4.92 x 6.29
			A6	105 x 1			B8			3.46 x 4.92
			A7 A8	74 x 10 52 x 7		2.91 x 4.13 2.05 x 2.91	B8 B9	62 x 8 44 x 6		2.44 x 3.46 1.73 x 2.44
			A8 A9			2.05 X 2.91 1.46 X 2.05	B10			1.73 X 2.44 1.22 X 1.73
				37 x 5			BIU	31 x 4	4	1.22 X 1./3
			A10	26 x 3	) /	1.02 x 1.46				



Old time friend, mixed media on canvas by Simon Muriithi simuriithi@yahoo.com

## The first Kenya Arts Diary

The idea for this diary comes from Nani Croze, the renowned glass artist and vigorous champion of contemporary Kenyan art and artists, who lives and works on the Kitengela plains on the outskirts of Nairobi. Art diaries exist in several other countries, but this is a first for Kenya. So what you hold in your hands is unique, and will become a collector's item.

The diary has been brought to life to promote contemporary Kenyan art and artists, with an emphasis for the first year on the visual arts. We have tried to represent a cross section of this exciting and vibrant part of Kenya's society: the old and established as well as the young and upcoming — many have found a place in this book.

You'll find blank pages in the diary as well. We hope you'll be inspired as well as enlightened, using the physical space to create and collect ideas, thoughts and drawings. Lastly, you'll find a useful listing of the main galleries, institutions and sponsors of art in Nairobi, in the hope that this will guide you on your journey of art discovery.

Most important are the artists who were so enthusiastic about being a part of this idea and who saw the opportunity to showcase their work and promote what is the ever-changing landscape of the visual arts in Kenya. We hope it is obvious, flipping though the book, that there is a great future for Kenyan

art, not only in East Africa but beyond. In buying this diary, you become the proud owner of a great repository of art reproductions and also contribute to the promotion of the artistic side of Kenya.

This diary has materialised because a small group of Nairobi-based people worked tirelessly and voluntarily to get the book ready for publication: Nani Croze (artist), Peta Meyer (designer/editor), Xavier Verhoest (artist/curator), Leo Roozendaal (collector and art lover) and Kul Bhakoo (publisher). Patrick Murage of Kuona Trust contacted artists and gathered the paperwork, photographer Sylvia Gichia shot many of the excellent reproductions, and Susan Mitruk handled the advertising. We also thank Danda Jaroljmek of Kuona Trust, Carol Lees of the One Off Contemporary Art Gallery and Maggie Otieno of African Colours. Very special thanks go to group member Kul Bhakoo of Kul Graphics Limited who generously contributed his publishing expertise and financial support to this book.

Enjoy this diary and use it to the fullest. And if your favourite artist has not been included, please let us know for the next edition.

The Kenya Arts Diary Group KenyaArtsDiary@gmail.com

October 2010











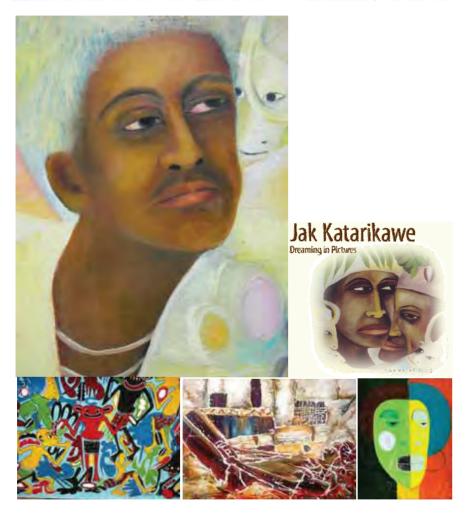






Michael Soi Maggie Otieno Omosh Kinde Andrew McNaughton Ash Uman Jackson Wanjau Patrick Mukabi Moses Nyaw.

