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Groundbreaking Exhibition, LagosPhoto, Brings International Contemporary Photography and Outdoor Installations to Nottingham

Saturday 19 September 2026 – Sunday 10 January 2027

Launch event: Friday 18 September, 6-8pm

Lakeside Arts, Djanogly Gallery, University of Nottingham

Free Admission

PRESS PREVIEW: Friday 18 September, 11.30am

Images available [here](#).

A major new exhibition, *LagosPhoto: Stories of Movement and Belonging*, brings together prominent artists from across the African continent, the global diaspora, and the international LagosPhoto network. Through compelling photographic practices, the featured works examine borders, memory, belonging, and the unseen forces that dictate human movement across the globe.

Founded in 2010 by the African Artists' Foundation, the biennial LagosPhoto Festival is one of Africa's most influential international contemporary arts events. Celebrating both emerging and established photographers, the festival expands beyond traditional walls to engage audiences through installations, large-scale outdoor prints, workshops, and panel discussions.

Mirroring the expansive spirit of the original festival, *LagosPhoto: Stories of Movement and Belonging* extends beyond the gallery space. Visitors will encounter large-scale outdoor installations set across Lakeside Arts and the surrounding University Park campus, transforming the physical landscape into an open-air dialogue on mobility and representation.

Presented in collaboration with the Sustainable Travel and Tourism Advanced Research Centre (STTAR Centre), the exhibition directly confronts socio-cultural, economic, environmental, and political inequalities in access, travel, and global movement. By challenging standard tourism narratives, the collection asks critical questions: *Who is granted freedom of movement? Whose stories achieve visibility? How can photography resist reductive representations of human journeying?*

Featured Artists

The exhibition showcases a diverse selection of contemporary photographers and visual storytellers, including:

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- Arsene Mpiana
- César Dezfuli
- Etinosa Yvonne
- Fibi Afloe & Ann Cassiman
- Gosette Lubondo
- Johnny Miller
- Massow Ka
- Rahi Rezvani
- Sumayah Fallatah

Curated by Maria Pia Bernardoni and Courage Kpodo, the exhibition will show varied photographic practices which ultimately question who can move freely. The exhibition is free admission for visitors.

Maria Pia Bernardoni said *“To curate an exhibition about movement and belonging is also to think about the responsibility of looking. Images do not simply show us the world; they contribute to constructing our understanding of it. They can simplify, stereotype and exclude, but they can also complicate, question and make visible. Photography can both reflect existing systems of power and become a tool for challenging them. The artists in this exhibition approach these questions from very different perspectives, creating a space where ideas of borders, belonging and identity can be questioned and negotiated rather than taken for granted. For me, this is one of the most powerful possibilities of photography: not to provide definitive answers, but to unsettle the narratives we have become accustomed to seeing and to invite us to look again.”*

Courage Kpodo said *“The story of human movement is inextricably linked with identity and its formation. Modernity itself was built on mass movement and its functions of trade, indoctrination, and colonization. In a world where people are increasingly hyphenated across geographic, political, and cultural lines, the question of who belongs where, and when, resists a simple answer. It begs a kind of thinking beyond familiar categories: expat and immigrant, tourist and refugee, homeless, citizen and stateless. The path on which travellers move is lined with stories of encounter, building, demolition, love, and death. The artists in this exhibition offer us a glimpse into this world, and remind us of the intimacies, losses, and acts of home-making that every crossing carries, be it overseas or into the next town.”*

Prof. Marina Novelli (Director of the STTAR Centre) said: *“This exhibition is the result of a unique collaboration between the University of Nottingham’s Lakeside Gallery and STTAR Centre with the AAF, a partnership which builds on years of knowledge exchange which will no doubt evolve in many more cutting edge co-developed projects.”*

-- ENDS --

For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact Lakeside Arts’ Marketing and Communications Managers Mária Konyelicska-Visky maria.konyelicska-visky@nottingham.ac.uk and Amy Steels amy.steels@nottingham.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Lakeside Arts, University of Nottingham

