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ODILI DONALD ODITA

Born 1966 in Enugu, Nigeria
Lives in Philadelphia and New York, USA

EDUCATION

1990
MFA, Bennington College, Vermont, USA

1988
BFA, Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025
Songs from Life, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
A Survey of Context, The Hyde Collection, Glen Falls, NY, USA

2024
A Survey of Context, Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, Birmingham, USA

2023
Degrees of Separation, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Open Veil, Crown Point Press, San Francisco, USA
Windows, Stevenson, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Burning Cross, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

2022
3 Steps From Center, The Contemporary Dayton, Ohio, USA

2021
Walls of Change, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania, USA
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida, USA

2020
From Periphery to Center, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, Missouri, USA
Mirror, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

2019

Mamba Negra, Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, USA

2018

Other World, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

Third Sun, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

2016

The Differend, Galeria M77, Milan, Italy

2015

The Velocity of Change, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

Third Degree of Separation, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2013

This, That and the Other, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

2012

Event Horizon, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

Heaven's Gate, Savannah College of Art & Design Museum of Art, Savannah, Georgia, USA

2010

Body and Space, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

Perspectives 169, Contemporary Art Museum, Houston, Texas, USA

2009

Television, Project Series, Ulrich Museum at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, USA

Odili Donald Odita, Velan Center for Contemporary Art, Turin, Italy

2008

Double Edge, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

Third Space, Ramp Project, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

2007

Equalizer, Project Space, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

Flow, Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, USA

2006

Fusion, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA

2005

Paradise, Wertz Contemporary, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

2004

The Third Eye, Haunch of Venison, London, UK; Galerie Judin Belot, Zurich, Switzerland

Notes from Paradise, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, USA

New Work, Galerie Schuster, Frankfurt, Germany

2003

RESISTANCE, Matrix Art Project, Brussels, Belgium

Transformer, Hospitalhof, Stuttgart, Germany

New Work, Schmidt Contemporary Art, St Louis, Missouri, USA

2002

Interlude, Wintergarten, Vienna, Austria
New Work, Miami Art Museum, Florida, USA

2001

Life, Riva Gallery, New York, USA
Paintings and Drawings, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, USA

2000

Transfers/Odyssey, Kunsthalle St Gallen, Switzerland
Passport, Jenn Joy Gallery, San Francisco, California, USA
New Work, Alex Rosenberg Art Gallery, Hofstra University, New York, USA

1999

Color Theory, Florence Lynch Gallery, New York, USA
The Invisible Empire, Gallery 101, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

Giants: Art from the Dean Collection of Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, USA

2024

Giants: Art from the Dean Collection of Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys, Brooklyn Museum, New York; High Museum of Contemporary Art, Atlanta USA
A Planar Garden, Stephen Westfall, Alexandre Gallery, New York, USA
Outside Lines: Selections from AEIVA's Permanent Collection, Abroms-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA
Elevate the Object, SECCI Contemporary, Florence, Italy
Spring Exhibition, Galerie Thomas, Munich, Germany
Counterpoint, Cristea Roberts Gallery, London, UK

2023

The Artist List, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa
Morphologies, TOTAH, New York, USA
Impulse, Galerie Thomas Modern, Munich, Germany
20, David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Tales for a Stranger, The Warehouse, Maruani Mercier, Brussels, Belgium
Come A Little Closer, DC Moore Gallery, New York, USA

2022

Stressed World, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, New York, USA
Black Abstractionists: From Then 'til Now, Green Family Art Foundation, Texas, USA

2021

Today and Tomorrow, Gana Art Gallery, Seoul, South Korea
New Grit: Art & Philly Now, Philadelphia Museum of Art, USA
Color/Code: Sam Jablon & Odili Donald Odita, Morgan Presents Gallery, New York, USA

2020

Color Field, University of Houston, Texas, USA
Theft and Destruction, Galeria Arsenal, Poland

2019

Generations: A History of Black and Abstract Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Every Day: Selections from the Collection, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Color Field, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Arkansas, USA
Double Edged: Geometric Abstraction Then and Now, The Bob & Lissa Shelley McDowell Gallery, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, North Carolina, USA
How We See: Materiality and Color, Laumeier Sculpture Park, Saint Louis, USA

2018

Parking on Pavement, The School, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, New York, USA,
Both, and, Stevenson, Johannesburg, South Africa
Abstract Minded: Works by Six Contemporary African Artists, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, State University of New York, New Paltz, USA