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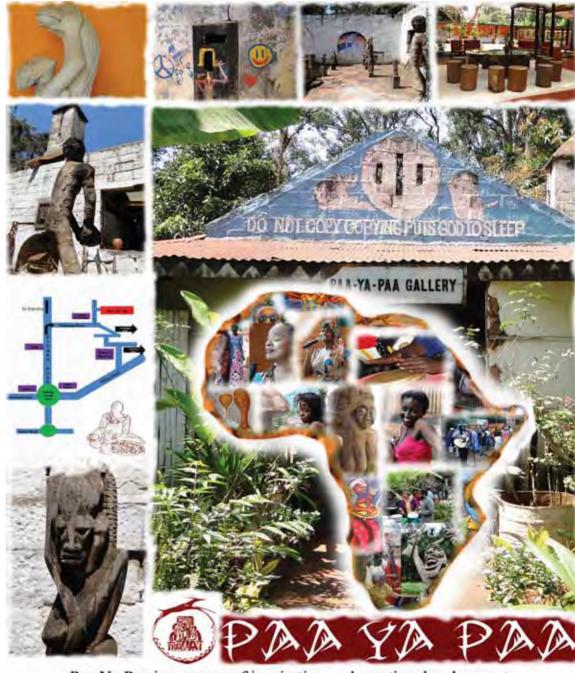
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Email: ogk@artafrica-investment.com, ogkofi@gmail.com & adama@gallerywatatu.com



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Tel· 0733 270 109



Rest by Lydia Gatundu Galavu, tel. 0733 544396, lydiagatundu@gmail.com



Untitled by Wamalwa Maube, tel. 0722 418530, maube07@yahoo.com

# 2011



## **DECEMBER / JANUARY**



Beth Kimwele has a degree in fine arts from Kenyatta University, where she majored in painting and graphics. She works mainly with oils and her style is distinctive, with very detailed work and vibrant colours. She says her inspiration comes from traditional African culture, with her favourite subjects being women, portraying their day to day activities and the role they play in society. She has participated in many exhibitions and works from a studio at Kuona Trust.

bkimwele@yahoo.com

Pounding away, oil on canvas.

January 2011

М	Т	W	Т	F	S	Su
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Tuesday 28

Monday 27

Wednesday 29

Thursday 30

Friday 31

## **JANUARY**

Monday 3

Tuesday **4** 

Wednesday 5

Thursday 6

Friday





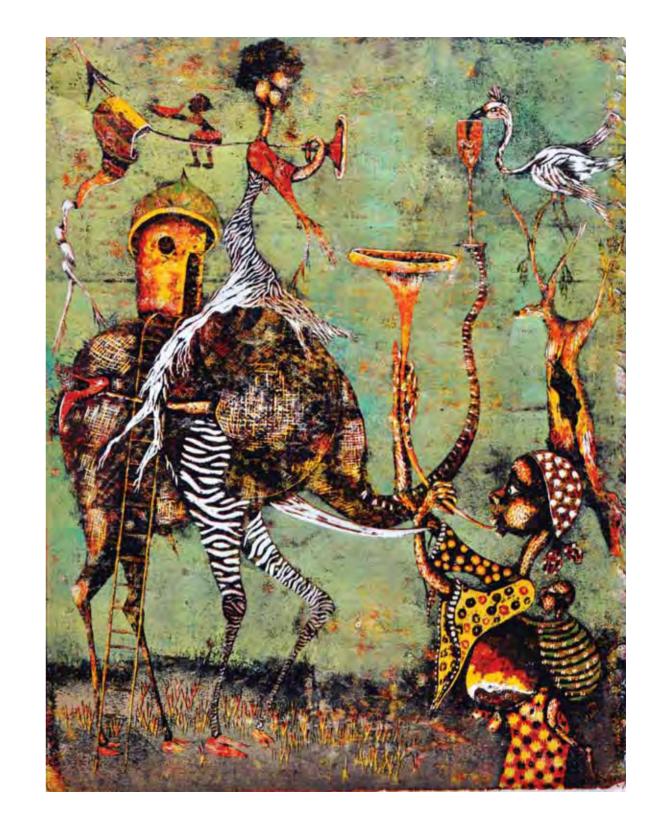
John (Silver) Mbugua is a self taught artist from Thika who tried his hand at drawing and painting from a young age. John's turning point came in 1992 when he met fellow artists at Gallery Watatu. Since then his wood cut prints have found their way to several institutions, among others the Victoria and Albert Collection in London. John's paintings and prints have a dream-like quality, full of colour, texture and fantasy. "I rarely paint what I plan" he says, "but I paint what comes out of the canvas, like a dream or vision."

Tel. 0721 966395 rhinocareart@yahoo.com

Wood cut print on canvas, 2010. 36 x 27.5 cm

#### January 2011

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## **JANUARY**



Justus Kyalo was born in 1972 in Nairobi, a setting which has inspired him and formed the foundation for his style. His paintings are non figurative, and full of colour and texture. Trained as an illustrator, his work has evolved over time into very large canvases with layer upon layer of paint. Justus gets his inspiration from the spontaneity of life itself. He has exhibited in Kenya and abroad and considers the exhibition *Nikongara nime* zubaa at Paa Ya Paa Art Centre his favourite.