Lakeside Arts is the University of Nottingham's public arts centre presenting a programme of visual arts, manuscripts and museum exhibitions, as well as music, theatre, dance, children and families' productions. Its venues include the Djanogly Gallery, opened in 1992, that stages a year-round programme of 20th-century and contemporary art exhibitions complemented by a lively programme of public lectures and learning activities. Recent exhibitions have included: *Material Worlds* (2025), *Cosmic Titans* (2024-2025), *Saad Qureshi: Conversations Before the End of Time* (2024), *Reimag(in)ing the Victorians* (2023-2024), *Rhythm & Geometry: Constructivist Art in Britain Since 1951* (2023), *Michael Forbes: Blk this & Blk that... a state of urgency* (2022).

lakesidearts.org.uk | Facebook and Instagram: @LakesideArts

Sustainable Travel and Tourism Advanced Research Centre (STTAR Centre)

The Sustainable Travel and Tourism Advanced Research Centre (STTAR Centre) is an international research centre focused on improving the critical thinking and decision-making that underpins sustainable travel and tourism development, management and marketing. Based on the pillars of interdisciplinarity, internationalisation and impact, STTAR Centre is made up of experts from the University of Nottingham and a network of colleagues from academic, public, private and third sector organisations around the world. STTAR Centre's vision is to produce world-leading, innovative and impactful research through interdisciplinary approaches that rethink theory, policy and practices in ways that travel and tourism are socially just, economically viable and environmentally sustainable.

nottingham.ac.uk/business/who-we-are/centres-and-institutes/sttar-centre/

LISTING INFORMATION

Exhibition Dates: Saturday 19 Sept – Sunday 10 January 2027

Opening Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm | Sunday 12noon-4pm (Closed Mondays)

Address: Djanogly Gallery, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Admission: Free

Events: For talks and events please book online or call the Box Office on 0115 846 7777

RELATED EVENTS

LAUNCH EVENT

Friday 18 September, 6-8pm

TALKS

Stories of movement and belonging in the era of sustainability

Friday 18 September, 4-6pm

WORKSHOPS

Thresholds, liberating narratives: Exploring your photography

Six Wednesday sessions from 16 September – 14 October, 6.30-8.30pm

GALLERY TOURS

Led by Ashley Gallant, Head of Visual Arts, Lakeside Arts

1-2pm

Saturday 10 October

Friday 6 November

Friday 4 December

IMAGES

Image credits

Mide, From the Unboxed series, Etinosa Yvonne

From the passport series, 2019-2024 by Arsene Mpiana

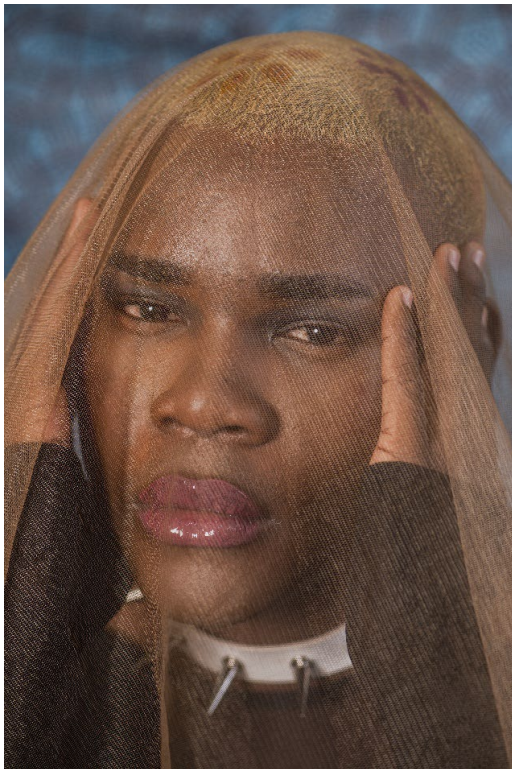
From the passport series, 2019-2024 by Arsene Mpiana

Kayanmata, 2025 by Fibi Afloe

Nesta, From the Unboxed series, Etinosa Yvonne

Mama, From the Unboxed series, Etinosa Yvonne

Solange, From the Unboxed series, Etinosa Yvonne



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