

Eniwaye Oluwaseyi

*The eye never has enough of seeing
Nor the ear its fit of hearing*

9 February – 25 March 2023



When water stops quenching, 2022, oil on canvas, 150 x 150 cm (59 x 59 inches)

Zidoun-Bossuyt Gallery is thrilled to announce Nigerian artist Eniwaye Oluwaseyi's first solo exhibition in Europe.

Born in 1994 in Kwara state, Eniwaye Oluwaseyi paints individuals belonging to the African community and Nigeria, his country of origin. Oluwaseyi shapes a narrative based on a personal look over its social circle. Eniwaye Oluwaseyi first approaches painting during his studies in bio-engineering, through YouTube tutorials. While practicing traditional strategies employed by classic painters, the artist develops the employment of presence-absence dialectic, defining his own style. While combining modern techniques and traditional portraiture, Oluwaseyi primarily works with oil-painting, applying textured layers of material that gradually reveal luminous and sculptural scenery.

The eye never has enough of seeing nor the ear its fit of hearing unveil modern Africa's figures, inspired by the artist's family and friends' circle. While taking the viewer on a journey through his own existence, Eniwaye Oluwaseyi expresses his desire for social justice in contemporary society in the light of contemporary issues such as the power dynamics across its continent as well as the increase of inequalities within the social structure. Rejecting any potential prophetic connotation, its intention is to explore spiritual

connections that transcend geography and nationalities. The artist's scenarios aim to confer a spiritual and visual breach to the viewer: a piece of sky replacing a wall rather than an unfinished dress. Oluwaseyi's life experience and insightful aspirations translate into semi-functional realities and invite the spectator to dive into an idealized universe through his vibrant and colorful tableaux.

Biography

Eniwaye Oluwaseyi was born in 1994 in Kwara, Nigeria, where he currently lives and works. In 2018 he obtained a B.Eng. in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. In 2020 his work was featured in a solo exhibition which took place at *ADA contemporary art gallery*, in Accra, Ghana. Eniwaye Oluwaseyi has taken part in numerous group shows in venues such as Galerie Ron Mandos (Amsterdam, Netherlands), AKA fair (Lyon, France), Christie's (New York, USA). His work is also exposed at the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, FL and the Xiao Museum of Rizhao, China, at El Espacio 23, as part of the group exhibition *WITNESS: Afro perspectives* exhibited from the Jorge M. Pérez Collection. Eniwaye Oluwaseyi is currently exposing at Zeitz MOCAA, as part of the group exhibition *When We See Us: A Century of Black Figuration in Painting*, with artists such as Akinola Lasekan, Kehinde Wiley, Michael Amitage, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Lynette Yiadom-Boaky and Amy Sherald.