Tel. 0722 801 582 kyalo6@yahoo.com

Laconic, mixed media, 2010. 51 x 50 cm

#### January 2011

М	T	W	T	F	S	Su
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Monday 10

Tuesday 11

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Wednesday} \\ 12 \end{array}$ 

Thursday 13

Friday 14

## **JANUARY**

Monday 17

Tuesday 18

Wednesday 19

Thursday 20

Friday 21

Saturday 22

Sunday 23



Joseph Bertiers was born in Nairobi, trained at the YMCA Crafts Training Centre, and began his career painting signs for local bars and small businesses. Unsatisfied with painting only for commercial purposes, his work quickly became more political, fed by his deep interest in current events. He describes creating awareness of the social and political issues affecting ordinary people as his key artistic driver. His recent sculptures are imbued with humour, social commentary and satire at the same time. He has exhibited both locally and internationally.

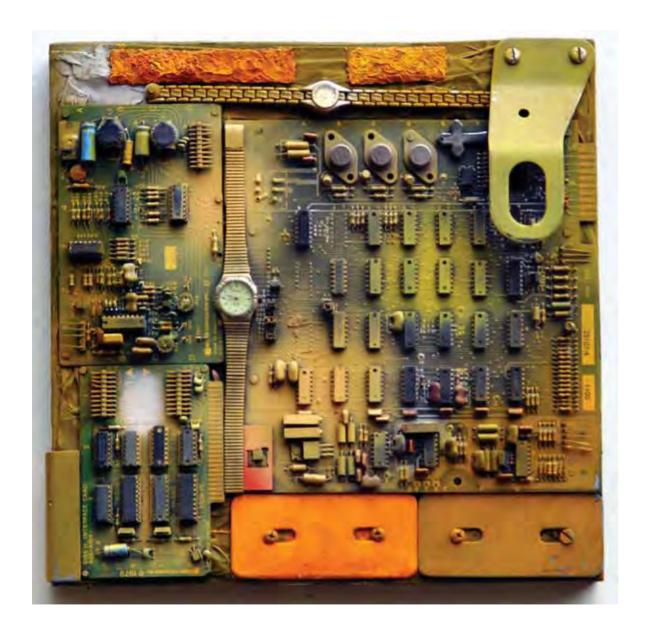
Tel. 0722 658586 b\_artske@yahoo.com

Stupidity never runs out of fashion, recycled metal.

#### January 2011

М	Т	W	Т	F	S	Su	
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Anthony Okello was born in from the Nairobi-based Buru Buru Institute. He describes his primary artistic drive as the need for self-expression. His work ranges from abstract to semi-abstract and he uses many primary colors. He considers Kuona Trust's inaugural exhibition "Stereotypes" as his best. artists' interpretation to the 2007 post-election violence and was well received by critics and the public.

Tel. 0712 752746 aookello@yahoo.com

Computer Generation 2, mixed media on board, 2009. 30 x 30 cm.

#### January 2011

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31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Nairobi in 1976 and graduated This group exhibition explored

Monday 24

Tuesday 25

Wednesday 26

Thursday 27

Friday 28

## JANUARY / FEBRUARY

Monday 31

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Friday 4

Thursday

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Saturday Sunday 6



Peter Elungat was born in Teso District, Western Province, eighth of a dozen children. He developed an avid interest in drawing while still in the village, encouraged by his older brother, himself an artist, who provided basic art materials. Early drawings were of daily life, rural landscapes and traditional homesteads. Elungat received a primary education and attended secondary school for two years before dropping out in 1997 due to financial difficulties. He joined the Kuona Trust Art Studio in 1997 and has attended numerous instructional workshops.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

*Midnight blue Angelina,* oil on canvas, 155 x 124 cm

#### February 2011

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Monday

Andrew McNaughton practiced as an interior design consultant for 30 years before moving to live near the beach in Watamu. A passionate naturalist and keen observer of nature, he spends much time combing the beaches of Kenya for interesting objects. Using driftwood, defunct canoes, dhow wood, flip-flops and all manner of jetsam and flotsam, he creates fine humorous sculpture and furniture. His works comprise at least 95% recycled or sustainable material.

www.andrew-mcnaughton.com

Sculpture and furnishing items of flip flops, marine debris and driftwood.



