

Galerie Imane Farès

Emeka Ogboh - *No Condition is Permanent*

Solo-exhibition, curated by Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi

September 13th - November 24th, 2018

Opening on Thursday, September 13th at 5.30 pm in the presence of the artist

Galerie Imane Farès is proud to present Emeka Ogboh's first solo-exhibition in Paris, curated by the Nigerian-born curator Ugochukwu-Smooth Nzewi. Ogboh who works in a variety of media with sound as his principal medium, is one of the most innovative conceptual artists practicing today. The exhibition which is titled *No Condition is Permanent*, a popular Nigerian phrase that reflects the shifting nature of human condition, assembles old and new works by the artist inspired by Lagos. Nigeria's economic nerve center and cultural hub; Lagos is a bustling megacity renowned for its metropolitan energy and commerce-driven modernity. *No Condition is Permanent* also affirms this indefatigable spirit of Lagos, a city with a human population of over twenty million.

In the last ten years, Ogboh has expansively explored the megacity in the throes of infrastructural changes and socioeconomic development. Through sounds that permeate the public spaces and which serve as interface of collective and subjective everyday experiences, Ogboh displaces the primacy of sight in experiencing and understanding Lagos. His work requires a phenomenological immersion that results in the viewer experiencing Lagos auditorily and with the power of the imagination without being physically present in the city. Parallel to sound experiments, he has addressed Lagos's chaotic kaleidoscope using a range of media. *No Condition is Permanent* brings together ambient sound recordings, sound portraits, stained glass light boxes, photograph and video installations, all centered on Ogboh's *Lagos Soundscapes* project. It also includes Ogboh's first music album inspired by Lagos soundscapes and influenced by the electronic music scene of Berlin, where he currently lives.

Emeka Ogboh

Installation / Sound installation

Born in 1977 in Enugu, Nigeria. Lives and works in Berlin

Emeka Ogboh is a pioneer sound artist from Africa. Born in Enugu, Nigeria in 1977, Ogboh trained at the arts program of the University of Nigeria Nsukka. His work contemplates broad notions of listening and hearing. His sound works consider the history and aural infrastructure of megacities such as Lagos, Nigeria's economic hub. His well-known corpus *Lagos Soundscapes* is the focus of his first gallery exhibition in Paris. An award-winning artist, Ogboh is widely exhibited at prime venues including, Dak'Art Biennale (2014) Venice Biennale (2015), Documenta (2017), and Munster Skulpture (2017). His work is in major public and private collections such as the Tate Modern and Smithsonian National Museum of African art.

Curator

Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi is an artist, art historian, and Curator of African art at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Previously, he served as the curator of African art and also oversaw global contemporary art at Dartmouth College's Hood Museum of Art. He has co-curated major international exhibitions including the Dak'Art Biennale in Dakar, Senegal, in 2014; served on the curatorial team of the 11th Shanghai Biennale in 2016-17; and collaborated with the Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain de la Région Centre (FRAC) Orlean, France, for its inaugural architecture biennale in October 2017.

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