

# NADA NEW YORK

7 - 11 May 2025

Anne Adams | Damilola Onosowobo | Joseph Aina



Anne Adams, Calculation of Longing, 2025, Stoneware, 23 x 15 x 9 in



Joseph Aina, Purple sunrise, 2025, Chalk stick, oil stick, oil and acrylic on canvas, 17.72 x 17.72 in / 45 x 45 cm

Affinity Gallery is pleased to announce our debut in New York with NADA! We will show new works from: Anne Adams, Damilola Onosowobo and Joseph Aina. Join us at B-215.

The artists each explore identity, memory, and perception through deeply introspective practices that span painting and interdisciplinary approaches. Though distinct in form and focus, their works converge around the fluid negotiation of self about history, culture, and inner life.

Anne Adams' practice mediates the hybridity of racial and ethnic identity and the polyphony of perception in a post-colonial world. Through storytelling and speculation, her work addresses migration, identity, colonialism, and the negotiation of selfhood. Comparably, Onosowobo's work often captures a longing for simpler times, weaving personal memory with collective experience. In this new series, she explores the frayed connections between her identity and her cultural heritage. She refers to this disconnection as a 'gap'—a space shaped by the legacy of Western colonialism.

Finally, Joseph approaches the landscape as a psychological mirror, using painting as a meditative process to explore emotional balance and perception. For him, the land is not a static subject but a space of introspection—one that reveals internal tension or stillness.

## **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

### **Anne Adams**

Anne Adams (b. 1993) is an interdisciplinary artist from Nigeria, She received her MFA from the Tyler School of Art and Architecture in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In recent years, Adams has participated in shows in the USA, UK, France, and Africa. Her recent exhibitions include Radical Reimagining at the Newark Museum of Art, The Future of Clay at The Clay Studio Philadelphia, Clay Holds Water, and Water Holds Memory at the Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati. Freedom in Multitudes at The 1897 Gallery in London. She has participated in residencies including the Haystack Mountain School of Craft open studio residency and Watershed Center for Ceramic Art.

Adams has shown at fairs including Art X Lagos and 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair in London. She received the NCECA Multicultural Fellowship 2023 and the Simone Leigh Zenobia Award at Watershed 2023. She was recognized by the Lagos State Government as one of the 100 women making a change in Lagos, Nigeria for her contribution to the arts.

### **Damilola Onosowobo**

Damilola Onosowobo (b. 1993) received her Bachelor's in Architecture and Master's in Environmental Design from the University of Lagos. Her works highlight the reality that humans rely on echoes of the past. We are connected through memories. The lives we live serve as artefacts for those in the future to collect. Onosowobo's work has always celebrated the mundane, ordinary things and moments that retain power and resonance within our minds and memories.

Her recent shows include ART X Lagos, 2024, 1-54 London, 2024, 1-54 London, 2023, ART X Lagos, 2022, Girls Run The World, Eclectica Contemporary, Cape Town, 2022, Coalesce at Affinity Gallery, Lagos, 2021, Mother of Mankind, HOFA Gallery, London, 2021, Phenomenology of a Black woman, For you Gallery, Dubai, 2021.

### **Joseph Aina**

Joseph Aina (b. 1996) is a Nigerian-British Artist living and working in both London and Windsor. He graduated from the Royal College of Art upon the receipt of the Royal College of Art Studentship. Joseph's work investigates human nature and how it is interwoven into the fabric of society. With a specific interest in contemporary notions of identity and their place within popular culture. He identifies symbols within the streets and media as methods of communication between the social and the individual. By creating an alphabet from these symbols, he constructs visual poems that romantically illustrate the ills of society.

He has featured in group exhibitions such as Two, Haricot Gallery, London, (2025), New Us, Maison Marios, Berlin, (2024) Beyond Boundaries, Guts Gallery London (2024), Layered Textures, DADA Gallery,

London (2023), Things Left Unsaid, Affinity Gallery, Lagos (2023), Buffer, Guts Gallery, London (2022), Patterns of Identity, Prior Art Space, Barcelona (2022), The Life of Us, Prior Art Space, Berlin (2022), Pin Board, Changing Room, London (2022); and solo exhibitions, Looking For a Saviour, Prior Art Space, Berlin (2022) and The Movement Within, Berntson Bhattacharjee Gallery, London (2023). He is the recipient of the Student Scholarship Award at the RCA and was shortlisted for the Valerie Beston Award by Artist Trust in 2022 and the ACS (Artists' Collecting Society) Studio Prize, 2023. He is the most recent artist-in-residence at the Vannucci Artist Residency, Umbria, Italy.

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#### NOTES TO EDITORS

Affinity Gallery is a Contemporary gallery dedicated to promoting and celebrating African artists who passionately share the African narrative with their works. The gallery functions as a beacon to educate and preserve Africa's rich and diverse culture to inspire the next generation of young Africans. © 2025 Affinity Gallery. All rights reserved.