February 2011

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Tuesday 8 Wednesday Thursday 10 Friday 11 Saturday Sunday 12 13

## **FEBRUARY**

Monday 14

Tuesday 15

Wednesday 16

Thursday 17

Friday 18

Saturday 19 Sunday





Jak Katarikawe's paintings are rooted in his homeland of Kigezi, Uganda, although he has lived in Kenya for more than 30 years. Many of his works exhibit a dreamlike aura and his paintings always have stories as their foundation. "This Shagaal must have dreamt the same dreams I have" he likes to say when he is called the 'East Africa Chagall'. The long horned Kigezi cows and human-like elephants are signature themes. His works have been shown in close to 100 exhibitions worldwide.

Tel. 0722 652528

Cows and mzungus, oil on board, 76x102cm

#### February 2011

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Chelenge van Rampelberg started in 1990 to teach herself sculpture, attempting to represent the people around her and their behaviour. Soon she was showing her sculptures to great acclaim at Gallery Watatu. She is particularly interested in women totems, providential mothers with prominent breasts. Though she mostly works in wood, she also uses other media such as painting, jewellery and engraving. Her works are regularly exhibited in Japan.

Tel: 0728 666631 chelengevr@gmail.com

Eve, ebony wood, 110 cm.

#### February 2011

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Sunday 27

## FEBRUARY / MARCH

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Saturday Sunday 6



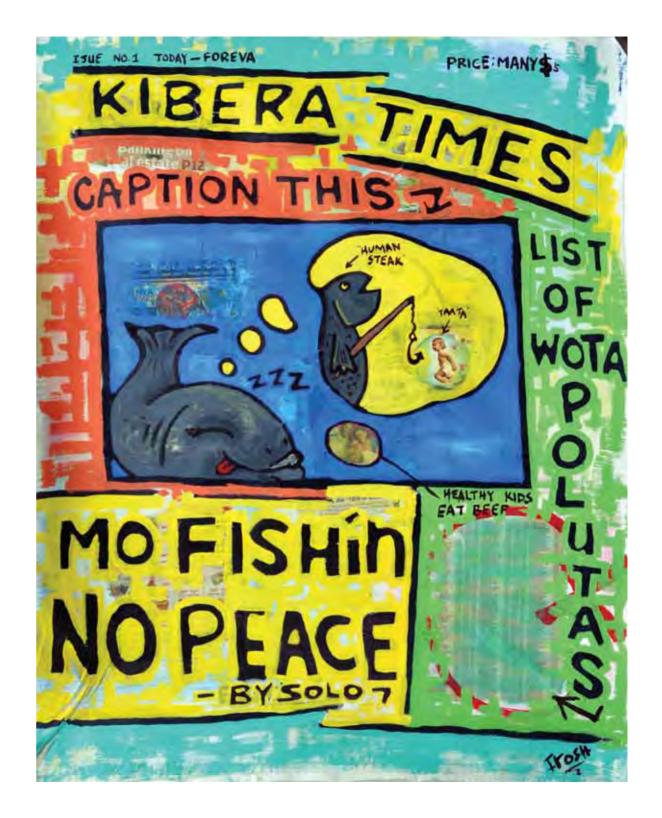
Kevin Irungu was born in Kibera in 1987 and is part of the community group Maasai Mbili. Kevin paints in a style known as ghetto or street art, with broad brushstrokes and images mixed with text, resembling street signs. He gets his inspiration from what he sees and hears around him: "I think the slum is art. You think of your own architecture, recipe, road or network through the ghetto. You name it — it's art in the making". He considers the exhibition 'Conversation in Silence' (Goethe Institute Nairobi) his best.

Tel. 0723 632067 kevostero@yahoo.com

Daily Kibera, mixed media on canvas, 2010. 109 x 140 cm

#### March 2011

М	Т	W	Т	F	s	Su	
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has a degree in English literature and fine arts and a postgraduate diploma in textile design. In the 80s he co-founded Kichaka, a multimedia workshop printing avant-garde African textiles. He has been painting full time since the mid 90s and has had numerous solo and group shows, in Kenya, India, Denmark, Britain and France. In 2006 he was awarded first prize in the mixed media category at the first juried Contemporary Kenyan Art Exhibition organised by Alliance Française, Goethe Institute and the Ministry Of Culture.