2017

The Lotus in Spite of the Swamp, Prospect.4 Triennial, New Orleans, USA
Abstract Minded: Works by Six Contemporary African Artists, N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA
A Painting Today, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2016

In Context: Africans in America, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg
EXCHANGE, Galerie Hans Mayer, Düsseldorf

2015

Represent: 200 Years of African American Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, USA
Open Source: Engaging Audiences in Public Space, City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
Nasher10, Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA
Schema, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2014

Chroma, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2012

Never Underestimate a Monochrome, University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa, USA
Magical Visions: 10 Contemporary African American Artists, Mechanical Hall Gallery, University of Delaware, Newark, New Jersey, USA

2011

ARS 11, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland
Karmic Abstraction, Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
Geography of Somewhere, Brodie/Stevenson, Johannesburg, South Africa
20 Years Thami Mnyele Foundation, CBK Zuidoost, Amsterdam

2010

The Global Africa Project, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA
Pleased to Meet You: South Africa, Gateway to Africa, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Port Elizabeth, South Africa
Wild is the Wind, Gutstein Gallery, Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia, USA

2009

Wallworks, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, USA

2008

Summer 2008/9: Projects, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2007

Tapping Currents: Contemporary African Art and the Diaspora, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri, USA

Think with the Senses, Feel with the Mind, 52nd Venice Biennale, Italy

The Color Line, Jack Shainman Gallery, NYC, USA; Centre international d'exposition de Larouche, Canada

Contemporary Art of Africa and the African Diaspora, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, USA

Exquisite Crisis and Encounters, Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU, New York, USA

2006

Luanda Triennial, Angola

Ordering and Seduction, Haus Konstruktive, Zurich, Switzerland

Distant Relatives/Relative Distance, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town; Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

The Beautiful Game, Roebling Hall, Brooklyn, New York, USA

Holy Land: Diaspora and the desert, Heard Museum of Native American Art, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

Nederland 1, Museum Gouda, Gouda, the Netherlands

Parallel Economies, Wertz Contemporary, Atlanta, USA

2005

Round Leather Worlds, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany

The Shape of Colour: Excursions in colour field art, 1950-2005, Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada

Surface Charge, Virginia Commonwealth University Museum, Richmond, Virginia, USA

A Warlike People: Victims or Perpetrators, Monorchid Gallery, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

2004

Dak'Art, Dakar Biennale, Senegal

Flipside, Artists Space, New York, USA

UnStaged, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Anthology of Art, Braunschweig University of Arts, Germany; University of Rennes, France; University of Budapest, Hungary; Martin Gropius-Bau, Berlin, Germany; Zentrum für Medienkunst, Karlsruhe, Germany; Manifest/Symposium, Akademie der Künste and the Neuhardenberg Foundation, Berlin; Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn, Germany

Visualizing Diaspora/Constructing Self, GASP, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Transit: Abstracting the System, City Gallery at Chastain, Georgia, USA

Home Extension, University Art Museum, Albany, New York, USA

2003

A Fiction of Authenticity: Contemporary Africa Abroad, Contemporary Art Museum, St Louis; Purnell Center for the Arts, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh; North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh; Blaffer Gallery, Art Museum of the University of Houston, USA

Black President, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York; Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, USA; Barbican Art Galleries, London, UK

After Matisse and Picasso, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, New York, USA

Yellow Pages, Turn Gallery, Helmstedt, Germany

2002

Collection in Context, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

Miami Currents, Miami Art Museum, Florida, USA

The Field's Edge: Africa, Diaspora, Lens, University of South Florida, Tampa, USA

Painting as Paradox, Artists Space, New York, USA

Peculiarly Pink, LUXE, New York, USA

Irrational Propositions, POST, Los Angeles, California, USA

Pictures, Greene/Naftali Inc, New York, USA

2001

Here and Now, Zacheta National Gallery, Warsaw; Galeria Arsenal, Bialystok, Poland
Five Continents and One City, 3rd International Salon of Painting, Museum of Mexico City, Mexico
Against the Wall: Painting against the Grid, Surface and Frame, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
Material and Matter, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA
Chelsea Rising, Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, USA
Pleasures of Sight and States of Being: Radical Abstract Painting, Museum of Fine Arts, FSU, and the Appleton Museum of Art, Ocala, Florida, USA

