

Nola Ayoola

Nigerian, Lagos - New York based

Education

Exhibitions

2024

Freedom in Multitudes The 1897 Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Floating in Place Affinity Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

From the Eyes of Her (Public Installation) NYC Culture Club, New York, NY

2023

Home as Corpus Curated by Head of State & Diallo Simon-Ponte, New York, NY

A Color Story Cierra Britton Gallery, New York, NY

Inner Space Yenwa Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria

AMREF Health Africa: Art Ball Auction, Artsy, New York, NY

2022

I Saw Things I Imagined Cierra Britton Gallery, New York, NY

Shout Plenty African Artists' Foundation (AAF), Lagos, Nigeria

2021

AMREF Health Africa: Art Ball Auction, Artsy, New York, NY

I Am Not a Goddess, Unless I Say I Am Amar Singh Gallery in collaboration
with Sabo Art.

Advisory, Lagos, Nigeria

Art Fairs

2026

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Solo Curated Section Windsor Gallery, Cape Town,
South Africa

2025

Untitled Art Fair Cierra Britton Gallery, Miami, FL

Foundations, Artsy

Investec Cape Town Art Fair Ora Laopi & Yenwa Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2024

Latitudes Art Fair Yenwa Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

Art Fairs

2023

The Hamptons Art Fair Cierra Britton Gallery, Hamptons, New York

RESIDENCIES

2024

Xenia Creative Retreat, Hampshire, United Kingdom

2022

African Artists' Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria

Recognition

2025

'5 Artists on Our Radar, Artsy

Collections

The Dean Collection, New York

Public Installation

World Trade Center, New York

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Nola Ayoola (b. 1992) is a Lagos- and New York - based interdisciplinary artist whose practice examines identity, memory, and lived experience as sites of emotional and cultural interrogation. Working across portraiture, sculpture, and immersive abstract environments, she approaches her practice as a form of inquiry - using tactile processes to translate psychological states and embodied memory into form.

Her work functions as a visual journal: portals that register emotion, rupture, and transformation. Guided by heightened sensory awareness, Ayoola employs color, movement, and material techniques such as weaving, hand printing, collage, and painting to intuitive, multi-sensory landscapes and portraiture. These works function as layered emotional and psychological spaces, often emerging in response to personal adversity and moments of displacement.

Drawing on symbolic elements from her Yoruba heritage alongside contemporary cultural references, Ayoola develops a visual language that is both culturally grounded and globally resonant. Her practice situates memory and sensation as active forces, inviting collective interpretation while foregrounding the unseen structures that shape womanhood, identity, and belonging.

Inspired by everyday life, her environments, and the people within them, Ayoola's work bridges traditional forms and contemporary experience. Named one of Artsy's "5 Artists on Our Radar" in 2025, she has received international recognition for this synthesis. Her practice has been featured in prominent public installations, including at the World Trade Center, as well as at international art fairs such as Untitled Art Fair Miami. Her work is held in notable private collections, with a recent acquisition by the Dean Collection. She holds degrees from the University of Bristol and Parsons School of Design.