Dawn of a new day, acrylic on canvas.

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Monday Tuesday Kamal Shah, born in Nairobi, 8 Wednesday 9 Thursday 10 zone\_lotus@yahoo.com Friday 11 March 2011

## MARCH

Monday **14** 

Tuesday 15

Wednesday **16** 

Thursday 17

Friday 18

Saturday 19 Sunday 20



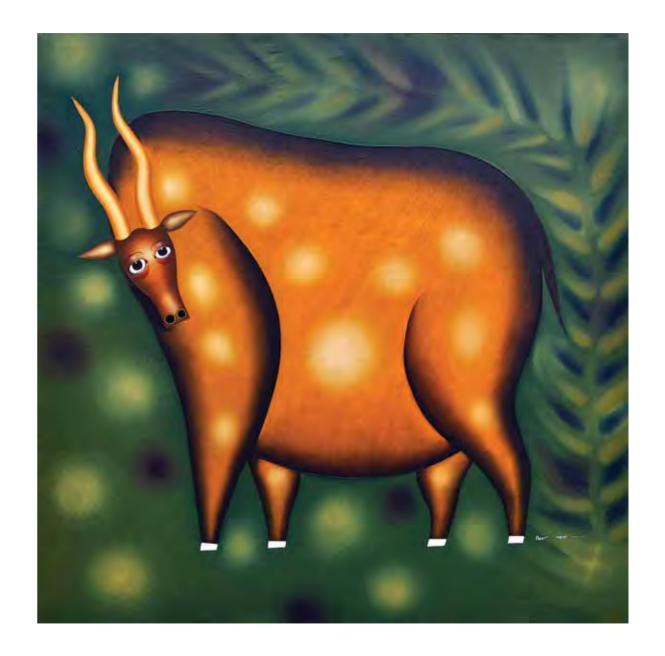
Peter Ngugi is a self-taught artist whose work is distinguished by vividly-coloured figures, usually of animals. His figures defy the rules of proportionality, colour, light and shade, creating a fusion of surreal and contemporary art with a quirky sense of humour. Recognition for his distinctive talent came with his solo exhibition *Images from Kenya* as part of the University of Kentucky Kenyan Artist-in-Residence programme in 2008.

Tel. 0733 795724 ghosemsanii@yahoo.com

*Swara,* oils on canvas, 2010. 100 x 100 cm

#### March 2011

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Timothy Brooke's family migrated to Kenya from England in 1947. Brooke returned to London in the early 1960s and graduated with a fine art degree in 1965. During the next 15 years, he traveled around Europe, including a ten year stint painting and exhibiting in Ireland, before finally returning to Kenya to live in 1980. He is best known for the series of 26 paintings he created for the Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi. Brooke lives in Nanyuki where he has his studio at the foot of Mt Kenya.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel: 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Subterranean Wells North, oil on canvas, 82 x 97 cm

March 2011

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Tuesday 22

Monday

21

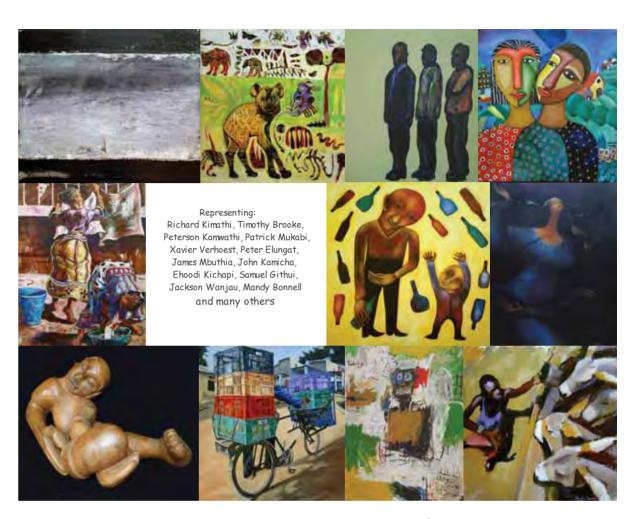
 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Wednesday} \\ \textbf{23} \end{array}$ 

Thursday 24

Friday 25









Photos by Danielle de Lame



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## MARCH / APRIL

Monday 28

Tuesday 29

Wednesday 30

Thursday 31

Friday

Saturday Sunday 3



Danda Jaroljmek is currently the Director of Kuona Trust which provides space and promotes exchange between visual artists. She has a BA in Public Art from the Chelsea College of Art and Design in London. She describes her work as kiln-formed glass sculpture, which can be functional as well as decorative and architectural. Plants and small pieces of aluminum appear to float in glass and give her work an ethereal quality.