2000

Transcending The Norm And Some, New Jersey City University, Lemmerman Gallery, New Jersey, USA

1999

Zeitwenden: Ausblick Ruckblick (Jet Lag Experiment), Museum of Modern Art, Bonn, Germany; Museum of Modern Art, Vienna, Austria
IN-VISIBLE: Abstractions & Narratives, Arsenal Gallery, Bialystok, Poland
Outside Edge: A Survey, Universite de Paris 1, Pantheon, La Sorbonne, Paris, France
4X4, Alexandre de Folin Gallery, New York, USA
Ideoscape, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Vanishing Pt, Cynthia Broan Gallery, New York, USA
You Are Here, Matrix Art Project, New York, USA
Kunstmarkt, Residenzschloss Dresden, Germany

1998

Crossing Lines, Art-In-General, New York, USA

1997

2nd Johannesburg Biennale, South Africa
Diversity In Contemporary Africa: Survey Exhibition of Contemporary African Art, Ohio State University, USA
REALLY, UnFinished Gallery, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, USA
Interior-Life, RUSH ARTS, New York, USA
Aphrodisia, The Alternative Museum, New York, USA

1996

Something I Saw in Brooklyn..., Galerie Elizabeth Valleix, Paris, France
ONE, RUSH Fine Arts, New York, USA
At the Foreground of Paths, Skoto Gallery, New York, USA

1995

Modern Life, Aljira Center for Contemporary Art, Newark Museum, New Jersey, USA
GOTCHA!, Momenta Art, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, USA
CELEBRITY'Hood, Longwood Arts Project, Bronx Council of the Arts, Bronx, New York, USA
Either/Or, Flamingo East, New York, USA
Other Rooms, Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York, USA
Split-Level, Art-in-General, New York, USA
Unfolding Stories, John Jay College of Art, Music & Philosophy, City University of New York, USA
Stitches, FOUR WALLS, Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York, USA
Pseudo Museum, Jupiter Interactive Productions, New York, USA

1994

The Third Forum of Visual Art, Museum of Art, Brasilia, Brazil
FIREd: a late nite comedy show, THICKET, New York; No BIAS, North Bennington, Vermont, USA
Go Back and Fetch It (It Means Sankofa), Gallery ANNEXT and RUSH Fine Arts Management, New York, USA

1993

FIAR INTERNATIONAL PRIZE - Art Under 30 (1991-1993), National Academy of Design, New York, USA
Trespass-Beyond Borders, Right Bank Gallery, Brooklyn, USA
A Grand Tour, Swiss Institute, New York, USA

1992

Without A Notion (A Painting Show), 88 Room, Boston, USA

AWARDS

2022

Pew Center for Arts and Heritage Fellowship, Philadelphia, USA

2007

Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant

2004

Thami Mnyele Residency Foundation Grant for African Artists, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2003

Thami Mnyele Fine Arts Award, South Africa

2001

The Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant for Painting and Sculpture

RESIDENCIES

2014

The Janet Sloane Residency, Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, New York, USA

1999

Reithalle Artist Residency, St Gallen, Switzerland

1998

ART/OMI - International Artist Residency, Omi, New York, USA

PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS

2022

Meeting Space / Painting with Changing Parts, Moody Center for the Arts, Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA
Thresholds, Stanley Museum of Art, University of Iowa, USA

2019

Mamba Negra, Institute of Contemporary Art Miami, Florida, USA

2017

Gateway, Newark Museum, New Jersey, USA

2015

Rise, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA
Time Bridge, YMCA, Durham, North Carolina, USA

Our House, City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, Pennsylvania, USA

2014

Bridge, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA

Possible Worlds, PS340M, New York, USA

2013

George C. Young US Courthouse & Federal Building, Florida, USA

2012

Kaleidoscope, MTA 20th Avenue D Train, New York, USA

Heaven's Gate, Savannah College of Art and Design Museum of Art, Georgia, USA

Time and Time, New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, USA

2011

Forever, New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana, USA

Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland

2010

The United States Mission to The United Nations, New York, USA

2009

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, California, USA

Up and Away, Princeton University Art Museum, New Jersey, USA

2008

Third Space, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

2007

Equalizer, Studio Museum, Harlem, New York, USA

Flow, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, USA

Give Me Shelter, 52nd Venice Biennale, Italy