danda@kuonatrust.org

Marula Lane door, glass, plants, aluminum, 2009. 210 cm

#### April 2011

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Beatrice Wanjiku's inspiration comes from deep within herself. Her work is very personal and feeds on her vivacious personality. A graduate of the Buruburu Institute of Fine Arts, she plays with layers of texture, typography and colour to challenge viewers to reflect on what they see or imagine — real or not. Wanjiku was voted the most promising young artist in the 2006 Elysee Treaty Art Competition jointly held by Alliance Française and the Goethe Institute in Nairobi. She held her first solo exhibition at RaMoMA in 2009.

Tel: 0733 330828 betku@yahoo.com

Quintessence of loneliness, acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 2010. 71 x 101 cm

#### April 2011

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APRIL Monday 11

Tuesday 12

Wednesday 13

Thursday 14

Friday 15

Saturday 16 Sunday 17



Gakunju Kaigwa is a sculptor with a master's degree in public art from the University of Dundee in Scotland. He does not remember a time when he did not make art. But although he grew up painting, he discovered his real passion in the early 80s and has been a sculptor ever since. He works with wood, glass, steel, resin, bronze and many other materials, using each medium to express different ideas and forms.

gkaigwa@yahoo.com

Brotherhood, glass, wood and steel, 56 x 42 x 28 cm

#### April 2011

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Fitsum Berhe Woldelibanos was born in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia. He moved to Asmera in 1995 where he finished high school followed by a few years at the University of Asmera. Spurred by his early exposure and interest in art, he left university to join the Asmera School of Art in 1998. In 2003, he settled in Nairobi and has been teaching art at the French International School since then. Fitsum has participated in international workshops and exhibited widely in Africa and Europe.

fitsber2001@yahoo.com

Ray, acrylic, 140 x 140 cm

22

#### April 2011

М	T	W	Т	F	S	Su
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Friday

## APRIL / MAY

Monday 25

Tuesday **26** 

Wednesday 27

Thursday 28

Friday 29

Saturday 30

Sunday 1



Larissa Hoops was born in Kenya and held her first solo exhibition in Nairobi in 2007. Its success led to numerous group shows, including Africa Now! (Dec 2008- April 2009), held in the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC, and the Pan-African Cultural Festival in Algiers (July 2009) where she was one of two Kenyan artists in Africaines, an exhibition of contemporary African women artists. The artist says, "Primarily a painter, I also enjoy working in collage, mixed media and film... I am interested in people, their histories, their social situations and cultural complexities."

larissahoops@hotmail.com

One In Three, collage on board, 2010.

## May 2011

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Nyandarua in 1985 and has a certificate in art and craft, and skills in art therapy counselling which he puts to good use in his work with the Wajukuu Art Project, based in the Mukuru slum in Embakasi, training disaffected youth in various forms of art. Shabu's work focuses on "what is happening within" — painting is for him a way to express innermost thoughts and feelings, and what he sees going on around him. His favourite exhibition was one done by Wajukuu on the post

Tel 0722 523636 shabumwag@hotmail.com

2009. 92 x 140 cm

May 2011

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election violence.

5

Free to be free, mixed media,

3

Tuesday

Monday

Wednesday

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Thursday

Friday 6

Saturday

Sunday



MAY Monday 9

> Tuesday 10

Wednesday 11

Thursday 12

Friday 13

Saturday 14 Sunday 15



Dinesh Revankar studied graphic design and worked as an art director and illustrator in the advertising industry before turning to fine art. He has had a number of solo art exhibitions in Kenya and India, and continues to teach drawing and painting at the Mank and Tank Art College.

threedcreative2004@yahoo.com

Siddharth, oil on canvas, 137 x 188 cm



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John Kamicha has been primary school children.

Represented by One Off Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Memories of the displaced, mixed media, 140 x 150 cm

May 2011

М	Т	w	Т	F	S	Su
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around art for as long as he can remember as the son of well known artist Zachariah Mbuthia. Using khanga fabric as a canvas has become his latest 'trade mark'. In 2009, Kamicha created the concept shows Stereotypes I and Stereotypes // that questioned the violent events which took place after the 2007 Kenyan elections. He has exhibited at the Goethe Institute, the GoDown Art Centre, UNEP headquarters and a joint show at RaMoMA, all in Nairobi. His community projects include workshops with street and

Contemporary Art Gallery,

Monday 16

Tuesday 17

Wednesday

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Friday 20

## MAY Monday 23

Tuesday 24

Wednesday 25

Thursday 26

Friday 27

Saturday 28 Sunday 29



Maggie Otieno has a diploma in Art and Design. Her journey through sculpting started in 1996 at Kuona Trust. Working in stone, metal and wood this award winning sculptor (juried competition/exhibition, a joint French-German initiative in partnership with the Ministry of Culture -2006 ) says "I like challenging my material other than letting it challenge me... My work captures the human form in abstract, seeking to give emphasis to the day to day events around me." Maggie has exhibited numerously both locally and internationally.

maggie@africancolours.com

Conversation series, wood and metal, 2009. 150 x 38 cm

#### May 2011

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Jason Corder was born in San Francisco and has shown his work in the US, the UK, France, Ireland, Germany, Ethiopia and Kenya. His art explores the natural processes of the world we live in and he uses many organic materials like ash, henna and earth. Energy from the sun results in a tree growing. The tree dies. Its wood is collected and used to make a fire. The resulting ash is then used to create something of beauty, giving a kind of rebirth to this energetic cycle. Corder divides his time between France and Kenya.

media on canvas, 135cm x 185cm

www.jasoncorder.com

June 2011

The huge and deep silence, mixed

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Monday 30

Tuesday 31 Wednesday Thursday 2 Friday 3

## JUNE Monday

6

Tuesday

Wednesday 8

Thursday 9

Friday 10

Saturday 11 Sunday 12



Otieno Gomba was born in Nairobi in 1974 and is one of the co-founders of the Kiberabased artist group Maasai Mbili. His early interest in art led him to work as a signwriter in Kibera, from where he developed his distinctive ghetto art style, based on street signs and advertisements, with a socio-political theme. His work was selected for AfriCAM, an exhibition of contemporary African art, held at the Casoria Contemporary Art Museum in Rome in 2009-2010.

M2artstudio@yahoo.com

Krazy republic, mixed media on canvas, 2010. 22 x 37 cm

#### June 2011

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El Tayeb studied at the University of Khartoum where he specialised in art and textile design. He settled in Nairobi in 1997 and is considered by many as the leading Sudanese artist based in Kenya. His work is a celebration of colour and the development of a very personal internal imagery. Recurrent themes in his work — the cycle of life and death, symbols of Nubian civilization — are portrayed on various media such as paper, textile and canvas.

Tel. 0727 415488

Untitled, acrylic on canvas.

June 2011

М	Т	W	T	F	S	Su
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## JUNE Monday

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Saturday **25** 

Sunday 26



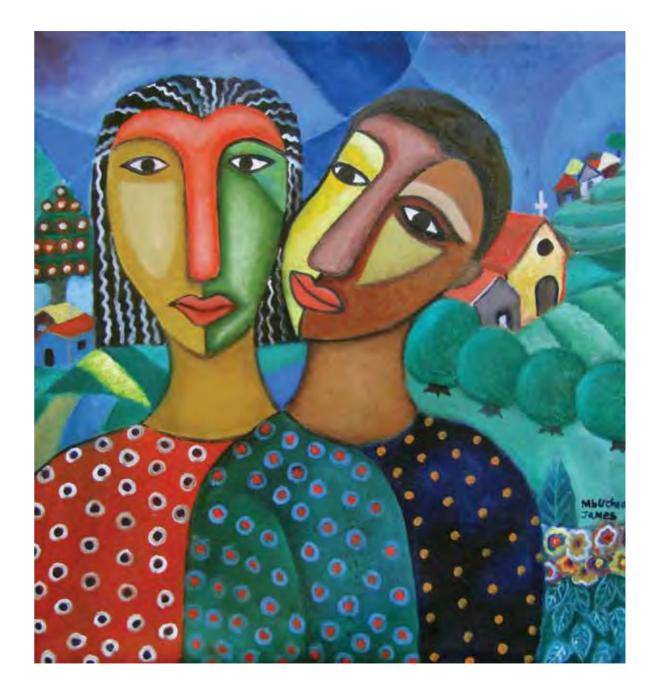
James Mbuthia was born in Banana Hill, Kiambu District. His formal education saw him through high school. His knowledge of art is entirely selftaught. When not energetically involved in his passion for painting, he works at RaMoMA in Nairobi where he is workshop coordinator, Children's Wing coordinator and curator of the Sculpture Garden. His initiative also enables a team of artists to bring art to children in the pediatric wards of Kenyatta National Hospital. He has traveled to both France and the USA to take part in workshops.

Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

*I love you, dear,* oil on canvas, 50 x 48 cm

#### June 2011

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Ash Uman was born in Uganda in 1965 and attended high school in Kenya, after which he took up various jobs, including that of a cartographer. He is a self-taught artist and has been painting full time since 1990. His abstract works, which often include figures, are an adventure of colours and shapes that defy easy categorisation as African or Western art. In the year 2000 one of his paintings was selected for The Millennium Art Collection and it is now on display in The Hague, Netherlands.

Tel: 0733 723292 Ash7uman@yahoo.com

Without title, oil on canvas,

July 2011

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60 x 60 cm

Thursday 30

Monday 27

Tuesday

Wednesday

28

29

Friday



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## Welcome to the village of artists

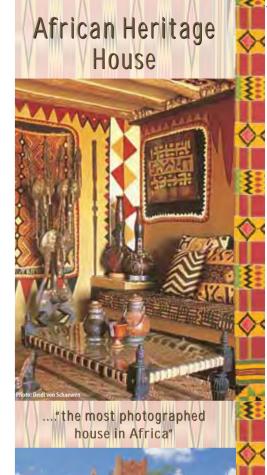
The Ngecha Artist Association was started as an initiative of the late Ruth Schaffner in 1995. Its founding members were Sane Wadu, Wanyu Brush, Daniel Kinyanjui, Fred Kamau (Mbugua), Lucy Njeri, Shine Tani, Chain Muhandi, Daniel Kariuki, King Dodge, Virginia Wanjiru and Meek Gichugu. Many of these first artists members have started other art movements since. We have a studio in Ngecha Village off Limuru Rd where we exhibit and work. Our aim is recruiting further artists from the region and teaching children.





### Open daily 8am to 6pm

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The African Heritage House overlooking the Nairobi National Park is described by the prestigious Architectural Digest as "an architecture rising from the sere Kenyan plain like an outcropping of earth, a vision of usefulness informed by the African genius for decoration." Created by American Alan Donovan, co-founder of the African Heritage Pan African Galleries, the house is a combination of the mud architectures from across Africa. www.africanheritagebook.com Telephone for reservations/directions 0721-518 389.

Email: ahalan@africaonline.co.ke

## JULY | Monday

4

Tuesday

5

Wednesday 6

Thursday

Friday 8

Saturday Sunday 10



Kioko Mwitiki is Kenya's pioneer junk metal artist. Expelled from university in 1986, he landed a job as a welder where he learnt his most valuable lesson - that welding, taken to the outer limits, can become art. Many of Kioko's scrap-yard creatures are life-sized; most are as anatomically correct as it is possible to be working with engine parts, boilerplates and snare wire. His creatures are famous, having been seen in the Smithsonian Institute, and featured on both CNN and the BBC.

Tel: 020 581124, 0722 650666 pimbigallery@yahoo.com

#### July 2011

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Mary Collis is a second generation Kenyan, born in Nairobi. From the world of graphic design, she first ventured into fine art in 1980. Over time she has moved from the figurative to the abstract. Her work is mostly a response to her surroundings, the light and her feelings, and she is an extraordinary colourist. She has had numerous one-woman exhibitions, in Kenya, Britain and Holland, and is the co-founder of RaMoMA, the Museum of Modern Art in Nairobi.

collis@africaonline.co.ke

Waltz of the Flowers, oil on canvas, 120 x 150cm on two canvases

July 2011

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## **JULY**

Monday

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Saturday 23

Sunday 24



Patrick Mukabi's formal art education started with a oneyear course in basic illustration at the Creative Art Centre in 1988, followed by a two-year certificate in graphic design at the Kenya Polytechnic, in Nairobi. He participated in his first group exhibition in 1994. The following year he won the nomination as "Best New Artist," at the East African Industries Annual Exhibition, held at Gallery Watatu. In 2002, he won the "Best Original Art Work," prize at Kuona Trust. He participates in numerous art exhibitions.

Represented by One Off Contemporary Art Gallery, Tel. 0722 521870 oneoff@africaonline.co.ke

Mama Safi series, acrylic on vinyl, 154 x 116 cm

#### July 2011

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